

### COMMODORE'S REPORT

The winter we have just experienced has been a most difficult one for, I am sure, all of us. For our part, at the Erie Yacht Club, we have had the difficulty of an antiquated truck and plow, which continually broke down. We had to hire, at considerable expense, outside help to move our snow and keep the Yacht Club fire lanes open and the parking lots and roadways clear. The weather also caused the cancellation of our usually finest winter party, the Champagne Ball. This was rescheduled for Saturday, February 19th, and was, we are pleased to report, a fine success. Hopefully, other parties will be run on schedule. As we noted before, we have attempted to schedule one major event each month.

Your Board of Directors have approved the purchase of a new truck and plow, with a committee investigating the best buy for our needs. The weather also created some very unusual conditions in that it literally sheared off the 100 lb. railroad rails which are our supporting uprights for the catwalks and docks. Some 30 or 35 of these were broken off by this enormous force. We have pictures covering this damage and will show them to you.

Another example of the ice damage is, when the water and ice went down, it dropped almost three feet and tore our new conduit junction boxes right in half on the new M & N docks out on the north wall. The power was amazing, and the damage expensive. We have a great deal of work to do to get the docks ready for your use, but, hopefully, we will be on time. The ice may not melt until June.

The gate, you will notice, is not operable. It is simply frozen in. We gave up trying to break it loose daily, because it simply filled up with too much ice, and we gave up the ghost on this. As soon as we feel it is possible, we will make sure it is operational again.

We are in the process of interviewing and admitting the new applicants from Erie County only. Our membership is growing very fast, and, of course, our dock space is filled without any of these new additions. We still will not be able to take care of some members that we took in last year and the year before. Your Vice Commodore, Dick Waller, is doing a yeoman's job of sorting this out, and will have to make some positive shifts in order to fit us all in the available dock space. It is like putting two pounds of peanuts into a one pound bag.

Remember, your dining room is operating all week, please attempt to schedule one of your nights out each week at the Club. If anything, our rates are ridiculously low, and the special on Wednesday night, prime ribs at \$3.95, is a steal.

We had some weather related disasters, such as food which did not arrive in time for the "All You Can Eat Lobster Party", although as late as 4:00 PM that afternoon, it had been promised by phone. This got us into a little difficulty with our members, but, hopefully, by the time you read this, those members will have been taken care of. For this problem, we apologize, and we are making serious efforts to correct the situation.

The Ladies' Auxiliary is very active with monthly meetings, and they have recently purchased some beautiful silver service trays with their money, donating them to the Club for use on state events. For this, we thank them. These pieces include two sizes of trays, I think sixteen in all, and candelabra to go to the end of the tables. Under our good member, Lew Klahr, heading the committee, we are starting the Erie Yacht Club Curling Club. Our intention at this moment is to use bay ice, and we have slowly accumulated the knowhow and the information for this beginning through the good graces of a non-member, Bill Burroughs, formerly of Schenectady, and now of Erie. Through Bill, we have obtained 32 stones on loan to us for two years. These are worth about \$50.00 a piece, and they

come from the Duluth (Minnesota) Curling Club, through the National Curling Club Society of North America. In the United States alone, there are about 4000 of these curling clubs, and it is becoming a very popular and active sport, running about six months each year. It is a vigorous game and an excellent one for companionship. We hope you will take time to observe and learn and volunteer some help.

We have also appointed a Pool Committee under your Director Frank Knauer who is investigating the possibility of building a swimming pool for our members. He will come up with recommendations for size, location, style, price, and then the Board will be responsible for approving the project plans before submitting them to the membership for their consideration.

We have inaugurated the "Thursday Night at the Movies" at 8:00 PM through the good graces of George Sipple, and your Yacht Club Manager, Bill Ambro. They will have movies on Norway and Iceland shortly. We have had movies on curling and some old Yacht Club movies, so far. They are shown at 8:00 PM, Thursday nights, normally. If you take the time to come down for supper and watch the movies, we would love to have you, and you will enjoy this.

We regret to report that Red Wagner was taken sick last week, just before the Champagne Party, and we understand that he is very uncomfortable. Hopefully, we hope it will not be too serious, but, at this point, he wants no visitors.

We would like to thank Red and his good wife, Bernie, for their efforts on our behalf as Entertainment Chairmen. They have been doing an excellent job for us.

David B. Schuler

On Saturday, March 19th, 1977, a new picture was stolen from the ladies rest room. The Board of Directors has resolved that if this picture is not returned immediately and should the theft be subsequently traced to a member or a guest of a member with knowledge of such theft by the member, that member will be expelled immediately.

ERIE YACHT CLUB  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
March 21, 1977





## VICE-COMMODORE'S REPORT

It is risky to anticipate what the weather may be by the time this article reaches print - If I were able to do that, the weather bureau would be listening to me instead of vice versa - However, it does appear that the worst of the cold and snow may be behind us. I hope so; I've been ready for Spring since last October.

As long as there is ice remaining in our basin, there exists the possibility of further damage to the docks. To date it has not been overly extensive. One surprising fact, is that a number of the posts which support our catwalks (These are railroad rails, no less) have been snapped off cleanly at or near the level of the ice. This graphically demonstrates the forces that can build up when ice starts to move.

We will have some new stalls this coming season, located along the north fill. Posts for these were driven last fall, and the catwalks have been constructed and are ready for installation. It is planned to extend electrical and water lines to these stalls so that they will be fully operational.



As we sit here in warm Curacao watching the water sports, our thoughts turn to Erie, to the ice, the snow, the cold winds and the club. Suddenly we realize that in several days this must all end and the return to this is inevitable. Certainly we will miss the warm trade winds (constantly 30 knots) and the friendliness of this island.

The reports of the officers and secretary of the Club are before me. In reading and proof reading one realizes that although while the Club appears to have been hibernating for the winter, the people who are concerned and active have been preparing for the spring thaw.

In connection with stalls, I want to thank all of you who returned your applications to the Club promptly. The response this year was unusually good, and this makes the job of determining stall assignments much easier than it otherwise would be.

The other day, I became aware of some faint stirrings in the back of my mind. Upon closer examination I discovered that I was beginning to contemplate the work involved in getting the boat ready for the water; getting the cover off and put away, a through cleaning inside and out, sanding, and painting the bottom, loading an unbelievable amount of gear back aboard, etc. It is a lot of work but I guarantee you it's more fun than shoveling snow.

Dick Waller

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### APPROVES NEW MEMBERS FOR E.Y.C.

At a Special Meeting of the Board on March 7 and on March 21, fifty new members of the Yacht Club were approved. These include three Junior - Non-Family, Mark Miller Brosz, Peter Dregalla, and Mark A. Wells; two Intermediate, David R. Forsman and Mark R. Menosky; one Associate, Bernard J. Lechner; and forty-four Regulars, F.R. Alvord III, Thomas C. Barton, Jr., Robert L. Block, Harry J. Devine, Jr., John B. Enders, Ronald Lee Fellows, James R. Finn, Albert H. Gest, John B. Genader, John R. Grazier, John Guthlehen, E. Lawrence Hauson, David L. Heitzenrater, Russel Horchler, Bruce D. Johnson, Dennis A. Killila, Albert L. Lamp, Jr., Louis Lechtner, James C. Levinson, James R. Lockwood, William D. Loose, Jr., Timothy J. McCormick, Robert F. McNany, Robert P. Martin, Jr., Merton D. Meeker, M. Richard Mellon, J. Paul Moore, John R. Openlander, Vincent T. Ridikas, James J. Robertson, Richard V. Robertson, Michael Rogers, Michael A. Santomena, William A. Schaal, William A. Schaal, Jr., Don E. Shannon, Kenneth E. Sorensen, Larry E. Soughan, Leonard F. Spitzig, Norman H. Stark, Melvin Roy Strausbaugh, William L. Thayer, Jack M. Wheeler, and Harold J. Will; a hearty "Welcome Aboard" is extended to these new members.

Masses of material are in my possession for use in the *Log*. I am grateful to Bill Behr and Sylvia Burdick for the photographs and hope they continue. My thanks to Frank Moore for his "Filler's" and to George Sipple for the "Ancient" copies of the *Log*. For those who like nostalgia and history, portions will be reproduced. I find it interesting how timely we wish they would be. Many of the Boats and persons have long disappeared from the scene. Many are here today. In reading the items, see how many you can recognize, and then realize it is almost 30 years ago.

As the weather moderates, the canvas covers come off, the bottoms and tops are prepared for the season and your dreams begin to take form in the pleasant moments you are going to spend - whether cruising, racing or just relaxing. I hope that each of you realize the fullest expectations and pleasures of the coming season.

Robert L. Lasher



## REAR COMMODORE'S REPORT

With most of the worst of the winter behind, hopefully our thoughts are wandering toward spring activities. One of our spring highlights is the Annual Erie Yacht Club Auction, April 23rd. This is an opportunity to get rid of some of those marine items that you just don't want anymore but you really don't feel you can give away. More details later, but mark that date.

Our Club seemed to weather the storm during January and February although we had to close for a couple days, a party was delayed and some other trying times developed but, all in all, our members were very cooperative and we're most appreciative. The Clubhouse has been spruced up here and there and we had some fun on Thursday nights. We're all looking forward to an early spring and a great season.

Clarke S. Bressler





## FLEET CAPTAIN'S REPORT

We have been plowing snow, plowing snow, plowing snow! The snow finally got so deep that we had to hire a "high lift" unit to come and open the roads between the stored boats. As a consequence, there are many substantial piles of snow along the roads. As this is being written, a thaw has arrived. If it continues, we will be able once again to see some of the hidden boats.

In spite of the weather, planning is going ahead for the coming of boating season. The race committees are completing their schedules. When the schedules are completed and printed, you will receive one in the mail. Regular springtime fitting-out work will start on the "Iron Duke" and the "Flagship" when the weather breaks. These boats are in generally good shape and should be ready well in advance of the coming racing season. In the meantime, the ice boaters are "thinking ice", the race committees are "thinking spring" and our grounds people are just plain happy with the respite from plowing.

David Preston

## AUXILIARY FLEET CAPTAIN'S REPORT

Planning for the 1977 IOR Racing Schedule is in process. Races will be scheduled similar to last year. Several Performance Handicap events with the MORC Fleet will be scheduled.

Permanent (we hope) lake marks will be placed for a 3 mile and a 5 mile triangle. Placing and maintaining the marks will be a joint project between the IOR and MORC Fleets and the U.S. Coast Guard.

Fleet Captain Bert will be assisted by John Patton as Secretary/Treasurer and Howard Miskill will return as Chief Measurer.

Although final arrangements have yet to be made, Humphrey Bennetts is expected to return from England to again chair the Race Committee.

A March meeting of the fleet was held and a race schedule similar to last year was approved.

If you did not race with the IOR Fleet last year, but wish to participate this year, please call Boyd Bert and plan to attend the next auxiliary Fleet meeting to be held in April.

Boyd Bert

## MEMBERSHIP

At the last annual membership meeting, we reported a total club membership of 727 persons. This represents an increase from the count reported in November, 1975. Those of you who have visited the Club recently may have noticed a goodly number of member candidates posted for consideration. That number exceeds the number of deaths and resignations recorded in the past year, so that our total membership roster will show an increase again when we

report to you in November, 1977. Obviously, we are approaching the time when we will be able to accept only that number of new members equal to resignations and deaths. Our dock facilities are already limited. Members accepted last year will be unable to obtain boat stalls in almost every instance. Bar and dining facilities are rarely limiting, and we especially need such trade in the winter months.

Expansion of the Club facilities is presently limited northward by the depth of the water, and because we are close to the Federal harbor border. Eastward is City property, and westward is privately owned land. Your membership in your Club becomes an increasingly valuable asset each year. This shortage situation is a national trend precipitated by the extraordinarily rapid proliferation of boating.

The Erie Yacht Club maintains seven classes of membership: Regular, boat owners; Associate, non-boat owners; Intermediate, ages 21 through 29; Senior, over 65 and 15 years a member; Special, unmarried widows of yacht owning members; Junior, ages 16 - 25 - parent not a member; Junior Family, ages 16 - 25 - parent a member.

The requirements for each of these classes are detailed in the Club's Constitution and By-Laws. Presently, member candidates apply by writing the Secretary a letter indicating their desire for membership. Likewise, transfers between classes of membership are handled by letter to the Secretary. Each acceptance or transfer must be approved unanimously by the Board of Directors at their regular monthly meeting. Should you have any question about membership matters, please consult an officer or the Club office.

G. Wm. Ambro, Secretary



The Erie Yacht Club has received the "Chet Curriden Trophy" to be presented to the winner this year of a race to be sailed by the MORYC Fleet - "The Chet Curriden Race".

Pictured above with the donor of the trophy are Paul Bruggner who molded the Bronze Figure and Clarence Skinner and Clem Chesko who designed and built the handsome base.

The Trophy represents the "Mermaid of Copenhagen" who was described in a story written by Hans Christian Anderson. The original, life size statue is now in Copenhagen.





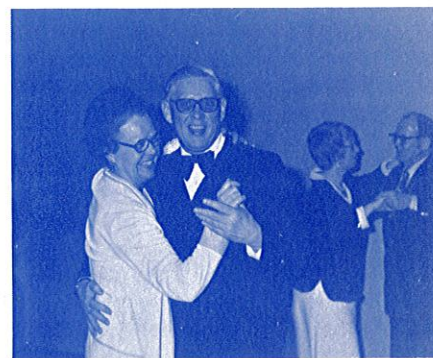


Bob Way and Dave Schuler

## CHAMPAIGN DINNER DANCE FEBRUARY 1977



Dee & Doc Bressler



Betty & Dick Waller



Peggie & Kerry Schwab



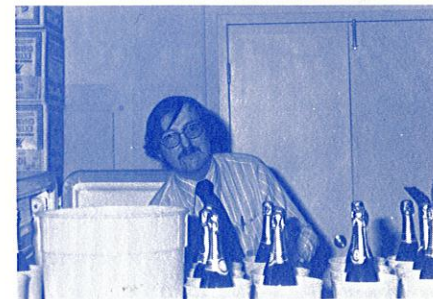
Howard Muskell and Dorothy Gaughn



Robert & Bea Roth



Marge Behr, Roy Martine, Peg Way



Jerry Hain

## NOSTALGIA

Reprinted from EYC Log  
January 1949

Got a couple of new and distinguished members in the dry rot squad. Enigma and Miway have joined the ranks and are undergoing the needed surgery and grafting operations at Paasch's and Lunds derotteries. Likewise Eleanor III! You gotta admit the "Wetsus" keeps good company!

Reprinted from EYC Log  
April 1948

The social highlight of the month was the Spring Blowout. This for the He's only. Introduced by Fleet Captain Burns, John Carney gave a very interesting talk on the "CITY OF ERIE" launched in 1898 during the regime of Mayor Saltsman at a cost of \$350,000 dollars that were dollars. You could go to Buffalo and return for one frogskin per head at a speed of 21 knots developed by 5000

horses fed by 6 boilers below decks. On June 1, 1901 she won a close race with the "TASHMOO" under a gentlemen's agreement to use coal only for fuel. Before the race was over, coal, oil, furniture, doors, and flooring went to feed the horses but she . . . mother. According to the story, over \$100,000 was bet on the race. (Obviously before the days of income taxes.)

Several very interesting and educational films were also on tap. A Cape Anne film "Down to the Sea in Ships" and Gus Pulakos film on Sail Fishing showed the boys a good time. The educational section was well taken care of by Gus with his flicker on the Origin of the Protozoa.

The grand windup was ably provided by specialists in their various lines. The band played, the gals sang and danced and we were treated to a real exposition of Be Bop at its worst. A very touching rendition of the well known song "They Raided the Joint" sent all the customers to the Dagwoods with the feeling that they were richer for the evening's experiences. (Oh, boy, you should have was there!)



Wake up E.Y.C. - Spring's Here.



Reprinted from EYC *Log*  
April 1948

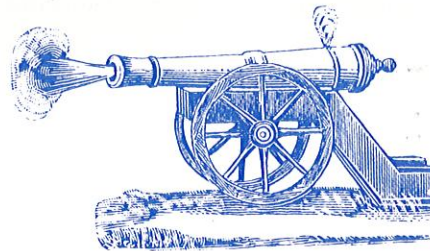
There's been no ice and little snow  
The sun's come out to warm ya  
Where did the frigid weather go?  
Out west to California!  
(Don't you read the papers?)  
But are we glad? No - there's a gang  
That's filled with consternation  
This winter's made ice fishermen  
The picture of frustration.  
They stand on shore - Pace to and fro  
Look out with longing eye.  
Where is this stuff upon the bay  
That would support a guy  
And let him sally bravely forth  
With spud and stove to search  
Down thru a frigid slush filled hole  
For stinking little perch?  
"Oh would that we could tread the ice  
Track fishlets to their lair  
While Arctic gales blow forty knots  
And ice forms in our hair.  
We revel in the frigid climes  
To ice-fish is our due  
We want to watch those lifeless lines  
While slowly turning blue  
So here's to winter! Still we hope  
To catch 'em thru the ice  
With Chillblained hands and frozen feet  
Boy wouldn't that be nice?"



Eric Ambrose



Carol Schultz and Chalice Walker



Thank you

### New starting gun for the Auxiliary Fleet.





# CALENDAR APRIL - MAY - JUNE

Clubhouse closed Mondays

## Food Service

Monday closed

Tuesday - Wednesday - Thursday -

Friday - Saturday

Lunch 11:30 - 2:00 P.M.

Dinner 6:00 - 9:00 P.M.

Sunday

Brunch 11:30 - 2:00 P.M.

Sandwiches available in the Bar until  
3:00 P.M.

Dinner 6:00 - 8:00 P.M.

## Special Events:

April 23, Fitting Out Party

EYC Auction

May 7, EYC Bowling Party

May 21 & 22, Laser Regatta

May 30, Opening Day Ceremony

June 4 & 5, Erie Open Regatta

June 25 & 26, Highlander Class

Great Lakes Championship

## Regular meetings and events:

Ladies Luncheon

(First Wednesday of the month)

Wed. April 6

Wed. May 4

Wed. June 1

## Garden Club:

(Third Wednesday of the month)

Wed. April 20 at 10 AM

Wed. May 18 at 10 AM

Wed. June 15 at 10 AM

## Duplicate Bridge Group:

Tuesdays at 9:30 AM

April 5, 12, 19, 26

May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

June 7, 14, 21, 28

## Power Squadron:

April 21

May 19

June 16

## 1977 ERIE YACHT CLUB DIRECTORY

### OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

COMMODORE - David Schuler (Supervision all areas) . . . . .	833-1659
VICE COMMODORE - Dick Waller (Dock assignment, Maint.) . . . . .	455-4332
REAR COMMODORE - Clark Bressler (House, Bar, Galley). . . . .	833-1497
FLEET CAPTAIN - David S. Preston (Roads, Grounds, Security) . . . . .	838-3277
SEC'Y - TREAS. - G. William Ambro (Records, Finances). . . . .	455-8501
Directors	William Behr
	Richard Gorney
	Bruce Raimy
	Richard Weinheimer
	Harold Bush
	Frank Knauer
	John V. Schultz

### COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

MEMBERSHIP - George Sipple . . . . .	455-1674 & 833-4022
ENTERTAINMENT - Mr. & Mrs. Harold Wagner . . . . .	833-4450
HISTORIAN - George Sipple . . . . .	455-1674 & 833-4022
AUXILIARY FLEET CAPTAIN - Boyd Bert . . . . .	833-9763
LONG-RANGE PLANNING - Bruce Raimy . . . . .	833-4977

### EDITORIAL POLICY

*The Log* is the official publication of the Erie Yacht Club, and is for private distribution. Publication is scheduled for the fifteenth of March, May, July, September, November, and January. Articles of interest and notices of events are welcome; however, material should be submitted in writing to avoid error. Publication is at option of the editor, and right to rewrite for brevity and clarity is reserved. Copy should be mailed on or before the twenty-fifth of the month preceeding publication date. Address to Editor, Robert L. Lasher, 217 Indiana Drive, Erie, PA 16505; phone 455-5114.

## ERIE YACHT CLUB

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