



January 2025
Volume 12 Issue 1

COMMODORE'S REPORT



Happy New Year to all! Thank you for allowing me to serve as your 2025 Commodore, it is truly a privilege and an honor. Lady Sharon and I are looking forward to the year ahead as our organization celebrates its **140th anniversary**. Formally, I-LYA was founded on January 17, 1885, in Cleveland. Please refer to the historical article in this newsletter for details, and additional articles throughout 2025.

Thank you, Commodore Dale Vanderford and Lady Teresa for the great meetings and regattas in 2024! Congratulations to Vice Commodore Dean Reamsnyder & Lady Karla and Rear Commodore Tom Thanasiu & Lady Stephanie for your new positions. We look forward to working together in the coming year. Also, congratulations to the newly elected trustee Chris Aune and the reelected trustees Commodore Steve Hyder and Eric Osborne. They will join Commodore Bob Lang, Kevin Stone, Bill Pribe, Al Antoine, Rich McKee,

and Todd Duffett to round out our Board of Trustees.

As this is the *Boat Show* issue of the I-LYA News, I must promote the annual Cleveland Boat Show. The event is again at the I-X Center to be open Thursday, January 16 – Sunday, January 19. Your bridge officers and others will host a booth promoting I-LYA's member clubs and annual regattas. If you attend, please stop by for a visit. I encourage you to obtain more information at <https://clevelandboatshow.com>. There truly is something for everyone!

As we look ahead, the planning for the 2025 regattas is underway. The Junior Sail Regatta will be chaired by Shawnette Becker and Tim Willford; they have already held two meetings and appear to be well prepared. The Power Regatta will be chaired by Chris Aune and his team of Vice Chair Nate Edmunds, Secretary John Brock and Treasurer Joy Moon. The Junior Power Regatta will be chaired by Commodore Bob Lang. The Sail Regatta will be chaired by Bill Pribe and his team of Race Chair Doug Seib and Social Chair Connie Miller. **Thank you** to all for volunteering to support these annual events.

Before I provide the 2025 dates, please be aware that improvements are coming to our Spring and Fall Meeting venue: the *Doubletree Westlake* has become *Wyndham Gardens*, effective January 1, 2025. There will be extensive renovations made to the hotel throughout the year. So, mark your calendars for 2025: Spring Meeting, April 4 – 5; Fall Meeting, December 5 – 6; Junior Sail Regatta, July 13 – 17; Power and Junior Power Regattas, July 23 – 27; and Sail Regatta, July 31 – August 3.

Delegates, the I-LYA News welcomes articles from our member clubs, whether it be a summary of your club's history, amenities, or special events.

All, please utilize the I-LYA website at i-lya.org and/or the I-LYA Inter-Lake Yachting Association Facebook page.

Best regards, Scott

734-516-0257

scott.kneisel@bex.net

VICE COMMODORE'S CORNER....DEAN REAMSNYDER



I'd like to start off by saying a friendly hello to all the snowbirds in Florida and invite them to check their emails for a great read. The I-LYA Newsletter.

In case you missed it, we have a new Rear Commodore with a great history. He is, after all, been our elite Historian for many years. If you need to find out what happened over the years in I-LYA, he's your man, Tom Thanasiu. This holds true with the newbie to the Trustees, Chris Aune. The man has more roles in the boating community than Commodore Perry. Congratulations Chris. I know Lady Gina is proud as punch on your election.

I was thinking with Christmas done and over, why not think about selling some of those thoughtless gift cards you received and use that cash for perhaps sponsoring a keg for Sail or help out with the rental for the shuttles. Now "that" would be very thoughtful and appreciated. I've sold enough gift cards that if you were to stop at the I-LYA booth at the boat show in Cleveland, I just might spring for an adult beverage, that is if I can get a break.

Let's make this a great year. Get the word out we are going to have more people, more boats at the Bay in 2025 than years past. All we need is YOU.

Keep it Fun, 2025 Vice Commodore Dean Reamsnyder

deanream@aol.com

[419-376-0536](tel:419-376-0536)

REAR COMMODORE'S CORNER....THOMAS THANASIU



Hello and thank you for your support at the I-LYA Winter General Meeting in Westlake. Hopefully everyone had a Happy Holiday and are ready for the New Year.

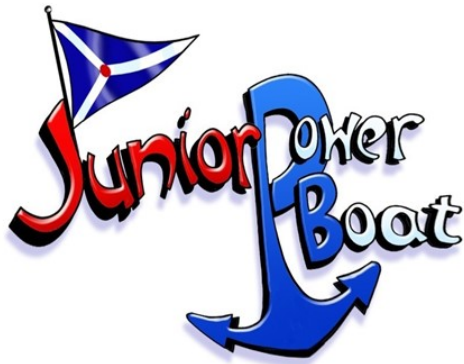
Now it's time to set course and make way on this Flag Officer's journey with 1st Mate Lady Stephanie. We will be flying off Put in Bay and heading to Cleveland for the Boat Show January 16-19 at the I-X Center to get in a boating frame of mind. Don't underestimate the power of a boat show, Island Entertainers, Twiggy The Waterskiing Squirrel, Boardwalk Lobster Bisque, Classic Lyman Boat display, new boats and boat stuff. I'm not in the market for a new boat but I like digging into every nook and cranny to see changes and improvements in building and design. If you see me in a mask, it's for fiberglass dust! Best part is the unexpected running into old friends and making new. This will help get us through January and a little closer to spring splash down.

If it's been a while since you've been to the Bay for one or all four of the I-LYA Regattas, Jr. & Sr. Sail or Jr. & Sr. Power over 3 weeks or if never, I would like to know why. I'll be easy to find. Look for the old hippy in the green shirt.

Remember, our common bond is LOVE of the WATER and if you power, sail, paddle, surf or swim, anytime spent on the water is time well spent!

Best Regards and Seas

I-LYA Rear Commodore Tom Thanasiu, Jr.



Captain Bob here! Wow! Had a great meeting in December. We're always looking for ideas on how to get Club involvement and inter-club competitions for our juniors. So, someone suggested that we might want to put something together at one or more of the scheduled AYC Poker Runs. Not sure how that would work out, but I'm going to contact the AYC folks and see if we can put something together for the Juniors.

Improving the Junior Powerboat Regatta is always on my mind, but the biggest challenge is getting new Juniors involved at the Regatta. Another idea was to take the juniors out on a powerboat, provide some hands-on handling of a larger vessel, and look at the various mechanical systems on board. I like this idea and will be looking for some boat owners to help with this.

For those Juniors who are no longer eligible to participate in the Junior Powerboat Regatta, I would like to invite you to take the next step and get involved in helping out; judging or grading our junior contestants. You are the next generation to take charge of this program and I would like to get you involved and hear your thoughts on how to improve our Junior Powerboat Regatta.

That's all for now, send me your ideas and thoughts.

Captain Bob

313-938-8414

CaptainBobLang@OutLook.com

Junior Sailing Committee

The I-LYA Junior Council is made up of adult volunteers and junior sailors who work together to hold the summer regatta season for I-LYA juniors. Preparations for the 2025 sailing season for I-LYA Juniors have begun in earnest. We had a productive Fall Meeting Dec 7, 2025 in Westlake, OH. The Junior Sail Committee approved a Traveler's Series schedule of 8 races. Leatherlips Yacht Club and Sandusky Sailing Club gave an update on their plans for the 2025 I-LYA Jr Championship at Put-in-Bay (Jr. Bay).

We received great feedback from the competitor representatives that we hope to incorporate into the 2025 season. We are working on updating the I-LYA Junior Sailing website, but you can find the 2025 schedule on the website. The Junior Sailing Committee is off to a great start and looks forward to working with the 2025 I-LYA Bridge to have a great summer sailing season.

Alec Chabalowski

2025-26 Junior Sailing Committee Chair



Powerboat Regatta

The new year is a fresh start on the calendar . . . let's plan for the biggest boating event of the summer of 2025. First off as your 2025 Powerboat Committee Chairman, I would like to thank Commodore Dale Vanderford and his bridge for their leadership in 2024. I would also like to commend Kevin Stone and his power boat committee on hosting a well organized and eventful regatta this past year.

The powerboat regatta is my favorite boating event of the summer, and I am looking forward to working with I-LYA Commodore Scott Kneisel and his bridge, along with our regatta committee of Vice Chair - Nate Edmunds, Secretary - John Brock, and Treasurer - Joy Moon.

I would like to reach out to member attendees who may be interested in chairing the Flying Mile contest on Tuesday and Wednesday. This competition along with the Chicane, Docking, Navigation, and Predicted Log are integral parts of our historical Regatta competitions and we want to keep all these events on our schedule. If interested in chairing the Flying Mile, please contact Commodore Scott Kneisel or myself.

As the clubs put together their budgets for 2025, we ask that you include in your budget donations for beer kegs and golf cart transportation at the bay for regatta week.

Additionally, if anyone has suggestions or has knowledge of how to market our I-LYA Regattas to enhance our attendance, please reach out to Commodore Scott Kneisel.

Let's all work together to make the 140th anniversary of the I-LYA a year to remember.

Respectfully submitted,
Christopher Aune, Powerboat Committee Chairperson





SAIL REGATTA

The Sail Committee met at the Fall Meeting and enjoyed lively discussion with those in attendance. The 2024 Racing calendar was full of great events including the 100th Mills Race, 100th Bayview Mackinac, and the 131st I-LYA Bayweek. Shoutout to the 10 skippers, boats, and crew who participated in all three events this year:

Alacrity, Brian Thorpe
Consig, Brad D'Arcangelo
Kinsail, Doug Blackburn
Smoke Show, Jake Thomas
Synchronicity, Chris Mallett
Think Blue, Gary Disbrow
Uncivilized, Russell Krock
Valkyrie, Jake Burgy
Wing Jammer, Bill Pribe

This busy and competitive summer racing schedule meant that attendance at Bayweek fell below 60 boats. This presents very real challenges to the committee and the ability to present quality racing. Your help is needed!

At the meeting we discussed what we can do to make sure that Bayweek is on your summer racing calendar. There were lots of suggestions regarding courses, start times, and longer race days. Over the winter we will want to engage as many of you as possible in talking through these components and making changes. We need suggestions and input from all five classes. PHRF, JAM, Cruising, Single Handed and Centerboard boats.

If you have suggestions and solutions to share, please mark your calendar and join us at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday January 23rd via zoom. The link will be available on our Bayweek FB page. In addition to the annual Regatta, the Sail Committee had a lengthy discussion on the interaction between PHRF Lake Erie, PHRF South Shore, and PHRF Midwest and the challenges in getting rating bodies nationwide to adopt the same system for sail measurements.

There are lots of opportunities for you to get involved. Consider sharing your time or expertise whether it is onshore organization, on the water expertise, or just helping spread the word. Very best wishes for a successful 2025!

Bill Pribe
Sail Committee Chair
wpribe@gmail.com



Happy New Year from the Inter-Lake Yachtsmen's Fund!

It was great seeing everyone at the Fall Meeting this past month. As reported in the last issue, 2024 was a very good year for the Fund. Our investments are doing well and we were able to again support our youth sailing and boating programs in I-LYA as well as help many youth and amateur sailors to represent I-LYA and our area at top-level championship events throughout the USA. This is all thanks to your generous donations to the Fund.

The Yachtsmen's Fund distributed over \$37,000 in grants and scholarships this year! Some highlights from 2024...

- Instructional/Coaching Grants for both Junior Sail and Junior Power Regattas
- Purchase of radios to facilitate instruction in VHF radio use & etiquette at the Junior Power Regatta (supported in part by the Wyandotte Grant)
- Support for room & board at the Junior Sail Regatta
- Support for the eight junior sailors who represented I-LYA and Area E at the US Junior Sailing Championships (Sears Cup) and support for nine junior sailors who, representing both the US and Canada, competed at the Lightning Youth World Championships in Chile.
- Event support grants for the Opti Nationals held at Sandusky Sailing Club and for the Lake Erie Intercollegiate Offshore Regatta hosted by North Cape Yacht Club and the University of Toledo Sailing Team.

This year, we expanded our support for amateur sailors as well supporting two all-female crews competing at the New York Yacht Club Women's Championship and the US Adult Championships for the Mallory Cup, respectively.

When you donate to the Yachtsmen's Fund, you become a partner in our mission. Together we can educate, challenge, and inspire the next generation of sailors and boaters in I-LYA! Please visit us online at www.yachtsmensfund.org to learn more and follow us on Facebook @yachtsmensfund.

Let's hope for good, solid ice for hard-water sailing this winter and also an early spring so we can kick off a great 2025 season on the "soft" water this summer!

Steve Harris, President
Inter-Lake Yachtsmen's Fund





*The History of the
Inter-Lake Yachting Association*

1884 - 1908

By

Robert E. Power

AUTHOR'S NOTE—No one who has not attempted to go back a few years into yachting history, can realize how incomplete are the early records and insufficient the data offered the writer for reference. With the administration changing from place to place each year, many valuable papers have been lost and those that exist with the present Secretary are in a chaotic state of confusion. I know that many important facts have been omitted in this story and that errors will probably be apparent to the well informed reader. It would appear to be an absolute necessity for the Association to catalog and file the records still remaining and either appoint a historian or furnish the Secretary with means to preserve documentary evidence of the future.

The Inter-Lake Yachting Association



TO WRITE the early history of the Inter-Lake Yachting Association requires considerable imagination. Like the immortal Topsy, it "just grewed." The Association was in existence, at least in purpose if not in fact, as early as 1884, although we have only casual evidence of its inception. The actual date of the official organization of the Inter-Lake Yachting Association, taken from the most authentic record we have, is January 17, 1885, and its birthplace, Cleveland, O.

Having identified our story with a definite beginning, we must drift back for a moment before getting under way in earnest. Prior to 1884 the active yacht clubs in the Lake Erie district were few and far between. Detroit had one and a very excellent organization, the

Michigan Y. C.; Toledo supported two clubs, the Toledo Y. C. and the Ohio Y. C.; the Cleveland Y. C. represented the Forest City, and at the far end of the lake was the Buffalo Y. C. All of these clubs gave open regattas in the early 80's, and the sport flourished with good fleets and fine sailors. Yachtsmen from one port found it no hardship to visit those far distant, and the racing and cruising was keen and lively. Boats were boats in those days, carrying a man-o'-war's crew with accommodations on board for all hands whether in port or outside. It was customary for a man to take his friends to and from the regattas and it was on one of these annual cruises that our yarn begins.

In the summer of 1884, Henry Gerlach, a veteran Cleveland yachtsman, invited a small party of friends to cruise up the lake on his sloop Lulu. Their destination was Toledo, where a regatta

was about to be held. In the party was Commodore Geo. W. Gardner, and it was upon his suggestion that the talk centered on the formation of an association of all yacht clubs in the Lake Erie district. The matter was further considered at Toledo and met with general favor among the yachtsmen present at the meet. So it came about that a joint meeting of the Cleveland Yachting Association and the Cleveland Canoe Club was called in Cleveland on January 17, 1885, and the Inter-Lake Yachting Association became a fact. Commodore Gardner was elected President and J. S. Williams, Secretary. It was arranged to hold a joint regatta at Put in Bay in the summer of 1885.

In that year a preliminary regatta of sailing yachts (for gasoline craft were hardly thought of in those days) was held on Lake St. Clair under the auspices of the Michigan Y. C. Seventy-two yachts took part and when the races were over threescore of these set sail for the Islands. That squadron run to Put in Bay in a northeast gale is still talked about by the old fellows, and the safe arrival of every boat speaks well for the staunch hulls and thorough seamanship of the men. Such beginning was indeed auspicious and gave the new project a healthy start. Commodore Gardner's flagship in that first regatta was the schooner Louise, owned by Vice-Commodore Hart, of Detroit, and these gentlemen carried through a most successful regatta.

Regattas were held in 1886 and 1887 and then dissension broke out at Toledo between the Ohio and Toledo Yacht Clubs. It is hardly necessary to go into the details of this affair; we simply mention it because it caused a postponement of the 1888 regatta and the I-L. Y. A. had no gathering that year. On February 23, 1889, Commodore Gardner, still the presiding officer, called a meeting of yachtsmen at Detroit and it was decided to hold a regatta at Put in Bay in July, 1889. The regatta committee that year was

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Commodore
George W.
Gardner

*Founder of the Inter-Lake
Yachting Association*





I-LYA Sailing

I-LYA 2025 PHRF Championship series features Eastern and Western divisions. **FIVE (5)** qualifying races are necessary and the **132nd Bayweek Regatta** is a **DOUBLE COUNTER** in both divisions.

2025 Bayweek NOTICE OF RACE on **Yacht Scoring**. Register by **July 7** for reduced registration fees.



For more information visit: **i-lya.org**

I-LYA Bayweek Regatta August 1-3

At Put-in-Bay Yacht Club, Put-in-Bay, Ohio

Professionally Run Race Courses:

PHRF Fleet Race around the islands with windward/leeward races if time/conditions allow.

Single and **Double-hand Fleets** one to two around-the-island races per day.

JAM Fleet One to two island races per day as conditions allow. **Cruising Fleet** One island race per day.

Hobie Wave/Portsmouth Dinghy Fleets Multiple windward/leeward or triangle windward/leeward races each day.

Race to PIB

Deepwater Racing from Cleveland (7/30) & Toledo (7/31) or the **Steeplechase Race** (8/1) from Sandusky Bay!

On Shore

Socialize at PIBYC with **FREE BEER*** during Daily Awards, a Friday night **Mount Gay Rum Party** and a Saturday **Tito's Party!**

Ladies Tea Saturday afternoon. Register online at i-lya.org or at PIBYC.

Each skipper will receive an allotment of competitor/crew wristbands with their boat registration to participate in nightly socializing. Additional wristbands available for purchase at a nominal fee.

* Free Beer with wristband, rum and vodka parties included.

The Regatta Committees are inviting you to submit your best photos captured during the 2024 Regattas! Competitors, committee members, and spectators are invited to submit photos that capture the best of Bayweek on the water and on the land. Scan the QR Code to submit your photos for ANY of the Regattas or click the link:

<https://forms.gle/rBRXNMpfhK31YUtQ6>



2024 I-LYA Photo
Contest

**SUBMIT
YOUR
PHOTOS**



I-LYA JUNIOR POWERBOAT REGATTA

Put-In-Bay, Ohio

July 23-27th, 2025



COME JOIN ALL THE FUN!

A fun and educational program designed for youth aged 12 to 18 years. All junior participants are encouraged to take part in the annual I-LYA regatta, where they can showcase and enhance their powerboat skills in competition with their peers.

Acquire safe boating knowledge, participate in friendly On-the-Water competitions & foster lasting friendships.

SCHOLARSHIP & AWARD COMPETITIONS

All on the water events use motorized inflatables

- General knowledge & seamanship
- Charting & course plotting
- GPS Navigation competition
- VHF Radio etiquette
- On-The-Water Contests Include:
- Boat Handling "Course A"
- Compass Reading "Course B"
- Docking
- Chicane
- Weather Predicting

Must participate in all the events listed above to be eligible for the scholarship award.

MORE FUN TO BE HAD!

- Fishing contest & Geo quest
- Putt-Putt golf & movie night
- Co-ed softball & volley ball
- Corn hole
- Kayak races & tug o war
- Award ceremony
- Hot dog roast
- Taco dinner

Steak & Chicken dinner is not included in junior package, but can be purchased for a small fee.

\$10
PER JUNIOR



WHO'S ELIGIBLE?

Juniors who belong to a boat club associated with I-LYA will qualify for scholarship awards. These scholarships will be determined by the outcomes of two days of competitions held during the annual I-LYA Regatta.





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Member of US Sailing



Let us get you connected
with your local club
or help you start one.
Find a local club at
theamya.org/AdiLYA.asp
or scan the QR Code

There's a New Kind of Boat in Town!

Some of the best racers in the country are sailing model yachts. The 2023 US Sailing Championship of Champions raced in radio-controlled sailboats. *What's Up?*

- Racing these “toy” boats has a lot to offer, not least of which is a **big boat-load of FUN!**
- Imagine standing on the dock right next to your arch-rival as they tack away into a header—**what a trash-talk opportunity!**
- **No towing, no calling around for crew,** no capsizing, and almost no wasted set-up time.
- Ever wanted to skipper a 12 Meter? Several model yacht classes are scaled versions of the 12M. There are **over 30 model yacht classes sanctioned by the American Model Yachting Assn.**
- Looking for a boat to build from scratch, one that comes ready to race out of the box, or for one that looks just like the Laser you loved to sail? **There is one that fits your needs.**
- **Tune up your strategies and tactics off-season,** with 10 races with starts, roundings, gates, finishes, shifts... all in one morning at your local club.

AMERICAN MODEL YACHTING ASSOCIATION





news
I-LYA

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