



ERIE YACHT CLUB LOG

March Issue 1968

For the second time I have to start an issue singing the Spring Blues - lamenting the roly-coaster weather - when we boat-nuts are the battle ground for the elements to rage back-and-forth on. When Spring gains the upper hand we glow--and work---when Winter heaves Spring temporarily overboard - we sulk and crawl back into our holes. With so much trouble in the world we could all use a sunny-warm season to renew our faith in boating as the best cure-all there is.

The month of March was full of freak & whim - both as to weather and the social scene at the old Anchorage. On Friday, March 1st, a last minute idea for Spaghetti or fish - "family style" really boom-eranged, Instead of the 58 souls who made reservations our loyal staff had over 160 men, women & children swarming all over the place. George Sipple took up the slack by showing movies of old Erie every hour on the hour. Everyone was in a gay mood. Nick was alone behind the bar (where do you find help at that hour on Fri. nite?) Lou snagged a waitress to help Flossy & Dottie - by and large people were good-natured - as well they should have been. Friends - how about making your reservations at least 36 hours in advance -- you'll be glad you did.

Some 40 ladies met for luncheon on Thurs Mar. 7th. It was great to see Annie Lodge back where she belongs - as a matter-of-fact, it was Annie who drew the winning stub for Dorce's famous wig, and the WINNAH? none other than Mrs. Nick Braccalento. Nick had just left - and missed the whole-hearted applause of his distaff fans.

Fran Schuler has the pictures of the EYC - which go for \$3.00 apiece - courtesy of Ed Lutz - who has contributed so much art photography over the years.

Joan Bierley announced completed plans for the "Rides of March" party on the 23rd. Our Lady Commodore, Gladys Ambro - asked us all to save Betty Crocker and General Mills coupons - and place them in the box on the bar - for some future use toward the new Club-House.

The Annual Ladies Tea will take place on Thursday, May 2nd.

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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

Fran Schuler will be in charge of the tea-tables, Sally Will, decorations, Jackie Welsh and Dot Schuler - chances, Lillian Sipple and Hy Yaple Bauman - style show. For reservations -- call Jean Ginader 866-5782 or Louise Loesel 454-5351.

We congratulate Betty Waller on the green and white table decorations and the menu. We really felt that Spring was on the way. Nice to see Cary Krug and Herta Kilpatrick, among others. Adeline Clark will be in charge of the luncheon April 4th.

The St. Pat's Dance was held Sat., March 16th. Eddie Irvin & the Bob Mangans out did themselves in decoration and lighting effects. (Even down to the subtle touch of orange). Lou's superlative corned-beef and cabbage quickened the palate, and the Dimensions sounded the beat for dancing.

The Rides of March Party was held the following Sat. - and netted a few more shekels for the Ladies' Auxiliary Fund. All such proceeds go towards furnishing the new club-house.

Welcome home to all the Florida sojourners: Tom & Betty McFate, Don & Mary Smith (from whom we heard of the Walthers and Norm Bradley) Bob & Peg Way with the Rybergs gunkholed in & about several Cays seeing the Braxtons and Bob & Dotty Schluraff. Martha & Bob Painter ducked Stink boating and sailed the Keys with their own muscle. Dave & Fran Schuler likewise regretfully returned from sunny climes. If you want the dope on mid-winter Thistling--contact Bierley or Loesel who represented the Club.

We wish to remind you of the Easter Sat. parties - Egg Hunt for the children at 2:00 PM - and the Hat Dinner Dance that evening. Reservations for dinner go to the EYC - 529-4268.

Spring Out-Fitting is come upon us ! All Hail ! Bow to the East ! Praise Allah ! The Sailor's mind is where his heart is - and you will find the whole man on the grounds at the EYC - sanding, varnishing, tinkering, repairing, replacing, discovering alledged dry-rot etcetera. He could care less about a social agenda. He'll go to Nick when he's thirsty and to Lou when he's hungry - and to Marty or Whitey for electricity in some inaccessible place -- or a needed wrench.

On Jan. 27th a gold shovel broke ground for a new club-house; Champagne corks popped; the Erie Yachtsmen danced to the music of the young "Dimensions". There was among us a "Gentleman of the 'Old School" --Faultlessly attired; familiar cigarette-holder in play - dark eyes catching all the light - lower lip slanting in the well-known smile. Mark Mangan has since set out to sea. "And let there be ---" Aye, aye Sir ! We hear you, Mark ! Our hat is in our right hand as we wave and call "Bon Voyage ! " With our left we shield these all too human eyes against the setting of a very special sun.

ATTENTION ! Those sailors that are interested in M.O.R.C. racing should be glad to hear that similiar interest is developing among the Yacht Clubs in and around Buffalo. This year's Interclub Race program is expected to have a statement to the effect that M.O.R.C. will be welcome and will be started 5 minutes after the regular Auxiliary Yachts, provided at least 5 register and show for the start.

We have been advised that the Sandy Beach Yacht Club will put up a Perpetual Trophy for the first place winner and Keeper Trophies for first, second, and third places. All competing boats must be measured under the M.O.R.C. handicap system and time allowances calculated accordingly.

It is suggested that all EYC M.O.R.C. boat owners get together and appoint a spokesman for the class should there be sufficient interest for this kind of racing. The Auxiliary Race Committee will be glad to cooperate.

H. S. Ogden Aux. Race Committee. 4/1/68

COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

Your new club is underway -- those unimpressive holes in the ground have been filled with concrete, beams laid, and you can now see the South wall rising above the muck our construction men have had to work in. Contractor promises a roof over-head by June 1st.

Meanwhile we have been able to pay the bills that have been submitted out of monies in the building fund -- thanks to the generosity of many members both Associate & Regular, naturally we will stave-off borrowing from the Bank as long as possible to keep costs down. For each \$1000.00 we do not have to borrow, we will save in interest charges alone \$393.20 for the 10 year duration of the mortgage! A sizable amount! More than the dues from a couple of new members.

Bill

We mourn the loss of another friend -- Herbert R. (Spike) Spencer -- sailor - author - historian - industrialist. Spike could share his erudite knowledge and wide-ranging experience with his shipmates with a delightful flare. A quality seldom met this age of shallow, me first, competitive urges. All of us who knew him pray -- God speed.

Ben & Jean Ginader, true to the Lake Erie water in their veins, cared little for their drive to & from Florida---I see Kit's about ready to go; take her down next time, and you'll catcha fish!!

Ken Welsh asks that our membership, this of all years, abide by our Club Constitution and PAY UP THEIR DUES, which are due 90 days from Jan. 1, 1968 ----- OR BE POSTED.

Ken also reports that the Canadians are thankfully not intending to enforce the "holding tank" law as we had feared, at least this year. You may still visit Canada with your existing W.C. equipment. Please remember, Canadian waters are becoming crowded and be considerate - you are a guest - and YACHTSMAN - let's retain the tradition---so's we'll be welcome years to come.

Jim Taylor makes the following announcement---;

The Friday Jr. Sailing classes will be devoted to advanced racing techniques and spinnaker work, if there are enough applicants for it. (at least 20 are required to make this worth-while) -- so sign up - applications will be mailed during April.

So--we come to the second installment of Clarence C. Converse's
 ERIE'S BAY IT'S YACHTS AND ENJOYMENTS. (Con't. from Jan. Log.)

"During the summer the numerous Erie social clubs and societies find moonlight bay excursions to be the most enjoyable of aquatic amusements, and then the Bay is under the witching domain of "Music, Love and Silver Wave". On such occasions as these, as the pleasure-boat goes dancing past Crystal Point, near the spot where Commodore Perry's ship "Niagara" was sunk, after the war of 1812, doubtless many a bashful swain musters up courage enough to whisper, with a special personal emphasis in the ear of the fair Phyllis clinging to his arm in the wierd moonlight, Perry's immortal words:

"We have met the enemy and they are ours"

The summer-time also pays picnic tribute to the beauty of the Bay and delights of yachting in all-day gatherings at Massassauga Point and trips from the bay to Four Mile Creek with dances and concerts, at both of these favorite resorts.

The lover of surf-bathing has but to cross the Peninsula to find a perfect sandy beach and a musical surf-flow such as would arouse the sluggish blood of an anchorite.

The pleasures of bay sailing would be incomplete were I to omit the incomparable sport of muskellunge-trolling, whether from a row-boat or a floating sailboat, this latter method enabling the angler to indulge meanwhile, with cigar 'tween lips, in "dolce far niente", till the twanging line signals him to haul in.

Fine fishing in our Bay can be pleasantly done to the tune of the favorite old Scotch Ballad going thus:

'I coost my line in Largo Bay.

And fishes I caught nine;

'Twas three to broil and three to fry,

And three to bait the line.

It is true that when one lands a Muskellunge, he lands a fish "as is a fish", taking Erie's pleasure fishing all the year 'round, I hold to the gany Bass for a thoroughly relishable pastime; He always means business and ever tugs at it for all he is worth.

A right pleasant sequence to an afternoons Bass-pull is afforded by mine host Campbell at the "Head" or Schaefer at "The Lone Fisherman", where fish dinners worthy of the appetite of a Lucullus can be had."

A third and last installment soon---Ed.

THE GRAND PINOCHLE BANQUET to be held April 24'-----as usual celebrating GENERAL GRANT'S BIRTHDAY-----reservations are limited with priority going to the Ship's Company.

The HIGHLANDER is being sold !! An ideal inboard-powered fishing type boat, "shades of Clarence C. Converse"--call Ted Schuler or Dick Loesel before this bargain is "hooked" by someone else.

Effective April 30th Dining Room will be open Tuesday through Sunday. Dinners served from 5 til 9 - Sunday Brunch from 11 til 2. All Seafood will arrive from Boston every Thursday fresh from the Sea. All Steaks will be cut to order. Chicken in the Bucket, Shrimp, French Fries, cole slaw will be available for carry out service. A complete Sandwich Menu will also be a new feature.

The small boat fleet Captains, Race Committee, and Regatta Committee met on Sun. March 9th and produced two 1968 race schedules.

Sun. March 16 we met again with the smallboat Skippers and voted on which schedule to use. The schedule adopted follows the plan used in previous years, with minor changes to fit the 1968 calendar. We will have one throw out in the seven race evening series.

By unanimous vote, we will use the Portsmouth Handicap System for handicap races. This system is computed annually from national averages of performances and is adjusted accordingly.

The 1968 handicaps for the local fleet are, Star 82, Thistle 83, Fire Ball 87, Lightning 87, Rhodes Bantam 97, and OK Dinghy 97.

The formula to figure your corrected time is the elapsed time, times 100, divided by your handicap number.

Although the small boat race schedule is complete, accepted and (approved?), there may be a delay in printing, so keep in mind your first race is Sun, 12, May, 10:00AM and is Spring series 1&2 and Pomeroy #1.

To properly conduct a small-boat race, the Race Committee boat should have five adults aboard and the crash boats should have at least two adults aboard.

Fellow members, regular & associate try to picture the following touching scene:

I am on the patio, on my knees with my arms outstretched towards the clubhouse. My bald head is glistening in the bright (?-Ed.) sun. I am pleading for volunteers for race committee. Behind me milling about the lawn & piers are 30 or 40 small boat sailors yelling at me "when in hell are you going to start this RACE?"

After rereading the proceeding I think I had better stick to toolmaking, but if I did get thru to you, please call me on 899-7246.

We all would appreciate your help, even if only occasionally.
Gail Garren

Entertainment Chairmen Wallers announce a ROARING TWENTIES PARTY May 25th. Gals--dig out your beads and shocking hems--drag Skipper down-the-hill to dance the Charleston & the Black Bottom ! Nick will pour booze from a flask if it will make you any happier, and there'll be prizes galore for the best costumes ---we're promised a few surprises too ! !

Six or seven boats are launched at this writing ! J. Amthor's "Glasshopper" trundled in across town on her trailer April 5th to even up the score--one new sailboat-Bowen's, to one new power boat.

We havn't space for a full-fledged "New Members" dept. but 'welcome-aboard' Mr. Kramer (who entertained 35 guests with Lou's steal dinner March 28th); and Dave Bierig (already made famous as the "Erie Sailmaker at work" by the Feb 18th issue of Times-News); and the many others.

Time to go to work on Ginger---I'll guarantee nothing till she's launched and sailing---so the fickle weather will control the timing of the next issue---

so long, Cort.

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ERIE YACHT CLUB
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