

## **Appleton Yacht Club Annual Review - 2023**

Reflecting on 2023 at the yacht club, it appears as though we have recovered from covid. More members are frequently coming down to participate in activities. Our kitchen staff is also busier than last year.

Our roster includes 114 yachting memberships, up by 5, and 350 social memberships. As required in our lease, we record 4,000 volunteer hours. These hours are accumulated from members attending work party events, planning events, attending meetings and so much more.

The yacht club continues to employ 20 people. Our club steward is the only full time employee. Our hours of operation are 4-10 pm on the weekdays and noon to 11 pm on the weekends.

We saw a major improvement this year of a walk-in refrigerator/freezer. Last year I reported that we had budgeted \$100,000 but it turned out to be \$68,000. The ice machine needed to be replaced at the cost of \$7,500 and air conditioner repairs cost \$5,000. Tackle on the buoys had a budget of \$2,700 and replacement happened as needed.

Our club volunteered to set and maintain buoys on the channel to Little Lake Butte des Morts. This is quite a task considering the current of the Fox River. Those who volunteer to do this job are very dedicated and resourceful. We have a pontoon boat that is used to work on the buoys. Our harbor continues to fill up with zebra mussels and sediment. Our plan is to have Redin Waterfront Equipment LLC return to do some dredging. Our permit for this is still current with the DNR.

The AYC is in the planning stages of developing a 5 year plan to improve the harbor. Besides the sediment removal, we need to start replacing deck boards on the piers. With the high cost of materials, this will have to be budgeted over 5 years.

Our club continues to be community oriented. The First Mates committee focuses on charities in Appleton. This year we collected school supplies for Horizon school. A food drive for St.Joe's food pantry was held in October. In November we collected Coats for Kids and we are collecting for Harbor House in December. Our members are very generous and so happy to help where needed.

We continue to communicate with Friends of the Fox and FRENDA about the Menasha lock. We would hope to see it open soon and are hopeful that the electronic barrier that is proposed will be operational in the next few years. Since the lock closed, our harbor is not full and the type of boats moored in the harbor are smaller.

Thank you for the opportunity to connect with you. We are grateful for the positive partnership we have with the city of Appleton.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Kuether  
Appleton Yacht Club Commodore