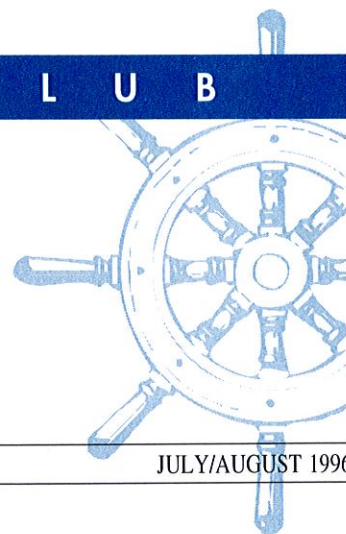


the ALG



VOLUME VI, ISSUE IV

ERIE YACHT CLUB • P.O. BOX 648 • ERIE, PA 16512

JULY/AUGUST 1996

As Summer Blossoms, North Pole Beckons

By Brian Kinal

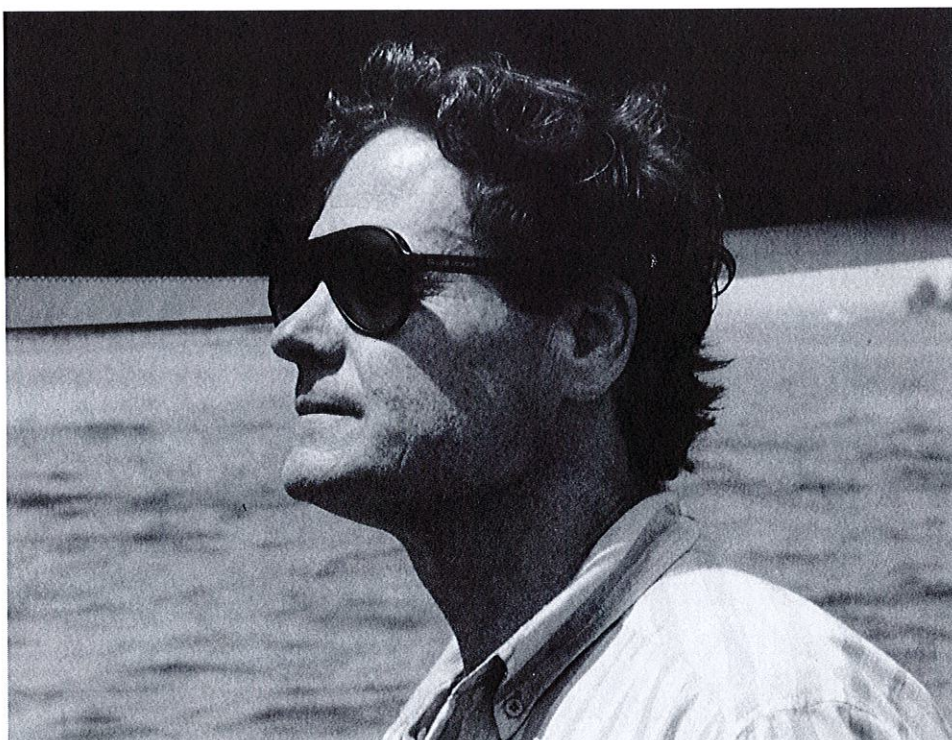
Pete Traphagen's reputation as a cold-weather sailor doesn't need any reinforcement. It's plenty solid. The ice-boats are barely off the bay when his 53-foot ketch *Sojourner* goes *in* for the season. This year it was March 30. In the winter of 1989-90, he never took the boat out of the water, and became the first person to sail across the lake to Port Dover in every month of the year, a feat commemorated by a plaque from the Port Dover Yacht Club.

Like the climber seeking ever taller mountains, Pete has found a new way to challenge himself — leaving Erie at the height of summer on an expedition to the North Pole. On July 6, he'll fly into Murmansk, Russia, which is already inside the Arctic Circle, and board the Russian nuclear-powered icebreaker *Yamal* for a run to the North Pole.

Many submarines have made it to the pole, but only a handful of surface ships have. The *Yamal* has become so good at it, it began taking paying passengers in 1993. Pete and another American, Jack Wagner of Cincinnati, will share one of 49 cabins reserved for passengers.

The *Yamal* is a huge bear of a ship, designed for an almost impossible task — keeping Arctic shipping lanes open by busting through ice up to 15 feet thick. The boat is 150 meters long, displaces 23,445 tons, and has two steam-turbine engines generating a total of 75,000 horsepower. It carries a crew of 150 and takes 98 passengers.

Pete says the *Yamal* has a 22-inch-thick steel plate in the bow.



Pete Traphagen takes the *Sojourner* on a day sail in Lake Erie.

"It'll go through 10-foot-thick ice at 9.5 knots all day long with no problem," he says.

Fortunately that won't be necessary in July.

As Pete explains, "This is midsummer up there. There's a lot of open water. There's a lot of what they call 'leads,' where the ice packs have separated, leaving a channel. In fact, that's what the captain tries to do. He has two helicopters on board, so they can go out there and scout."

Pete says there are actually three North Poles: the magnetic, the geophysical "which is what we spin off," and the navigational pole — Pete's goal.

"When the GPS reading says zero-zero, the captain parks the boat and figures out where to put the pole (an actual metal pole), and says, 'That, for today, is the North Pole — that is the navigational marker,'" he explains.

(continued on page 2)

'The Highlight of the Summer'

It's the biggest, best, most fun, most prestigious, most anticipated, most adjective-filled event of the season – The 12th Annual Sailing Regatta for MS, Sunday, August 25th.

A large, diverse fleet of sailboats race in the bay, power spectator boats get a great view, and everyone enjoys food, fun and games at the big post-race lawn party. Last year's regatta drew 79 entries including boats from Pymatuning, Chautauqua and Buffalo.

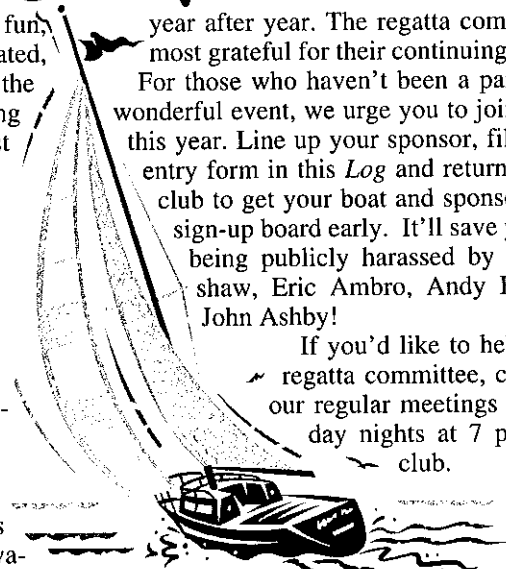
And the best part is, all this fun benefits a most worthwhile cause – Multiple Sclerosis clients in Northwest Pennsylvania. Last year's regatta raised \$34,061.

It takes many volunteers and donors to create this event every year and they maintain their enthusiasm because of the many owners and sponsors who have entered their boats and supported the MS Regatta

year after year. The regatta committee is most grateful for their continuing support. For those who haven't been a part of this wonderful event, we urge you to join the fun this year. Line up your sponsor, fill out the entry form in this *Log* and return it to the club to get your boat and sponsor on the sign-up board early. It'll save you from being publicly harassed by Kit Kershaw, Eric Ambro, Andy Hanks or John Ashby!

If you'd like to help on the regatta committee, come join our regular meetings on Tuesday nights at 7 pm at the club.

"Having fun doing something good." That's the MS Regatta. Enter your boat now and be a part of the highlight of the summer.



North Pole Beckons...

(continued from page 1)

Adding to its mystique, the *Yamal* is not only tough and adventurous, but elegant and comfortable. The brochure published by the Explorers Club, which is sponsoring the trip, says amenities include a bar, a library, two lounges, a theater-style auditorium, a gym and basketball court, heated indoor swimming pool and sauna. Experts in their field deliver lectures on a wide range of environmental topics related to the Arctic.

There'll be a port call at a place which most people have never heard of but where Pete has always wanted to go — a remote chain of islands off the Siberian coast called Novaya Zemlya (New Land). He'll also get a chance to tramp around an even more northern place called Franz Josef Land, a world of majestic volcanic mountains, ancient glaciers, and awesome pack ice.

Asked what special clothing he's taking for such a journey, the ice meister replies, "A lot of the clothes I have now are suitable."

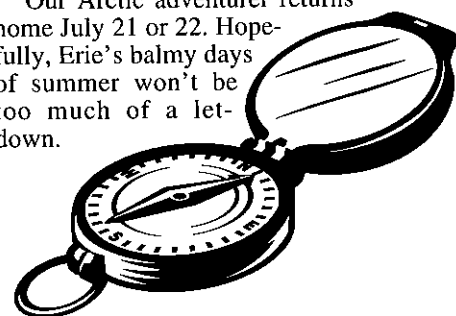
This won't be Pete's first trip to Russia, but it's been a long time since his last one. As a young Army soldier in 1957, Pete was stationed in Europe when the Soviet Union for the first time decided to allow American military personnel to visit there. He jumped at the chance and traveled from Leningrad to Moscow to Kiev — a remarkable odyssey for an American in 1957. Incidentally, the experience left him with an interest in the Russian language, an avocation that will serve him well on his Arctic voyage.

Pete credits his father, the late "Bud" Traphagen, who is well remembered at EYC, with imparting a love of sailing.

"I don't have many memories that don't include sailing," Pete says. "To me it's a natural part of life."

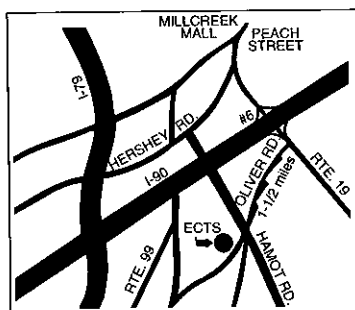
He and his wife, Lorna, have three children: Patrick, who lives in Erie; Katie Traphagen of Boston; and Sandy Costantini of Plantation, Fla.

Our Arctic adventurer returns home July 21 or 22. Hopefully, Erie's balmy days of summer won't be too much of a let-down.



POWER SQUADRON

A UNIT OF THE
UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS
SAIL AND POWER BOATING



DIRECTIONS:

ERIE RESIDENTS: Go south on Route 19 (Peach St.). Approximately 300 yards past I-90 bridge, turn right onto Oliver Road for 1-1/2 miles. IF HEADED NORTH ON ROUTE 19, turn left onto Oliver Road just before approaching I-90 bridge. COMING OFF I-90, take Exit 6, go south on Route 19 approximately 300 yards, turn right onto Oliver Road for 1-1/2 miles to the school.

PUBLIC BOATING COURSE

Wednesday, September 11, 1996

Erie County Technical School
8500 Oliver Road • Erie, PA 16509

Registration – 6:30 pm • Class Starts – 7:00 pm
Eight-week Duration: Mondays, 7:00 – 9:00 pm

This comprehensive course will make you, your spouse and children safer boaters!

There is a charge for text material.

Passing this course will earn you a Pennsylvania boat safety certificate and may save you up to 10% on your boat insurance.

For more information call: Bob Nelson (814) 825-6070

- IIM WALKER 3-17-93

102ND OPENING DAY



All decked out for the holidays.
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Kopkowski with
their guests the Rutkowski's.

➤ Erie Yacht Club's oldest member –
106-year-old R.C. McElroy



➤ Bobby Johnson, V.C. Wolford and
Kathy, Commodore Bierley with Sandy,
R.C. Curtze with Michalee and
F.C. Gorny with Amy.



➤ Future commodore with
his mommy.



"Maybe I should have the Past
Commodores take two steps back
when I call their names."

➤ Lady Officers: Sandy Lorence,
Kathy Wolford, Michalee Curtze,
and Amy Gorny.

The Yukon Commodore with
his First Mate Henery.



➤ P/C Doc Bressler
sitting in with the
band. "We be
jammin'!"



➤ "What are all these people
doing in my living room?"

New Member Cocktail Reception



➤ Margaret Payne, Paul and Pat Seligson with
Russ and Robin Warner

➤ Greg and Dina Mason with Kim and Bill Blair



Don and Rita
Newell



➤ Office Manager Mark Eller
with Jay Masi



"See no evil, hear no evil, do
no evil, (have no fun)!"



➤ G. David Burton with his
guest and Dee Bressler.



➤ "See girls, when I was
Commodore, we did it
this way..."



➤ Mr. and Mr. Donald Bernardo



➤ Bill and Janet Kaufmann



➤ John and Irene Boyles

Commodore's Report



COMMODORE
JACK BIERLEY

Though belated in its arrival, the boating season is finally upon us, and the figures for Lounge and Galley operations during May reflect this happy occurrence.

It should come as no surprise that, because of the Club size, we are somewhat dependent on outside usage to operate our Galley at the level our members want and expect. Without a certain amount of non-member usage, we would have to restructure things somewhat drastically in order to maintain our facility. Almost all clubs locally require a certain level of outside business and we are no exception. Along these lines we ask that you consider utilizing your Club for your company and personal functions and we all will benefit from doing so.

The Opening Day celebration was well attended, colorful and windy! It's always fun to see the great people

who make up this place after a long winter when so many "escape" to a warmer climate.

As this is being written we look forward to an expanded Lake Erie Interclub Cruise with the addition of a cruising class, Fourth of July Week, EYC Summer Picnic and Paul Huntley's "Frolic on the Bay" - all within a 16-day period. No "lazy days of summer" here!

Please remember to round up your no-longer-used books for our budding library; they do no good in the attic or a garage sale.

If you haven't done so, join those who have discovered the new lighthouse deck. It's a perfect place to watch the water scene, Erie's spectacular sunsets or, as the kids say, "chill."

EYC's Junior Racers again made us proud at the McDowell Commencement when it was announced that both Alex Enders and Mike Crotty were recipients of six-figure scholarships. There are many ways to "win" in this world!

Respectfully submitted,
John W. Bierley, *Commodore*



VICE COMMODORE
CHRIS WOLFORD

Vice Commodore's Report

I hope everyone has a great boating season. Please take advantage of all that your club has to offer. From the events on the summer calendar it looks like there will be an event for everyone.

I was quite surprised to see that as your dock committee assigned the last few slips for the year, the point requirement dropped to 1. As a matter of fact, we assigned several slips to members with only one point. It is hard to say if this trend will continue but it is encouraging to our associate members who now wait 4 or 5 years to become regular members. I would like to thank those boat owners who were asked to move to a new slip this year for their empathy.

Have a great season.
Chris Wolford
Vice Commodore

Yacht Club Summers Long Remembered

August 1969

There is a hero among us that we have not seen in many years, but we will never forget.

After a warm, happy family cruise on Carl Mayr's Roamer, the *Bavaria*, almost 30 years ago now, we pulled into the slip at EYC. It was time to head up the hill for home.

After everything was packed up and stowed, we left the boat and walked the cat walk on the way to the car. Suddenly there was a splash. Our 3-year-old son had fallen in the water. Matt had had a PFD during the cruise, but as young inexperienced boaters, we had stowed it when closing the boat.

We looked into the water and saw Matt's little body floating face down under the surface of the black water. For some reason, he did not struggle. We

leaped into the water to lift him out, but he disappeared.

A neighboring boater ran to the club house to call for help. At that time another boater, who had performed several water rescues on the wayward cat, was in the club house. When he heard it was a child in the water, he rushed to the scene.

He was experienced with the bay and knew the water currents. He reasoned where Matt might be. This wise man entered the water and found our son in the silt at the bottom of a piling.

Matt spent a week in the hospital and fully recovered. He is now the father of three little girls who are a joy to us.

But the greatest gift in all the world was given to us almost thirty years ago by ED IRWIN.

- Bob and Jan Durs

ATTENTION BOWLERS

The EYC Bowling League will be expanding this fall and we need additional couples to fill the lanes. This is a **FUN** league and bowling averages are not an important factor, so don't be shy about your bowling expertise. Come and join in the fun.

We bowl every other Friday evening at 6:30 beginning in September. Anyone interested in joining, please call Carol Hall at 833-2303.

Rear Commodore's Report



At last! A taste of summer!

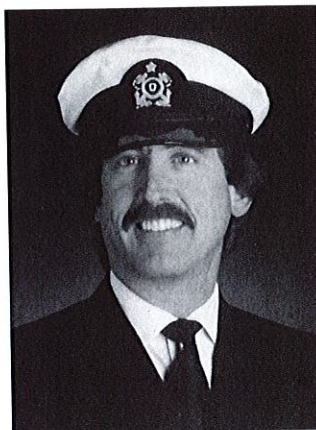
The spring that never happened is finally in my rear-view mirror...

The 1996 boating season is now in full swing, and as you read your *Log* and Club Calendars, you'll see that we have a multitude of super events planned for the summer. Keep these flyers as handy reminders for the July and August activities. You really have to admire the way Mike Lynch, our dedicated staff and many membership committees keep coming up with fresh, fun ideas for your entertainment. We really are an active yacht club ... something you should be proud of!

Also, remember to contact Laurie Richardson to schedule any business meetings you may have. They're certainly a more pleasurable experience with our panoramic view of the basin and bay. No other function room in town can offer you that.

Enjoy the season. Especially enjoy your club. I can be reached on channel 16.

Respectfully submitted,
Fritz Curtze
Rear Commodore



REAR COMMODORE
FRITZ CURTZE



FLEET CAPTAIN
PETE GORNY

Fleet Captain's Report

There have been many improvements at our club the past two months. Almost all boats are in water, and we are finally able to straighten up the grounds. The dumpsters near the kitchen have been fenced in, leaving that area much better looking. I am sure the board will consider fencing in other dumpster areas in the future.

The lighthouse deck is now one of the nicest areas on the ground. The volunteer crew has done an outstanding job creating a relaxing area to enjoy the waterfront. We will be working to conceal the portable restrooms that are located in that area. One unfortunate item regarding the deck; one piece of furniture has already "disappeared." If anyone knows where the wayward footstool is or who is responsible, please contact Mike Lynch or any board member. It will be an embarrassment to have visitors to our club see our deck furniture locked to the deck, but that is what we will need to do.

For anyone who uses jackstands to store their boat, be advised that there will be a Grounds Rule change. The change will require jackstands to have either angle iron feet between their legs, or the stands will need to be placed on plywood of sufficient thickness to keep their feet from penetrating the blacktop. This rule will be in place before fall haulout.

Finally, an item to make all members proud of their club. On Page 3 you will find two letters from the Mercyhurst Crew Team and school assistant principal thanking Mike Lynch and specifically Bill Vogel. This was for Bill's help when the Mercyhurst Crew Team had boats capsized while practicing. Bill is an excellent ambassador for our club.

See you on the water.
Pete Gorny,
Fleet Captain

From the General Manager's Desk

A number of improvements have been completed since our last edition of the *Log*. We enclosed the dumpsters behind the kitchen so we all don't have to look at all the garbage. I feel this is much improved.

With the help of the Centennial Committee, I purchased six deck chairs with foot stools and six picnic tables for the new lighthouse deck. If you haven't been down to see the deck you should make a special trip. The members that worked on this project did a top-notch job. The view from those new deck chairs is great. They are so comfortable one could easily fall asleep on them ... the bad news is that *one of the footstools is already missing!*

With the funding from the Centennial Committee the clubhouse received a new landscape job. Mrs. Dee Bressler did all the leg work and secured the bids. Each landscaper submitted their ideas. After reviewing all plans the board of directors picked the most suitable for the club. We hope to have the balance of the planting beds on the south side completed soon.

Past Commodore Gib Loesel and Mr. Robert Walker installed a permanent memorial to Past Commodore George Bliss. The two of them hung the half model ship of Commodore Bliss's boat as well as a photograph and poem. The display is located in the Bliss Dining Room. The model ship was presented to the club at the Centennial Opening Day by the members of the Bliss/Ferrier family, descendants of Commodore George Bliss. Stop in and see it some time.

Enjoy the balance of the summer!
Michael C. Lynch

NOTICE TO MEMBERS

It has been reported that garbage has been thrown into the grease dumpster behind the kitchen. The small black unmarked container is not for garbage. It is for the disposal of used fry oil. We have found a number of beer bottles, bags of garbage and a boat battery. These items should be placed in the containers marked with the Waste Management symbol.

- Thank You

Welcome New Members of the Erie Yacht Club

WELCOME TO THESE NEWLY-ELECTED MEMBERS

JOHN DRASKOVIC
ATTORNEY
ASSOCIATE

GREGG CLAUDE MASON
ORTHOPAEDIC SURGEON
ASSOCIATE

JOSEPH RAYMOND GRACZYK, JR.
GENERAL ELECTRIC APPRENTICE
ASSOCIATE

TRAVIS JASON SCHWAB
STUDENT
JR. FAMILY

G. DAVID BURTON
FUNERAL DIRECTOR
ASSOCIATE

JAY S. MASI
SECOND CHANCE FINANCE CO.
ASSOCIATE

KAREN MARIE RIMDZIUS
KARIC ENTERPRISES (TACO BELL)
ASSOCIATE

BRIAN A. MATHEWS
MATHEWS PRINTING CORP.
ASSOCIATE

PAUL A. MATHEWS
MATHEWS PRINTING CORP.
ASSOCIATE

THOMAS N. ZELINA
LECTRO SCIENCE, INC.
ASSOCIATE

1996 CLUB FUNCTIONS

JULY

July 3	Bar-B-Q Cookout - 7:00 pm with "Rythum Transfer" at 8:30 pm
July 4	Entertainment with "Blues Beaters" at 9:00 pm
July 5	Pasta and Beef "All-You-Can-Eat" Buffet - \$11.95
July 7	Family Picnic - 3:00 pm Concert in the Park with "The Music Master" - 6:00 pm
July 8	Frolie on the Bay (Charity Event)
July 10	Mid-Week Buffet with Gene Leone
July 12	A-B-C Kegs Dock Party - 7:00 pm
July 17	Mid-Week Buffet with Frank Alvaro
July 24	Mid-Week Buffet with Gene Leone
July 26	L-M-N-O Dock Party - 7:00 pm Seafood Buffet "All-You-Can-Eat" Buffet - \$13.95
July 31	Mid-Week Buffet with Frank Alvaro

AUGUST

August 2	Dover Weekend Buffet - 5:30 pm
August 3	Entertainment with "Mr. Gone" - 9:00 pm
August 4	Jazz Brunch with "Tito" - 11:00 am
August 7	Mid-Week Buffet with Frank Alvaro
August 10-16	Highlander Regatta
August 14	Mid-Week Buffet with TBA
August 20	Junior Sailing Banquet
August 21	Mid-Week Buffet with Frank Alvaro
August 23	D-E-F Dock Party - 7:00 pm
August 25	M.S. Regatta
August 28	Mid-Week Buffet with TBA
August 30	Entertainment with "Apparent" - 8:30 pm



THANK YOU!

To all at the E.Y.C. inside and outside who came to help us during the recent fire on the "Marian C."

To those who called 911 and to all who came to see if they could help, and for all the moral support we've recieved from every one.

We just thank God our family was safe upon our return.

For the personal call to our home and business and letters we received at our home. They mean so much to all of us. For all the phone calls offering to help us and for the encouragement to get a new "Marian C" for Harvey (especially for nap time).

There are no words to express our appreciation for the support you have given to all of us. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

*Fondly,
Harvey and Marian
Chestner*

Give a Listen!

A bigger bargain you'll never find! Just think - 90 minutes of spellbinding, edge-of-the-seat, exciting, recorded adventures and humorous anecdotes. Some of the tall and small EYC yarns told by you and your fellow yacht club members at the September 14, 1995 "Old Timers Get Together" which includes...

Dick and Gib Loesel..... on Tom & Jerry parties
Charlotte Heinrich..... on the sinking of the "Gus"
Dick Amthor & Jack Bierley..... on Byron Cooley
Dick Eisenberg..... on Rip Sawdey
Don Miller & Tom Mangan..... on the Wild Duck Fleet
Lou Klahr..... reading a punk poem
Pete Traphagen..... on crossing Lake Erie every month
June Sherk..... on joining the EYC in the 50's
John Ashby..... on Marty's Hash House
Dave Sample..... singing a "masker" song

... and are joined by these other illustrious storytellers:

Marty Pomoski, Lloyd English, Ray Lohr, Howard Miskel, P.C. Doug Nagel, Jack Bierley, John Jageman, Gordy Way, Patty Padden and Dave Blakely.

Cassettes available at EYC store for \$5.00. When current supply is depleted we will record additional copies to order.