

# the ELOG



SPECIAL CLUB ELECTION ISSUE

**The EYC  
Defies  
Winter  
Again!**



# The EYC has A New Way to Pay

We are excited to announce that we now accept Online Credit Card payments through Plastiq.

Using Plastiq, a third-party service provider, you can pay with MasterCard, Visa, Discover or American Express

Simply follow these steps to register and then make your monthly Club payments Online.

## Step 1: Register

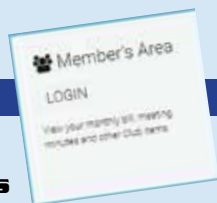
To use Plastiq, you must first register. Go to: <https://www.plastiq.com/pay-erie-yacht-club/v188713/> to be taken to the Erie Yacht Club payment portal, click PAY NOW, enter your e-mail address. Plastiq will send you a confirmation email allowing you to create your very own account.



## Step 2: Making Payments

After registering there are two ways to make your monthly credit card payment.

1. Login to the Member's Area of the Club web site. Click Statements under the Member Central tab. Look for the "Pay Now" button.
2. Look for the link on your monthly Club statement that is e-mailed to you. Click it, it will take you to the payment portal.



## Step 3: Mobile App

Plastiq is also available as an app on iOS devices - just snap a picture or screenshot of ANY bill, and Plastiq will take care of the rest.



## FAQs Answered

### 1. What is Plastiq?

Plastiq is an online payment service that gives people the freedom to pay ANY bill or invoice with their favorite credit card, even if the business doesn't accept cards. By taking your card payment and sending it to the business as a check or bank transfer, Plastiq makes it easier for you to pay the way you want.

### 2. Is Plastiq secure?

Absolutely - Plastiq implements top of the line security measures to ensure the protection of both our application and your financial information. Plastiq is certified compliant to the highest level of the Payment Card Industry Data Security Standards (PCI-DSS).

### 3. What card brands does Plastiq accept?

MasterCard, Visa, Discover and American Express, banks debit, pre-paid or gift cards are accepted for nearly all Plastiq payments.

### 4. What is the Plastiq service fee?

Plastiq charges a small service fee to the cardholder so that you can enjoy the convenience of using your credit card and paying online. The fee is 2.5% for credit cards and 1% for debit cards.

### 5. Processing Time

Payments may take 2-3 business days to process.

### 6. Can I make a Credit Card payment at the Club office

No, we can not accept credit card payments at the office. You will have to use the mobile app or login to your Plastiq account in the Club lobby computer to make payment.





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## *From the Bridge*

by **Commodore David Haller**

Past Commodore David Arthurs is a wise man. He is the guy who got me interested in running for the Board of Directors and my eventually "going through the chairs" to become your Commodore and what a great experience this has been for me. From trees falling across Ravine Drive in the Fleet Captain year to the large volunteer participation for the Playground Turf upgrade this year, my experiences were quite varied.

I have learned a great deal in the last seven years most notably that the Club is large, is extensive, and most assuredly is a finely tuned machine run by extremely competent people who love their workplace and who love the membership.

As I look back, probably the greatest joy for me was building the Rickloff Boat House not only because it was something that we gave back to the Club, but because it was really fun to build and it is quite a unique struc-



ture. If you haven't been there you should go there and marvel at its structure, design and warmth.

Many other happy thoughts enter my mind as I look back at the Commodore Experience the most important of which is my introduction to many new people with whom I would never have met. This includes the staff as well. While providing a comment, a problem, or a contribution, the Members and Staff with whom I have interacted all love the Erie Yacht Club and so do I.

Thank you again for your support, it is dear to me.

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## On the Cover...

Old Man Winter (aka Dan Dundon) makes his annual appearance at the EYC Winter Solstice Party. This year set for December 16th, the longest night of the year.  
Photo by Tom Madura.



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Scan to learn  
about the Erie  
Yacht Club



*The EYC Defies Winter Again*

# At The NINTH ANNUAL WINTER SOLSTICE PARTY ON THE DECK

DECEMBER • 16 • 2017

BY DAN DUNDON



Did you hear about the fellow who threw his clock out his window because he wanted to see time fly?

Me neither, but, it is tough to believe it was nine years ago we were sitting at the last September EYC Thursday Happy Hour on the Deck trying to figure out how to squeeze out a little more partying on the deck. Seems it took “no time at all” (and maybe a little more discussion, thinking and a few more beers and drinks) for us to conjure up the idea to use our brand new natural gas heaters to “tropify” our deck for a late December Winter Solstice Party. Sure, let’s continue our deck happy hours on the shortest day of the year!

Over these nine years, the solstice party preparations have been supported by the good work of EYC Dockmaster Bill Vogel who frames-in the south-deck-opening for us, complete with a nice door! Bill also test-fires the deck heaters to assure us toasty-warm conditions. Mike Argeny makes sure the deck is snow-free. Then P.C. Matt Niemic and his crew enclose the entire deck in construction plastic. V.C. Greg Gorney assisted with the wooden battens. P.C. Ed Schuler brought his heat-gun and shrunk-wrapped the plastic enclosure assuring we are ready-for-anything!

A few days before our 2016 party, the wind blew 40 knots and more than the 30 knots during the 2015 party. Happily Matt and Ed’s good work stood up to Mother Nature’s gusty winds. Dockmaster Bill again stepped-in, shoveling snow against the base of the deck helping close-off any drafty gaps. Last year, day of, Tom Madura, Jim McBrier and I decorated the plastic with seasonal and goofy drawings to set-the-mood for winter solstice celebrations. Another fine example of EYC members and staff pitching-in so everyone has a good time enjoying a super party!





*The Winter Solstice marks the longest night of the Year.  
It is a turning point, signifying the rebirth of the sun  
and the return of light.*

*It is from darkness, that inspiration, strength and life eventually emerge.  
It is in darkness, that our inner light is lit*

*Let go of what is not needed anymore.  
Celebrate the power of faith,  
that your dreams and affirmations will come into manifestation*

*On this day make a conscious effort to increase the amount of light,  
positive thoughts and love in and around you.*

By mid-Saturday-afternoon on December 16th, Tom and I will again fire-up the heaters and get creative with our magic markers. The evening crowd can again enjoy hot rum drinks and listen to the tropical sounds of Erie's own Key West Express. We can depend on Lauren and her bar-staff to do another great job making us think we were enjoying one of our mid-summer Thursday Happy Hours!

Maybe we will see tropically fantasy-folks dancing barefoot wearing shorts and tee-shirts among other people that seem attired for the South Pole? Maybe there is a good chance we will see Old Man Winter?

Come double-celebrate the turn-of-the-seasons as well as soon-to-be-increasing daylight hours with your EYC friends! In no time at all we will again be enjoying summer Thursday Sunset Happy Hours on the EYC Deck!

Who knows what "special surprises" might happen this time around?

See you at the Ninth Annual EYC Winter Solstice Party!





# Harry Bierig and the Civil War Remembering a Good Friend

**Gib Loesel & David Frew**



Harry Bierig &  
Gib Loesel  
Strong Vincent 1957

Strong Vincent High School, Erie's newest secondary school, opened in 1930. To accommodate the growing west-side population the City made a deal with Millcreek to shift its western border from Cranberry Street, to Pittsburgh Avenue. In return, Strong Vincent accommodated students from today's western suburbs; kids that would now be attending McDowell. The familiar faces above both belonged to the class of 1957. One is Gib Loesel, past commodore and longtime EYC member. The other is Harry Bierig, older brother of EYC's Dave Bierig, sailmaker and owner of Dreamer.

Strong Vincent prided itself on the educational quality that its faculty provided and at Gib and Harry's 1957

commencement it was noted that dozens of graduates were moving on to higher education; many to the finest colleges and universities in the United States. Harry and Gib were close friends. They grew up on Erie's lower west-side where they became Presque Isle Bay regulars. The Bierig family invited friends, including Gib, to their family boathouse at the foot of Cranberry Street (Dave Bierig's current sail loft), and the Loesel's added a connection to the Erie Yacht Club.

Graduation separated the boys as Gib joined the United States Navy and Harry enrolled at Penn State, earned an engineering degree and became Detroit's "City Engineer." Except for occasional visits to Erie, Harry's life revolved around his job and family in Michigan but the boys stayed in touch, seeing each other during vacations and reconnecting at class reunions. Strong Vincent faculty and students were well-aware that their school had been named for Erie Civil War hero, Colonel Strong Vincent. The school's nickname, "Colonels," was inspired by Vincent's military rank at the Battle of Gettysburg. Even though Erie history was powerfully linked to the War of 1812, students were well-versed in matters of the Civil War as faculty brought passion for that American conflict into classrooms. And instead of simply memorizing descriptions

and dates of the battles, students were taught to be discriminating thinkers and lifelong learners. The spirit of Strong Vincent as well as the Civil War stories that he had learned, continued to inform Harry Bierig.

He never forgot his interest in the Battle of Gettysburg and he became a passionate student of the dark chapter in our history when relatives and friends squared off against each other to fight over slavery. The Civil War took 623,000 lives, almost half of all those lost in United States wars (analogous to six million deaths today) and Gettysburg was the bloodiest confrontation of the war with an estimated 50,000 Union and Confederate casualties (deceased, captured or injured).



Cemetery at Gettysburg (Gettysburg National Memorial).



While popular history painted the Civil War in patriotic terms, describing its politically-famous generals in glowing terms, dedicated students of the conflict were never quite as convinced. Eventually, modern scholars began to examine details of the war and somehow Harry Bierig, Strong Vincent Graduate, Detroit City Engineer, and youngster from Erie's Bay-front, became one of them, finding himself so disturbed by conflicting accounts that he thought he had an obligation to do something.

During the last few years Harry decided to write about Gettysburg in an effort to sort out the command conflicts that plagued Lee's army during the second day of the battle (the day that Strong Vincent was mortally wounded).

Harry Bierig visited Gettysburg's haunting battlegrounds, wandered the "bloody" fields, and contemplated the horrors of those infamous July, 1863 days. Troubled by the proximity of the battle to Erie, he became consumed by conflicting popular-history accounts of generals who emerged as heroes. Finally, he began to study the battle in detail. Almost everyone recalls the names Grant, Sherman and Lee but few remember the lower-level officers or their stories and the aspect of Gettysburg that most troubled Harry Bierig was the second-day action of Lieutenant General James Longstreet, an experienced military officer with a distinguished record of success. On the first day, almost by accident, Union and Confederate troops encountered each other in a chance meeting that evolved into a

major conflict with enormous Union losses.

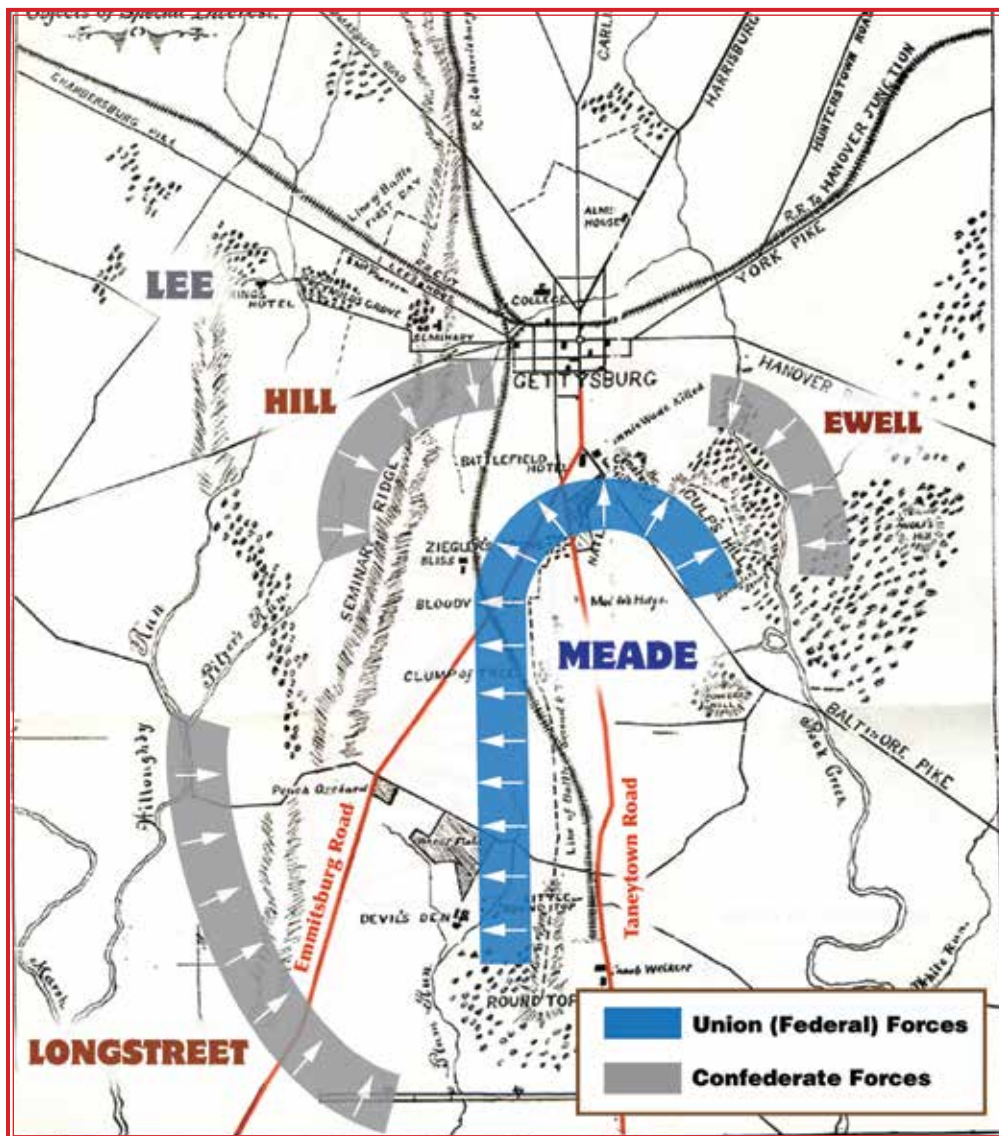
At the end of the day the Confederates stopped and regrouped, while Union troops were allowed to dig-in on high ground and prepare their defenses. While the first day's action might have led to the conclusion that the advantage was with the Confederates, the second day changed everything. Both sides spent the evening of July 1 and morning of July 2, preparing for the second day's battle. The Federals were positioned on the hills south of Gettysburg, forming a curved defensive line that has been referred to as a "fishhook."

Meanwhile, Lee was planning an offensive and waiting for two of Longstreet's three divisions to arrive, which did not happen until midday. Lee's army was organized into three corps, each commanded by a lieutenant general.

Ewell and Hill commanded two of the corps while Longstreet's was in charge of the third. Longstreet's Corps was subdivided into divisions commanded by major generals Lafayette McLaws, John Beal Hood and George Pickett (who did not arrive until evening of the second day).

Two roads passed north into Gettysburg and through the Union "fishhook." The roads formed a V-shape with the westernmost road, Emmetsburg, passing in front of the Union forces and the easterly road, Taneytown, leading behind the Union line. Longstreet was to position two of his divisions south of the Union line, while Hill and Ewell were to be west and north of the Union lines. Lee, who was famous for daring offensive battle tactics, decided to attack by having Longstreet's forces march north toward the Union lines while Hill advanced from the west, and Ewell from the north. The strategy seemed bold but logical, and a Confederate victory, deep within Union territory, could have been at hand.

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Map of the Day-Two Battle of Gettysburg.

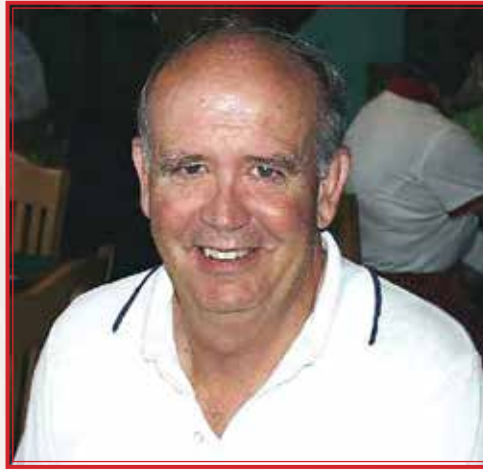


## Harry Bierig and the Civil War

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The second day did not go well for Lee. The battle did not begin until later than anticipated, and both Hill and Ewell were ineffective. Longstreet's forces advanced later in the day but unexpectedly encountered Union forces directly in their way, in contradiction to scouting reports. With the Federals holding superior positions, Longstreet's troops fought gallantly, almost breaking down the Union defenses but by the time they had fired the first shots of the battle it was late afternoon and without the support of Hill or Ewell, they were forced to withdraw after suffering tremendous losses. Lee visited Longstreet early on day three. At their meeting Lee listened to Longstreet's plan, which was to form a defensive line and try to entice the Union to abandon their positions and attack. Lee rejected it and ordered Longstreet to make a frontal attack on the center of the Union line and the third day attack was a total disaster.

Historians have been conflicted over the impact of Gettysburg since the battle. The Southern press wrote that the Confederacy had held the



Harry Bierig (Photo by John Baker).

outcome of the Civil War in its hands and lost it, while Northern newspapers reported that Gettysburg was the war's tipping point. Contemporary writers, on the other hand, have suggested that Gettysburg was relatively unimportant. After the war, Lee was criticized for his lack of planning. Pundits noted that his organization was lacking, that he should not have attempted to play the role of aggressor, and that Mead's defensive strategy had turned the tide of the battle.

The most universally vilified person, however, was Longstreet who had argued with Lee for a month, beginning with his opinion that Lee's aggressive

northern march into Pennsylvania was ill-advised, and continuing with the opinion that the assignments he had been given at Gettysburg were suicidal. Longstreet later wrote that it had been foolish to attack on either the second or third days and that Lee's instructions to march along Emmetsburg Road had been seriously flawed. Southern writers blamed the loss of the entire Civil War on Longstreet, noting that a decisive victory at Gettysburg could have turned the tide of history.



Ken Burns PBS documentary television series inspired citizen historians like Harry Bierig to become involved.

Harry Bierig visited Gettysburg and voraciously read about the conflict. He studied popular-history versions of the battle and more contemporary works, especially after Ken Burns' 1985 Emmy-winning television documentary. As he studied the battle he found himself disagreeing with popular history's scapegoating of Longstreet until finally, his compulsion for understanding Longstreet's actions resulted in a theory. Harry wondered why a talented and experienced general like Lee would have ordered the day-two attack using Emmetsburg Road. It seemed to be a less-than-logical tactic since it exposed Confederate troops to continuous flanking attacks as they marched the length of the fortified Union position. It would have seemed much better to advance along Tanytown instead. The road east of Emmetsburg would have given Longstreet a decided military advantage. After physically exploring the roads at Gettysburg, walking battlefields and mulling over the maps available to Lee at the time of the battle, Harry formulated a theory that could explain the apparently strange decision. "Given the available maps, Lee may have confused the roads and sent Longstreet north on Emmetsburg



Statue of General James Longstreet at Gettysburg (Gettysburg National Memorial).



when he had intended the attack to take place from Tanytown.” If Harry’s supposition is correct, much of the controversy would be explained. Confusing the roads, which were not named on Lee’s maps, would explain the seemingly poor, choice of Emmetsburg.

Longstreet voiced his objections at the time of the battle and then (like a loyal officer) followed orders, fighting fiercely in the face of overwhelming odds. While it is unlikely that a day-two victory would have turned the tide of the battle or the war, Longstreet endured decades of criticism. Recently, Harry and others have questioned the political motivations of Lee and subsequent analysis of his performance has suggested that he was far more loyal to Virginia than to the Southern cause.



Confederate General James Longstreet. “The Old War Horse”.

Lee’s treatment of Longstreet, who was from Georgia and South Carolina, reflected geographic elitism (Virginians imagined themselves to be superior to people from the Deep South). When Longstreet disagreed with Lee, beginning with the original decision to march north into Pennsylvania, Lee’s disdain for his ideas may have been driven by this elitist bias as well as a personal motivation to deflect the fighting from Virginia. At Gettysburg, Longstreet continued to argue that Lee’s best chance would have been

*Harry’s Theory was that:  
“Robert E. Lee confused the  
two roads and sent  
Longstreet north on  
Emmetsburg Road when  
he had intended the attack  
from Tanytown Road.”*

to lure the Union into abandoning their defensive positions and attacking, and modern analysis has suggested that he was correct.

James Longstreet was a West Point graduate with a long record of success. Instead of being political he was a professional soldier who was skilled at accurately evaluating situations and developing battle plans. After the war, southern authors criticized him, especially after he became a civilian and went to work for the United States government. Allegations that he had, personally, lost the entire war dogged him for decades, persisting after he had passed away.

Our objective herein was not simply to re-litigate the Battle of Gettysburg but to ask why Harry Bierig, citizen-historian and Civil War buff, became compelled to tell the story of a scapegoated Confederate General. One explanation may be that Harry was drawn to new writers who re-examined details of individual battles, often disagreeing with popular history’s interpretations. Contemporary historians often noted the failures of “well-known” generals like Lee, while praising lesser-known commanders like Longstreet, who took care of “details” such as mapping battlefields and providing adequate supply lines. This article is also a testament to the power of the public school education that Strong Vincent provided Harry and thousands of his contemporaries. Sadly, Harry passed away on February 8th while working on this paper. His time ran out, leaving us to tell his story with the help of his brother, Dave.



Harry Bierig at his 50th class reunion in the back row, second from the right, with author, Gib Loesel, seated near the front.

Why did Harry choose to be an apologist for a Confederate general? Was it because he was bothered by the injustices of the Longstreet accusations, or the politics that distorted the truth? Or was it because Harry was inspired by former teachers to search for the truth? We are confident that Harry would be pleased that his theory has been committed to writing, and thankful that he will not learn the fate of his beloved alma mater. The final Strong Vincent graduating class celebrated its commencement on June 6, 2017, 85 years after the first graduation in 1932, and Harry’s “Class of 1957” enjoyed its 60th reunion this summer at EYC without him.

So if you join the crowds of “Erie-ites” who visit Gettysburg, be sure to remember Harry Bierig, who had the courage to commit his convictions to writing, and remember Strong Vincent High School, which inspired his intellectual curiosity. And also remember an obscure Confederate general who is finally receiving the recognition that he has long-deserved.

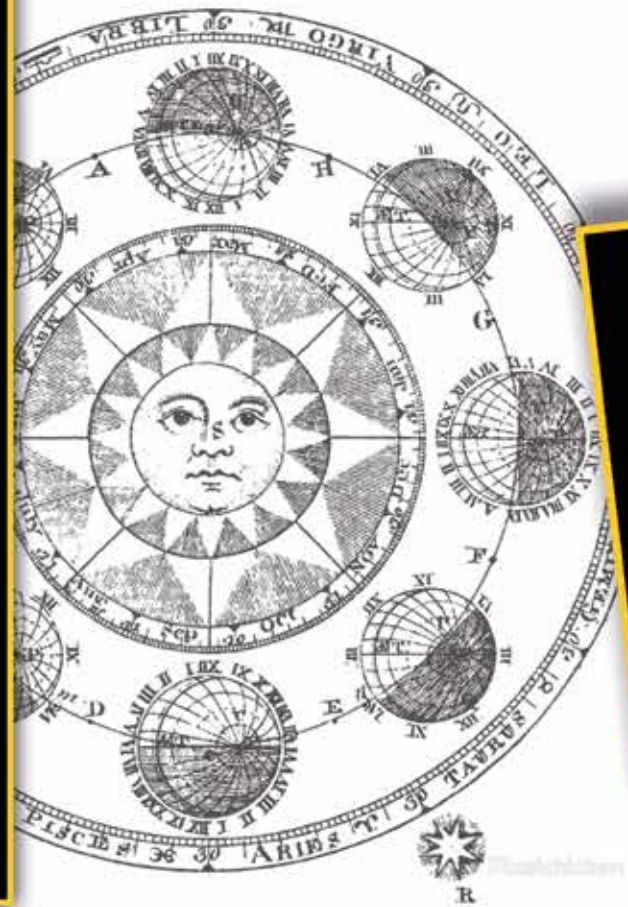
End note: A more detailed account of the second day battle and Longstreet’s military role is available in the Fall 2017 edition of the Journal of Erie Studies published jointly by the Jefferson Educational Society and Erie County Historical Society.





# A Total eclipse Thrill!

by Tom Madura



Unless you were living in a cave all summer, you probably heard something about the solar eclipse that happened over a large part of the US on August 21st. This was a big deal - especially for science nerds (yours truly among them)!

Why?

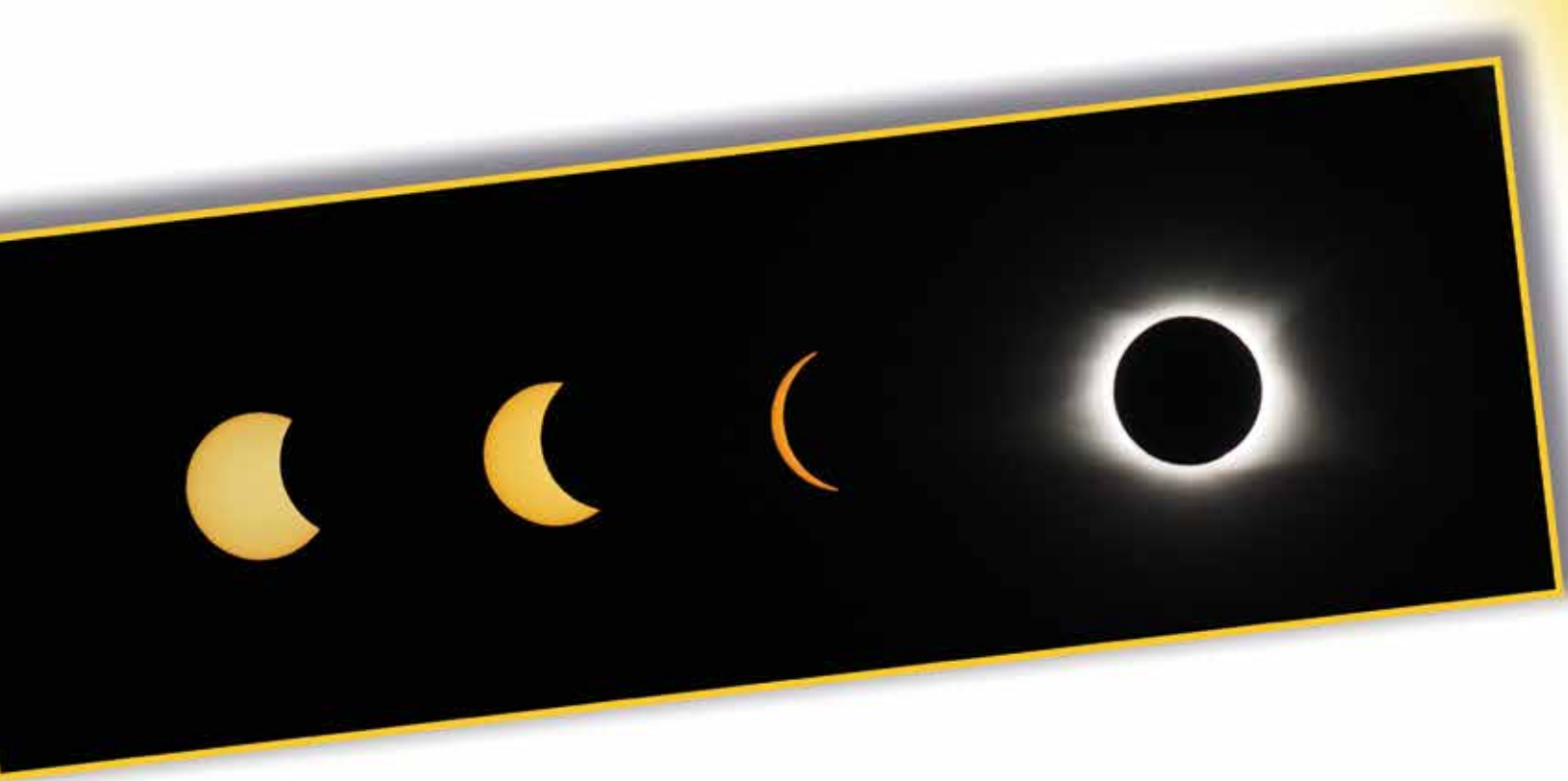
Here are some facts that explain why this had astronomy buffs going nuts this summer, as well as many other folks who rarely look at the sky.

- This was the first eclipse to pass over the United States in the 21st century.
- It had been 38 years since the mainland United States glimpsed a total eclipse. The last one was in 1979, and that was seen in only a handful of northwestern states.
- For millions of people, this was truly a once in a lifetime event - having a total solar eclipse cross the entire United States is quite rare. The last time it happened was in 1918.
- This was the first time since January 11, 1880 that a total solar eclipse occurred exclusively over the continental United States - no other country experienced totality, though many countries did see a partial eclipse of the Sun.
- Millions of people, in fact, the majority of Americans, live less than a 2-day drive from the path of totality, making this eclipse quite possibly the one seen by the most people in history.

Cindy and I traveled to South Carolina to be in the "path of totality" – a narrow band where the central shadow of the moon falls and totally blocks out the sun for several minutes. The path of totality was several thousand miles long, but only about 70 miles wide. Outside the path of totality viewers saw only a partial eclipse – the sun was not completely covered.

We arrived in Aiken, South Carolina on Saturday August 19th, 2 days prior to the eclipse, to beat the eclipse-day traffic and to get prepared for the big event (science nerd, remember?).





We viewed the eclipse with friends from a cabin in the woods near Swansea, SC, and had perfectly clear skies at eclipse time. We were close to the center of the path of totality, so we experienced over 2 ½ minutes of darkness as the moon covered the sun.

The experience was surreal. As the last sliver of the sun disappeared behind the moon, it was as if night had fallen instantaneously. Birds became silent and crickets and peepers began chirping; a bat flew overhead.

Stars appeared in the sky. And the solar corona – the sun’s thin atmosphere extending millions of miles into space – was visible as a pearly, iridescent glow around the dark moon.

As totality ended we were treated to a brief glimpse of the “diamond ring” effect - at the moment the sun first emerges from behind the moon and the corona is still visible, the effect resembles a brightly jeweled ring.

I was able to get some pretty good photos, but no images can capture the true naked-eye appearance, nor convey the feelings that you experience during totality. It is truly awe-inspiring when witnessed first-hand.

But if you missed it - don’t fret! We don’t have to wait another 100 years for a total solar eclipse in the US, or even 38 years - the next one occurs on April 8, 2024, less than seven years from now. And the best part? That path of totality will pass directly over Erie, PA!

So mark your calendar and start planning your eclipse parties now! And pray for sunny skies!





# Perspectives:

Richard D. Klaber - Pittsburgh PA



**F**rom time to time over the years, I have expressed in private conversations, how much our family has enjoyed our membership in the EYC. However, it occurred to me now that I am well into my eighth decade, it was past time I went on record regarding my observations, feelings and recollections of membership in the EYC over 40 plus years.

It is a truism that as one adds on years, time seems to go on faster and faster. It is a truism that tomorrow comes with no guarantees. It is a quasi-truism that one becomes wiser simply by becoming more senior. Hence, I will not attempt to offer you any profundities, though I do feel comfortable offering "perspective".

Perspective comes from survival. It has a component of history in the form of recollections. Hopefully, these recollections will be interesting and maybe even useful to younger members of the Club who have not yet had the opportunity to gain decades of perspective.

For example, in our early days of membership when you came down the Ravine Drive, you were greeted

by a rusting chain link fence with an automatic gate which you activated by putting your card in a stand. There was no attractive planting and sign as you approached the gate, no gatehouse, or interesting circle with the anchor, time capsule and planting. All of these were added gradually over the years.

If for some reason you didn't have your card, you backed a short distance up the hill and waited for someone to leave the club. After they came through the exit gate and passed, you would scoot through the open exit gate hoping it would not close on the

side of your car. You had no choice. There was no security guard to talk to or any direct communication system with the clubhouse.

Forty years ago the clubhouse was practically a skeleton of what it is today. There was no handicap ramp or portico. What is now the beautiful Bliss dining room was an outdoor porch. The dining area and bar have been renovated and upgraded. A bathroom has been added on the lower level at the east end of the building. The kitchen has new equipment and greater utility. The men's and women's locker rooms and bathrooms have been modernized. A deck and then a sheltered porch were added on the west end of the clubhouse. Attractive plantings enhance the approaches to the Club.

Gradual improvements to the grounds occurred too. To name just a few: the lighthouse, then a deck around the lighthouse, then a handicapped ramp to the deck, then a cover over the deck, then the bathrooms, trailers to haul cradled boats, a new greater capacity travel-lift, a gas well, changes in the basin, etc.



Steady improvements to the EYC's grounds and structures was exemplified by the new Clubhouse completed in 1993.





For most of our membership years we lived with the rough and rusty finger pier slips. They were downright ugly and of questionable safety. Many a guest hesitated to venture out on them to board a boat. Fortunately, some far-sighted bridges decided to modernize the docks-and enhance the appearance of the basin-by installing floating docks. My guess is this was by far the largest financial outlay in the Club's history. It also made the EYC competitive with every yacht Club and marina along the waterfront.

Over forty years-with the exception of the floating dock project-there was never an assessment that I recall. How many of our reciprocal yacht clubs can make that statement?!

So much for a quick and incomplete history of the past forty years of the EYC. Now for the perspective that comes from the history. Each and every year of that period the Club has been improved in some area. Not just maintaining of the status quo. Each bridge has been financially conservative, but they also fit into the budget physical assets that made for a more attractive and more competitive Club.

The commitment of each bridge over the years to the welfare of their Club has been extraordinary. Credit also goes to the Club managers and to the indoor and outside staffs.

One other item from the olden days that might surprise you. The "chefs", if they could be called that, came and went with frequency. Frankly, the food was nothing to get excited about. In fact, we considered eating at the Club a "duty" in order to provide support. Now the menu is 1000% improved and it is a pleasure and an adventure to partake of the diversified dishes available.

We were privileged to both race and cruise several of the Great Lakes. Cruising enabled us to visit a number of our sister yacht clubs. Some were glitzier in their decor than the EYC. But many had an immediate and obvious drawback. They had a narrow cut between their protected basin and the lake. If the lake was rough it was tricky, if not dangerous, to exit and enter through that cut. You either had an uncomfortable sail in the ram-bunctious lake or you sat at your slip because there was no place to sail inside the cut.



The lighthouse is a perfect example of the Club's evolution from it's original construction to what it has become today.

Weighing the pluses and minuses, on balance the EYC is head and shoulders above the other Lake Erie yacht clubs, and some on other lakes as well.

My perspective tells me we are fortunate to belong to an extraordinary yacht club. If you like, you may borrow that perspective and save yourselves many additional years before you realize the same thing.





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# WHAT'S THE Good Word?

**BY DAN DUNDON**

**H**ere is a mix of quotations to help us wrap-up another year of Good Words. I hope y'all enjoy reading these as much as I enjoy putting them together for you. Somebody named "anonymous" had a lot to say, so here are more "good words" from him or her for us to ponder:

If you stumble, make it part of your dance.

There are few things in the world more reassuring than an unhappy lottery winner.

Life may not be the party I had hoped for, so, while I'm here I might just as well enjoy the music and dance.

"Don't count days, make days count".

The most dangerous people in the (corporate) world are the highly enthusiastic incompetents.

Have faith in the force of right and not in the right of force.

Measure wealth not by the things you have, but by the things you have for which you would not take money.

You can always make more money.  
You can never make more time.







The grass is not greener on the other side of the fence. It is greener where you water it more.

There is always one more imbecile than you counted on.

You can either complain that rose bushes have thorns - or rejoice that thorn bushes have roses.

If you pursue happiness, it will elude you. But, if you focus on your family, your friends, the needs of others, your work and doing the best you can, happiness will find you.

I hope among these quotations you heard a few new ones? How about you? Don't you have some favorite quotes or such words-of-wisdom? Why not send them to me (dandundon@gmail.com) for us to maybe include in future EYC log articles?

In closing...

I always bragged that I learned to swim from my Dad. He took me out in our boat to the middle of the Lake and threw me in. My mom later told me that he wasn't trying to teach me anything.

- Jack Nicholson



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The Erie Yacht Club Cruising Fleet celebrated "OK-CHILI-FEST" complete with German fare and a CHILI COOK-OFF at the beautiful Rickloff Community Boathouse on Thursday, October 5, 2017. While the Fleet may not have had the opportunity to cruise to many destinations this past summer due to windy, wet weather, the first annual "OK-CHILI-FEST" took place on a tranquil, warm, sunny evening. The Fleet was able to gather on the west-facing deck of the Rickloff Community Boathouse for the cocktail hour and a beautiful sunset vista and then convene inside, enjoying almost a dozen chili entries, each one significantly different, yet all delicious!

The Fleet dutifully tasted all of the chilis (it was a tough job but we all had to do it!) and everyone voted for his or her favorite. In addition, to keep the fall Oktoberfest theme going, we enjoyed some of P/C Urbaniak's delicious bratwurst and knockwurst complete with sauerkraut and German potato salad, not to mention all sorts of delicious appetizers and desserts contributed by members of the Fleet. Over 40 Cruisers attended and everyone agreed it was a great party.

First-, Second- and Third-Place Chili prizes were awarded based on the "Cruisers Choice." Third-Place went to Julie Sanner for her tasty white chili. In Second Place was a delicious chili contributed by Sue Kline. First Place was quite an interesting concoction and it won "hands down" as the favorite! Contributed by P/C Fritz Curtze, it was dubbed "THREE CRITTER CHILI... If it didn't make it across the road, it's on the menu!" Surrounded by skulls, chipmunk pelts and who knows what else, it was a delicious, somewhat spicy chili which Fritz and Michalee later confessed contained elk, pheasant, and venison.

There were lots of laughs, great camaraderie, and as usual whenever this group gets together, an overall great time. Planning for next boating season also began on that evening with everyone unanimous that since Kathy and Dave Wagner had already done all the planning for it, we will try again for the Geneva-on-the-Lake trip in the summer of 2018! Dates and other destinations TBD.



# CHILI, CRITTERS & CRUISERS

**EYC Cruising Fleet Hosts OK-CHILI-FEST!**

**Article by Brad & Karen Carns • Photos by Dianne Cunningham**



Come join us for our next event which will be a Pre-Holiday Cocktail Party at the EYC the last week in November to enjoy the Club's beautiful holiday decorations. For information about this event or anything about the Cruising Fleet, contact either Bob and Dianne Cunningham at [richiesea@aol.com](mailto:richiesea@aol.com) or Brad and Karen Carns at [secretary@eriyachtclub.org](mailto:secretary@eriyachtclub.org). You can also check the EYC Cruising Fleet webpage at [eriyachtclub.org](http://eriyachtclub.org) website or check us out on Facebook at EYC Cruising Fleet.

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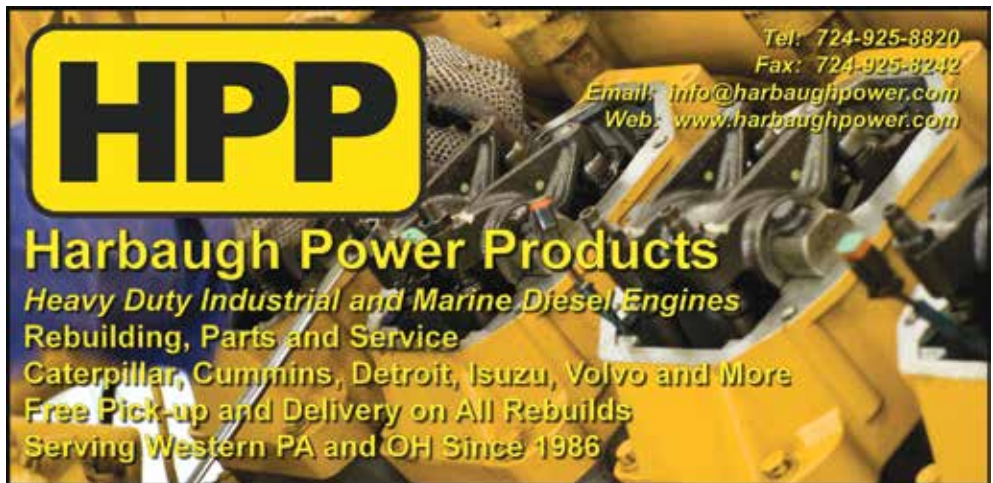
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# If These Docks Could Talk

by P/C Gib Loesel

Gib Loesel, Doug Nagle  
and Rich Loesel  
Lifelong brothers through life  
and sailing.



Ken Eckerd and Rich Loesel  
after a Falconer Cup victory.



As many of you know, my Brother Richard “slipped his anchor” several weeks ago and this got me to thinking (again) that my fellow members should know more about “Brother Richard” who has been such an asset to my research department and part of “If These Docks Could Talk”. So ready or not here goes...

The first thing you should know - Rich, at the time of his passing was the senior member of the Club having become a member 5 days after his 16th birthday in 1944 or 72 years and 7 months ago.

A few of the other little known things about my brother go like this:

- Under the supervision of Captain and P/C William “Cap” Morrison my brother used to paint the flag pole near the old club house, swinging from a bosin chair for \$15.
- Under the supervision of “Rip” Sawdy, Richard was one of the “36 distinguished artists” (“painters”) of the Locker House in the late 40’s.

- He shared the responsibility with his canoe house pals of lowering the flag and firing the cannon at sunset. This was under the watchful eye of P/C Doc Sterrett, who lived above the Club on South Shore and according to Brother “Doc would give him hell if he was late or early by so much as a minute.

- He built the ice house that used to be in the Canoe House and was the “ice man” for several years.

- With help from P/C Durk Braggins he made and sold the first EYC “T” shirts (long before they were fashionable). It was white, decorated with the Club’s blue burgee and every kid had one.

- He was a member of the “wrecking crew” with Chet Curriden and I. Martin Pomorski who blocked up the members boats (long before the advent of mobile travel lifts).

- He joined the crew of Ken Eckerd’s Enigma when he was 14 and became the Skipper at 16. During his approximate 25 years as Skipper of the Enigma he was famous for bringing on young ambitious “want a be” sailors and training them starting with the position of Cabin Boy.

“I was one of Rich’s cabin boys... my first duty was to take out the garbage... next to stow the beer... next was to ice down the “box”... wash down the boat, clean the cabin and don’t touch the \*&%# TV as it is set on the right channel for Mr. Eckerd’s baseball game. So now I’m thinking OK Skip when do we go sailing?...”  
- Doug Nagle - (iii)

After years of menial work he allowed me to start working on the aft deck next to those big useless winches, and so it began; my great life on the Enigma and friendship for the next 60+ years with Rich the best teacher I ever had!

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- At one point or another he served on most every committee at the Club; in 1962 he was elected to the board, was Commodore in 1968; he served on and was in charge of the Tom & Jerry Party for over 30 years and was awarded the Thompson Trophy in 1986.

- When helping to write the 100th club history book one of my assignments was to inventory, take pictures of and record all of the winners on the trophies in our trophy case. What I discovered is that my brother's name appeared on every small boat trophy in every class boat he sailed in; additionally his beloved Airborne's and Enigma's names were engraved on every "big boat" trophy.

- At his Celebration of Life "party" Bill Lillis put it this way, "when I was sailing with P/C Bob Way on Escapade in the Southern Ocean Racing Circuit, you always knew when Rich was on the helm as the boat went faster and was on course".

Sixty Seven years ago he married his EYC sweetheart Louise (Kennedy) Loesel who also was an excellent sailor and for the record started the first EYC sailing course for kids at EYC. Along the way they produced three wonderful children, David, Doug and Amy (who is now a Mitchell) and 6 grandchildren. After his retirement, seeing Louise and Rich sailing Airborne together was almost a daily site on Presque Isle Bay.



Richard on deck Rich age 82, Louise age 83.

After college Brother enlisted in the Navy, and completing boot camp, was accepted into OCS (Officers Candidate School) graduated as an Ensign, and went to sea on the USS White Marsh. From there it was off to UDT (under water demolition, Frogman) training (now known as Navy Seal). After he was released from active duty, Rich continued to serve his country and remained in the Navy Reserves for 32 years retiring as Captain.

As a business man or Skipper of his boat his navy training (playing with explosives) he could sense danger and knew how to deal with it, making him the one you relied on to keep everything on an even keel. He always seemed to know what action should be taken.

I was going to write I knew him all my life but a better way to "put" it would be he knew me all of my life. (Oh yes he was my big brother by 10 years). While I really don't remember, I am sure he had something to do with my learning how to walk and more than likely was forced into changing my "drip cloth" now and then.

He took me sailing in his International 14 when I was 7 and started teaching me the finer arts of sailing (like what was a sheet line and what a halyard did, hard stuff). When I was about 8 he allowed me to sail by myself. In addition to sharing his sailing skills and knowledge of the water over the years, I am quite sure I learned most of my "sailor vocabulary" and "sailor songs" from him.

I have many stories I could tell about my life with my brother but would rather close with, "If These Dock Could Talk", they would say "If God had lined up all of the brothers in the world to choose from, I could not have picked a better one and the EYC couldn't have had a better member!"



Thanks Captain!!

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# Something Trivial

unimportant matters, obscure details  
interesting facts that are not well known,

The Inquisition Begins on January 4, 2018 at 7:00 Sharp

by P/C Dave Heitzenrater

## 2018 Dates:

January 4, 11, 18, 25

February 1, 8, 15, 22

March 1, 15, 22



EYC Thursday Night Trivia is a team-based entertaining mental challenge hosted at our Club providing members with tons of enjoyment, fruitful knowledge and prizes! It may remind you of one of those very popular national programs such as 'Who Wants to Be a Millionaire' the '\$100,000 Pyramid' and the legendary 'Jeopardy' except the emphasis is on fun here and the reality is that you can actually participate yourself in person at the EYC.

Simply form your own team with friends or join an existing group, then come down that hill for an entertaining evening of challenging questions. You can enjoy some great food and beverages delivered to your table while you listen to the quizmaster test your knowledge, memory and wit.

There are six rounds of ten general knowledge questions derived from a number of categories including Arts, Literature, Sports, Science, Music, Movies and History. There is a maximum of eight people seated at a table and it is obviously helpful to have both youthful and experienced members of both sexes in your group. The first query is promptly tossed out precisely at 7:00pm and we are all wrapped up by nine. You can set your watch to it. We do keep score for those interested and prizes are awarded after each of the six rounds of questions. Witty fun team names are encouraged such as the Mindbenders, or the Masterminds but sticking with our obvious nautical theme something like the Nauti-Mermaids or the Titanic's if you have that sinking feeling would be appropriate.

We reported late last March that the party atmosphere had continued for the final game of the season and that team Lazy Jacks and Grand Cru fought hard and tied for the final evening with 64 points. The 2017 Season scoring finished very closely after eleven long weeks of inquisition. Second, third and fourth places tallied just a single point apart among teams Smarty Pints (the 2016 defending champions) Deyzd & Confused and the Lazy Jacks respectively but congratulations go to the Dover Stairmasters, champions of unimportant, useless and meaningless information as they were able to fend off all challengers to again stow the fabulous Trivial Trivia Trophy in their treasure chest...

And it is fabulous !





The Dover Stairmasters are the 2017 champions.



We do thank our sponsors, volunteers and all of the players for the success of Thursday Night Trivia. Make your winter pass just a little faster and a lot more enjoyable. Join us with our own super quizmaster, P/C Ronald Busse on January 4th as we begin our eighth season of the EYC Thursday Night Trivia. 7:00 PM sharp !

OK, so who said "Most people hate the taste of beer... to begin with. It is, however, a prejudice that many have been able to overcome?" Repeated here from a very recent LOG article, it was the astute statesman, Winston Churchill.

We have some questions for you!





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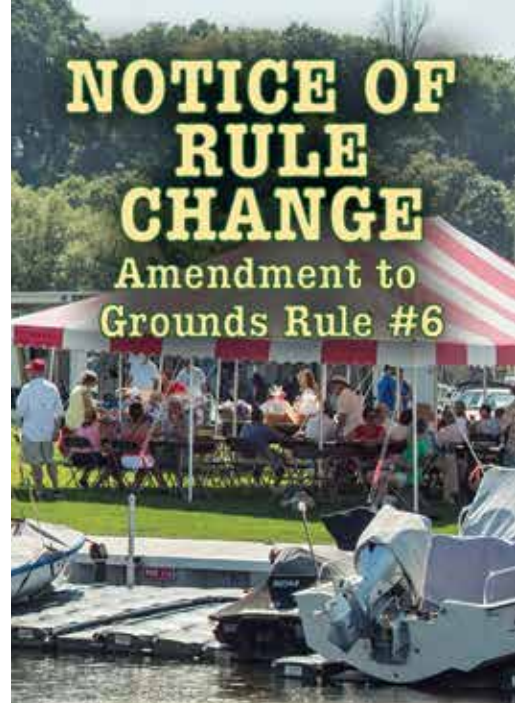
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# NOTICE OF RULE CHANGE

## Amendment to Grounds Rule #6

**OLD RULE:** "Dogs Must be on a leash at all times while on the Erie Yacht Club property."

**NEW RULE:** "Pets must be on a leash at all times while on the Erie Yacht Club property and are not permitted at Club events where food and beverages are served."

This change was as a result of several complaints from members about dogs at various Club events. The Grounds Committee reviewed the situation and recommended this change to the Bridge and Board.

Therefore, at the August 21, 2017 Board meeting, the Board unanimously amended Grounds Rule #6.







The following regular members of the Erie Yacht Club have been nominated for the indicated office. The following Slate of Candidates is for consideration by the regular members at the Annual Meeting on November 17th, 2017.

## CANDIDATES

### COMMODORE - ELECT ONE:

Greg Gorny

### VICE COMMODORE - ELECT ONE:

Bill Gloekler

### REAR COMMODORE - ELECT ONE:

Peter Lund

### FLEET CAPTAIN - ELECT ONE:

Vincent Cifelli

Tom Madura

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS - ELECT TWO:

Michelle Griffith-Aresco

David Davis

Thomas Kennedy

Mike Squeglia

### NOMINATING COMMITTEE - ELECT THREE:

P/C David Arthurs

Neal Baker

Bill Crotty

Rick Hersey

George Willis

To assist you in your evaluation of these candidates, each of the nominees was asked to prepare a statement for your consideration. These statements follow. Please plan to attend the Annual Meeting on Friday, November 17th at 7:30pm to vote for the candidates of your choice.

The Officers and Board of Directors thank the following Board members who have completed their terms on the Board for their dedicated service to the Club:

P/C John Orlando, Andy Fritts and Vinnie Cifelli.

Also Nominating Committee members:

Dan Dundon - Chairman, P/C Gerry Urbaniak, P/C Dave Heitzenrater, Alex Nagle,  
Russ Thompson, P/C Brad Enterline and Commodore Dave Haller

## SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

The minutes of the 2016 Annual Meeting and the 2017 complete Financial Statement will be made available for members to pick up on November 7th, 2017 in the Club's front office. In addition an abbreviated version of the Financial Report will be available on the Club's website in the "Members' Only" section and will be emailed to those members with an email address on file.





## COMMODORE GREG GORNY

I want to thank this year's House Committee members for the time they put into refining the House operations this year. A roundtable meeting with the chef, management, staff, and committee produced a very complete picture of House operations and needs. The meeting produced some new menu items and a better feel of the interests of the membership. The committee worked diligently to align the member's requests and concerns with the best interests of the club as a whole. I eagerly pass the responsibility of the House Committee to Bill Gloekler.

I also spent time as a member of the Finance Committee. I feel this committee has made a significant contribution to the short and long term financial well-being of the club. Continuing to serve with that group will be a priority for me in the upcoming year.

I am looking forward to serving the club this coming year as Commodore. I expect a smooth transition as the Club will be passed to the new Bridge and Board in great shape because of Dave Haller's leadership. He has done an outstanding job keeping the Bridge, Board, Club members, staff, and management working together to keep your club the wonderful place it is today.

Finally, thanks to everyone who has helped me these past three years while on the Bridge. I am looking forward to working with the new Bridge and Board in the coming year.



## VICE COMMODORE BILL GLOEKLER

It has been pleasure to serve these past 12 months as your Rear Commodore, Thank You! As Chairman of the Dock Committee I helped coordinate the upgrade to the lift well and "I" dock projects. Under the careful management of GM Mike Lynch and Dock Master Bill Vogel, I am pleased to announce that these 2 projects combined came in under budget and were completed on time. While this completes the "basin renovation," the Dock Committee will now be turning its attention to various maintenance activities.

My work on Finance Committee continues This fall we introduced on-line payment option for dues and monthly Clubhouse bills. Work continues to keep the Club on a sound financial course and to implement budgets that are balanced and show fiscal restraint.

Under the expert guidance of Vice Commodore Gorny, I have learned a lot about the Clubhouse operations and look forward to leading the House Committee in the coming year. Please do not hesitate to direct any suggestions or complaints to me for resolution. Remember timeliness and specifics are needed to help us properly respond to your comments. I request your support for the position of Vice Commodore in this election and thank you for the opportunity to serve on your Bridge at the Erie Yacht Club.



## REAR COMMODORE PETER LUND

Being Fleet Captain has been a rewarding and educational experience. I want to thank the membership of the Erie Yacht Club for their trust. The Grounds Committee with thirteen volunteer members prioritized fifteen outstanding projects. Several were tackled based on this prioritization. In May, we completed the Playground on the southwest corner of the Club which is now being used by our youngest, future members. There was a successful Ravine Drive spring clean-up with the help of member volunteers and the Harborcreek Youth Services.

We finalized plans for the replacement of the west wall Picnic Shelter and the repair of the old travel lift, giving the Club added marina capabilities. The high water has taken its toll with erosion of our other break walls. We have authorized several truckloads of clean fill to repair the areas of erosion. The Club has over 37 acres which require constant maintenance. It is due to our excellent staff and our superior facility that we are the "go to" location for mariners around the Great Lakes. Examples include the Cruising Fleet from Grand Island Yacht Club near Buffalo and the Windmill Regatta, both of whom picked the Erie Yacht Club for their events.

But the most gratifying aspect of my year as a Bridge Officer is getting to know more of you. We have a great Club only partly because of the location and the great facility. It is the wisdom of our past leaders and the spirit and enthusiasm of our current membership that wins the day. I am looking forward to serving this next year as Rear Commodore.

Respectfully, Peter Lund



# The Bridge Officers



## FLEET CAPTAIN VINCENT CIFELLI

I would like to thank the Nominating Committee for giving me the opportunity to serve as your Fleet Captain.

I would like to congratulate Tom Madura for his nomination as well, knowing Tom socially and having served on the Board of Directors with him I have the utmost confidence and respect for him.

For those who don't know me I am Vince Cifelli. I own and operate Cifelli Auto Sales & Service. I have served on your Board of Directors for the past 3 years. I have also served on the Grounds, Dock & Safety Committees and I am a board liaison to the History Committee. Working with our past and present Bridge and Board has taught me a lot about how our Club is run, and gives me the confidence to transition to the Fleet Captain position if elected, with much more to learn along the way. We are fortunate to have the dedicated Bridge and Board currently serving and I would like to continue my service with them.

We as members owe all the past Bridge, Board, Committee Members and Auxiliary a huge thank you for their service which has moved our Club to being the premier Club that it is. The time committed by them, and their diversity of knowledge and skills, is something we could not afford to hire. I am proud to be a member of the Erie Yacht Club. The satisfaction I get serving the membership seeing projects unfold and completed elevated that pride. So if you can "Support Your Club", get involved you won't be sorry you did.

Saving the best for last I would like to thank my wife Mary Lee (Lee) who gives me the support and understanding to be my best everyday.

Thank you for your consideration.



## FLEET CAPTAIN TOM MADURA

I wish to thank the Nominating Committee for choosing to place me on this year's ballot for Fleet Captain.

I was born and raised in Erie, and my favorite childhood memories all revolve around Lake Erie and Presque Isle Bay. As I got older, joining the Erie Yacht Club just seemed like the natural thing to do to allow me to fully appreciate the advantages of these wonderful resources. I continue to be impressed by the friendliness, enthusiasm, and passion for boating shared by my fellow EYC members.

My wife Cindy and I thoroughly enjoy the social aspects of the Club, attending as many functions as we can. We also spend many hours enjoying our sailboat, "Good Vices", whether we're out day-sailing, racing, or just relaxing aboard and watching the spectacular EYC sunsets!

Since joining the club I have spent many hours volunteering and serving on many committees. I am currently a member of both the Grounds and House Committees, and recently completed three years on the Board of Directors. I served for many years on the Entertainment Committee, and I am especially proud to have been the driving force behind the successful seasonal Wine Tastings, the Winter Solstice Party, and the very popular Chili Cup sailboat race.

I am a frequent contributor to the LOG, and truly enjoy my role as a contributing photographer. It was also my great pleasure to have served as the Chairman of the EYC Racing Fleet, and I continue to serve on its Executive Committee.

In my professional life as a Quality Engineer for BASF Corporation, I have developed teamwork, leadership, planning, and decision-making skills which also serve me well in many areas of my private life. I would be honored to be able to put my skills, experience, and enthusiasm for the EYC to work as Fleet Captain, continuing to make the Erie Yacht Club the best on the Great Lakes!



# Candidates for Board of Directors



**DAVID DAVIS**

I am humbled to be placed on the ballot for a position on the BOD of the Erie Yacht Club.

My wife Pam and I have been boating members of EYC for the past 26 years and, living just a few minutes “up the hill,” have considered the Club our second home. Our children Sarah and Ben grew up here learning to sail, jet skiing and boating. We are happy that our son has become a member and loves the Club as much as we do.

Aboard our boat Steel’ N Time we are happy to be active members in the EYC Cruising Fleet and have made many friends and participated in many of the sponsored activities.

As the owner of a local steel supply and fabrication business, Gene Davis Sales and Service, I have, for many years, been involved in much of the renovation work that we have seen on our docks and throughout the property. I have worked closely with many of the people involved in overseeing these projects and feel I have a good handle on the current and future needs of the Club. My engineering degree has helped me run a successful business for the past 35 years where I have had to make critical financial decisions and hard choices, always looking at the big picture.

I am interested in becoming more involved and now seems like the perfect opportunity for me to be able to devote the time necessary to a position on the Board of Directors.

I’d like your vote and please know that I will take this responsibility seriously and give it 100%.



**MICHELLE GRIFFITH-ARESCO**

I am honored to be nominated for the EYC Board of Directors. I was born and raised in Erie and am a product of the Junior Sailing program, becoming a Junior family member at the age of 17. I graduated from Villa Maria Academy and then Skidmore College in Saratoga Springs, NY, with a double major in Business and Government. I then worked in Westport, CT in finance at a hedge fund for three years before moving back to Erie to work with my father in our family business, Rick Griffith Properties.

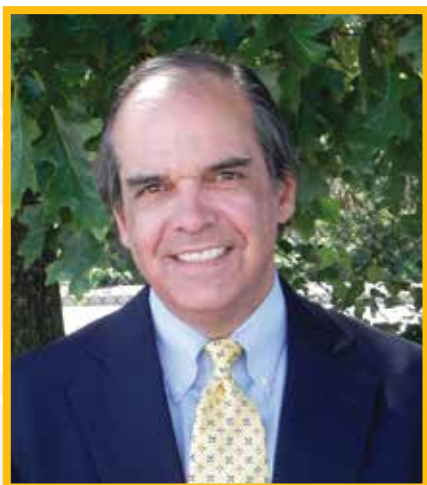
When I moved back to Erie in 2003, I brought my husband (my fiancée at the time), Ross Aresco, a Connecticut native, to Erie. We have been boat owners at the EYC for nearly ten years and have three young boys who are growing up boating at the Yacht Club. We enjoy the numerous social activities that the club provides and are active supporters of the Reyburn Sailing School.

I have been working in industrial and commercial real estate management and development for 15 years and have a strong background in construction and facility maintenance. I recently participated on the City of Erie Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee and I am a firm believer in giving back to the community in which I live, work, and play. The Erie Yacht Club is an incredible organization and I would welcome the opportunity to be more involved in helping it continue to grow and thrive.

Thank you for your consideration.

**Don't Forget to Cast your Vote  
On Friday, November 17th at 7:30 PM**





**MIKE SQUEGLIA**

Dear Fellow EYC Members:

It is truly an honor to be considered a candidate for the EYC Board of Directors. As a lifelong Erie resident and local business owner, I am extremely committed to the success of the area and the EYC.

I have been a member of the Erie Yacht Club for 20 years. During that time, my family and I have enjoyed the EYC's social activities, membership camaraderie and the Club's peaceful bay setting.

I have been active in the Race Fleet over the years crewing on several boats, chairing the Race Committee for the past 8 years, and assisting on various regattas. Additionally, I previously served on the Nominating Committee and, in doing so, respected the task of selecting candidates to guide our Club into the future.

Professionally, I am the President and owner of B.F. Fields Moving & Storage. In the community, I have served on the Board of Directors of the Erie Metropolitan Transit Authority for 18 years, as well as past Chairman of the Board of Harborcreek Youth Services.

I recognize the importance of serving on the EYC Board as well as steering the Club into the future. If elected I would enthusiastically extend my knowledge of managing a business and use my prior board experience to promote and maintain the Erie Yacht Club as one of the best on Lake Erie.



**TOM KENNEDY**

I appreciate being nominated as a candidate for our EYC Board of Directors, and welcome the potential opportunity to serve all of our membership. In addition to being a long time boater and active member of EYC since 2007, I have a diverse Business, Educational and Nautical background that will allow for positive contribution.

After growing up on Long Island, I attended SUNY Maritime College where I earned a degree in Marine Engineering, a Merchant Marine license as Shipboard Engineer, and commission as Ensign in the Naval Reserve. Following graduation I worked for Ingersoll-Rand and General Electric Companies in technical/management positions, and obtained an MBA from Penn State while advancing to rank of Navy Lieutenant.

In 1988, GE transferred me to Erie to work in Locomotive Business where I progressed through positions in Manufacturing, Engineering, and Program Management before deciding to leave and pursue my dream of starting my own business. Since then, my company(PDA Inc.) has grown to become a leading regional firm with ownership in Altair Real Estate, Palace Business Centres, Cobblestone Hotels, and many prominent properties like Renaissance Centre.

I currently serve on Boards of Erie Water Authority and VisitErie, and am past President Erie Metro Transit Authority, and Greater Erie Board of Realtors.

I believe we have an incredible Yacht Club, and that each of us has a duty to contribute to its ongoing success.

Thank you for considering me for your vote.



# Candidates for Nominating Committee



**P/C DAVE  
ARTHURS**

I am honored to be considered as a candidate for a position on the Nominating Committee.

One of the reasons for our Club's success has been the election of members for the Bridge Offices and Board of Directors that exhibit leadership, dedi-

cation and fiscal responsibility to maintain our Club facilities and provide services to the membership.

Having served on the Bridge, Board of Directors and many Club committees in my 30+ years of membership has given me insight into the attributes required for those leading our Club. Our Club faces many challenges from economic pressure and increased competition from area clubs and marinas in a reducing market. It is vital to our Club's future to address these challenges openly and with commitment to maintaining our facilities and a strong membership.

The Erie Yacht Club thrives due to the many dedicated members who volunteer their time to serve. If you consider me for a position on the Nominating Committee I will reach out to the membership and offer insight on why it is rewarding to serve our Club with the goal of presenting an enthusiastic well qualified slate of candidates for elected positions.



**BILL  
CROTTY**

I would like to thank everyone for being proposed as a candidate for the nominating committee. As many of you know from seeing me around, I am a frequent user of the Club's facilities both indoor and out year round.

Having been a regular member for thirteen years, I realize the importance of selecting the correct people to steer the club into the future and feel that the many acquaintances I have within the membership would be an invaluable asset in choosing the right candidates.

Looking at the struggles some local clubs have had of late makes one realize what a priceless asset we have and not to stay stagnant but look toward the future.

I am a lifetime Erie resident, graduate of Cathedral Prep and University of Notre Dame have worked in the automobile business the last thirty-two years and if selected, will do my best to help the committee find the best of our members to ensure the future success of the Erie Yacht Club.

Thank you for your consideration.



**NEAL  
BAKER**

It is an honor to be a candidate for a position on the Nominating Committee and I see it as an opportunity for me to contribute to the continued success of the club. Having been a Club member for over 25 years, I have seen the importance and re-

sults of quality leadership that this committee is responsible for. I believe my professional experience managing multiple healthcare facilities provides me with a good understanding of the importance of strong leadership. I will use this background to search for qualified and dedicated candidates for the Bridge and Board.

Our family over the years has enjoyed the many benefits the EYC offers. Our three grown children first learned to sail with the Reyburn School, and when in town, make sure they spend some quality time with us at the Club. I have great memories and experiences racing C fleet with an excellent skipper (he knows who I am referring to), then moving to power boating. My wife Pam and I are on our third boat "Bird's Nest".

I appreciate this opportunity and ask you to consider me for a position on the Nominating Committee.

## Help the Club... Help your Business. Advertising in the LOG... It's Just Good Business.

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## Candidates for Nominating Committee

### GEORGE WILLIS



As the call went out this year for members interested in serving the EYC leadership I felt it was time to give back in service to the Club. Having just completed 10 years on the National Board of the American Society of Highway Engineers, meant I had some free time

to offer another organization. Born and raised in Erie I recall my earliest years at the EYC on my grandfather, G. R. Fryling's boat, the PASTIME, soon followed by crewing for Ralph Riehl on L'Esperance. My wife Cindy and I bought our 1st sailboat and joined the Club in 1987. We have been berthing our boats, sail and power in slips and dry sail at the Club ever since.

I live in the Frontier neighborhood, Cindy is an adjunct instructor at Gannon and PSU Behrend College. My son Ben is an Architect practicing in Providence, RI, and daughter, Martha, practices as a UX/UI designer in Chicago, IL.

Planning, engineering and problem solving experience will support my decision making when looking for nominations to the EYC leadership. My experience in Board and trustee activities provides the judgement and understanding of the benefits of diversity in the assessment of candidates.

Thank you for your confidence and hopefully the opportunity to serve the EYC. It is the collected efforts of the volunteers, staff and members that make this a great Club.

### RICK HERSEY



This nomination is an honor. I welcome all opportunities to give back to the EYC where I learned, taught, raced, and enjoyed sailing on and off for over 50 years. Most recently I've been a member of our House Committee for the past 5 years and a member

of the EYC America's Cup Bowling League for longer.

Before my graduation from SV (when it was a high school), I was a dishwasher at EYC (same kitchen, needs expansion!). After receiving a BSEE, GE took me from Erie to Wilmington (NC) to Fairfield (CT) to Chicago (IL) and back to Erie. Roles in Information Systems, Manufacturing Management, Six Sigma Black Belt, and Lean Leader involved a range of environments from Locomotive and Nuclear Fuel Manufacturing to Marine Dealer floor planning with GE Capital. The 38 years with GE took us away from Erie for 28 years. Now days you'll find me crewing on Dreamer or day sailing Rhapsody our 1964 Pearson formerly owned by P/C Doc Bressler.

If elected I will apply my experience and skill to put forth a slate of the best candidates for our club's future.

## Club Offers Absentee Ballot

The 2017 Annual Meeting will take place on Friday November 17th On September 19th, requests for an absentee ballot for the election of office will be available. You can secure an election ballot by contacting the Club office. The office hours are Monday through Friday from 8 AM-4:30 PM and Saturday 8 AM-3PM. The Club phone number is 453-4931.

Please state the address to which you would like your ballot mailed. Ballots will be mailed on Monday, October 23rd, which is 25 days prior to the Annual Meeting on November 17th.

The office will keep a list of those members to whom we send a ballot. Once we mail you a ballot, you will not be eligible to receive another ballot.

So if your plans change, and you come to the Annual meeting in person you will not be given another ballot. Vote with the ballot you were sent!

Once you receive your absentee ballot, please mark it and return it to the Club in the specially marked envelope as soon as possible. The returned ballots will be placed under lock and key in the office until the night of the meeting. The Secretary-Treasurer will then give all returned ballots to the Head Teller to be tallied with those cast at the meeting. You may return your sealed ballot to the Club as late as the start of the meeting on November 17, 2017 @ 7:30.

Any questions? Feel free to stop by or call the Club office.



# Support Your EYC LOG!



**T**he Erie Yacht Club is very fortunate to have a quality publication like the LOG bear its name. This exclusive magazine is one of the finest yacht club publications in the entire country. While the LOG is enjoyed by the entire EYC membership, it is the EYC members who support the LOG through their advertising and content contributions that make this publication possible.

## LOG Content Contribution

We are very, very appreciative of our ongoing LOG contributors. I'm sure you will agree that they do a great job. However, I'm sure you will also agree that it should not be left up to the same Club members every issue to provide content. All of you have something to contribute! You do not need to be a writer. You do not need to use proper spelling or grammar. All you need is a story to tell, or a collection of photographs to share, or some words of wisdom to express and we can assist you in putting it together correctly for a future LOG.

Don't be intimidated! We understand if you need assistance and welcome any help with providing appropriate content for the LOG. This is your Club publication. Please help us help you continue to make it a publication to be proud of.

## LOG Advertising

The EYC LOG is the perfect place to get noticed. Not only is it mailed out directly to all EYC members and read by their family and friends but it is also available to guests at the Club, to LOG subscribers and on the EYC website to all web browsers.

So if you have a business or event to promote, or simply want to wish someone a special Happy Birthday or congratulate someone on a milestone, please consider an ad in your EYC LOG. There is no long term contract to sign so you can run once or be an ongoing advertiser. If you do not have an ad prepared, we can assist you with your artwork. It's that simple.

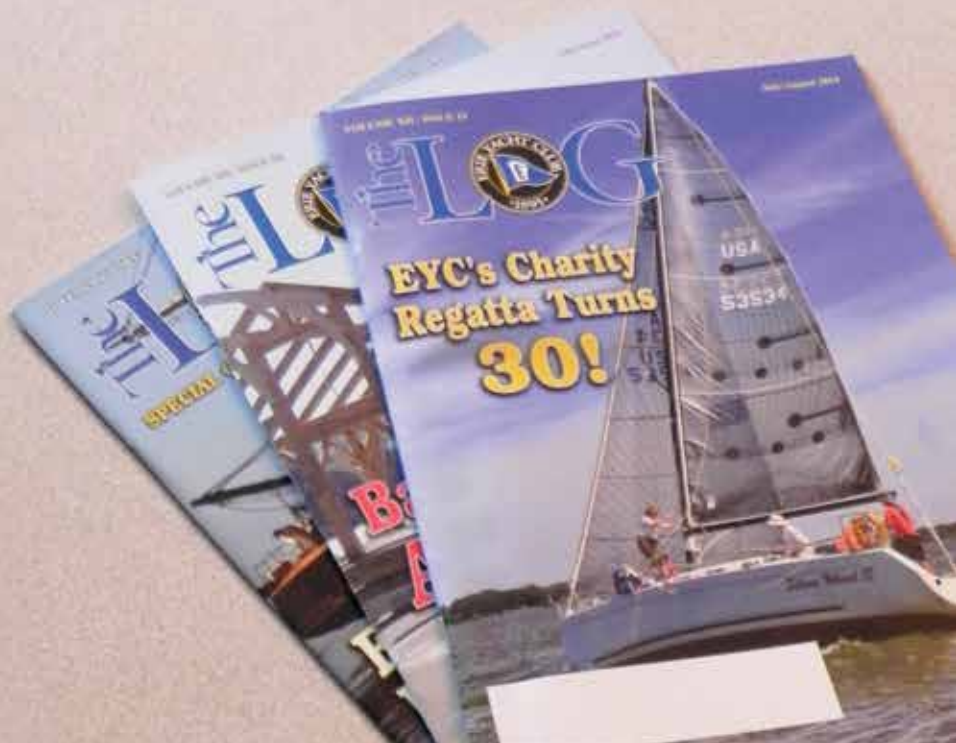
To our on-going advertisers, thank you, thank you. Your support makes the LOG possible and we encourage the EYC membership to support these advertisers through their patronage.

If you have advertised in the past, please consider re-establishing your support of the LOG in the future.

If you are an advertiser or LOG contributor, the Club and its members are deeply grateful for your support and your input. If you are not a supporter yet, please consider becoming one. LOG advertisers truly make the EYC LOG magazine possible and its content contributors make it one of the finest magazines of its kind in the country.

Please contact Ashby Advertising at: 814.455.2757 or via e-mail at: [info@ashby-adv.com](mailto:info@ashby-adv.com) and become a supporter of your LOG.

Thank you, and we hope to hear from you soon!







## November Calendar of Club Events

- 4th EYC Racing Fleet Awards Banquet  
Club Closed at 2pm  
6pm Registration & Cocktails  
6:45 Dinner Buffet • \$24 per person  
Entertainment by Stiletto  
See registration form on the Club's website
- 5th A la carte Breakfast • 10am - 2pm
- 11th Special Wine Tasting Dinner • 6pm  
A five course menu with specifically  
selected wines to compliment each  
course  
\$75+ per person / limited seating
- 12th A la carte Breakfast • 10am - 2pm
- 17th EYC Annual Meeting • 7:30pm  
Only regular members permitted  
at meeting - No guests or spouses  
Dining room open 5pm - 7pm
- 19th A la carte Breakfast • 10am - 2pm
- 22nd EYC Turkey Bowl • 5pm - 9pm  
Complimentary Hors d'oeuvres  
Drink Specials • \$14 Dinner Specials  
Entertainment by Encore
- 26th A la carte Breakfast • 10am - 2pm

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"The LOG"  
Possible**

## KEEP CALM AND LET THE EYC HANDLE YOUR CHRISTMAS PARTY

**A**nother Christmas party season is fast approaching! The Erie Yacht Club is the perfect location for your business or organizations Christmas party.

Not only will you enjoy beautiful panoramic views of Presque Isle Bay from our Bayside Ballroom, but the clubhouse is sure to be adorned in plenty of holiday spirit.

Red and Green embellishments throughout the clubhouse provide a joyful, sophisticated setting for your upcoming Christmas party. We take the worry out of decorating, and are certain to provide enough Christmas feast and yuletide to satisfy any occasion. Whether large or small, casual or formal, the Erie Yacht Club has all the options for your holiday festivities.

Although weekend dates are filling quickly, we are still accepting reservations for weekdays and Sunday afternoon or evenings. Please remember, these dates will fill quickly so be certain to call today and reserve a date!

Please contact our Catering Manager, Elizabeth Dougan, either at 453-4931 or [catering@erieyachtclub.org](mailto:catering@erieyachtclub.org).

**Happy Holidays!**



## December Calendar of Club Events

- 2nd Members Christmas Party & Dinner  
Dance  
6:30 Cocktails & Hors d' Oeuvres  
Entertainment by Manhattan  
\$35+ per person  
Reservations at 453-4931
- 3rd A la carte Breakfast • 10am - 2pm
- 9th Breakfast with Santa • 10am  
Visit with Santa & Kids Decorate an  
Ornament from Claytopia  
Entertainment from the Collegiate  
Academy Vocal Jazz Ensemble  
Reservations Required
- 10th A la carte Breakfast • 10am - 2pm
- 12th Dinner with Santa • 6pm  
Santa Visits • Kids Decorate an  
Ornament from Claytopia  
Entertainment from the Collegiate  
Academy Vocal Jazz Ensemble  
Reservations Required
- 16th Winter Solstice Party on the Patio  
6pm - 10pm • Join Old Man Winter  
and EYC members to celebrate the  
longest night of the year!  
Drink Specials and entertainment  
by Key West Express
- 17th A la carte Breakfast • 10am - 2pm
- 24th A la carte Breakfast • 10am - 2pm  
Christmas Eve Club Closes at 2pm
- 25th Christmas Day Club Closed
- 31st A la carte Breakfast • 10am - 2pm  
The EYC's New Years Bash!  
Hors d' oeuvres Buffet • Party Favors  
Champagne Toast  
Music by Street Level • 9pm - 1am  
Casual Attire  
Reservations Required 453-4931





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