

#### VICE-COMMODORE'S REPORT

To bring the Yacht Club members up-to-date on what is going on with your Officers' group, we would just like to inform you that we are working diligently, and much is being accomplished.

For the most part, the 2 x 8' uprights have been replaced on the docks for the coming season. The new small boat ramp is now almost complete with the catwalk uprights for bringing the small boats alongside while they are waiting to be hauled in place, and we feel this will be a real addition to the speeding up of bringing small boats in and out of the water during the coming season.

We are planning to put power and water out to the new docks on the east side, and are working right now to arrive at the proper power level to start with. It will cost a great deal just to do this much, something in the neighborhood of \$20,000.

Some of the older stalls need some maintenance and we are attempting to do as much of this as possible. At the moment, we are finding it very difficult to buy used railroad rail at any reasonable price, but are still hopeful that we will be able to beat what we have found so far. This could be the limiting factor on how much work of this nature we can get done since we are talking numbers like \$.10 per lb., delivered to Erie.

Dock assignments are nearly complete, and assuming we have all these in, we will start assigning docks to members with points sufficient to justify consideration. You all received the forms in December with your billings, and we hope that very shortly you will be receiving the new billing for your dock assignment.

Very truly yours, David B. Schuler, Vice-Commodore

#### **PLEASE NOTE**

The new small boat launching ramp is to be kept clear for that purpose. Please do not park your car or trailer in front of it. Please do not store a boat, ice-boat or trailer on the ramp. Everyone's cooperation in this matter will be sincerely appreciated by others who wish to use it and by the ground crew for maintainence.

## SCUTTLEBUTT by Dorothy & Frank

How the days keep ticking away! Here it is time again for another issue of the Log. If one wishes time to hurry on its way, sign up for a column and discover how quickly deadlines arrive. Notice how daylight hangs around a little longer and old sol is showing up more often....it's enough to drive a boater to horrible visions of scraping, sanding and painting. If your mind is well trained, it is quite simple to develop a mental block about work and look past it to lazy, hazy, happy days of summer coming up.

Before getting carried away, we should mention that the winter buffs had a good season (short to them, long to others) of ice sports. Even we who do not participate have enjoyed watching the hearty souls with their cherry-red faces returning from the bitter winds, An active winter it was, as it should be.

The Coast Guard Auxiliary busing party to the Cleveland Boat Show on January 17 was a great success. The "nicotine" crew was segregated from the clean air enthusiasts, each to their own bus, with no regrets. Both enjoyed the trip as well as a delicious buffet dinner at a Quality Court Inn on the return leg.

A sneeze is but a sneeze, except to Nick Virgilio. Always one to be thorough and intense in whatever he undertakes, Nick put so much enthusiasm in a sudden violent spasmodic audible expiration of breath that he broke a couple of ribs. Hard Nick is just a softy after all. In his case, "gesundheit" is too late....the damage is done. You would think an elevator man would know when to stop, but Nick and Joan are on Cloud Nine awaiting delivery of their new 26' Chris.

You wouldn't believe it, but I guess we must. Marion Benton's thumb isn't double jointed. She discovered it the hard way and had to have help surgerywise in reconnecting the tendon. Must have stung a little. The only ice skating casualty of which we have heard.

Our deepest sympathy is extended to Jackie Welsh on the loss of our dear friend Ken. Well did he serve the Club and its members in so many ways. He will be greatly missed. Our sympathy also goes to Ursula Brozell for her very unfortunate accident.

Rick and Leeann Filip's bundle of joy

## **RECOGNIZE ANY OF THESE?**



Sometimes we tend to forget that our large attractive facility was once a relatively small operation at the foot of Myrtle Street. A small band of dedicated yachtsmen with the dream of a first-class yacht club worked and sacrificed to keep the Club going through some lean and difficult years, especially during the late 1920's and early 30's.

Chet Curriden recently found this photograph of most of those members, taken aboard the *Eleanor III* at one of the many parties hosted by Lawrence Nagle to help keep the group together. Even from 1945 to 1955 many of these pictured would have annual dinners or picnics at Water Works Park and the Yacht Club

until eventually most of them passed away.

Now in 1976 there are only 5 of this great gang left--Lawrence Nagle, George Final, George Eichenlaub, Joe English and Chet Curriden.

In addition to the above five, other members of this group included Clarence Murphy, Bill Schauble, Al Green, Ray Eichenlaub, Merv Frank, Fred Garvin, Edgar Garvin, W.L. Morrison, Robert Jarecki, Rip Sawdy, Harvey Gaugh, Jappy Cole, Bert Braggins, Henry Winter, George Papesch, Ted Knuth, Eddie Palmer, Walter Reitzel, Bill Ester, Bill Ester, Jr., Pete Schaaf, George Siegel and Henry Armstrong.

made her debut into this world on January 18th and exuberance abounds all around. While on the subject of babies, heard direct from the horse's mouth (no analogy intended ... although a prettier "filly"you couldn't find), the pitter patter of little feet will be a welcomed sound some day on SCOTCH ON THE WATER. The effervescent parents-to-be, Peg and Kerry Schwab leaked (burst is a better word for it) out the good news recently. Happiness is anticipation.

Our thanks are extended to Diane Morton for the painting of George of "I cannot tell a lie" fame. He looked down on a very happy crowd and more than once he seemed to frown at the antics going on on the dance floor. O.K., George, your party was a success, according to our standards. A "Presidents" party every month would be fun. How about it, Olga?

The Ladies Tea is scheduled for May 4th and surely the ladies will be out in great numbers for this annual event, a highlight of the year's social activities. Speaking of distaff programs, the monthly luncheons invite one and all ladies and their guests to participate. If you are not on a calling list, get in touch with one of the officer's ladies. They will see that you are. New member's wives will be warmly welcomed.

Our Chef, Frank Serbati, is giving a great performance. Try it, you'll like it.

Two new biggies will be putting in an appearance this coming summer in Club waters. Jack Finn's new two-tonner displacement vessel is at Annapolis and will be sailed to her home port by an Erie crew. In the same ship catagory is Ted Helfand's new joy, which will soon hit the roadways directed Erieway. Can't say the shrimp boats are coming, these are large ones.

Certainly good to hear that Bob Way has returned from San Diego and feeling good once more and back on the job. Recent returnees from the sunshine state with tales of the big one that didn't get away are Betty and Hank Lorence. Betty struggled to bring aboard a 48" amberjack, while hubby Hank for the first time had to be satisfied with second place. Hank's beginning to think there's something in this women's lib stuff.

Skiing enthusiast, Sylvia Burdick, has received word from the Nastar National Recreational Association that in the Middle Atlantic region, comprised of five states and in which Peak n' Peek is located, she is top finalist. With her handicap as it now stands, she will be competing in the Nastar National finals in Aspen, Colorado. Congratulations for the present achievement Sylvia, and if you bring back a first place, we'll go a little further than that. Good Luck.

The Ken Claunchs are proud parents these days, as well they should be. Their son, Chuck, in the Navy only sixteen weeks, has had two double promotions and is now Grade Petty Officer. He will be attending submarine school in New London, Connecticut.

Collene and George Schaefer tripping off to warmer climes, joining the throng of annual commuters southward.

We're at last heading into the work season after which follows the fun season, otherwise called boating. Can hardly wait. Good sailing when it comes.

# ICE – BOATERS GET FAIRLY GOOD SEASON

The warm spell of mid-February spelled the end of this year's ice-boating season, but it was the best since the 1971-72 season, At one point the ice was over 16 inches thick this year in the western end of the bay.

The only official races held by the Arrow Fleet was a series of doubles which saw Don and Jayne Lasher take overall third place, Dick Swanson and Fred Reymore knocking off second spot and the team of Gary Hanlin and Ginny Althoff scooting off with first place honors.

John Hall, assisted by his son-in-law Greg Sanner had a clean third in the first race, but suffered a cracked hull during the first windward turn of the second race which knocked them out of further contention.

Newcomer to Arrow racing, Tom Gustin, co-piloted by Diane Morton, had a 2nd and 3rd respectively in the 2nd and 3rd races, but due to a DNF mixup in the first race had to settle for a fourth overall. If Steve Yettman and Peter Gorny could have kept themselves from demolishing the windward mark whenever they got near it, they would have posed a threat for one of the cups. New Arrow owners Karl Nacken and Chris Sieber had two solid fifths in the second and third races (they missed the first one) and are a team to watch in future years. Clarence Skinner and Art Althoff gave it their best but just couldn't seem to find the right wind pockets to come in for any wins. Oh well, better luck next year!

# "J. G. K. I - II - III"

Three generations of an E.Y.C. family are currently charter-cruising the waters of the British Virgin Islands. They are; John G. Koedel, Sr. and Mrs. Betty, their son John G. Koedel, Jr. and wife Fay, and John G. Koedel, III, grandson and son respectively of John and Betty, and John and Fay.

The Koedel "clan" can undoubtedly lay claim to several E.Y.C. "records" as follow: John, Sr. and Betty, residents of Bethel Park (a Pittsburgh suburb) have faithfully commuted to E.Y.C. during almost every week-end of the yachting season since joining E.Y.C. in 1949.

Every one of the boats owned and skippered by the Koedels have been of their own construction. "Kittiwake", designed and built by John and Betty at their Bethel Park home and launched here in 1950 has the well founded reputation of being one of the best constructed cruisers on the Great Lakes and is a familiar sight in many Lake Erie ports, especially in the back waters of the Long Point area. And now, John is on the drawing board again designing "K-2".

John Jr., who is now a resident of Warren, PA, built his first boat, a "pumpkin seed" hydroplane for use on the river waters of the Pittsburgh area having obviously gotten the itch from his father. But, having acquired a taste for sailing as a Bob Way crewmen, he made the expected turn from hydroplane racing to sail with a 21 foot sloop which led him on to build "Aeolus", a MORC class boat. And, following "Aeolus", John Jr., and Fay went on to their present 36 foot Cascade class "Elusive" which was launched and christened at E.Y.C. on July 17, 1975.

Already exhibiting competent shipwright and seamanship talents, we wonder what John G. Koedel, III will have in store for us to look at in a few years.



CANDID SHOTS TAKEN
AT THE
CHAMPAGNE
DINNER DANCE









# ANNUAL SPRING TEA SET FOR MAY 4TH

Spring cannot be far away if the Ladies Auxiliary is forming plans for their annual Spring Tea, This year's theme "Women-Yesterday and Today" will be held on May 4th.

General Chairman Olga Gorny

Tea Tables Style Show Decorations Reservations Olga Gorny Fran Schuler Betty Waller Jan Cook Marnie Preston &

Jean Bauman Chances Marge Behr &

Table Arrangements Dorothy Knauer
Marilyn Reno &
Barbara Althof

Publicity Sylvia Burdick Finances Ellie Matts Advisor Marilyn Amthor

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#### YOUR HELP NEEDED!

The enclosed letter and questionnaires will be of benefit to many skippers as well as those who would like to crew if we all take the time to fill them out and return them to Tom Schuyler. We ask you to please not just discard these forms, but give some thought about those you know that might like to crew in some capacity.

#### 1975 ERIE YACHT CLUB DIRECTORY

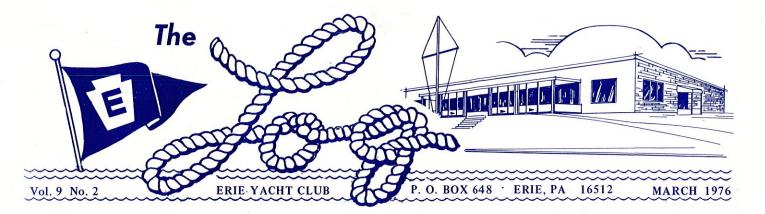
#### OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

#### **COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN**

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#### COMMODORE'S REPORT

The Erie Yacht Club has again lost one of it's most energetic workers and staunch supporters in the passing of Past Commodore and General Manager Ken Welsh. His many years of unselfish devotion to the Erie Yacht Club will be long remembered. Our sympathies are extended to his wife Jackie and son Ken, Jr.

Past Commodore and Secretary-Treasurer "Bill" Ambro is currently attending to the management of the EYC. Bill can be reached at the Club mornings and most afternoons. If he is not on the grounds, Barbara will relay any messages to him.

Your officers and Directors are working diligently to prepare the Club for the upcoming yachting season. They will gladly receive any suggestions you may have to improve your Club's facilities, as their aim is continual improvement to your already excellent physical plant.



Richard J. Gorny, Commodore

#### EYC CREW CLEANS UP AGAIN IN A HIGHLANDER REGATTA

That super Highlander crew in boat No. 405, skipper Jack Bierley and crew members John Damcott and Greg Gorny, took another first place. This time it was at Lake Norman, for the 11th Piedmont Pipers and Pluckers Regatta (don't try saying that too fast if you'd had one too many!). Forty-two boats from six states and eleven fleets were represented but our E.Y.C. crew brought home the bacon with a first overall. Congratulations from all of us to a great racing crew.

# Beloved Manager, Great Yachtsman, Passes Away

Ken Welsh came to the Erie Yacht Club as a youth in the roaring twenties and never in the entire time since then could he have been called "the idle yachtsman". He spent about three years as skipper for Herb Holmes on Eleanor II, the predecessor of our present much admired, Eleanor III.

Skippering another man's boat only heightened Ken's desire to own his own vessel so one day he walked up the hill vowing not to come back except in his own boat. He did. It was a Richardson with a molded stern - A very handsome yacht. Subsquently he purchased several boats which carried the name "Kegler". But bowling is another story.



In all the years Ken has been a member he worked actively on behalf of the Club. He was Commodore in 1955 and secretary-treasurer for more years than most of us have been members. He and urban renewal built the land our House and most of our docks are built on. He sensed the opportunity to expand the land to its present dimensions. It is said "You can't beat City Hall" but Ken Welsh did. He buried it on the east fill. That is, the old City Hall of course.

His family will miss him as husband and father. All of us will ever remember fondly this yachtsman who did so much for us.

# LADIES TREATED TO FASCINATING SPEAKERS --AND FORM A GARDEN CLUB

The Erie Yacht Club Ladies Auxiliary at their February luncheon enjoyed a slide presentation by Mr. David Thomas, Assistant professor of Earth Space Science of Mercyhurst College. A most interesting program on the "History of Presque Isle" was enjoyed by all attending.

The Auxiliary has formed an informal Garden Club and held their first meeting on February 10th. All members of the

Auxiliary are invited to join this group. Interested parties please contact Ellie Matts.

Those attending the March Luncheon enjoyed another slide presentation by Mr. Al Margetta, Club Member and Skipper of the yawl "Carina". Mr. Margetta, a enthusiastic traveler presented an informative glimpse of life along the Marowigne River.