

VOLUME XVI / ISSUE IV

July / August 2018

# The LG

## EYC Charity Regatta Spectacular





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## From the Bridge

by Rear Commodore Dr. Peter Lund

"Fish is the last to see Water"

This is an ancient African proverb spoken in the Eve language in Ghana and Nigeria. It had particular meaning to me on the Bridge after receiving a letter from one of our members. The letter in essence wanted to congratulate our manager and staff on the year by year improvements that he recognized in our Club and he included examples.

These improvements did not come without great effort. Also these improvements came in incremental steps. There were no fireworks or ribbon cuttings and as a consequence those improvements may have gone unnoticed if it were not for a grateful member's letter.

This leads me to my appeal. We on the Board are responsible for instituting change. Many times needed change is recognized first by our members. Sometimes, we are like that fish not seeing the water. We are committed to the continuous improvement of our Erie Yacht Club and that can only be done with your input. Please do not hesitate to contact us on the board.

Wishing you a Safe and enjoyable yachting season

## Directory

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## On the Cover...

Boats of all sizes and their crews prepare for a fun day at the start of the 2017 EYC Charity Regatta.

Photo by Cindy Madura



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Scan to learn  
about the Erie  
Yacht Club



THE EYC'S PREMIER EVENT

# Charity Regatta Spectacular

Sail Boat • Cruising Fleet • Kayak • Festivities

SUNDAY, AUGUST 26TH 2018

By Michael Bova

Please join us for an afternoon of relaxing boating, friendship, food and fun as we celebrate the 34th Erie Yacht Club Charity Regatta, which benefits the American Red Cross of Northwestern PA. This year's event will continue to feature a five mile sailboat race, live music by the Salmon Frank Band, great food and drink, ducky races and the friendly competition this end of summer bash has been known to deliver!

The 2018 event will feature a new flat rate, all-inclusive pricing structure. Individual boats may enter the event for a fixed price of \$350, which includes 5 wristbands. The wristbands provide admission to the event, beverages and the buffet lunch. Additional wristbands may be purchased for \$25 each.

We have also expanded our sponsor levels to include a Fleet Sponsor. Fleet Sponsors will be recognized on the event's advertising and promotional materials, offered complimentary table top exhibition space during the event, be allowed to enter up to four boats in the event, and will be entered into the inaugural Commodore's Challenge.

The Commodore's Challenge is a friendly competition among the Fleet Sponsors. Each Fleet Sponsor will be assigned a fleet of racing sailboats and the fleet with the lowest, aggregate adjusted times for the race will win the challenge. Prizes will be awarded to the sponsor of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place fleets.

(continued on next page)



Photos Courtesy of Cindy Madura



## Charity Regatta Spectacular

(continued from previous page)

### About the American Red Cross

A great time for a great cause - all of your support, hard work and financial contributions will benefit the American Red Cross of North-western PA - local disaster relief. The premise of the Regatta is, and always has been, to raise funds that would remain local; funds that will support our community and neighbors right here in Erie County.

The American Red Cross has served the Erie community for over 101 years and is solely funded by the generosity of our local donors. The Red Cross is also one of the top-rated charities in spending, with ninety-one cents of every dollar raised going to programs and services.

Locally the Red Cross responds to disasters and emergencies 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Immediate help is provided to bring victims back to self-sufficiency by aiding with temporary housing, food and clothing, emotional well-being, medical necessities and other immediate needs. Fires and flooding are the most prevalent here in Erie but other emergency services include: weather-related shelters, response to gas leaks and long-term power outages, emergency communications and services to our deployed military personnel and response to many other unexpected events.

The Home Fire Campaign provides fire prevention education along with free smoke alarms installed in homes where they are needed. Working smoke alarms help to save lives and reduce loss & injury by giving families that warning to get out of their homes immediately. The NW PA chapter has installed over 4,150 smoke alarms for families in need.

So please join the Erie Yacht Club in support of this year's Charity Regatta on August 26th! The captains meeting begins at 9:30 am, the race is at 11, and the music begins at 1 pm.

Log on to the Erie Yacht Club's web site and click on the EYC Charity Regatta link to enter your sailboat, power boat or kayak, or call the American Red Cross 814-240-7576 to register. You may also drop off the registration in the Red Cross Regatta box in the EYC office or mail it to the American Red Cross. Sponsor a boat, donate prizes and supplies, make a financial contribution, or volunteer for the event by calling the American Red Cross at (814) 240-7576. You may also learn more about the Red Cross at:

[www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org).

Many thanks to the Erie Yacht Club membership for their outstanding support and partnership to ensure that this event is not only the largest local charity Regatta, but the most fun! Join the festivities of this 34th annual event & sign up for the EYC Charity Regatta today!







**American  
Red Cross**

Erie Yacht Club  
Charity Regatta



## Join us for the Premier boating event of the season!

The 34th Erie Yacht Club Charity Regatta will be held on Sunday, August 26, 2018. Sailboats and Cruising Fleet - Power of Sail, live music by the Salmon Frank Band, a BBQ lunch, duck races, and an auction will make for a great day.

New this year - All inclusive, fixed pricing and Commodore's Challenge!

The American Red Cross has served the Erie community for over 100 years and is funded by the generosity of our donors. The premise of the Regatta is to raise funds that will support disaster relief to our neighbors in our community.

### 2018 Sponsorship Levels

#### Fleet Sponsor - \$3,000

- Complimentary entry into the 2018 Commodore's Challenge
- Complimentary table top exhibition space at Erie Yacht Club during event
- Recognition logo on advertising and promotional materials, including television
- Recognition on event sponsor sign
- Entry of 4 boats (power or sail), plus wristbands for captain and 4 crew per boat
- 10 additional wristbands

#### Gold Sponsor - \$2,000

- Complimentary table top exhibition space at Erie Yacht Club during event
- Recognition name on event advertising and promotional materials, including television
- Recognition on event sponsor sign
- Entry of 4 boats (power or sail), plus wristbands for captain and 4 crew per boat
- 8 additional wristbands

#### Silver Sponsor - \$1,000

- Recognition on event sponsor sign
- Entry of 2 boats (power or sail), plus wristbands for captain and 4 crew per boat
- 8 additional wristbands

#### Bronze Sponsor - \$500

- Recognition on event sponsor sign
- Entry of 1 boat (power or sail), plus wristbands for captain and 4 crew
- 4 additional wristbands

#### Boat Sponsor - \$350

- Entry of 1 boat (power or sail), plus wristbands for a captain and 4 crew

#### Kayak, Jet Ski or Other PWC - \$50

- Entry of 1 PWC, and 2 wristbands

Wristband includes admission to event, beverages and buffet. Additional wristbands are available for \$25 each.



**American  
Red Cross**

### 2018 Sponsorship Form

**Sponsorship Information:** Please print company name as you would like it to appear on printed material:

Company Name (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Fax \_\_\_\_\_ Boat Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Sponsorship Level:** Please check desired sponsorship level

☐ Fleet Sponsor - \$3,000

☐ Bronze Sponsor - \$500

☐ Gold Sponsor - \$2,000

☐ Boat Sponsor - \$350

☐ Silver Sponsor - \$1,000

☐ Kayak, Jet Ski or Other PWC - \$50

**Payment Information:**

☐ Pay by credit card: ☐ Visa ☐ Discover ☐ MasterCard ☐ AmEx

☐ Check enclosed ☐ EYC Charge

Name (as it appears on card) \_\_\_\_\_

Billing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Give an additional gift: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Credit Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

Security Code \_\_\_\_\_ ExpirationDate \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return sponsorship and payment information to:**

**Mail:**

American Red Cross  
Attn. Charity Regatta  
4961 Pittsburgh Avenue  
Erie, PA 16509

**Questions? Contact:**

Michael Bova  
michael.bova@erieinsurance.com | 814-881-4276

Pam Masi  
pamela.masi@redcross.org | 814-240-7576

Thank you for your support.

Please make checks, if applicable, out to American Red Cross.



Have you ever heard of Venetian Night? Well it was once the most popular event of the year at the Erie Yacht Club. If you grew up at the Erie Yacht Club, you may remember your parents going "all out" to decorate their boat for the festivities. From the best recollection of P/C Gib Loesel, the party began in 1975 and the tradition continued for many years.

Neala Eastman, whose boats Northern Lights and Decibelle are at home on O-Dock, remembers, "It was enchanting because lots of people participated. I remember lots of lights and we'd walk the docks. An example was one boat, can't remember who it was, did 10 Little Indians and built a little tepee and had everyone dress up. Someone else did a mermaid scene." Don Russell, skipper of No Excuses also on O-Dock and whose father served as Grand Marshall for the first event, says that his "best memories were of decorating the boats and the great camaraderie everyone felt as they walked the docks enjoying all the crazy themes people displayed."

The first EYC Venetian Night in 1975 was a bit soggy but spirits remained high and as stated in the LOG of September 1975:

*"A Sunny Vista in the Tropics" was changed into 'A Rainy Night in Venice'. However, as the evening progressed, the rain stopped and everyone was able to walk the docks and enjoy the gaily lighted boats. Forty boats competed by decorating with a theme or with lights. Many great prizes were contributed by members and friends of EYC.*

*The buffet dinner was a smashing success with 308 people appreciating the tempting array of fine foods. After dinner, there were many enthusiastic dancers and listeners to toe-tapping music. John Russell, a super Parade Marshal, led the line of beautifully decorated boats on their colorful trip down the Bay, a site worth waiting for. With so many boats to judge, the Officers and their Ladies had a difficult task but they came through, making many members happy, for having pushed themselves to finish decorating during the gloomy day."*

EYC members, Dick and Gene Weinheimer, spearheaded the event.

## WHAT IS VENETIAN NIGHT?

Venetian festivals are held in cities throughout Europe and North America. They were originally based on "Carnivale" as celebrated in the 17th century in Venice, Italy. Venetian festivals re-create the fantasy of those earlier events with food, costumes and masks, music and other spectacles. Last year, the Venetian Boat Parade in Chicago, begun by the Chicago Yachting Association 60 years ago in 1958, saw roughly 18 lit and decorated boats parade along the Lake Michigan shoreline at night followed by fireworks. Numerous towns in Michigan and Wisconsin hold Venetian Nights. A popular Venetian Night is also held in Fox Lake, IL on Lake Patawkee and has been going on for 10 years. The University of Wisconsin-Madison held a Venetian Night Festival annually from 1911-1938!

## IT'S BACK and YOU'RE INVITED!

All Erie Yacht Club members and their guests are invited to participate in the newly revived VENETIAN NIGHT to be held at the Erie Yacht Club Lighthouse on Friday, July 27. Simply call the Erie Yacht Club office at 453-4931 to RSVP for the party and to state whether you would like to enter your boat in the competition and/or boat parade.

## HOW DOES IT WORK?

Instead of setting a particular theme, the Committee has decided that "ANYTHING GOES." Participants can decorate their boats to various themes, such as, of course, Venetian, Christmas in July (or any holiday), Star Wars, (or any movie theme), King Neptune, Mermaids, Wild West, Hawaiian, Caribbean, New England, Pirates, or they can celebrate a favorite sports team, a favorite song, an accomplishment, an anniversary, a hobby or anything else. Costumes and lights are encouraged! The sky is the limit and there are no wrong answers!

Boats will be judged on lighting, creativity, costumes and decorations. The Ladies of the Bridge will be our judges and the awards will be for anything from Best Decorated, Most Creative, Tallest Decorations, Most Outlandish, Best Effort to whatever! Winners will be announced after the boat parade. Four \$50 EYC Gift Certificates will be awarded.

## BOAT PARADE:

Those participating in decorating are encouraged to be in the boat parade, but it is not mandatory. Bob Cunningham has volunteered to act as Grand Marshall for the parade. The celebratory lighted boat parade will set sail at approximately 20:30hrs (8:30p.m.) starting in front of the Club Lighthouse and proceeding down the Bay to Perry's Landing and back.

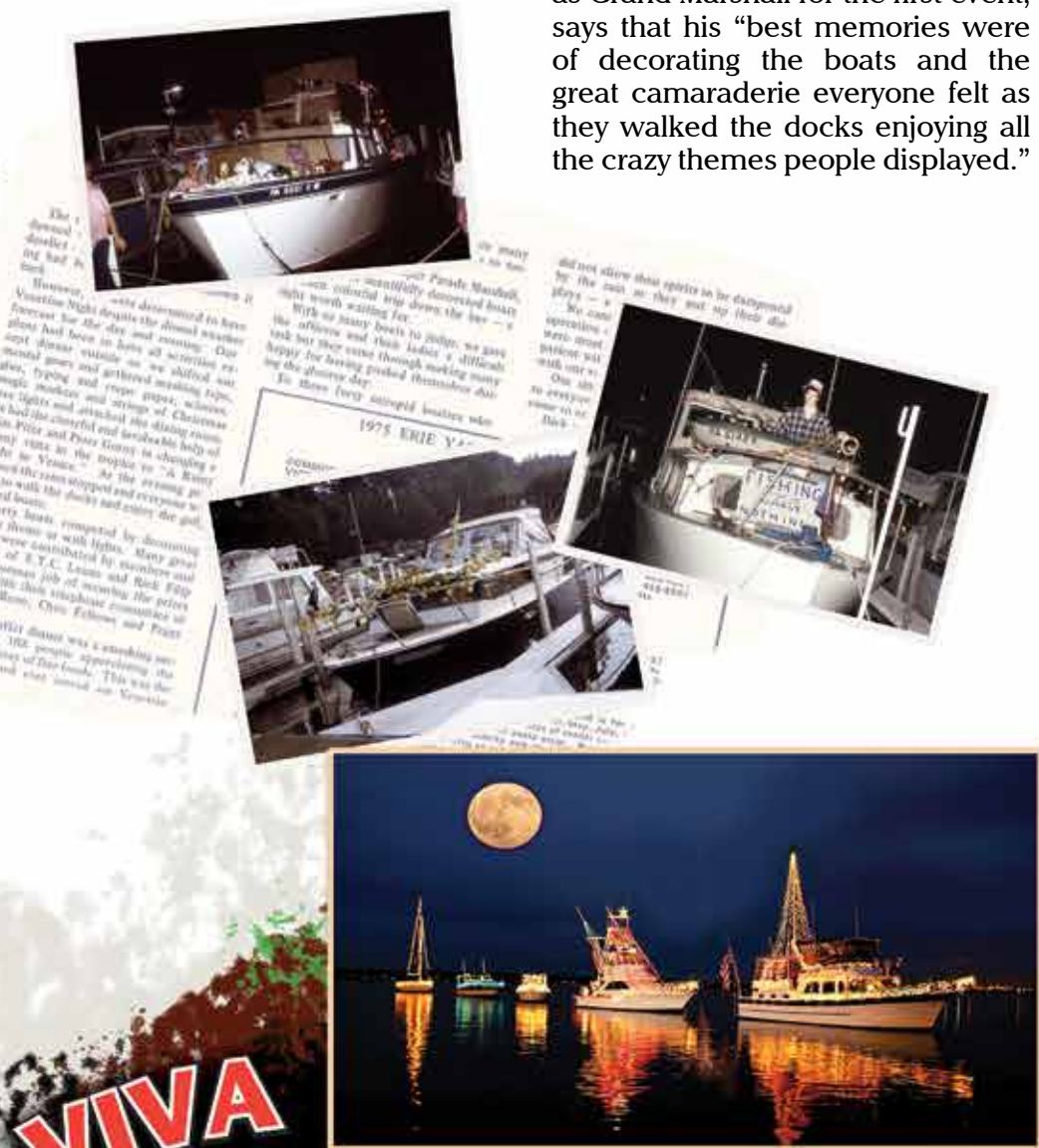
## THE PARTY:

The event will be in full force until 11:00 PM with the food, cash bar, entertainment and dancing at the Lighthouse. Boats will be on display throughout the Basin. Two golf carts will be available to shuttle guests from dock to dock. The awards celebration will culminate the festivities. Cost will be \$25 per person, including tax and gratuity. There will be a cash bar at the Lighthouse. The timeline for the event is roughly as follows:

- 7 PM: Heavy hors d'oeuvres and drinks with music being provided by the Salmon Frank Band. Guests are also invited to walk/shuttle around the docks to view decorated boats during this time.
- 8 PM: Captains and Crew ready their boats for the Boat Parade which begins at 8:30 PM.
- 8:30 PM: Boat Parade to Perry's Landing begins. Guests are invited to watch the parade from the Lighthouse. Music and dancing, food and drinks will continue through the viewing of the parade.
- 11 PM: Grand Prizes!

So, don't miss the fun. The EYC Cruising Fleet is doing the initial planning for this event in the hopes that ALL EYC MEMBERS, both power and sail, will catch the Venetian bug and join in the fun! For further information, feel free to contact Bob and Dianne Cunningham at richiesea@aol.com or dcunningham@homeinstead.com or Secretary-Treasurer Dave Wagner at secretary@eriyachtclub.org.

See you at the Lighthouse on July 27th! "Walk Like a Venetian!!!"



**VIVA**  
**Venetian Night!**  
**THE TRADITION RETURNS**

P/C Gib Loesel, Dianne Cunningham and S/T David Wagner, as told to Karen Carns



# Drowning Doesn't Look Like Drowning

by Mario Vittone

The new captain jumped from the deck, fully dressed, and sprinted through the water. A former lifeguard, he kept his eyes on his victim and headed straight for a couple who were swimming between their anchored sportfish and the beach. "I think he thinks you're drowning," the husband said to his wife. They had been splashing each other, and she had screamed, but now they were just standing neck-deep on a sandbar. "We're fine, what is he doing?" she asked, a little annoyed. "We're fine!" the husband yelled, waving him off, but his captain kept swimming hard toward him. "Move!" he barked as he sprinted between the stunned owners. Directly behind them, not 10 feet away, their nine-year-old daughter was drowning. Safely above the surface in the arms of the captain, she burst into tears and screamed, "Daddy!"

How did this captain know - from 50 feet away - what the father couldn't recognize from just 10? Drowning is not the violent, splashing call for help that most people expect. The captain was trained to recognize drowning by experts and years of experience. The father, on the other hand, learned what drowning looks like by watching television.

If you spend time on or near the water (hint: that's all of us), then you should make sure that you and your crew know what to look for when people enter the water. Until she cried a tearful, "Daddy," the owner's daughter hadn't made a sound. As a former Coast Guard rescue swimmer, I wasn't surprised at all by this story. Drowning is almost always a deceptively quiet event. The waving, splashing and yelling that dramatic conditioning (television) prepares us to look for is rarely seen in real life.

The Instinctive Drowning Response, so named by Francesco A. Pia, Ph.D., is what people do to avoid actual or perceived suffocation in the water. And it does not look like most people expect it to. When someone is drowning there is very little splashing, and no waving or yelling or calling for help of any kind. To get an idea of just how quiet and undramatic drowning can be, consider this: It is the number two cause of accidental death in children age 15 and under (just behind vehicle accidents).

Of the approximately 750 children who will drown next year, about 375 of them will do so within 25 yards of a parent or other adult. In 10 percent of those drownings, the adult will actually watch them do it, having no idea it is happening.

Drowning does not look like drowning. Dr. Pia, in an article he wrote for the Coast Guard's On Scene magazine, described the instinctive drowning response like this:

Except in rare circumstances, drowning people are physiologically unable to call out for help. The respiratory system was designed for breathing. Speech is a secondary or overlaid function. Breathing must be fulfilled before speech occurs.

Drowning people's mouths alternately sink below and reappear above the surface of the water. The mouths of drowning people are not above the surface of the water long enough for them to exhale, inhale and call out for help. When the drowning people's mouths are above the surface, they exhale and inhale quickly as their mouths start to sink below the surface of the water.

Drowning people cannot wave for help. Nature instinctively forces them to extend their arms laterally and press down on the water's surface. Pressing down on the surface of the water permits drowning people to leverage their bodies so they can lift their mouths out of the water to breathe.



Children who experience cough and trouble breathing should be taken to the emergency room for treatment for "secondary drowning," which occurs hours after near-drowning mishaps when water enters the lungs.

Throughout the Instinctive Drowning Response, drowning people cannot voluntarily control their arm movements. Physiologically, drowning people who are struggling on the surface of the water cannot stop drowning and perform voluntary movements such as waving for help, moving toward a rescuer or reaching out for a piece of rescue equipment.



Swimming lessons are always a good idea, not only for safety reasons but children more comfortable in the water can enjoy it more.

From beginning to end of the Instinctive Drowning Response, people's bodies remain upright in the water, with no evidence of a supporting kick. Unless rescued by a trained lifeguard, these drowning people can only struggle on the surface of the water from 20 to 60 seconds before submersion occurs. (Source: On Scene magazine: Fall 2006 page 14)

This doesn't mean that a person who is yelling for help and thrashing isn't in real trouble... they are experiencing aquatic distress. Not always present before the instinctive drowning response, aquatic distress doesn't last long, but unlike true drowning, these victims can still assist in their own rescue. They can grab lifelines, reach for throw rings, etc.

Look for these other signs of drowning when persons are in the water:

- Head low in the water, mouth at water level
- Head tilted back with mouth open
- Eyes glassy and empty, unable to focus
- Eyes closed
- Hair over forehead or eyes

- Not using legs
- Hyperventilating or gasping
- Trying to swim in a particular direction but not making headway
- Trying to roll over onto the back
- Appears to be climbing an invisible ladder

So, if a crew member falls overboard and everything looks okay, don't be too sure. Sometimes the most common indication that someone is drowning is that they don't look as if they're drowning. They may just look as if they are treading water and looking up at the deck. One way to be sure? Ask them, "Are you alright?" If they can answer at all, they probably are. If they return a blank stare, you may have less than 30 seconds to get to them. And parents - children playing in the water make noise. When they get quiet, you need to get to them and find out why.





## How Do You Spell Summer Fun?

### How about: E-Y-C C-R-U-I-S-I-N-G F-L-E-E-T?

#### Cruisers Start the Summer Right!



By Karen Carns

By that time you read this article in the Log the EYC Cruising Fleet will have already kicked off the summer with a fun, food and friend-filled barbecue picnic on the Club's west deck, spent a delightful day at Marina Lake at their THIRD ANNUAL raft-off with fellow members and their boats and will have cruised out to the North East Marina for a gourmet dinner at Noosa Restaurant. They will also have plans in place for a trip to Breakwall BBQ for the Bike, Boat and BBQ Cruise, a weekend cruise to Geneva-on-the-Lake, Ohio and possibly a cruise to the Buffalo Launch Club on Grand Island, New York. Some other Cruisers may have already cruised down the Bay for dinner at the Sheraton or the Courtyard or Rum Runners or Smugglers or points beyond and they will be thinking about decorating their boats for Venetian Night on July 27.

The first event of the season is always the most exciting and on May 17 over 40 cruisers turned out for a BBQ picnic on the west deck. Two lucky members won free Cruiser's memberships. Neala and Jeff Eastman, who decided to leave their sailboat Northern Lights at their Florida home and join the Cruising Fleet this summer, brought the Decibelle, a 34' Tollycraft, to the Erie Yacht Club and won a \$50 first year membership to the Fleet! Renewing members Don and Marilyn Russell, owners of No Excuses, were thrilled to have their \$35 renewal dues refunded to them as well! In addition to a few words from Vice Commodore Bill Gloeckler to the Fleet, we had an informational program from a US Customs and Border Protection agent on the new CBP ROAM System.

The CBP ROAM system is a new, more convenient way for boaters to report their US re-entry to US Customs and Border Protection. It is an app that you can download onto your smartphone and then use to report from instead of calling in when you return to the US from out of the country. This new application will offer a big benefit to our Cruisers as they plan their trips throughout the Great Lakes and into Canada this summer.

The next event was a daylong raft off at Marina Lake on Sunday, May 27, the day before Memorial Day. Lots of red, white and blue could be seen up and down the line of boats rafted at the far end of Marina Lake at Presque Isle State Park. And holy smokes! What a beautiful weather day we had! It was summer in May with a warm light breeze and 80° temperatures. Barbara Wathan, of the yacht Our Quarters, summarized the day as follows, "All of the boats glimmered in the sunshine. The First Mates presented yummy treats for the eyes and palate to share. Susie Kline, of the yacht ReKline, surprised the entire fleet with a five o'clock dinner buffet. Bob and Dianne Cunningham shared their beautiful new Boston Whaler. WOW! Michael and Barbara Wathan were delightfully surprised by the ease of pulling into the line.

Don Russell, along with Brad Carns, used his skills to assist Michael with unfamiliar mechanical territory. It was a fantastic day of conversation, boat touring and all round camaraderie. On a very sad note, Denise and George Pero, owners of Exit Strategy, will be returning to California and be greatly missed by all of the Cruisers. Thank you once again to all of our boat friends. The day was so serene with flawless weather."

By publication of this LOG, the Fleet will also have secured a reservation and dockage at Noosa at the North East Marina, and will have enjoyed a fabulous dinner in mid-June. This event was a big hit last year with well over 30 Cruisers enjoying a delicious dinner after a beautiful ride to North East on a calm lake and then a spectacular sunset on the way back to home port Erie Yacht Club. Members Pam and Dave Davis, Dave and Kathy Wagner and Karen and Brad Carns coordinated this event.

When you receive this LOG, it won't be too late to get on board with the second half of the summer's events. As noted above, these include-with dates to be determined-a day boat and bike trip to Conneaut, OH, a weekend cruise to Geneva on the Lake, Ohio complete with winery tours, a trip to Buffalo Launch Club on Grand Island near the Erie Canal and Venetian Night on July 27 just to name a few. For more information on the Fleet and its activities, check the Erie Yacht Club website, our Facebook page "EYC Cruisers" or contact Brad and Karen Carns at 814-881-5367/ karenlynnecarns@gmail.com or Bob and Diane Cunningham at 814-873-4753/ dcunningham@homeinstead.com.

Start Cruising! See you on the water!



ReKline preparing to join the Raft Off

"Raft Off" - EYC Cruisers Style

Some Cruising Fleet Ladies sporting Red, White and Blue!  
(L-R) Val Weaver, Sue Kline, Dianne Cunningham,  
Denise Pero, Karen Carns



# WOODEN BOATS HAVE SOUL

## CATSPAW LAUNCH

BY PAUL JENKINS

### Part 2



Every launch of a newly restored wooden boat is filled with many uncertainties and some nail biting. "Will the old wooden hull hold out the water or leak like a sieve?" Will my decrepit antique craft be stable and seaworthy, or tippy and unsteady when facing a wind whipped Presque Isle chop?

In the case of a motor powered vessel, the question is, will the power plant be the right weight and horsepower for the boat's size? My latest wood boat restoration has a very special history in that it was originally designed by Nathaniel Herreshoff, the renowned navel designer who created several America Cup defenders, such as the Columbia.

The first Catspaw dinghy was used for ferrying the Columbia's crew back and forth to that famous yacht. With that kind of pedigree, I had no doubt that the husky little 13 footer would have great sea manners. I just hoped I hadn't messed up the classic dinghy with my amateur carpentry skills.

Most of the work on the hull was basic things like, sanding, painting, and coating the exterior with fiberglass cloth and resin. Because the caravel construction consists of three inch wide cedar planks on white oak frames, the bottom has countless seams that could leak. That's why I went with fiberglass outer coating, but the question remained... would the hull really be leak free?

I couldn't help remembering the first launch of my friend Dick's, rickety Lighting Sailboat that was caulked extensively with marine sealant. It looked great on the trailer but soon after the launch, it took on water above the floor boards and became so heavy it was hard to get back on the trailer. My tiny Catspaw also looked good on the trailer but would it turn out be a wooden sieve, like Dick's old Lighting?

I like to try my newly restored vessels in a quiet, and usually calm water way like the Presque Isle Marina. For this maiden voyage I invited my Cousin Rob. He and I have been sailing together for many years and have even been partners on two small boats. One of which was a 21 foot full keel wooden sloop, that gave us loads of experience with leaky hulls. It was too large to row but it did have an antique outboard as an auxiliary motor. My 13 foot Catspaw didn't have an outboard, but it had locks for two pairs of oars, or sweeps as they were called in the early days.

There was a little problem however, I only had one pair of seven foot oars, which Rob would use, and a longer set for me. Because they weren't exactly matched, the shorter oars would work better in front. Maybe?

We launched the bright shiny dinghy with no trouble and carefully boarded the tender, (another word for tippy), craft and quickly stepped to the oars. I didn't think the small difference in oar length would really matter... Boy, was I wrong!

"Hey Rob, I'll pull first and then all you have to do is row with me," I said. "Here we go." Stroke, splash, Crack! went the oars on the first pull. The loud crack came from the oars hitting each other.

"You have to be more careful," I said, "You hit my oars. Let's start over. Here we go." Stroke, a bigger splash, another hard crack. "Rob, try to pay closer attention," I said.

"But Paul, I'm paying more attention to the squirt of water coming from the keel bolt. There also must be other leaks somewhere because the water in the bilge is already up to the floorboards, and we're only 50 yards from the pier."

"Where is the pump?" Rob said. Stroke, splash, crack, "pull harder," I said, "The wind is taking us in the wrong direction," as I reached for wrench in the toolbox to tighten the keel bolt. The small squirt slowly quit, but now where were those other leaks? Back at the dock, we pushed hard on the bottom with the oars to get the dinghy into shallow water, just in case.

Maybe my imagination had gotten the best of me, because I swear the water in the bilge hadn't got much higher, and the boat went on the trailer with no problem.

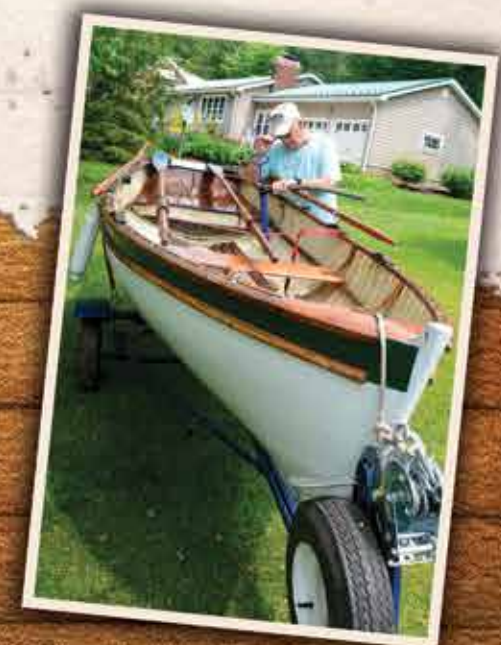
As we drove off Presque Isle a thought came to mind that gave me goose bumps. It was Friday the 13th. "Oh heck," I told Rob, "who really believes in that stuff. After all, we didn't have any serious problems. The small leak didn't amount to much, the water was calm in spite of a stiff breeze, and the oars worked okay, in spite the difference in size. I think that superstition stuff is a bunch of bunk."

After I dropped Rob off and headed home, I noticed that my boat wasn't sitting level on the trailer. When I stopped to check, I got some more of Friday the 13th goose bumps. One of my brand new trailer tires was not only flat but was completely shredded. Luckily I had a spare with me.

There is an old sailors superstition that says, "never leave port on a Friday" and that's not even talking about Friday the 13th... More goose bumps!

It seems that my plans for sailing to Canada may not be a good idea... or even to North East for that matter. Maybe Shades Beach, which is only five miles east, would be a better destination.

I know one thing, I won't be leaving on a Friday.







There is a boat in Detroit that has its own official postal zip code. Located on the banks of the Detroit River (Riverside Park), the J.W. Westcott Company handles mail delivery for passing great lakes freighters. As the freighters make their way up or down the river, the 45 foot mail boat, JW Westcott II, leaves the river dock and maneuvers alongside the moving freighter matching its speed. At this point, a bucket is lowered down from the freighter and the Westcott crew can remove the mail coming from the ship and reload the bucket with mail that is intended for the ship. Hence, "mail in a pail".

Established in the late 1800s, Captain John Ward Westcott ferried supplies and mail to the passing ships using a rowboat. In 1949, Paasch Marine Service in Erie was commissioned to build the J.W. Westcott II, named of course for the founder of the company. The current president is the great grandson of "JW", James Hogan.

The Westcott II is 45 feet long and is powered by a single screw 305 HP Cummins marine diesel engine. The boat's rated speed is 15 knots.

It operate 252 days a year closing in the fall when the ice on the river forms and shipping is halted and resumes in the spring.

Besides mail however, the JW Westcott has been known to deliver commercial ovens, food supplies, candy, cigarettes, and even a hot pizza. Over the years, they have been instrumental in saving lives. In one instance, a fisherman in a small boat didn't realize a freighter was approaching him and when he finally did, he hit the gas and ran into the bow wave knocking him down and sending the boat out of control. The Captain of the Westcott rammed the fishing boat in order to save the man. Over a dozen rescues have been made by the Westcott II.

In the early morning hours of Oct 23, 2001 the J.W. Westcott II cap-sized as it was delivering a pilot to the Sidsel Knutsen, a 533-foot Norwegian oil tanker. Westcott's captain, Catherine Nasiatka, 48, and deckhand David Lewis, 50, were killed in the accident. Two Canadian pilots who also were aboard Westcott were rescued by the tugboat Stormont. The vessel was raised several days later and after being repaired was put back into service. The business continued using a different vessel while the repair work was underway.

I had occasion to use the Westcott II services a few years ago. I took a photo of the ship Sam Laud coming into Erie and had it made into a jigsaw puzzle. After working the puzzle and taking it apart, I mailed it to the Captain/crew of the Sam Laud via the Westcott. I had a nice "thank you" e-mail in return. I just mailed it to "Captain, Sam Laud, Marine Post Office, Detroit Michigan 48222.



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# Avoid Electric Shock Drowning

## a Reminder from the EYC Safety Committee

Many EYC members and their guests put themselves at risk each year by swimming near electrically charged boats and docks. The EYC safety committee would like to make all the members and guests of the Club aware of the potential dangers of electrical shock drowning, because simply put what you don't know CAN hurt you.

Electric Shock Drowning (ESD) occurs when faulty dock or boat wiring causes electricity (alternating current or "AC" power) to enter fresh water and pass through a swimmer. The swimmer does not need to be touching the bottom, a boat or dock structure, and even minute amounts of electricity can be incapacitating. As more light is shed on this danger, it is likely that some ESD fatalities have been misidentified as drowning, preventing awareness of this summertime boating danger. The risk of ESD is greatest in fresh or brackish waters. (In saltwater, electrical current takes the path of least resistance, bypassing swimmers.)

If you see someone in the water you suspect is the victim of electrical distress, **do not enter the water** or use a metal boat pole to help the person, instead throw a life ring and go to the electrical panel and turn off the main breaker for the docks in the area of the emergency.

These are the large gray boxes approximately 4' X 6' and have the main breakers clearly marked inside. Please make yourself aware of the locations of these boxes around the Club.

### Electric Shock Drowning Defined:

Docks and boats can carry sources of electricity. Faulty wiring or the use of damaged electrical cords, and other devices not approved as "shore or marine rated", can cause the surrounding water source to become energized from electricity leakage. When the human body makes contact with the energized water it becomes the conductor of electricity and can cause complete loss of muscle control, ventricular fibrillation, and electrical shock death.

### Electrical Safety Checklist

Please review the following electrical safety checklist to ensure the safety of yourself, your guests and other Club members:

- **Don't allow anyone to swim near the dock. Avoid entering the water when launching or loading your boat.**

- **If you feel a tingle while swimming, the water may be electrified. Get out as soon as possible avoiding the use of metal objects such as ladders. Notify the owner of the property immediately, as this tingle is a sign that power to the facility should be turned off until a proper inspection has been completed**

- **Use "UL - Marine Listed" portable GFCI's (Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters) when using electricity near water. They will decrease the chances of shock or electrocution.**

- **Only use shore or marine power cords, plugs, receptacles and extension cords that have been tested by Underwriters Laboratories (UL). Canadian Standards Association (CSA) or ETL SEMKO (ETL), they are specifically designed to keep you safe when using them near water.**

- **Never use cords that are frayed or damaged or that have had the prongs removed or altered. Damaged cords exposed to the water could result in electric shock drowning or other electrically related injuries.**

- **Keep the shore power cord out of the water, and not subject to any physical damage.**

- **Notify the EYC Dockmaster of any electrical safety hazards so that they can be fixed immediately.**

### Is there Power in the Water?

If you're in the water and you feel tingling or shock there may be power in the water.

- **Do not follow your instinct to swim towards the dock, as it is a probable source of the electrical discharge into the water.**

- **Shout! Drowning victims cannot speak, let alone shout. Let everyone know the situation so they will understand and react appropriately without putting a potential rescuer at risk.**

- **Try to stay upright and back away from the area the same way you approached it. Warn any other swimmers in the area of the danger. Head for shore a hundred yards or more from the dock if possible.**

### What to do if you witness an electrical shock drowning?

- **Throw a life ring to the victim**
- **Turn off power to any likely source**
- **Call 911**
- **Never enter the water - as you could become a victim yourself**

### Learn More:

Contact the Electrical Safety Foundation International (ESFI) which is the premier non-profit organization dedicated to promoting electrical safety at home, at school and in the workplace [ESFi.org](http://ESFi.org)



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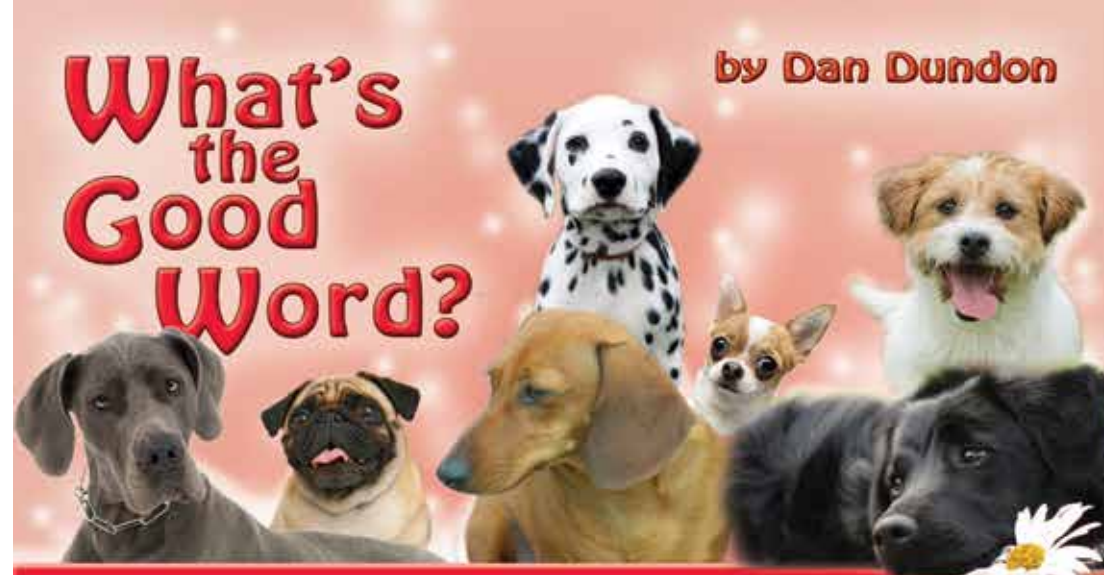
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# What's the Good Word?

by Dan Dundon



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When we take a stroll around the EYC property, especially at this time of year, we often see many members walking with their best friends, and often these best friends are their dogs. Since so many of us enjoy canine companionship, I figured we could all be amused by some "canine comments" of famous and maybe not-so-famous people.

"There is no psychiatrist in the world like a puppy licking your face."  
- Ben Williams

"When a man's best friend is his dog, that dog has a problem."  
- Edward Abbey

"Cat's motto: No matter what you've done wrong, always try to make it look like the dog did it."  
- Unknown

"Money will buy you a pretty good dog, but it won't buy the wag of his tail."  
- Unknown

"No one appreciates the very special genius of your conversation as the dog does."  
- Christopher Morley

"A dog is the only thing on earth that loves you more than he loves himself."  
- Josh Billings

"Man is a dog's idea of what God should be."  
- Holbrook Jackson

"If you pick up a starving dog and make him prosperous, he will not bite you; that is the principal difference between a dog and a man."  
- Mark Twain

"Things that upset a terrier may pass virtually unnoticed by a Great Dane."  
- Smiley Blanton

"I've seen a look in dogs' eyes, a quickly vanishing look of amazed contempt, and I am convinced that basically dogs think humans are nuts."  
- John Steinbeck

"Outside of a dog, a book is man's best friend. Inside of a dog, it's much too dark to read."  
- Groucho Marx


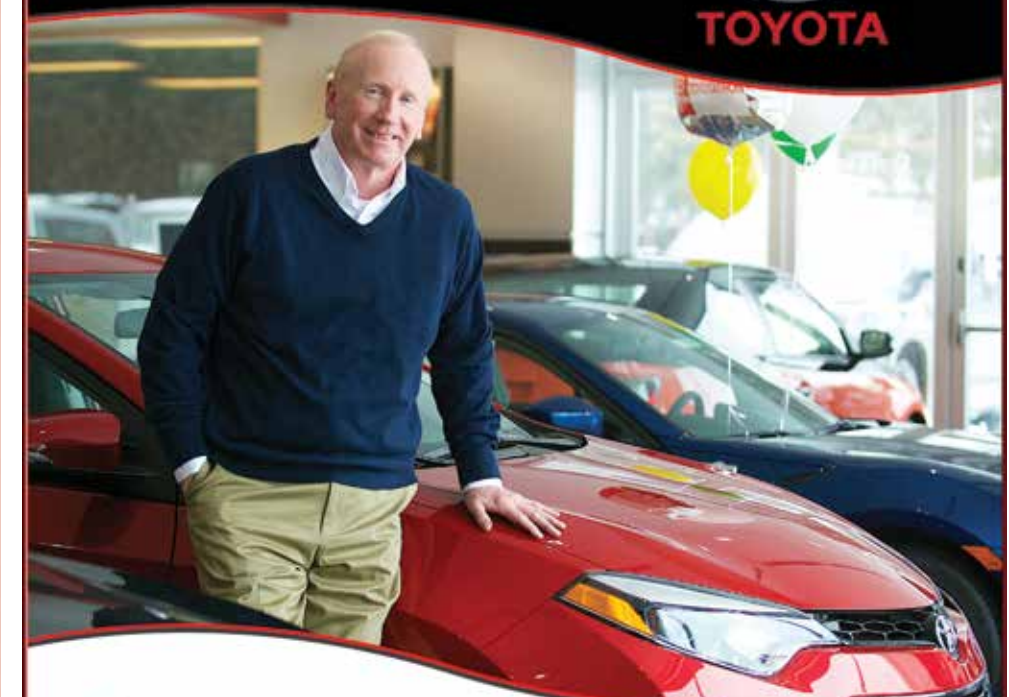
So, I hope you enjoyed these Good Words! Don't forget to send me your favorite quotes and words-of-wisdom (dandundon@gmail.com) for us to include in future EYC log articles!

Sure most of the foregoing are intended to give us a laugh. Maybe this final quote gives us more to consider?

"He is your friend, your partner, your defender, your dog. You are his life, his love, his leader. He will be yours, faithful and true, to the last beat of his heart. You owe it to him to be worthy of such devotion."  
- Unknown



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Photos Courtesy of Kathy Dundon

# Feel Good Time Frolic on the Bay '18 Monday, July 9th

by Tom Schuyler IV

If you haven't seen the faces of the families that return from their boat rides during the "Frolic," you are missing something special. The smiles on the kids' faces, their families reactions, and the thanks they offer says it all. This day on our boats is a great distraction from their typical day. Their enthusiasm is genuine.

This summer the EYC Frolic is on Monday, July 09, 2018. This is a one day event that we provide special-needs children and their families with boat rides, lunch, and a special EYC Frolic on the Bay hat. These special-needs children have difficult lives or have life-threatening conditions that otherwise would not have access to a day on the water like we enjoy all summer long.

I want to thank all those sponsors, boat owners and volunteers that have participated in the past 27 years in this event. Your time is valuable and it is very much appreciated! I look forward to spending the day with you all.



Send in the Clowns (left to right) Paprika, Silly, Hops and Barley.

Last year's Frolic on the Bay would not have been possible without the support of our sponsors. Please say "thank you" when you see these folks: Ron Santos at Creative Imprint Systems, P.C. Pat Geary at Erie Beer Company, Cindy Madura at Erie Insurance Group, Sue Oldakowski at the Erie Water Department, Ray Kreger at H&K Do Nut Shop, Sharon Sisco at Mercyhurst University, Dean Schoenfield at Parkhurst Food Services, Mike Seager at STERIS Good Neighbor Fund, and P. C. Gerry Urbaniak at Urbaniak Brothers Quality Meats.

There are many ways you can participate in this year's Frolic. Take a vacation day or a break from your normal activities to spend the day with these kids and their families.

You don't have to have a boat to participate. We need help docking boats and helping the families in and out of the boats. We need help with the registrations. We need help ensuring that all of the participants get their lunch and Frolic hats. You may find yourself helping a family and riding along with them! If you find yourself unavailable on July 09, 2018 don't worry! You can still help! We also take monetary donations! Please mail donations to the EYC Foundation, PO Box 648, Erie, PA 16512 and designate "Frolic on the Bay". Thank you in advance!

There are so many great people that work every day to allow days like this to happen. I would like to thank the Erie Yacht Club Bridge Officers, as well as General Manager Mike Lynch, Dockmaster Bill Vogel and all the EYC staff who work so hard for our EYC!

I also want to thank the Erie Clowns for participating and entertaining the kids (and bigger kids like me!) with face painting and balloon animals.



The author with the ladies of the Erie Insurance Service Corps. (from left to right:) Chris Brown, Crystal Penna, Tom Schuyler, Anne Slupski and Kim Campbell.

It is the many volunteers from the EYC membership and organizations like Erie Insurance Erie Service Corp and students from Mercyhurst University that help the EYC Frolic on the Bay be so successful year after year.

Please consider spending the day with us for the 2018 EYC Frolic on the Bay, Monday, July 09, 2018 and the volunteer picnic after. I know you will enjoy the event and it is a great way to spend a Monday.

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# If These Docks Could Talk

by P/C Gib Loesel

## EYC Ladies Championship Sailing

Women's competitive sailing at EYC has been going on longer than most of our members have been alive. The beautiful trophy pictured below dates back to 1940 and was first won and awarded to Betty Lou Shaffer (P/C Andy Shaffer's daughter). This Championship Trophy was sailed for each year until 1961 and has a very impressive list of recipients. This trophy was last awarded and engraved in 1961 when alas there was no more room.



Ladies Championship Trophy first awarded in 1940.

At the age of 52 my Mother "slipped her anchor" and a group of 20 friends dedicated a bowl for Ladies sailing in her memory. The Mary Anstead Loesel Trophy (a/k/a MAL); the Deed of Gift stated, "In memory of a spirit warm friendly gracious sincere and ever young, We present, in Mary Loesel's name, This bowl as a perpetual trophy emblematic of the Women's Sailing Championship of Erie Yacht Club".

The "MAL" bowl was awarded for several years but when small boat class racing started to fade this beautiful bowl became just another decoration in our trophy case. It was used again for a few other worthwhile events but returned to being a "decoration"

The originators and organizers of the new Reyburn Alumni Regatta are Aimee Nicolia (Walker) and Monica Bloomstine and for the 2nd Annual (2018) regatta introduced a Corinthian Sailor award and fortunately for the MAL a new purpose and life was found under the condition that, while it had been a trophy for ladies, it could also be awarded to a "gentleman" sailor. Knowing the remaining donors would not have a problem with this and for sure my Mother would have quickly said yes and the "deed of gift" was changed!



The Mary Anstead Loesel Trophy (MAL) initially awarded in small boat class racing.

The girls asked if I would make the first presentation but other plans had me out of town so Commodore Greg Gorny agreed to do the job on my behalf. If I would write up some "words". I did, but wrote far too many and the history lesson was cut short in favor of beer drinking (like all good sailors should do) and celebration. In the process of inking those words it got me to thinking (again) about EYC Lady sailors and sailing.

As mentioned above the "MAL" had also been used to recognize other ladies and their achievements but the one that ties my thoughts together on ladies sailing at EYC is: In 1993 a group of brave young women banded together and created a team to compete in the renowned Women's Rolex Keel Boat Championship. The crew under the leadership of the leadership of Skipper Holly Wolford (O'Hare) was: Aimee Walker (Nicolia), her sister Sally Walker, their cousin Rett Walker's wife Susan Walker, Julie Arthurs, Char Mashyna, Ann Lund and Janice Smith. While they didn't bring the trophy home they had the "pros" shaking in their rain gear. (good makings for another story)

Fast forward to 1964 when Ladies Championship racing returned to the EYC with the now well established LA Regatta Des Femme sailed in PERF boats. Rules; Lady Skipper, all girl crew one "guy" permitted on board to help with emergencies only.

So, what does all this matter? Well if you examine the list of recipients on each trophy you would see how they exemplify our rich history as a family sailing Club and how "sail-



The most recent and most unique of the ladies' trophies was the La Regatta Des Femme first awarded in 1964.

ing" in general is a common bond.

For example, the 1993 names on the "MAL" looking over the "stern" (backwards) the Walker Sister's Aunt Jane Walker (Fryling) was Club champion in 1945 and 1953, Aunt Janet Walker 1953.

Looking over the "bow" (forward) Susan Walker LA Regatta Des Femme 1996 - Char Mashyna LA Regatta Des Femme 1999 her daughter Carolyne Mashyna 2017 - Julie Arthurs LA Regatta Des Femme 2013

The list of champions on the older trophy has many names, thoughts and memories of interest. 1949 Joan Foht won in her father Lightning #1916. Joan's boyfriend was well known EYC Skipper Boyd Bert who had to ask her father for permission to throw her in (an old tradition for the champ). Joan then repeated in 1959 and 1960 as Joan Bert. Louise (Kennedy) Loesel won in 1958, Louise ran the first sailing school at EYC - Cynthia (Loesel) Taylor in 1952 was Head Instructor of the Reyburn school for 6 years.

And least I forget what got me to thinking about all of this; The MAL Corinthian Sailor first winner is a gentleman sailor Philip Mashyna. Congratulations Phil!!

In 1922 Rudyard Kipling wrote a poem, The Ladies which spins "yarns" about various women in his life and the "issues" he encountered with each... each verse ends with the words "An' I learned about women from 'er!"... If These Docks Could Talk they would say: "an' I learned about sailing from 'er".





# Tell Your Tale



You don't have to be a professional writer to contribute to the Erie Yacht Club's LOG magazine. You don't even have to be a sailor, just someone with a tale to tell.

A tidbit from the history of the Club, an unusual vacation destination, or an epic boat race are all good story topics for your LOG magazine. Interesting stories come in all shapes and sizes.

LOG stories can be informational, like how to patch a hull, inspirational, as in the Lake Erie Solo challenge, or perhaps you'd like to call some well deserved attention to another member's generosity to the Club or community. Stories can also be just plain entertaining like surviving that cruising vacation with your in-laws.

Although a picture is worth a thousand words they are not a necessity when submitting an article to the LOG. (Although if they help tell the story they are still worth at least a couple hundred words!). Pictures are greatly appreciated however, when at all possible, especially when dealing with specifics or a difficult explanation.

There are also no word count requirements, all article lengths are needed. Heck, you don't even need to use proper grammar! The Log staff reviews and will correct any grammatical mishaps. Writers also have the opportunity to review the finished article before it goes to press if they choose. You don't have to be a great author like Mark Twain or William Shakespeare to submit a LOG article, but you may feel like one after seeing your story in print.

So c'mon all the cool kids are doin' it!



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# Boathouse Party

A summer shindig to benefit  
the Erie Yacht Club Foundation.

**FRIDAY, JULY 13TH**  
**6:30 – 10 P.M.**  
**\$100 PER PERSON**

Open Bar • Auction • Gourmet Hors d'oeuvres

Tickets available for \$100 per person at  
[www.eventbrite.com](http://www.eventbrite.com) — "Boathouse Party" in Erie, PA —  
or at the Erie Yacht Club Office. Limited tickets available.

Sponsorships available.

For more information, visit [erieycfoundation.org](http://erieycfoundation.org).



*Don't miss it!*



## July Calendar of Club Events

1st A la carte Breakfast • 10am - 2pm

EYC's Family Picnic • 3pm - 6pm  
Boat & Train Rides • Wall Climbing  
Petting Zoo • Euro Bungee Jump  
Bounce House • Caricatures  
All Activities are FREE!  
Family Picnic Buffet: BBQ Chicken  
Pulled Pork, Hamburgers, Hot Dogs  
Side Dishes & Ice Cream Buffet  
Adults \$14.95 • Kids 6 -12 \$8.50  
Kids 5 and under - Free

5th Sunset Happy Hour • 5pm  
"Red White & Blue Sangria Nite"  
Complimentary Mini Pretzels  
Live Music by the Sam Hyman Band

8th A la carte Breakfast • 10am - 2pm

9th 2018 Frolic on the Bay  
Skippers & Volunteers at Noon  
Children & Families arrive at 12:30  
for Boat Rides, Clowns & Lunch

12th Sunset Happy Hour • 5pm  
"Margarita Nite"  
Complimentary Fried Ravioli  
Live Music with "The J's"

13th EYC Foundation's Boathouse Party  
6:30 - 10 pm • Open Bar • Auction  
and Gourmet Hors d'oeuvres  
visit [erieycfoundation.org](http://erieycfoundation.org) for more  
information

14th Drive-In Movie night  
"Young Frankenstein"  
All Movies are Free and Weather Permitting, No Rain Date

15th A la carte Breakfast • 10am - 2pm

19th Sunset Happy Hour • 5pm  
"Blissful Storm Night"  
Complimentary Fried Pickles  
Live Music with the Acoustic Gypsies

22nd A la carte Breakfast • 10am - 2pm

26th Sunset Happy Hour • 5pm  
"Pineapple Breeze Night"  
Complimentary Pizza Logs  
Live Music with Mambo

27th Venetian Night at the Lighthouse  
7pm - 11pm • Boat Parade 8:30  
Music by Salmon Frank Band

29th A la carte Breakfast • 10am - 2pm

So, you want to be  
The Commodore?

by Gerry Urbaniak

The 2018 Nominating Committee of the Erie Yacht Club has officially begun its work, looking for a few qualified candidates to fill several seats that will be opening in the fall. Any Regular members in good standing are eligible to run for any of the positions.

Here are the positions that are available: Three open seats on the Nominating Committee, two open seats on the Board of Directors, and one open seat for Fleet Captain (This seat eventually leads to the position of Commodore).

For job description information please see articles 9 and 10 of the EYC Constitution which is available on the EYC website. If you have any interest in becoming active in EYC Club administration, or would like more information on what is involved, please contact any one of the following Nominating Committee members: P/C Dave Arthurs ([davarth@hotmail.com](mailto:davarth@hotmail.com)), Neal Baker ([nealalanbaker@gmail.com](mailto:nealalanbaker@gmail.com)), Bill Crotty ([billcrotty903@yahoo.com](mailto:billcrotty903@yahoo.com)), Commodore Greg Gorny ([grg817@gmail.com](mailto:grg817@gmail.com)), P/C Dave Heitzenrater ([ddd@neo.rr.com](mailto:ddd@neo.rr.com)), P/C John Orlando ([jmorlando@neo.rr.com](mailto:jmorlando@neo.rr.com)), or P/C Gerry Urbaniak ([gerorem@gmail.com](mailto:gerorem@gmail.com)).

So, if you have a genuine interest, and are willing to put in the time and effort to making one of the best yacht clubs in America just a bit better, why not throw your hat into the ring? The future success of our Club may be in your hands.



## August Calendar of Club Events

2nd Sunset Happy Hour • 5pm  
"Cape Codder Nite"  
Complimentary Mac & Cheese Bites  
Live Music with Boyd & Friends

4th Drive-In Movie night  
"Back to the Future"  
All Movies are Free and Weather Permitting, No Rain Date

5th A la carte Breakfast • 10am - 2pm

7th Junior Sailing Banquet • 6pm - 9pm

9th Sunset Happy Hour • 5pm  
"Sangria Nite"  
Complimentary Nacho Bar  
Live Music by the Sam Hyman Band

12th A la carte Breakfast • 10am - 2pm

16th Sunset Happy Hour • 5pm  
"Purple Rain Night"  
Complimentary Jalapeno Poppers  
Live Music by Encore

19th A la carte Breakfast • 10am - 2pm

23rd Sunset Happy Hour • 5pm  
"Moscow Mule Nite"  
Complimentary Fried Pickles  
Live Music by House of Rhythm

26th A la carte Breakfast • 10am - 2pm

EYC Charity Regatta  
Benefiting the Red Cross  
11am Skippers Meeting  
Race Starts at 1pm  
BBQ Buffet from 4:40pm - 6:30pm

30th Sunset Happy Hour • 5pm  
"Orange Whip Nite"  
Complimentary Buffalo Chicken Dip  
Live Music by Dog Gone Good Band

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