

# The ELOG



## The EYC Gives Back Regatta Style!





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## From the Bridge

by Rear Commodore Bill Gloekler

I hope your summer is going well and you are taking every opportunity to enjoy the many social functions offered by your Club! Sunset Happy hours, "Drive-in" Movies on the Lawn, 4th of July Family Picnic, Cruising and Sailing fleet picnics, and Dock parties (to name a few); offer a broad array of entertainment for both young and old EYC members. Please take the time to thank your host and EYC staff for all the work they do to make each of these events a success!

This year saw the completion of the "I" dock project and brings to conclusion the Basin renovation project. This final \$500,000 project was undertaken during winter and spring months with our docks crew and contractors working in some challenging weather conditions. I'd like to recognize GM Lynch and Dock Master Vogel and their teams for completing this project on time and within budget.

Please keep safety in mind during this busy summer season. Drive slowly about the grounds as we have many youngsters on skate boards and bikes. If you have young children, please have them wear PDFs when near the water. Follow safe boating practices; take time to inspect your boat both top sides and below deck, and make sure your safety gear is up to date and readily accessible. Finally, if you have guests onboard please take the time to offer a brief safety orientation... everyone should know where the fire extinguishers, first aid kit and signaling devices are located. "Have a Great Summer and Live Each Day to its Fullest!"

## Directory

Club House ..... 453-4931

Fuel Dock/Guard House..... 456-9914

EYC Web: [www.erieyachtclub.org](http://www.erieyachtclub.org)

EYC Catering: Elizabeth Dougan 453-4931 or [catering@erieyachtclub.org](mailto:catering@erieyachtclub.org)

Mailing address: P.O. Box 648 • Erie, PA 16512

LOG Photographer Volunteer: Tom Madura

Club House Fax ..... 453-6182

Canoe House ..... 453-6368

E-mail: [eyc1895@erieyachtclub.org](mailto:eyc1895@erieyachtclub.org)

Created, Designed and Published by Ashby Advertising, Inc.  
1722 West Eighth Street Erie, PA. 16505 (814)455-2757

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## On the Cover...

Probably the most well attended event each year is the Charity Regatta. Once again this year supporting the Red Cross. Another reason to be proud to be an EYC member. Photo by Mike Conway



## Officers

Com. David Haller ..... 490-6825

[dhaller48@gmail.com](mailto:dhaller48@gmail.com)

V/C Greg Gorny ..... 323-1743

[grg817@gmail.com](mailto:grg817@gmail.com)

R/C Bill Gloekler..... 882-1722

[bgloekler@sepco-pa.com](mailto:bgloekler@sepco-pa.com)

F/C Dr. Peter Lund ..... 840-4392

[svua@aol.com](mailto:svua@aol.com)

## Directors

P/C John Orlando ..... 454-0475

[jmorlando@neo.rr.com](mailto:jmorlando@neo.rr.com)

Andrew Fritts ..... 464-5625

[andyf@fh-group.com](mailto:andyf@fh-group.com)

Vincent Cifelli ..... 450-2448

[vcifelli@roadrunner.com](mailto:vcifelli@roadrunner.com)

Harvey Downey ..... 434-2517

[hdowney@navitekgroup.com](mailto:hdowney@navitekgroup.com)

David Lasher ..... 823-5165

[dblasher@roadrunner.com](mailto:dblasher@roadrunner.com)

Gary Borowy ..... 882-6718

[gary@borowyinsurance.com](mailto:gary@borowyinsurance.com)

Christopher Grychowski ..... 450-9663

[cgrychowski@prep-villa.com](mailto:cgrychowski@prep-villa.com)

## Contributors to this Issue

Ashby Advertising, Publisher .....455-2757

[info@ashby-adv.com](mailto:info@ashby-adv.com)

Pam Masi

Mike Conway

Thomas Schuyler IV

P/C Dave Heitzenrater

Dan Dundon

Gene Polaski

P/C Gib Loesel

Dianne Cunningham

Paul Jenkins



Scan to learn  
about the Erie  
Yacht Club



# The Charity Regatta!

**By Pam Masi • Photos by Mike Conway**



Being prepared saves lives! The Red Cross is the number one provider of disaster prevention, preparedness and response education. Our local chapter trains people in our community to do extraordinary things by being prepared in the event of an emergency and empowered to take action. Health and safety classes offered through the Chapter include: CPR/AED, First Aid, lifeguard training, safe babysitting and many more.

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## EYC Charity Regatta

(continued from previous page)

So please join the Erie Yacht Club in support of this year's Charity Regatta on August 27th! The five-mile bay race and power boat run begin at 11:00am, skippers/captains meeting precedes at 9:30am and followed by the celebration party with live entertainment by the Doggone Good Band, barbecue picnic festivities and trophy presentation, rubber ducky race, prizes and all the fun and camaraderie you've come to expect from this boating race!

Log on to the Erie Yacht Club's web site and click on the EYC Charity Regatta link to enter your sailboat or power boat. Drop it off in the Red Cross Regatta box in the office at the EYC or mail to the address on the registration form. 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).

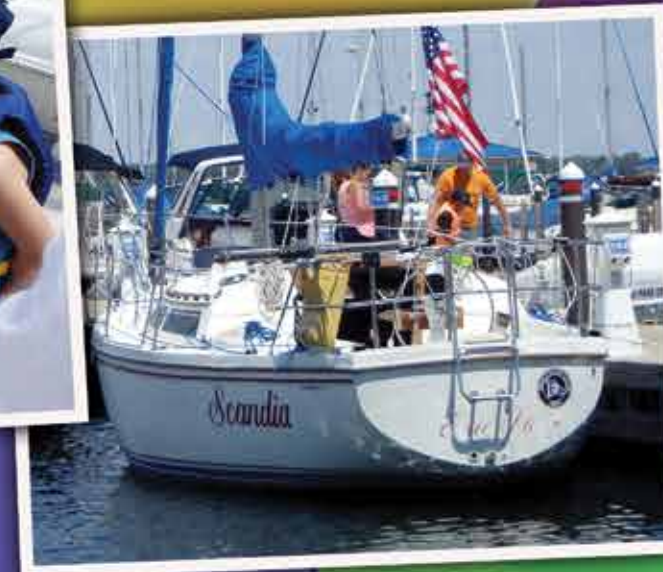
Many thanks to the Erie Yacht Club membership for their outstanding support and partnership to ensure that this event is not only the largest local charity Regatta, but the most fun! Join the festivities of this 33rd annual event & sign up for the EYC Charity Regatta today!

Disasters and emergencies are unpredictable but with your support the local Red Cross can be there to provide assistance to victims in times of need and education to help prevent and respond. Help us to prepare a more resilient community!



**American  
Red Cross**





# The Erie Yacht Club's Frolic on the Bay

Is Paying It Forward

July 10, 2017

by Thomas Schuyler IV

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Dan Dundon for chairing the EYC Frolic on the Bay for many years. He has given me the helm for this great event and I look forward to chairing and participating in this event for years to come. Dan has great attention to detail and has left this event in great shape for me to continue the rich tradition of this special event. Thank you Dan.

This summer the EYC Frolic is on July 10, 2017. There may be some out there that are new to the EYC or are not aware of the Frolic on the Bay. 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 have been involved in the EYC Frolic for many years myself. My dad and our crew have been taking our Infinity out for the Frolic for a number of years and helped introduce many families to sailing, the Erie bay, and our great yacht club. It is impressive to see their smiling faces as they eat their EYC Frolic provided lunches while sailing down the bay. Some years the weather has been so great we were able to take these families out on to the lake also!

I want to thank all those boat owners that have participated in the past 26 years of this event. Your time is valuable and it is very much appreciated! I look forward to spending the day with you as we move forward.

I know there are many of you that have wanted to be a part of the EYC Frolic. There are many ways you can help our great Club to keep the great tradition going.

(continued on next page)





Photos Courtesy of Dan Dundon

## Frolic on the Bay

(continued from previous page)

You may find yourself taking a vacation day to have a long weekend in July, or taking a day off from working in your yard on a Monday, or whatever various activities that fill your Mondays to come down to our fine EYC and spend the day helping special needs children and their families find out for the first time how great it is to spend the day riding in a boat.

Maybe you only have a few hours in the morning or afternoon. That is okay too. 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. If you find yourself unavailable on July 10, 2017 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!

I also would like to thank all the past sponsors. 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, 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, P. C. Gerry Urbaniak at Urbaniak Brothers Quality Meats and Norm Schlosser with his Water Taxis.

I would also 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 and diligently behind-the-scenes.

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.

It is the 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 2017 EYC Frolic on the Bay, Monday, July 10, 2017 and the volunteer picnic after. I know you will enjoy the event and a great way to spend a Monday.

Thomas Schuyler IV  
Frolic Chairman  
(814) 323-4157  
tltd@roadrunner.com







# The Ferry S.S. Badger

By Gene Polaski

If you happen to be traveling in Michigan (or Wisconsin) you may be using highway US10 that runs east and west. However, Lake Michigan interrupts Route 10 but you can take a car ferry, the Steamship SS Badger, to cross the lake and continue onto Route 10. In fact, the ferry has a Route 10 sign on it designating that it is the continuation of that highway. It shuttles between Ludington MI and Manitowoc WI and takes about 4 hours for the 60 mile trip. Its namesake are the Badgers athletic team of the University of Wisconsin.

The steamship Badger is a 410 feet long and carries 600 passengers and 180 autos (less of course if there are some semi-trucks on board). Steam is generated by heating coal and in fact, she is the only coal fired ferry operating in US waters. The two 3500 HP steam engines are Uniflow engines and were made in Erie by Skinner Engine Company. Ash is generated from the burning of the coal and most recently the Badger was outfitted with an ash recovery system. The ash is put into containment bins which are then unloaded on shore and used in the cement making business.

The Badger employs an old system for managing the controls of the ship. A Chadbourn engine telegraph sits in the bridge and in the stern. The captain then rings a duplicate telegraph, located in the engine room, for "ahead full ahead", "reverse" and speeds in between. The engine room then answers the bridge. You may have seen this system in old naval war movies.



An extensively detailed model of the Badger aka: Route 10 extension.

When the Badger is arriving at its destination, the Captain leaves the bridge and goes to the stern where there is a small building that houses another telegraph auxiliary control system. Using that, he backs the Badger into the ferry dock. The boat has no thrusters to aid in lining it up with the dock so some awesome boat handling is required of the Captain! Twin propellers are of help.

It went into service in 1953 after being built in Sturgeon Bay WI. At first it was a ferry for hauling trains for the Chicago and Ohio line. Later, in 1962, the tracks were covered with asphalt and the ship converted into a car/passenger ferry operated by Lake Michigan Carferry Service. You can still see the rails when boarding the ship.



The Badger not only offers a beautiful view, but also many amenities found only on cruise ships.

Next to the Badger's dock in Ludington, there is a sister ship, the Spartan. It went out of service after the railroads started running their lines thru Chicago. That's when the Badger then was converted to a car/passenger ferry leaving the Spartan to rust at the dock.



The absence of thrusters makes docking the Badger a difficult feat best suited for a seasoned captain only.

The ferry service offers meals, movies, entertainment and even some stateroom accommodations and of course a gift shop. Prices and reservations can be found on their website. In addition to its regular ferry service, it offers some shoreline cruises and group discounts are available for weddings and family gatherings.

A few years ago my wife and I had the pleasure to do a Badger crossing from Manitowoc to Ludington. We had toured the Wisconsin Maritime Museum in Manitowoc the day before. During WWII there were 28 submarines built in Manitowoc. The museum has a WWII submarine on display and a 45 minute tour is available.

The next day we boarded the Badger which was a very short distance from our hotel and the museum. They were running a special whereby you could stay aboard the ship overnight after arriving in Ludington and either make the return trip to Manitowoc in the morning or just disembark which we planned to do.

However when we bought our ticket we found out that the overnight stay had been canceled as the Badger was to take on a special cargo load in Ludington and return to Manitowoc that same day. The Lake Michigan Carferry company booked us into a hotel instead.

I got to have a nice chat with the Captain. About a year later I learned that he had died.

The SS Badger was designated as a National Historic Landmark in 2016. If you are ever headed thru Michigan/Wisconsin on Route 10, try and take the SS Badger either at Ludington or Manitowoc. It's a real toot!





# Erie Yacht Club Racing Fleet

## The Traditions Continue...

by P/C Dave Heitzenrater

Have you seen an abundance of the sail boats zig zagging back and forth on our Presque Isle bay and wondered what is going on? Why are they out there, what are they doing, where the heck are they headed and just who are they?

We think this might be the mindset of many uninformed who travel the Bayfront Parkway or thereabouts on a Wednesday evening. Obviously, here at the EYC most know the confusion suddenly becomes organized at the sound of the starting signal with the boats quickly aligning themselves up the race course and crossing the starting line. Yes, all of the prestart jockeying, tacking, jibing, all of the excitement of maneuvering these ten, twenty, some as much as thirty thousand pounds

vessels only a few feet apart fighting for position to cross the start line going fast and in clear air culminates as the start signal sounds. These are the captains and crews who make up the EYC racing fleet. A fun loving group who are also very serious about their sport, its future and our local traditions.

**New racers, boats and crew are always in high demand!**  
*See [erieyachtclub.org](http://erieyachtclub.org)*

**A few of the traditions.**

The arrival of July positions the fleet well into its 25th season of racing and events. The EYC organized racing had been previously shared by a number of separate organizations prior to 1992 and the formation of the EYCRF. The 2017 event sched-

ule includes the Sixtieth anniversary of the Lake Erie Interclub cruise, the annual series of races that span six days with visits to multiple ports riming the eastern shores of Lake Erie.

**New fun loving sailors willing to learn are always welcomed!**  
*See [erieyachtclub.org](http://erieyachtclub.org)*



P/C Bill Lasher discusses the finer points of the Racing Rules of Sailing before fleet members.



Fleet chair, Frank Jarecki displays one of the new inflatable race marks sponsored by American Cruising Sails (not pictured) and RCR yachts

There are many planned and just as many impromptu activities that occur each evening commencing shortly after each craft clears the finish line. The 2017 addition included visits to the ports of Erie, Port Dover, Port Colborne and Point Abino, Ontario. This annual floating celebration with as many as sixty boats and crew renew their friendships and international rivalries each year just about the time the calendar marks the official arrival of summer and the accompanying 15+ hours of daylight. Wahoo!

Coinciding with this week of serious revelry is the running of the Annette Cup. The silver loving cup is the most historic prize in the Erie Yacht Club display case. Our Erie Yacht Club was a mere 12 years old when this race was first born. The initial challenge was held on June 1st, 1907 and awarded to the winning yacht Annette whose name will identify the award in perpetuity.

**Volunteer to crew on a racing boat.**  
*See [erieyachtclub.org](http://erieyachtclub.org)*

The schedule also includes the organization of the Koehler Cup, a two day overnight affair first sailed

in 1961 establishing the tradition. Recognized as the largest award in our trophy display case, this silver cup was donated by the original Erie Brewing Company and named after their founder and flagship beverage which was consumed in bulk by the always thirsty racers. Although the brewery closed in 1978, the races continue as one of the more prominent racing traditions of the EYC.

The Koehler Cup was first awarded to EYC P/C (1961) Frank W. Zurn who raced his auxiliary yacht Melmare II to victory. She was a 40' Rhodes wooden sloop built in Germany. Brewery founder Jackson Koehler couldn't have been prouder to have the original wining yacht constructed in his home country. You might ask P/C Frank Zurn, often seen in our lounge with his beautiful wife Jane what it took to win the initial three years of the event on Melmare II.

**Joining the Fleet is inexpensive, fun and easy!**  
*See [erieyachtclub.org](http://erieyachtclub.org)*



Ken Read event chair P/C John Orlando, presents donation of \$1,590 to P/C Bill Lasher and Frank Jarecki accepting on behalf of the Reymburn Sailing School.

As you know, historically the Fleet organizes not only racing but other related activities such as classes, lectures, safety courses, demonstrations as well as sponsoring national sailing celebrities and their programs. The education tradition continued with a Racing Rules of Sailing interactive learning program presented by EYCRF members Alex Miller and P/C Bill Lasher in early May.

(continued on next page)



Cruising and Racing fleet members join forces upgrading our playground surface to artificial turf.



## EYC Racing Fleet The Tradition Continues...

(continued from previous page)

Further in the category of education and entertainment, an April 27th sold out 'Sailing on the Edge' presentation by world class sailing icon Ken Read was held at the EYC. Ken is also president of the largest sailmaker in the world, North Sails and an Americas Cup color commentator. Kenneth (Kenny) Read, age 56 is known as one of racing's most renowned and talented sailors.

He sailed at Boston University where he was a three-time collegiate All American. He was awarded the US Rolex Yachtsman of the Year twice and has won more than 40 World, North American and National Championships in a variety of classes including the J/24 and Etchells 22. He was helmsman aboard Dennis Conner's Stars & Stripes America's Cup campaigns. He also served as strategist and coach with America's Cup entry Young America.



Sailing icon Ken Read speaking about racing the 100' carbon fiber Comanche out of a very busy Sydney harbor in the 630 n. mile annual race from Sydney, Australia to Hobart, Tasmania.

***It was said that old sailors never really die, they just get a little dinghy!***  
***See [erieyachtclub.org](http://erieyachtclub.org)***

Ken began racing offshore when he joined the Ericsson Racing Team for the last four legs of the 2005-06 Volvo Ocean Race around the globe. He was skipper of Puma Ocean Racing Team in the 2008-09 Volvo

Ocean Race for his first complete circumnavigation and again in the 2011-12 tour around the world. His most recent noticeable responsibility is skipper of the 100' carbon fiber supermaxi yacht Comanche.



In a private moment, Ken Read speaks candidly with our junior sailors.

In 2015, Read helmed Comanche to Victory in the 2015 Sydney to Hobart Yacht Race. Read was also the color commentator for NBC Sports 34th America's Cup and currently for the America's Cup World Series tournament races. In his day job, as stated previously he serves as President of North Sails Group.

We thank all those who attended the program and Mr. Read for making the journey to the Erie Yacht Club and especially for his private appearance with our junior sailors at our Rickloff Sailing Center. His very colorful presentation informed us regarding many of the issues involved at the top end of our sport as well as some grass roots suggestions to our Jr. Sailing program managers to help build the sport locally. Thanks to everyone who helped make this event possible. A portion of the event proceeds totaling \$1,590 was



EYC junior sailors and Gannon University Sailing Team members get a group selfie with Ken Read inside the Rickloff Community Boathouse.

contributed to support our Jr Sailing program therefore on behalf of the Jr. Sailing program and its students, we thank all of those who attended the event.

***Complete detailed fleet information is available at:***  
***[erieyachtclub.org](http://erieyachtclub.org)***

Less numerous in occurrences but still a tradition, the Fleet members periodically volunteer their time and energy to help with one of the many projects of the EYC mothership. The 2017 effort in conjunction with the EYC cruising fleet was the upgrade of the children's playground surface to artificial turf.

There is always something happening each month with the EYC racing fleet.

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# WHAT'S THE GOOD WORD?



BY DAN DUNDON

*Where is the spiritual value of rowing? The losing of self entirely to the cooperative effort of the crew as a whole.*

Our friend Tom Madura lent me a terrific book, "The Boys in the Boat", which tells the story of the nine man American rowing shell crew and "their epic quest for Gold at the 1936 Berlin Olympics". The book details the struggles and victories of many people involved with rowing at the University of Washington, centering on an oarsman, Joe Rantz. Joe found himself especially inspired by George Pocock, a master builder of racing shells. Since we are a yacht club and many of us race on the water, I figured we might enjoy reading and contemplating George's inspiring words?

George Yeoman Pocock (1891 - 1976) was a leading designer and builder of racing shells. Pocock-built shells began to win U.S. Intercollegiate Rowing Association championships in 1923. George achieved international recognition by providing the eight-oared racing shells which won gold medals in the 1936 Summer Olympics with Joe Rantz and his crew from the University of Washington and again in 1948 and 1952.

During this time, nearly every collegiate and sport rowing program in America used wooden shells and oars built by Pocock. Beyond his achievements as a boatbuilder, his influence, promotion and philosophy of rowing have inspired countless oarsmen and coaches.

A native of Kingston upon Thames, England, Pocock learned the craft of boatbuilding as an apprentice to his father, Aaron Frederick Pocock, a boatbuilder for Eton College. A champion sculler himself, Pocock (along with his brother, Dick) used prize money earned from racing to emigrate to Vancouver in 1911, in search of better employment prospects.

In 1912, Hiram Conibear, rowing coach at the University of Washington, visited the Pocock brothers at their Vancouver Harbour shop and convinced them to move to Seattle to build boats for the Washington crews. Over the next half-century, Pocock perfected the craft of building fast and efficient wooden shells, introducing many innovations including the use of Western Red Cedar for the outer skin of the shells.

He was appointed Boatman to U.S. Olympic Rowing Teams in 1936, 1948, 1952, and 1956. He was a mentor to many of the day's rowing coaches, and continues to be revered by oarsmen and coaches for his contributions to the sport of rowing.

Here are some of George's Good Words:

Having rowed myself since the tender age of twelve and having been around rowing ever since, I believe I can speak authoritatively on what we may call the unseen values of rowing - the social, moral, and spiritual values of one of the oldest chronicled sports in the world. No didactic teaching will place these values in a young man's soul. He has to get them by his own observation and lessons.

*Did you know "didactic" means "intended to teach, particularly in having moral instruction as an ulterior motive"? Me neither.*

In a sport like this - hard work, not much glory, but still popular in every century... well, there must be some beauty which ordinary men can't see, but extraordinary men do.

It is hard to make that boat go as fast as you want to. The enemy is the resistance of the water, as you have to displace the amount of water equal to the weight of men and equipment, but that very water is what supports you and that very enemy is your friend. So is life: the very problems you must overcome also support and make you stronger in overcoming them.

Every good rowing coach, in his own way, imparts to his men the kind of self-discipline required to achieve the ultimate from mind, heart and body. Which is why most ex-oarsmen will tell you, they learned more fundamentally important lessons in the racing shell than in the classroom.

Rowing is perhaps the toughest of sports. Once the race starts, there are no time-outs, no substitutions. It calls upon the limits of human endurance. The coach must therefore impart the secrets of the special kind of endurance that comes from mind, heart and body.

Rowing a race is an art, not a frantic scramble. It must be rowed with head power as well as hand power. From the first stroke, all thoughts of the other crew must be blocked out. Your thoughts must be directed to you and your own boat, always positive, never negative.

It is a great art, is rowing. It is the finest art there is. It is a symphony of motion. And when you're rowing well, why it's near perfection. And when you are near perfection, you're touching the Divine. It touched the you of yours. Which is your soul.

A boat is a sensitive thing, an eight-oared shell, and if it isn't let go free, it doesn't work for you.

One of the first admonitions of a good rowing coach... is 'pull your own weight,' and the young oarsman does just that when he finds out that the boat goes better when he does. There is certainly a social implication here.

When you get the rhythm in an eight, it's pure pleasure to be in it. It's not hard work when the rhythm comes - that 'swing' as they call it. I've heard men shriek... when that swing comes in an eight; it's a thing they'll never forget as long as they live.

A good shell has to have a life and resiliency to get in harmony with the swing of the crew. Therein lies the secret of successful crews: Their "swing", that fourth dimension of rowing, which can only be appreciated by an oarsman who has rowed in a swinging crew, where the run is uncanny and the work of propelling a shell as delight.

Good thoughts have much to do with good rowing. It is not enough for the muscles of the crew to be in unison; their hearts and minds must also be also one.

To be of championship caliber, a crew must have total confidence in each other. . confident that no man will get the full-weight of the pull. Joe Rantz was talking with George and what George said has a profound effect on Joe.

Joe, when you really start trusting those other boys, you will feel the power at work within you that is far beyond anything you have ever imagined. Sometimes, you will feel as if you have rowed right off the planet and are rowing among the stars!

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!

A few closing quotes from George: My ambition has always been to be the greatest shell builder in the world and without false modesty, I believe I have attained that goal. If I were to sell the stock, I feared I would lose my incentive and become a wealthy man, but a second-rate artisan. I prefer to remain a first-class artisan.

George certainly met his goals... 15 of 16 boats entered in the 1935 National Collegiate Rowing Championship in Poughkeepsie were built by George Pocock. In 1936, it was 17 of 18 boats.

Men as fit as you, when your everyday strength is gone, can draw on a mysterious reservoir of power far greater. Then it is that you can reach for the stars. That is the way champions are made.

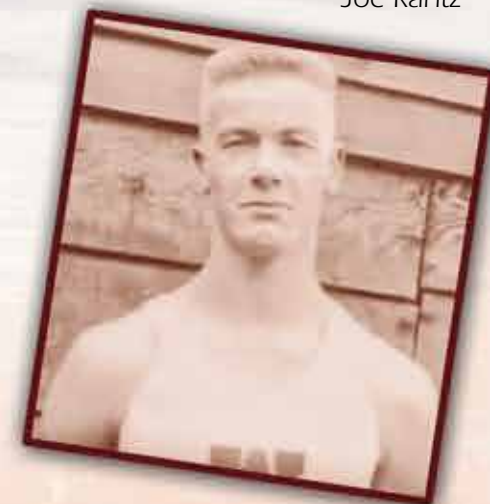
Harmony, balance and rhythm are the three things that stay with you your whole life. Without them, civilization is out of whack. And that is why an oarsman, when he goes out in life, he can fight it, he can handle life. That is what he gets from rowing.

While George certainly had a strong, positive influence on the Washington crew, maybe such a winning attitude was always present in Joe Rantz? Some time before he started at Washington University, Joe told his girlfriend, Joyce:

The only time you don't find a four-leaf clover is when you stop looking for one. - Joe Rantz



Joe Rantz







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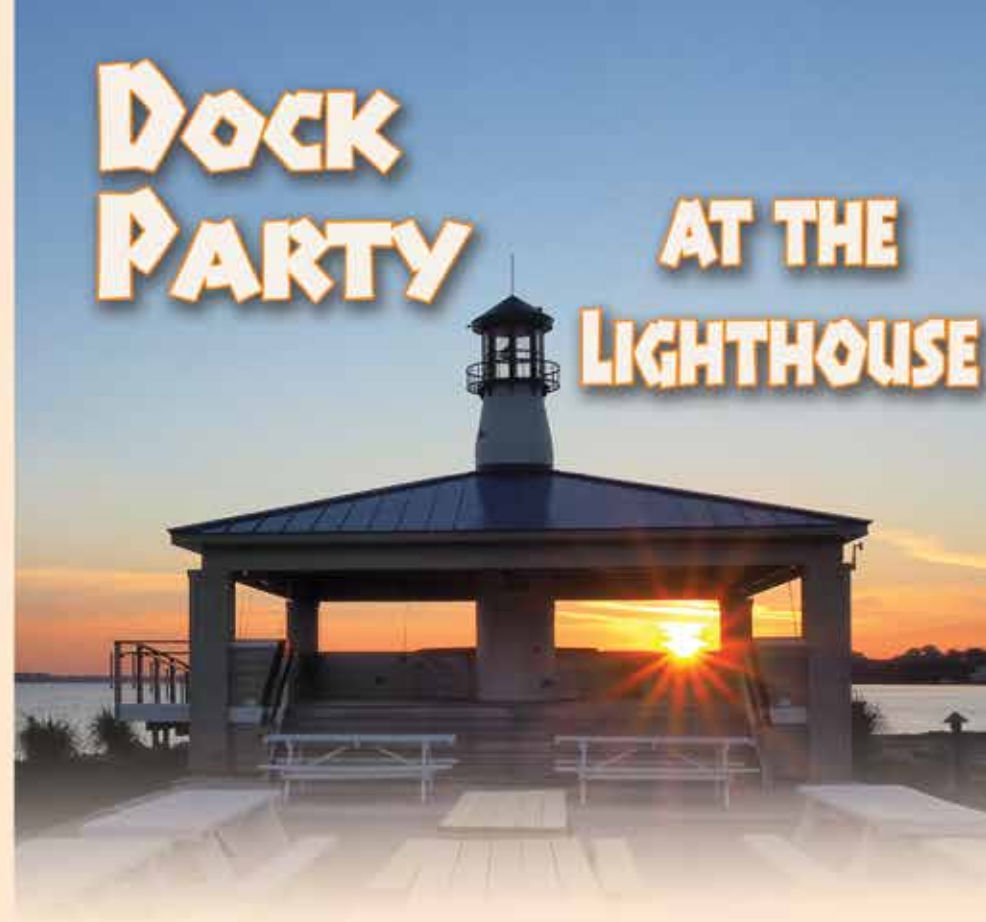
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The Flagship Niagara League is a 501 (C) 3, non-profit educational associate organization of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC), chartered to facilitate citizen participation and operation of the U.S. Brig Niagara and its homeport, Erie Maritime Museum.





The Club will provide hamburgers & hot dogs (along with buns and condiments), cooked on an open grill. The Club will also provide canned pop, coffee, wine & beer. You bring the dish of your choice as designated below by your dock assignment.

Then simply enjoy the evening with some great friends and your neighbors from the docks. A great way to get together with old friends or make new ones!



**Docks  
J-K-L-M-N-O**

**Friday July 14th ■ 6:30**

**What you need to bring;**  
J,K, Dock - Salads  
L,M Dock - Desserts  
N,O Dock - Main Dishes  
(Please bring enough for 8 to 10 people)


**Live Entertainment by:  
Doug Phillips Trio**

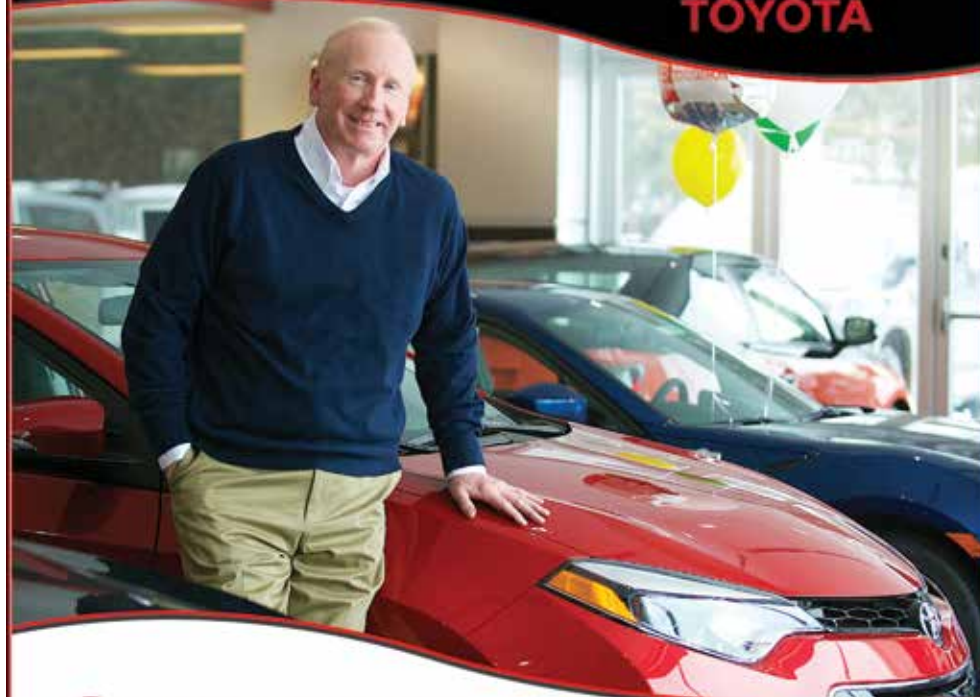
**Docks  
A-B-C-D-E-F-G-H-I**

**Friday July 28th ■ 6:30**

**What you need to bring;**  
A,B,C, Dock - Salads  
D,E,F Dock - Desserts  
G,H,I Dock - Main Dishes  
(Please bring enough for 8 to 10 people)

**Live Entertainment by:  
Boyd & Friends**

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**EYC Scanning Party**

The EYC Historical committee is looking for the help of the best Club members on the Great Lakes.

In an effort to add to the Historical Committee's archives we are searching for Club related items and printed material. Any historical (or soon to be) marine or EYC related materials are of interest to the Committee.

This does not, however, mean that you need to give up your prized possessions. The EYC Historical Committee will be scanning in any items felt to be of interest to other Club members.

This will take place during an "EYC Scanning Party" to be held July 20th during the Clubs Thursday Happy Hour festivities beginning at 6pm.

So grab those interesting marine and EYC related items and literature lurking in your home, bring them down to the Club and have them scanned for future prosperity. While your at the Club be sure and stop out on to deck for a few drinks and snacks with friends, while taking in the music and one of Lake Erie's signature sunsets.



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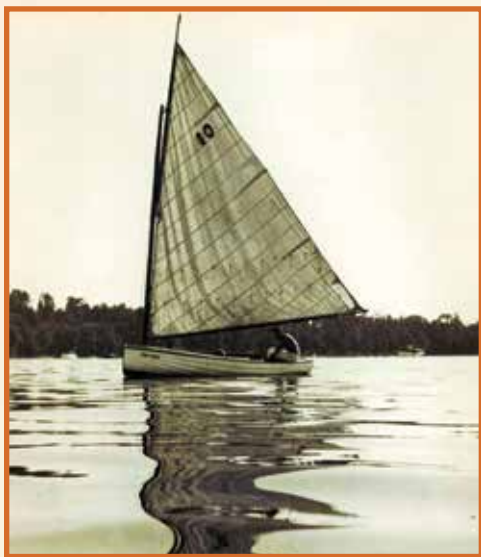


# If These Ducks Could Talk

by P/C Gib Loesel

A few weeks back at our DOM (Drunk of the Month) luncheon Bill Beyer mentioned that he had a trophy his father Art won in the EYC Wild Duck Fleet and this got me to thinking (again). Over the years I have had heard bits and pieces about these boats but no real facts so right there and then I asked Lew Klahr and Brother Richard what they knew and a few names and facts came flying out mostly preceded by "I think". You guessed it the search for the truth was on.

As I paddled this around in my head I remembered that during the 100 year celebration of the Club we had an "Old Timers Night" where we recorded sea stories as told by a few of the older members who wanted to share.



Wild Duck #10 named "Red Head".

I dug out my recording and the first speaker on "ducks" was Dr. Dick Eisenberg who said this was a depression story that went back to the 30's. He owned his 14 foot "duck" with his partner Dave Strauss. She was #10 named "Red Head"... all the Wild Ducks were named after (of course) "duck's. One summer he returned from college and discovered his "duck" had suffered



Ralph "Rip" Sawdy. (1930's)

some pretty serious damage and he didn't know how to make the repair and was advised to consult a Mr. Rip Sawdy who lived in a shack just west of the Canoe House.

In Dr. E's words, "Rip was a jolly fellow who had an enormous girth, I don't know what it was but it was enormous!"

"Dave and I didn't have any money but Dave's father owned a Pants Factory on State Street and Rip needed a new pair of pants so after a little bartering the repairs began. Rip was the brains, I was the grunt and Rip was decked out in brand new pants (large)".

OK now I was getting somewhere. I now know the approximate age and length of the boat. The next story teller was LaSalle Padden who told that Herman Lund built the "ducks" in the late 20's and early 30's, he thought about 25 of them. Paddy said he was a Sea Scout and the "duck" owners let them use their boats. The Sea Scouts mentioned were Charles Curtze (future Admiral U.S. Navy and raced a Canvas Back which he bought from Ken Eckerd, boat number unknown), Dirk Braggins (future Commodore and famous EYC sailor), Bob Fry (future WW II flying Ace), Charles Coleman (inventor of the electric razor) and Charlie Schauble (future Skipper of the Enigma). Other owners mentioned Art Beyer (Pin Tail), Jack Clemens (future EYC Commodore), Ken Eckerd (Eckerd Drugs and owner of Enigma), Don Brebner, Count Eichenlaub, someone named Jones and an alleged character "Stinky" Sly.

*Readers: One of our missions with this story is to find out more about the "ducks" so if you know anything please cough it up and give me a shout.*

Charlie Baumbach said he bought his "duck" from Jack Clemens for \$75.00 and when he took possession she was "wide open". Some of the old timers said just throw it in the water it will swell up. He did and it did. He didn't tell what her fate was, the boat name or number.



Pictured above is Art Beyer's Wild Duck Trophy. It is a little hard to see but the date is June 14, 1925. This verifies that the "ducks" were built in the 20's. Art was 32 years old when he won the trophy... in 1953 at age 14 I started crewing on the Enigma (thinking I was a hot shot sailor). My first race was the Annette Cup and there was Art an old guy (now 60)... the thing I remember most about him was when we rounded Long Point he wanted to know if it was time to get the bumper out. I didn't think he knew anything about sailing and all these years later I find out he was the "hot shot" who won the Wild Duck Fleet Trophy!



Along about 1958 there was a race known as the Interclub Regatta. Which started at the Buffalo Canoe Club in Point Abino Canada, at that point I had 5 years of onboard experience and had never seen Mr. Eckerd (Uncle Ken) touch the wheel of his boat. We were short handed... Brother Richard, myself and Tom Reed were going to set the spinnaker for our long sail down the lake. To help us out Uncle Ken volunteered to take the helm. The course he was given was east 90 degrees, I was so amazed he never once went off course (by the way it was also the first time Brother Richard ever saw him at the wheel) and now all these years later I discover he was also a "duck" sailor.

Rich Eisenberg offered the picture of Dr. E's Red Head #10 and if you look closely you can see it is lapstrake and has a simple Sliding Gunter Rig. Rich also related the story that his Dad credits his acceptance into medical school on his interest and knowledge of sailing his "duck". ... the story goes that he scored the highest score ever on Penn Medical School entrance exam that the Dean had ever seen and he wanted to meet this fellow. There were lots of boat pictures in the Dean's outer office. Dick was staring and studying them intently when the Dean appeared. Question "do you like sailing?"... Answer "yes" A common bond was made and he was "in".

All of this new knowledge about "ducks" was more or less confirmed by P/C Frank Zurn who was kind enough to sit down and tell his "duck" story. He was 11 years old in 1938 and lived just above the Club. He and Brother John made their way to the Club on the tramped down path they had created on the hill... Frank said, "One day in the spring he showed up to discover Chuck Schauble in the process of rebuilding a boat. It was up on horses with the ribs exposed", Frank continued, "I went down there every day to watch and finally Mr. Schauble asked if I like boats and would I like to help out a little. Needless to say I jumped at the chance... I then discovered it was a Wild Duck. Each day it got nicer and nicer and finally was ready for the water and Mr. Schauble (Chuck by now) took me sailing. I think this is when I fell in love with the sport. A little later I talked my Father into looking at the boat and he bought it. The price was \$250.00... I sailed, raced and polished it for a few years until I got the itch for one of the new Lightning Class Boats. We bought a new Lightning from R.D. McAllister who allowed a \$250 credit for the "duck".

I am sorry to say I don't know what happened to her after that". "I can tell you it was a sweet sailing boat. There were no side stays only a head stay, the main was hoisted on yard known as a Sliding Gunter Rig, you sat on the floor boards around the centerboard trunk. There was a nice wide varnished coaming (at this moment storyteller Frank had a twinkle in eye) which was nice to lean against and gave you a perfect opportunity to slide your arm around your girlfriend".

Well now you know everything I know about the EYC Wild Duck Fleet, I am sure there is more out there somewhere so ...

If These Docks Could Talk they would say: "If you have anything tucked away in your Sea Bag pass it on!"





# The EYC Bowling League Spares No One from a Great Time!

**E**rie is well known for its winter weather and activities. so what do EYC members do during the long cold nights of late fall, winter and early spring?

EYC has a very active bowling league and we're always looking for additional members to expand the league and amp-up the fun! This league is all about fun and social interaction - which is often spilling over into the Club for apres-bowling drinks and snacks. Knowing how to bowl is NOT a prerequisite, as the standings are based on averages that bowlers establish starting on their first night and build throughout the season.

The EYC league is non-sanctioned (which means members don't pay the USBC to register and track their averages) and, is often less expensive and less competitive than a sanctioned league.

This is a mixed couple league and we bowl every other Friday evening (starting at 6:30 PM) from September through April at Rolling Meadows Lanes at the corner of 32nd and Zuck Rd.

There is usually 16 weeks of bowling with nights not scheduled during the holidays. The lanes have bowling balls to use and shoes can be rented ( for a small fee) so there is no requirement to have your own equipment.

Members may bring drinks (beer, wine, etc.) and snacks to the lanes too! there is a snack counter on the premises where pizza etc. can be purchased. A banquet at the EYC follows the season and there is a summer get-together brunch which are both paid for by the league.

Want to join the fun and meet other EYC members too? Please contact one of the following bowling league officers:

Dave Arthurs: 450-1746

Diane Glass: 864-5628

Mary Ann Curtze: 456-6169



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Krista Krugger & Maureen Draskovic.



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**B**y the time the Log has arrived in your mailbox, the EYC Cruising Fleet has already enjoyed a boat load of fun during the summer of 2017!

In mid-May we were fortunate to have nice weather for our kick-off to the boating season, the Cruising Fleet Picnic. During the event Bob Cunningham, co-chair of the Fleet, unveiled the new Cruising Fleet banner which will be prominently displayed at all Fleet functions. Fleet shirts, sweatshirts, hats and koozies were sold throughout the evening. It was great to see Bridge members, Commodore Dave Haller and Rear Commodore Bill Gloekler.

The first raft off on June 11th had 15 boats and approximately 40 of their friends and family in attendance... great warm weather and although a bit choppy getting there, the breeze was perfect in our protected anchorage at the west end of the Marina Lake at Presque Isle State Park.

It was an afternoon of food, drink and lots of merry! We relaxed in the calm waters and enjoyed the company of many who are new to the Fleet. "It sure was a pleasant day with lots of laughs," said co-chair, Karen Carns.

Summer trips include a day trip to the Noosa Restaurant in Northeast; a long weekend trip to Geneva, Ohio State Park marina; and excursions to Cleveland, Put-In-Bay and Sandusky.

The Fleet plans to cruise to Noosa Restaurant on a Summer Solstice Dinner Cruise to North East Marina at the end of June (weather permitting). When you read this article, we will have dined there or rescheduled for an alternate date. Our Geneva on the Lake trip is planned for July 28th. Kathy Wagner, the trip leader and at this writing, is planning for a fun picnic upon arrival on Friday night, a wine country cruise on Saturday and group dinner in Geneva on Saturday night. It's not too late to join in.

From there, some of the boats will continue west to Cleveland and the Sandusky/Put-In-Bay areas. Jim Thomas and P/C Kerry Schwab report that stops would include( but not limited to) the Mentor Yacht Club, Vermillion Yacht Club, Edgewater Yacht Club and Put-in-Bay. The Crew's Nest in Put-in-Bay is where we will stay. It offers many nice amenities such as an adult pool, Bar and restaurant. Other places to visit for some will be Kelley's Island, Cedar Point, etc.

Further information about the Cruising Fleet's schedule for the rest of the summer can be found on the Erie Yacht Club's website, [www.erieyachtclub.org](http://www.erieyachtclub.org) and click on the Fleets tab. Or, you may see Co-chair couples, Brad and Karen Carns or Bob and Dianne Cunningham for details. Please like our EYC Cruising Fleet FB page as well, as it is updated regularly.

You and your "crew" are welcome to join the Cruising Fleet! No boat required and sailors welcome!



**Boat Loads of Fun!**  
by Dianne Cunningham

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They are offering to renew your certificate of documentation via their services. They will charge you a "Service Fee" as well as a "Documentation Fee".

The U.S. Coast Guard's National Vessel Documentation Center was contacted by one of our members who thought the offer from U.S. Documentation to be questionable and the Coast Guard official agreed.

The standard documentation fee will be charged by the Coast Guard and no other "Service Fee" is necessary upon renewal of your vessel documentation.



# Almost a Pigeon Barron

by Paul Jenkins

**R**ecently a homing pigeon visited my back yard bird feeder. It was a pretty bird known as a Blue Bar that has a graceful shape but a little on the chubby side. Seeing this attractive bird brought back a flood of memories from my youth when I owned a small pigeon coop.

In our old East side neighborhood, the most popular sports for kids were baseball, fishing and pigeon racing. Most of us guys had a dozen birds or so, in small coops, and if your dad was into it, a shed sized loft. We didn't race but simply enjoyed flying our flocks near our homes.

The most popular pigeon kid in our area was George O'Donnel, who had a dream loft. His Dad had given him an entire one car garage for his squadron of fifty or sixty birds.

Inside the loft the "cooing" was constant, and the variety of birds provided a kaleidoscope of color as they fluttered from perch to perch. There was also a pungent odor that caused your nostrils to quiver. The floor was padded with a heavy layer of wood chips that would stick to your shoes, but didn't smell that much like wood.

For a long time I had asked my Dad if I could keep a few birds in a small coop behind our garage, and promised to pay for the feed with my paper route money.

One day Dad surprised me when he brought home a pair of the most beautiful dove-like pigeons I had ever seen. The pure white birds had large dark eyes and tufted heads. He said they were called Tumblers. I was thrilled, but at the same time a little disappointed that they weren't racing birds, still they must have looked very sexy to my ordinary pigeons.

The first day I released them, they flew to a quite high altitude, tucked in their wings and dove toward the earth at a high speed, then opened their wings, and rolled over in unison, they did a cart wheeled flip and spun all over the sky... Wow!

One day while flying my new birds a flock of racers came by, circled my white beauties, and when my birds finally came in, four pigeons followed them. I tried to chase them but they cooed lovingly, strutted around the tumblers and made eyes at them. It must have been love at first sight.

Over the next few weeks my small feathered fleet grew to a full squadron. It was time to build a larger coop. I didn't care, even if I had to get a bigger paper route.

When my pigeon buddies discovered what was happening, one guy offered to buy my tumblers. "No way" I said "when you have the goose that lays the golden eggs, you keep it"

About then I noticed that several of the new birds had leg bands, so I asked George to come over and check them out. It turned out that many of the birds were his, and the rest belonged to his neighbor. He thanked me for taking such good care of them. It looked like my day of being a "Pigeon Baron" was coming to a quick end.

The next day I found a prankster's sign on the front of my coop that read, "Paul's Pigeon Motel... Sleep Cheap!"



## July Calendar of Club Events

- 2nd A la carte Breakfast • 10am - 2pm  
EYC Block Party & Family Picnic  
3pm - 6 pm • Boat & Train Rides  
Wall Climbing • Petting Zoo  
Bounce House • Euro Bungee  
Jump • all activities Free!  
4pm Picnic Buffet includes:  
BBQ Chicken, Beef Brisket,  
Hamburgers & Hot Dogs, sides &  
Ice Cream Bar • Adults \$14.95  
Kids 6-12 \$8.50 • 5 and under Free
- 6th Sunset Happy Hour at the EYC  
"Purple Rain Nite"  
Complimentary Pigs in a Blanket  
Live Music by the Acoustic Gypsies
- 8th Drive-In Movie Night  
Pirates of the Caribbean  
"Curse of the Black Pearl"  
All Movies are Free & Weather Permitting, No Rain Date
- 9th A la carte Breakfast • 10am - 2pm
- 10th 2017 Frolic on the Bay  
Skippers & Volunteers at Noon  
Children & Families arrive at 12:30  
for Boat Rides, Clowns & Lunch
- 13th Sunset Happy Hour at the EYC  
"Cherry Limeade Nite"  
Complimentary Jalapeno Poppers  
Live Music by Mambo
- 14th Dock Party at the EYC Lighthouse  
6:30 pm for Docks J - O  
Entertainment by Doug Phillips Trio
- 16th A la carte Breakfast • 10am - 2pm
- 20th Sunset Happy Hour at the EYC  
"Green Tea Nite"  
Complimentary Potato Skins  
Live Music by The Gilligans
- 23rd A la carte Breakfast • 10am - 2pm
- 27th Sunset Happy Hour at the EYC  
"Orange Whip Nite"  
Complimentary Pizza Logs  
Live Music by the Sam Hyman Band
- 28th Dock Party at the EYC Lighthouse  
6:30 pm for Docks A - I  
Entertainment by Boyd & Friends
- 30th A la carte Breakfast • 10am - 2pm

## The EYC'S BLOCK PARTY!

Sunday July 2nd  
from 3-6PM

Boat & Train Rides  
Wall Climbing  
Petting Zoo  
Bounce House  
Euro Bungee Jump  
Caricatures

All Activities are Free!

Family Picnic Buffet  
Adults \$14.95  
Kids 6-12 \$8.50  
5 & Under Eat Free!

Buffet includes: Hamburgers, Hot Dogs,  
BBQ Chicken, Beef Brisket  
Baked Beans, Summer Salads  
Corn on the Cob, Fresh Fruit & Ice Cream

## THE SUMMER BOATING SEASON IS HERE!

Your EYC Safety Committee encourages you to keep an eye out for any safety concerns you recognize around the Club.

If you spot something you think may pose a hazard Please contact:

Club Manager  
Mike Lynch  
or  
Dockmaster  
Bill Vogel



## August Calendar of Club Events

- 3rd Sunset Happy Hour at the EYC  
"Sangria Nite"  
Complimentary Fried Ravioli  
Live Music by The Breeze Band
- 5th Drive-In Movie Night  
"Captain Ron"  
All Movies are Free & Weather Permitting, No Rain Date
- 6th A la carte Breakfast • 10am - 2pm
- 10th Sunset Happy Hour at the EYC  
"Paloma Nite"  
Complimentary Nacho Bar  
Live Music by Salmon Frank
- 13th A la carte Breakfast • 10am - 2pm
- 15th Junior Sailing Banquet • 6pm - 9pm
- 17th Sunset Happy Hour at the EYC  
"Bay Breeze Nite"  
Complimentary Mini Pretzels  
Live Music with House of Rhythm
- 20th A la carte Breakfast • 10am - 2pm
- 24th Sunset Happy Hour at the EYC  
"Gin & Tonic Nite"  
Complimentary Siracha Chicken Bites • Live Music by Dog Gone Good Band
- 27th 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
- 31st Sunset Happy Hour at the EYC  
"Blue Hawaiian Nite"  
Complimentary French Fry Bar  
Live Music with Doug Phillips Trio

Visit the EYC website to stay up to date on all the Club's Activities

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



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in the workplace.



Whether you are looking for someone to help an aging parent a few hours a week or need more comprehensive assistance, Home Instead can help.

**Home Instead CAREGivers can provide a variety of services. Some include:**

- Alzheimer's and Dementia Care
- Personal Care
- Meals & Nutrition
- Transportation
- Household Duties
- Respite Care
- Hospice Care Support Services



**814.464.9200**

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