



ERIE YACHT CLUB LOG

January Log 1968

Your December issue was mailed Jan. 8th (late, late). We failed to warn our avid readers of "the new look". This means you turn the page over. Your editor found paper that wouldn't bleed thru- and thus we save postage. Simple economics. Then, too - your female correspondent had to do some deleting, and the Report on the Ladies Luncheon left something to be desired. There are ideas - and they were discussed. Some will be better executed in our new club-house. Others depend on semantics. like - "just give a game another name"-- or "for such a prize, don't advertize". Anyway, legal. It's a good idea for the gals to get together and mull things over - with an occasional giggle. What's wrong with fun? A little laughter ----? It means perspective. Clears the vision. You see the Legal Quagmire dead-ahead! So you stop.

Then-on Tuesday, Jan. 9th, a group gathered to watch films on Ice-Boating, and an old chestnut circa 1955, acquired from former member Wally Lawson by John McGrane. Your exteemed editor played a character role--Never mind which one. Dignity must be preserved!

Then, late in the afternoon of Wed., Jan. 10th - We were suddenly minus a Galley. Nobody up there but ghosts. This too shall pass. It's happened before. That handwriting is always on the wall, even when the ink is invisible.

So it appeared that this issue of the Log had better be written day by day and blow by blow, We're getting the news right hot off the griddle - along with a bunch of rumors. What we also have is static -

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CLUB OFFICERS: Commodore G. Wm. Ambro; Vice Commodore George H. Deike; Rear Commodore Richard O. Loesel;
Fleet Captain George H. Sipple; Secretary-Treasurer T. Ken Welsh

DIRECTORS: P/C Ben J. Ginader; T. J. McFate; P/C R. B. Way; P/C D. B. Nagle, Jr.; T. J. Schuler; Dave Lund

but it's better than a vacuum. What is it that abhors a vacuum?- Ah yes! Nature - and we Ed. These sudden squalls are healthy - they relieve the barometric pressure or something. For everyone but the Rear Commodore, who is also Chairman of the House Committee - in other words - Rich Loesel. He has our heart-felt sympathy. Really - in case you didn't know - what Rich likes to do is sail a boat!

Now look, mates - we can't afford luxuries for our collective fleet this coming Season. We can't afford excess baggage - and we can't afford waste. Not in any department. That goes for the energy expended by our Flag Officers so let's get behind them and their decisions and head for the new Club-House. If you want to argue or disagree - fine! That's what your club is for. Do it there - where Nick can serve you. Don't go up the hill.

So - from our position in the Crow's Nest (where we've been all along) we sing out to the Skipper on this Friday Jan. 12th "Log the week-end --Cap'n, Sir!"

Jan. 12th---What better place to start the week-end than at the E.Y.C. bar for a bit o' the cup that cheers. An exclusive group gathered among them the McKnight brothers - Bob Mangans - long lost "Fink" Donnelly Frank Moore, Eddie Irvin - Bruce & KD Raimy plus too many more to mention.- if you enjoy talking boats - racing & cruising - this bunch can renew your enthusiasm these cold winter months.

Sat. Jan. 13 - should have been Friday. Most unsatisfactory for ice fun. We re-wrapped Ginger in her winter cover in the nick-of-time before the big week-end sleet and snow storm.

Rumors, finally confirmed today, became a fact that Lou Falhaber will handle the Champagne Dinner Dance Jan. 27th--better come on down--but make reservations.

The rough ice did-it for Dave Bierig's ice boat mast - Dave, John Douglas, & Mark Gardner gleefully helped me cover Ginger, all the while telling me how Dick Anthor had kicked thru with Alpha's old Main Mast so that the Sailmaker's ice boat will sail again!

Sunday, more and more snow so everything's a blank.

Mon. - Jan. 15th STATIC. ----(Board Meeting in the PM)

Tues. Jan. 16th --- FLASH

Bruce and KD Raimy are in charge of Yacht Club Publicity for the coming year. They have just moved into their new home at 503 Rondeau Drive. Telephone No. is 838-3209. Anything to do with the Press (Meaning the Erie Daily Times--Erie Morning News or the Sunday Times News) must - repeat MUST go thru the house of Raimy. Call that number 838-3209.

The members of the 4th Estate do a much better job for any organization if they deal with one person. So call KD for the Social agenda - or Bruce for the sports end - and let them handle it. This goes for photographers too - another easily distracted group. Bruce & KD know how to handle these people. So give them a free hand. Otherwise You'll have a mish-mash.

The P/C Don Smiths taking a first vacation in many years, visiting - in Florida - Al & Jean Walther on the West Coast and Norm Bradley on the East Coast, and if time permits--others.

Wed. Jan. 17th----And Now Hear This! Rich Loesel sez:----
"We gotz a Chef in the Galley" none other than the aforementioned Lou! Welcome Home! Tomorrow Jan. 18th Lou will Maestro the Power Squadron Banquet. His first Official night will be Friday Jan. 26th which is the night of the STAG. Rich is sending out fliers (you probably have 'em), We also remind you:

FRIDAY - Dinner----5:00PM to 9:00PM
SATURDAY " ----5:00PM to 9:00PM
SUNDAY - Brunch---11:00AM to 2:00PM
SUNDAY - Dinner----5:00PM to 9:00PM

Plus any special parties--to your taste--give Lou or Flossie some phoned notice.

Last month we announced we'd reprint a portion of Clarence C. Converse's discourse on Yachting etc. in Erie Bay prior to the year 1888, here goes:

ERIE'S BAY
IT'S YACHTS AND ENJOYMENTS
BY CLARENCE C. CONVERSE

Erie's beautiful bay lies about seventy feet below the surface of the mainland, like a crystal mirror framed in green. The rocking yachts ever seem to render willing obiesance to its rare charms.

As 'tis said of the strawberry: Doubtless God could have made a more beautiful bay; yet where on this round world is there one, surpassing it in those elements of aqueous purity, grace of outline and scenic variety, which together form so perfect a picture as is spread out here at our city's feet.

The heart of the Yachtsman thrills with delight at so glorious a sight, and he falls in love involuntarily with our goodly city; and on making it his home, is ready to exclaim, with the poet of the sacred writ, "My lines are fallen in pleasant places", his only marvel being that so few of Erie's citizens avail themselves of its splendid bay privileges.

That our bay is not lacking altogether in devotees of aquatic enjoyment, is evidenced by the presence on it of the schooner-yacht "Wanderer", built here and owned by H.R. Barnhurst; the Schooner-yacht "Caprice" (Ed & Jack take note) owned by Mr. J. Goodwin; the sloop-yacht "Dart" owned by Mr. George Carroll; The sloop-yacht "Madge" owned by Mr. C. Wise; the smack-rigged yacht owned by Mr. G. Baker, and the sloop yacht "Mallard" owned by the writer.

Many other small craft help to make up the Bay's pleasure fleet.

The untimely wrecking of Mr. F. H. Ball's schooner-yacht "Corsair" robbed Erie of one of the swiftest boats on Lake Erie.

Mr. Ball's loyalty to the grand sport of yachting has led him to assure his brother yachtsmen that he will early replace the "Corsair" with a schooner-yacht of equal elegance of model and speed of movement.

Erie yachtsmen are a lively set of sailors, with a genuine love for----

"A wet sheet and a flowing sea,
A wind that follows fast,
And fills the white and rustling sail,
And bends the gallant mast."

In addition to Erie's winged pleasure-boats we have steam yachts: the "Mystic", Hon. W. L. Scott's private yacht; the Harbormaster's government yacht: the "U.S.S. Michigan's" two launches; the steamer "Knobloch", capable of carrying 225 passengers; the "White", capable of carrying 150 passengers; the "Barnhurst", capable of carrying 175 passengers; the "Sutton", carrying 75 passengers; and the "Burch" carrying 50 passengers.

In addition to these boats there are three fleets of cat-rigged (Hear-hear--Ed) sail-boats, kept for hire by their respective owners, Messrs. Knobloch, Skivington and Paasch; and never a good sailing breeze on the Bay escapes being utilized by some or all of them.

The Bay is little used by oarsmen, though Dr. Harvey and John Welsh are enthusiastic lovers of the oar, and can handle it in a masterly manner.

No greater Bay-delight can be afforded the oarsman than a pull across it and into the chain of Penninsula ponds, where spooney lovers can gather heaps of pond lilies, to deck their naiad queens withal and imagine themselves in the midst of the primeval simplicity which man's rude hand has not marred; back to those days when dusky, flashing-eyed maidens and painted chieftans made love in those still flower decked waters.

Second installment next month.

And now a long sought contribution from the Oracle of the Ice-Boat fleet Lew Klahr--(contemporary)

"With the exception of one Saturday afternoon early in January, ice boating has been blah! Through the efforts of Jack Bierley, a sound-color film on the 1966 Skeeter Nat'ls. was shown at the club, followed by a film on the 1955 Lightning Districts starring Ye Ed in a special but well selected role.

A talk on the intent of the ice boat association, stressing safety, was given.

On Jan. 12th, four ice boats from the area went to Sandusky for the DN ice boat Nat'ls. 116 boats were registered from as far as Red Bank N.J., and Fox Lake, Wis., only to have the races postponed for two weeks due to sleeting conditions, snow, and snow mounds, on the

ice. Sandusky had been billed as the "snowless area". Just schedule a regatta'.

With recent purchases, the Arrow fleet is up to five, and the DN fleet about 16. Jack Amthor has offered an Arrow trophy if and when we get ice.

Come down, watch, get the bug. Advice graciously given."

Counted 25 ice-boats of various breeds the other day, quite a change from past years--you might find some interest as well as fresh-air here--Ed.

LADIES - Don't forget the luncheon Thursday- Feb. 1st. Esther Hirsch is in charge and there will be a door prize. Reservations go to Bernie Wagner or Agnes Rusk.

FLASH! Fifty 20-dollar gift certificates were donated by Filip's Jewelers and were raffled off at the Stag and the Champagne Dinner Dance this past weekend.

MAKE A NOTE - Valentine's Dance will be Feb. 17th - the Bob Mangans in charge - as announced by Dick and Betty Waller - Social Chairman for the year ahead.

The Ground Breaking Ceremony for the new Clubhouse took place this past Saturday, Jan. 27th at 4:30 PM. Commodore Ambro made the opening remarks, after which Ken Welsh - who has been working so successfully on Promotion along with Dave Schuler, spoke briefly. Taking part in the ceremony were Flag Officers and Directors, as well as EYC member and architect, Bill Brennan - also Builders Hardner and Doyle. For this memorable occasion P/C Robert B. Way presented the Erie Yacht Club with a gold-plated shovel - on which is inscribed -

ERIE YACHT CLUB
27 JANUARY, 1968
CLUBHOUSE
GROUND BREAKING CEREMONY

This treasured tool was passed to each of the dignitaries in turn for a thrust at the frozen ground, and will have an honored place in our new home along with other Mementos of Erie Yacht Club History. Many thanks, Bob!

Afterwards, the members and guests repaired to the Clubhouse to drink a toast. The celebration was continued at the Champagne Dinner Dance that evening - Fleet Captain George Simple in charge.

Here endeth the first 30 days!

So long, Cort

ERIE YACHT CLUB
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