



May 2020

Special Edition

Members:

The nominations for the open positions on the Board and Bridge officially closed.

The nominees are:

Commodore	- Jesse Mitchell
Vice Commodore	- Danny Wyre
Rear Commodore	- Judy Setina
Fleet Captain Power	- Kay Stormer
Fleet Captain Sail	- Lenora Tanaka
Board	- Walt Schefter
Board	- Bill Wilmovsky
Board	- Mike Gowrylow
Board	- Andrea Sehmel
Secretary	- Melissa Ashcraft

Two Board positions are open. The top two with the most votes will be elected.

Write-ins are allowed. It is suggested that you check with the member you wish to write-in to see if they are willing and eligible.

OLYMPIA YACHT CLUB 2020 Vote-by-Mail

Date	Required Action	Lead	Note
6-May	Mail Ballots	Nominating Committee	
22-May	Last Day to return ballots	Members	
27-May	Count returned ballots	Trustees and Nominating Chair	Notify successful candidates; Announce successful candidates via email
10-Jun	Swearing in/change of watch (informal)	Bridge	
2-Sep	Formal change of watch	Bridge	

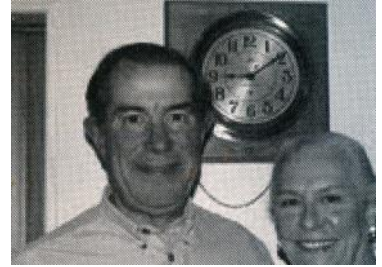
If you have questions, please contact the Chair, Nominating Committee, Marty Graf, at Mgra490@yahoo.com or 360 951 7202 or BOT Chair, Bob Van Schoorl, at bvanschoorl@comcast.net or 360 789 8810.

Biographicals for Board Candidates

Walt Schefter:

I am Walt Schefter and am running for election to the OYC Board of Trustees. My wife Catherine and I have been members of OYC since 2007. In addition to participating on club committees I have been on the Board of Trustees starting in 2010 and for two years thereafter served as Chairman of the Board. In 2015 I started in the Chairs of the club ending as the OYC Commodore in 2017. As an adjunct to the club although separate therefrom I have been on the Board of the Olympia Yacht Club Foundation. My wife, Catherine has been active in the Anchorettes in the past and served as their President for two years.

In light of my involvement in the Club I feel I have a good feel for the operations and history of the club and can be a positive influence on the clubs continued success. As always, a Board member needs to ensure the fiscal responsibility of the club and a wise use of its resources, all while encouraging the participation of all members in club activities and ensuring traditional and formal activities continue.



Mike Gowrylow:

Please consider electing me to the Olympia Yacht Club's Board of Trustees. I have previously served on the board and will be ending my tenure as Fleet Captain Sail in June. I wish to continue to serve OYC as a trustee and commit to act in the best interests of the club if elected. I have been a member of the Club since 2011. Two years later I retired as communications director of the Washington State Department of Revenue. Prior to that role, I served as a deputy press secretary to former Governor Booth Gardner and helped out in the press offices of Governor's Lowry, Locke and Gregoire, all while also working at the Department of Revenue. My prior jobs included senior account executive at the Rockey Company public relations firm, communications representative in the Bellevue headquarters of Puget Sound Energy, and a reporter for five daily newspapers in Washington State. I graduated from Evergreen High School in Vancouver, Washington and Western Washington State College (now a university). I currently serve as a member of the Lakemoor Community Club (Ken Lake) Board of Trustees.



Mike Gowrylow

S/V Sassy

Biographicals for Board Candidates—continued

Andrea Sehmel:

Hi there! I'm Andrea Sehmel ("ZAY-muLL") and my husband Chris - and two sons, Luke and John - and I became members of OYC four years ago. Since then, we have been frequent participants at various cruises and events and I served diligently for over two years as Board Secretary. I commit to balanced dialogue and an open perspective.



As a Registered Nurse since 1985, I have a lot of experience with decision making, open- and fair-mindedness and confidentiality. I work full-time and am active in the community in other clubs. I am certified in Lean Six Sigma and Quality and Safety, the tenets of which would be beneficial in Club administration. I've served on Boards before, as Vice President of an Italian social and cultural club in Seattle and President of a political club here in Olympia. I was the coordinator of Membership Revitalization for a 1400-member International Honors Nursing Society chapter for Puget Sound. I have high expectations of myself and my team when we are planning and problem-solving on behalf of a membership and familiarity with club administration and finances. When there's a problem, it would be great for members to suggest solutions, and the Board is responsible for responding to and following up with the concern; sometimes it is uncomfortable and addressing concerns can be done respectfully. I also believe that OYC could do a better job at disseminating decisions made so that everyone can recall them a few years down the road; the website would be a good place to house this information in a linked format for any interested member to be able to easily find and read.

I'm committed to new OYC member and members with children engagement. I am committed to enhancing opportunities to help families with children feel genuinely welcome at more events. I'll advocate for these families. I commit to warmly welcome and engage new members; I know this was the intent the past year or so. It's up to every single one of us to step outside our comfort zone to get to know newer folks and help them feel valued. I love the idea of partnering the Club sponsor with the new members for a year to help them get their sea legs... it creates accountability for the sponsors and eases the significant amount of club culture and salty but good-hearted personalities that need to be navigated by new members. Some of our members are really outstanding at this; others petrified me for the first couple of years. I believe we can be kinder and gentler towards each other and would strive to bring warmth, graciousness and inclusivity to the Board. I love both power boats and sailing and have advocated for both groups to the other and commit to continuing to do so. There's a place at the OYC table for everyone that genuinely contributes and is considerate of others.

I have a strong need to do the right thing even if it's difficult and I apologize if I have wronged someone knowingly. I'm no pushover and I am forgiving. I will stand my ground and I am a stickler for historical context, details and rules – but I will consider many points of view before deciding. I look forward to representing the interests of women members, family members, newer members and folks who want this Club to be enthusiastic and genuinely helpful to each other. Mostly, I want the privilege of belonging to Olympia Yacht Club to remain special and treasured because the people treat each other in our community right. I commit to promoting this.

Thank you so much, and use your boats! (I think that was the best reminder, the past couple of years!!)

Sincerely,
Andrea

Biographicals for Board Candidates—continued

Bill Wilmovsky:

My wife and I have been members of the Olympia Yacht Club since 1994. I am reluctant to admit that one of the reasons we joined was because we thought it was cheap moorage. I was membership chair when many of you joined, so I don't think I am supposed to say I joined to be cheap.



Part of the membership pitch we gave was stressing how the more you are involved in the club, the more you get out of the club. I found that to be so true. I was Fleet Captain sail for three years. In addition, I have served two terms on the board. And, as I already said, I was Membership Chair as well as Publicity Chair. I have also been chairman of the Toliva Shoals Race and the Special Peoples Cruise.

Over the years, I have certainly found out that being part of OYC gives more than it takes. The OYC is my second home and many members have become my life, long friends.

I am running for the board again because I am dedicated to seeing that OYC continues to offer all the avenues for social involvement, learning opportunities, and that it continues to be a great facility that we have come to expect, well into the future. I am a retired businessman and I have a wealth of experience involving many facets of the club.

The OYC has existed for one hundred and sixteen years. I would like to do all that I can, to make sure it has its two hundredth birthday. As Jimmy Buffet says, "Lust for the Future and Treasure the Past."

Melissa Ashcraft—Secretary



Statements from Bridge Candidates

Jesse Mitchell—Commodore



Danny Wyre - Vice Commodore

My name is Danny Wyre. This is my wonderful wife of 32 years, Jacqueline. Over the past year, we have served the Olympia Yacht Club and its members as your Rear Commodore. We would greatly appreciate your vote to serve OYC next year as your Vice Commodore.



Since joining OYC in 2016, we have many pleasant opportunities to meet and work with a wide range of members doing numerous fun and/or laborious activities. Before becoming Rear Commodore, in 2016 through 2019, we served the Club as Chair of the Safety and Education Committee. As such and at the direction of the Board of Trustees, we were involved in expanding the scope of our Safety Committee including an active education component. We created a series of new education workshops and integrated others that were already in place. We sought approval from the BOT and successfully installed float step safety ladders at the Mainstation and Island Home docks. We participated on numerous outing events, Commodore cruises and as your Rear Commodore, planned and organized last year's Fourth of July cruise to Island Home, New Year's Eve Party, and dinner meetings for the 2019-20 season. We also participated on several committees including Joint Cruises and Commodore's Ball. Finally, we have represented our Club at numerous meetings and events of the Grand 14 of Puget Sound Yacht Clubs.

Throughout, we have made lifelong friends in the Olympia Yacht Club and learned much about boating, boat maintenance, and safety on the water. Being long-term residents of Olympia (30 years) and natives to Puget Sound (I am from Tacoma; Jackie is from Seattle), we have always appreciated the beauty of the Sound and respect for those who also see it. In fact, I had a 30+ year career in protecting Puget Sound in the water quality and surface water management field. Puget Sound has always inspired me both personally and professionally. I know our fellow boaters, too, understand its importance to us all.

We understand that the role of the Vice Commodore is to be there to support and fill in for the Commodore in case he/she is unable to fulfill their duties. Being retired now, Jackie and I have the luxury of time affordable to achieving these responsibilities as well as performing the specific duties of the Vice Commodore.

I would greatly appreciate you voting for me for Vice Commodore of the Olympia Yacht Club. Thank you.

Rear Commodore

- Judy Setina



Fleet Captain Power

- Kay Stormer



Lenora Tanaka - Fleet Captain Sail

Hello, I am Lenora Tanaka, nominated for Fleet Captain Sail. I have been in love with boating since I was a teenager, spending summers in New England on the family boat. A beautiful wood, long cabin, power boat named "The Niner" after the 9 kids my parents had. After graduating High School and getting settled into life in the Air Force, I bought my first power boat. After 6 years, being a Veteran of Desert Storm, I got out of the military to start a family. I graduated with a Bachelors of Science in Education from Towson University in Maryland, before the 1st was born. I enjoyed raising 4 amazing kids, who spent summers on the boat just like mom and now share the same love. Now having 3 in college and one graduated college in her dream job, I can say I am in the prime of my life. I have lots of energy and am very motivated. I love to volunteer for my community. I am a pilot and the secretary of an Aviation Association. I love to fly as much as the weather allows, but I wish there were as many days to fly as boating days in the year.



In 2018, I bought my second boat and in 2019 became a member of OYC. Of course, closing on the new boathouse the very next day. I am a retired public school teacher and have been an EMT with the Fire Department for 26 years in 3 states. Most recently, December 2019 I was asked by a 4 star Army General to be a Washington state Ambassador for the Women In Military Service for America Memorial Museum, located at the entrance to Arlington Cemetery in Virginia. I am honored and humbled to represent such an amazing organization, just as I am to be your Fleet Captain Sail. I will give it my all and the result will be 100% for you. We are going to have fun! I am full of spirit and love party planning. Over the top is how it should be and we will have a blast! I look forward to the coming year in OYC with all of you.

Thank you!