

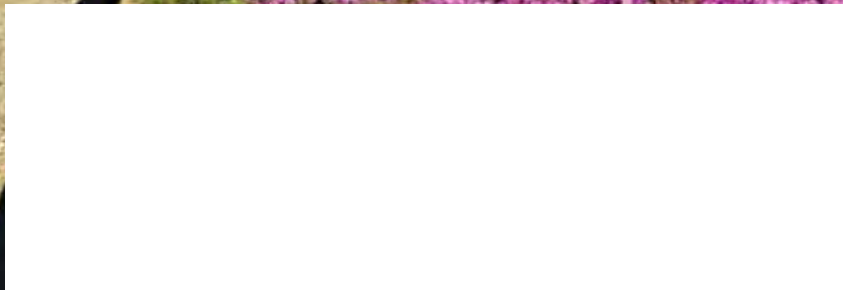
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SPECIAL CLUB ELECTION ISSUE

TREC Marks 10 Years of Growth



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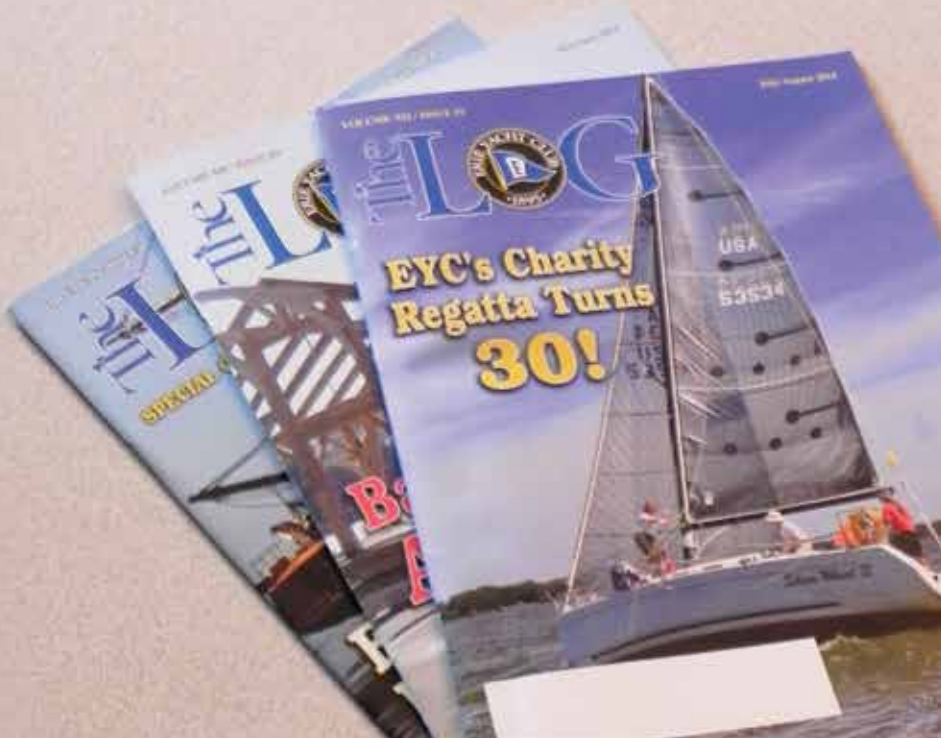
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From the Bridge

by Commodore John Orlando



I recently hosted the Commodore's Appreciation Reception at the Club. Just as the title suggests it is a party held in gratitude for those who have donated their time or efforts over the course of the last year. It was no surprise to me that we had a full ballroom. In the time that has passed since I was elected to the Board of Directors and then the Bridge of our Club I have had the pleasure of working with a wonderful and diverse group of people. Every step of the way all of them have had one focus in mind and that was to continually enhance the Erie Yacht Club. There were no personal agendas or "life plans" to get in the way. I look back at this time with a smile and no regrets.

As we move forward the Club faces many questions. What will the next evolution of the Club be? What is the next big project we will undertake?

What will the Club look like in 10 years? Only future Bridge and Boards will be able to answer the question of what lies out on our horizon. I can tell you that whatever it may be it will be well thought out and planned because of the members who invest themselves in the Club. To those of you who have contributed and supported my watch as Commodore I extend my sincere gratitude! To those of you who continue to contribute to the Erie Yacht Club I say - "Bring me that horizon!"



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On the Cover...

The Tom Ridge Environmental Center is the gateway to Presque Isle State Park. It has been informing visitors of all the Park has to offer for over 10 years, and it is still growing!



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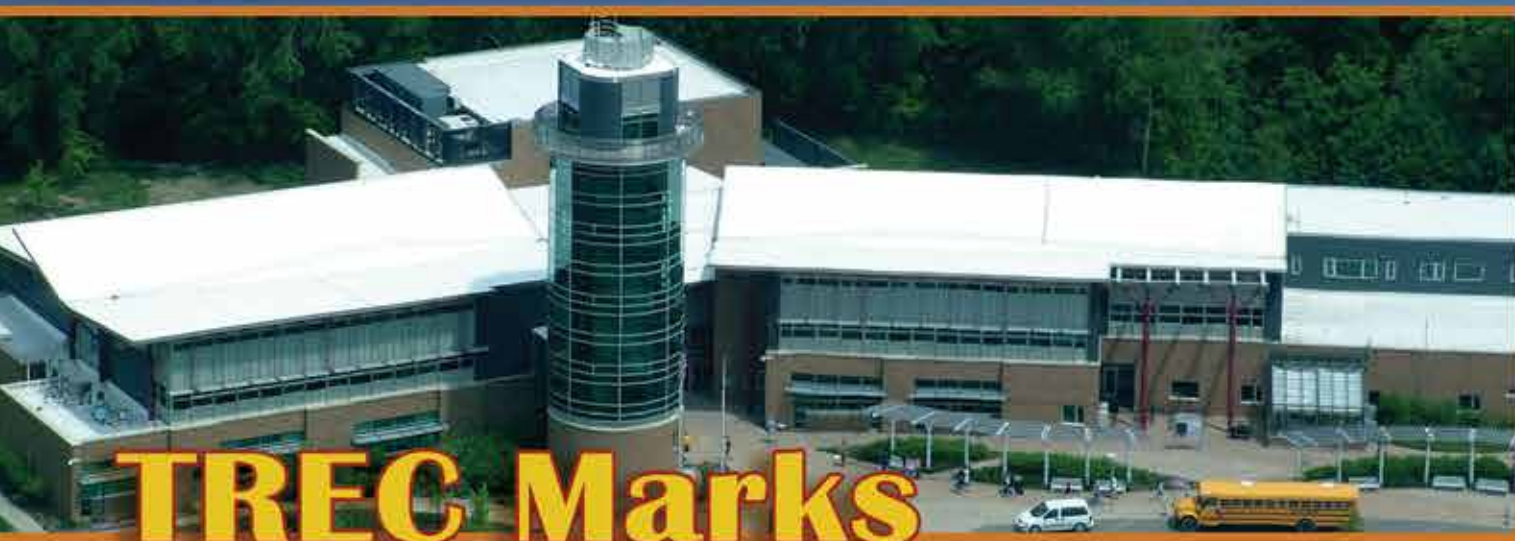
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Scan to learn about the Erie Yacht Club



TREC Marks 10 Years of Growth



By Gene Polaski

Ten years ago, the May/June issue of The Log featured a story on the opening of the Tom Ridge Environmental Center (TREC). So what has developed since 2006 that keeps the TREC a mainstay for tourists and residents alike?

TREC is the gateway to Presque Isle State Park managed by the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR). Their offices are housed in a portion of the physical facility. They are responsible for overseeing the TREC, Presque Isle, and Erie Bluffs State Park. In addition to the Park Office, there are many features to draw the general public to the facility including interactive exhibits that showcase the history of Presque Isle.

TREC offers free general admittance and parking. The facility and parking area are surrounded by a native garden with many plants and flowers that attract butterflies and bees, and is maintained by Penn State Master Gardener Jen Salem. She stated, "Calling it a garden is a misnomer. It is not meant to be a manicured garden but rather an outdoor classroom that mirrors the vegetation on Presque Isle. In addition, it serves as a research area for a number of universities for studying insects, birds, mammals, and their habitats."

The interactive exhibit just inside the main entrance is a guest favorite.



The newly installed solar panels produce enough energy to power the TREC Tower.

Also located in the parking area, are Purple Martin nesting boxes placed by the Purple Martin Conservation Association who has their international headquarters at the TREC. Purple Martins, a type of swallow, depend upon humans to build nesting boxes in order for them to have a place to lay their eggs. In late August, these birds gather each night at the head of the bay to roost in the cattail islands in preparation for their migration to Brazil for overwintering. This is an Audubon Important Bird Area. It is estimated that 35,000-50,000 birds roost there each night.

To the left of the main entrance a new 10 kWh solar array was installed that produces enough energy to power the TREC tower day by day. In the near future, energy efficient LED bulbs will replace current lighting and one day of energy production by the solar panel will power the TREC tower for 10 days. In other words, it will take only 36 days of solar power production to power the TREC tower for the year. Excess power produced by the solar array will be used to power other parts

of the building. This installation will be a catalyst for future conservation and efficiency measures for the future.

Upon entering the TREC building, there are volunteers at the main desk to assist visitors in touring the center and pointing out features to visit on Presque Isle (such as the lighthouse and free pontoon boat tours), handing out free maps of the park, and answering questions such as "Where are the Snowy Owls?", how to arrange for a beach wedding, how many coyotes are on the park, and is the park really free? Oh yes, a frequent one is "Where are the bathrooms?" There are several animal displays including a fox family, a coyote and a bear. Often, there are various exhibits that are changed throughout the year.

Three tall towers in the lobby readily attract children. Each display is interactive and demonstrates activities on the park that happen in/on the water, in the air and on land.

(continued on next page)

TREC Marks 10 Years of Growth

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Once inside, you can take an elevator or the steps to the top of the 75 foot glass enclosed tower. It offers a view of the peninsula as well as the lake and is a great place to take action photos in the summer when the Ravine Flyer roller coaster takes a curve by the tower to return to nearby Waldameer Park.

The first floor has a viewing area with a repeating orientation movie. Throughout the floor are various displays depicting the flora and fauna on Presque Isle and a Discovery Center which is a great resource for preschool age children and adults.

Other offices and partners housed in the building include the Friends of TREC, Presque Isle Partnership, Department of Environmental Protection – Office of the Great Lakes, Audubon Pennsylvania and the Presque Isle Audubon Society, Big Green Screen Theater, Environment Erie, Pennsylvania Sea Grant, Presque Isle Gallery and Gifts, Regional Science Consortium, Sunset Café, TREC Garden, the Natural History Museum of TREC.

Assistant Park Manager Holly Best said “the partners within the building not only lease space, but join together to create work groups and a synergy to address challenging environmental issues.”

The Friends of the TREC have formed a partnership between the private sector and the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources in order to enhance educational programming, natural history research and visitor services and opportunities at the TREC. Some of the programs the Friends of the TREC have been involved with include: the Gardens at TREC, sponsorship of the Big Green Screen films, Holiday and Summer Movie Series at the TREC, Wildlife Film Festivals and the Sunset Celebration to name a few.

In addition there is a café, gift shop and the Big Green Screen Theatre. Doug Schmitt, theater manager sees that large format films are both educational and entertaining. Doug says “while the movies change, one movie that has been on the screen for several years is Mysteries of the Great Lakes, which was in-part filmed on Presque Isle.”

A little known secret is that if you ask at the front desk to see the aqua laboratory, you may get a free tour depending on volunteer availability. The aqua lab features native fish being raised in tanks and live turtles typically found in the lagoons.

Various other labs reside in the downstairs facility including a botany lab and a microscope. These are not normally open to the public. Generally they are occupied by researchers from colleges, universities and private industry that make up the Regional Science Consortium.

The second floor has additional displays and a bird watching area. Throughout the year, always changing exhibits are located here with topics such as a shipwrecks, art works, photography, and Mercyhurst University’s dinosaur exhibits to name a few.

Other events offered at the TREC include children’s holiday programs, such as TREC or TREAT and TREC the Halls, various seminars in the classrooms, and an annual three day birding event (Festival of the Birds).

A change since the last article on TREC is that a new DCNR park manager is in place. Recently coming on board is Matt Greene who moved here from Point State Park in Pittsburgh. Matt stated that managing Presque Isle is a herculean task being that there are so many aspects to the job but that task also adds to the fun and challenge of his career. Matt noted that the park gets an estimated four million visitors a year which is often more than Yellowstone National park.

While not all of the visitors to Presque Isle stop at the TREC, Matt indicated that there have been over one million visitors to the center since its opening. Visitors are encouraged to stop at the TREC before and/or after their visit to the park to learn more about Presque Isle. Often times, bus tours stop at the TREC to take on a volunteer tour guide who gives a narration to the visitors while the buses tour the peninsula.

Summer, winter, spring or fall, the Tom Ridge Environmental Center has new programs and displays to offer local and out of town visitors. Information can be found on line at trecpi.org. It is located at 301 Peninsula Drive in Erie, PA 814-833-7424.





17th Day of December, 2016

Eighth Annual Winter Solstice Party on the Deck

by "Frosty" Dan Dundon

Sure, it seems "just yesterday" that a few of us were sitting at a waning summer Happy Hour on the Deck trying to conjure ways to extend the summer season with more partying on the EYC deck. We figured why let those Europeans who party-all-night-long with Summer Solstice Parties have all the fun? After a little more discussion, thinking and a few more beers and drinks, we hatched the idea to use our (then) new natural gas heaters to heat-up-the-deck for a late December Winter Solstice Party.

We had heard of Europeans who party-all-night-long with Summer Solstice Parties! Why not beat those Europeans at their own game and continue our deck happy hours on the shortest day of the year?

Right since the beginning, 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!

Then P.C. Matt Niemic and his crew wraps the entire deck in construction plastic. P.C. Ed Schuler brings his heat-gun and shrink-wraps the plastic enclosure to assure durable weather-resistance. Day of, Tom Madura and I decorate the plastic with seasonal and goofy drawings for the winter solstice. Another fine example of EYC members pitching-in so everyone has a good time enjoying a super party!

By mid-Saturday-afternoon on December 17th, 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 listening to the tropical sounds of Erie's own Key West Express.

Who knows what "special surprises" might happen this time around? In previous years, P.C. Tom Trost arranged for an appearance by Old Man Winter. Commodore John Orlando and Skip Grychowski set-up a terrific fireworks display on the lawn announcing the arrival Old Man Winter.

You don't want to miss the tropically fantasizing folks dancing barefoot wearing shorts and tee-shirts among other people attired for the South Pole! Let's hope Mother Nature spares us those 30 knot winds she served us up in 2015!

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!

See you at the Eighth Annual EYC Winter Solstice Party!



*Time flies like an arrow.
Fruit flies like a banana.*

- Groucho Marx -



From Presque Isle, Michigan, to the North Channel, and Home Again

Dulcibella's Adventure Part IV

by John Garhart

In 2015, EYC member, John Garhart, sailed his Tartan 27, Dulcibella, to the North Channel of Lake Huron, stopping at numerous ports & harbors.

This is the fourth and final article recounting that summer adventure.

Whenever possible, sail without a tight schedule in order to harness the serendipity of time and chance. Thus, the log reflects: unexpectedly, near dusk, Dulcibella caught hold of a comet's tail of wind, and even with reduced sail it hurled us along, rail down, at hull speed, into the night. For hours we followed the wind as it shifted and hooked, taking us far out into the lake where, in the small hours before dawn, like a faithless lover, it abandoned us, exhausted but exhilarated. For these hours, the lake, the wind, the night, and the world existed only for us. For these hours, there was no past and no future, only a moment-by-moment *now* of exquisite intensity.

We're in Presque Isle, Michigan, a natural harbor improved by a state marina with a formidable sea-wall. Manitoulin Island and the North Channel are just across the lake, but let's not rush there yet. While in Presque Isle, take time to visit both the old and new lighthouses; both

are open to visitors. The new 1870 lighthouse and keeper's cottage are at road's end, about a mile or more from the marina. Bikes are available free at the general store across from the marina, but the road is flat, flies and insects not a problem, so a walk is, I suggest, a better choice.

At the newer lighthouse, I decided to walk to the top. An ornate metal circular staircase is the path up. Just as you approach what you are sure must be the top a stencil appears on the wall reading "half way." Once you gain the top the view of the land and the lake unfolds. Certain pictures are a must: the lighthouse proper, showing its height, the half-way stencil, the ornate metal staircase, and the view from the top. You've taken these pictures not to show family and friends but to show your doctor who continually harps that you need to get more exercise. And perhaps you can even brag that you weren't winded at the top.

The weather and my relaxed schedule allowed me to stay for a few days. The restaurant, its service, and view are very good. (I recommend the Caesar salad.) And the



The Preque Isle Lighthouse, but this one can be found in Michigan.



The long walk up the spiral staircase qualifies as an aerobic exercise, but the view is well worth the workout.

deli counter at the general store is perfect for lunch, or a coffee and Danish in the morning. Beyond that, there is not much here... except, of course, the excellent handiwork of God. And the peace and tranquility you've been yearning for. Sunsets here rival our own.

As you sail these great lakes you notice the names both repeat and compete: Presque Isle in Pennsylvania and now in Michigan. Bois Blanc Island in the Detroit River (called Bob-Lo) and Bois Blanc Island in the Straits of Mackinac on Lake Huron (called Bob-B). Compare: here an Isle, there an Ile; Presque Isle as opposed to Peninsula, and Baie Fine versus Narrow Bay. The blood that stained these shores red has long since dried, and the sound of cannon and musket is long silenced. The battle continues, however, on a linguistic level, where French, English, and Native American words compete yet for dominance in the naming of places on these majestic lakes.

Before you set sail for the North Channel, consider four items: nautical charts, anchors, a dinghy, and guidebooks. The Richardsons' Chartbook of Lake Huron covers the North Channel, but you'll want more detailed charts (large scale) for some areas. The North Chan-

nel is vast, covering an area west-to-east from De Tour on the Saint Mary's River in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan to Killarney, Ontario. Buying all the charts you might need is expensive. Borrow what you can, and try to focus your interest on specific areas to narrow chart selection. Turner's, in Little Current on Manitoulin, has an excellent collection of charts and a knowledgeable staff. Canadian Yacht Charter in Gore Bay also sells some charts and has a helpful staff.

I suggest you consider buying: (1) Well-Favored Passage: A Guide to Lake Huron's North Channel and (2) The Sweet Water Sea, A Guide to Lake Huron's Georgian Bay, both by Marjorie Cahn Brazier (out of print, but available online), and (3) Pixie Haughwout's updated version of Ms. Brazier's volume: The Magic of Lake Huron's North Channel. These books will help you focus where you wish to visit. Many North Channel sailors have been coming each summer, all summer, for years and rarely anchor in the same spot.

Evaluate your anchors and rode; I recommend three: a fortress-style anchor, a Bruce or plow anchor, and, finally, a picnic hook. Mark the rode so you know how much is deployed. A lead line is a nice luxury, and, if we haven't yet exhausted your checkbook, mesh rode storage bags are useful.

As to a dinghy, I suggest something small that rows well. Dulcibella is small, and a small inflatable, with an inflatable floor, was all I carried. It towed well, but it rowed poorly. In open water, or with any headwind, it was unsafe. Many cruisers towed a hard dinghy with a small outboard. I met one cruiser and his wife, on a 27-foot sailboat, who had towed their hard dinghy on its own bottom north from Florida. His quote was: "If the dinghy won't tow, we don't go." The nicest dinghy I saw was a Portland Pudgy, towed and rowed over many seasons by a senior couple in a Dana 24.

On Monday, August 10, it was time to cross Lake Huron. My wife, Kathy, and grandson, Dylan, were arriving by car on Friday, August 14. And, given the uncertainty of weather, I needed to move. Our rendezvous point was Gore Bay, two days away. Departure brought overcast skies, rain, and, to the west, thunderstorms. It was wet, but not cold. The controlling weather channel here is WX09, a Canadian station. Half-way across, the depth was 442 feet. With a west wind, the waves on my stern quarter built from flat to one meter and it was slightly foggy. By 1 p.m., my waypoint for the Mississagi Strait was twelve miles ahead, and both Cockburn Island and Manitoulin

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The sunsets of Presque Isle Bay, Michigan are only rivaled by our own here in Pennsylvania.

Dulcibella's Adventure

(continued from previous page)

were in sight. This entry point to the North Channel allowed me to travel north along the Michigan shore, with numerous harbors of refuge available. And my crossing of Lake Huron was as short as possible, all in all, a safe, secure route.

By mid-afternoon conditions moderated, and it was now clear and partly sunny. The rain had ceased and the fog stayed behind, outside the strait, on the lake. A bulk cargo carrier, the Algomarine, passed within a half-mile, and both a light-house and a quarry operation were to starboard on Manitoulin Island. By 4:30 p.m., with sunshine and clear skies, I was around Meldrum Point and tied up at a dock in Meldrum Bay. In arriving in Meldrum Bay I had entered a new realm. Wooded land sloped into the water, and even close inshore it was not uncommon to have 50 or 60 feet of depth. But the land was nothing like home; the most striking thing was the emptiness of this beautiful wide bay and wooded hillsides: no highways, only a few people, and no houses of the rich and infamous.



If you can appreciate peaceful unspoiled beauty, then Meldrum Bay is your kind of place.

At the end of the bay, a cruising sailboat was anchored. In a strong west wind, the bay was quiet, and the anchorage secure. A small, aged A-frame structure housed a marina office with a serviceable shower and lounge. Two or three newer long, wooden docks came straight out from shore, accommodating multiple boats along their length. On a commanding highpoint on the hill, with a stunning view of the bay and channel beyond, was a large, two-story white clapboard hotel, with a blue canvas awning and an encircling porch: Meldrum Bay Inn. Nearby, a few wooden structures of undefined purpose marked what once must have been a settlement or tiny village, now in terminal decline.

The inn was of gracious proportion, and the public rooms filled with books and artifacts suggesting the dwelling of a well-read, well-traveled person. A small, grassy garden served as a pleasant compliment to the inn. But the overarching feeling in this bay was one of openness and emptiness. After securing the boat, I had dinner on the porch of the inn. A narrow, undulating road brought other diners, a lucky few were staying at the inn, and by dinner-time the small restaurant was nearly full,



Gore Bay is a small quaint town, but still has just about anything a sailor needs.

though not crowded. A murmur of mingled conversation and soft music suffused the porch. The food was excellent, and the view of this unspoiled bay and its wooded hillsides justified my entire trip north. For a long time I sat in silence, satiated and enraptured, filling all my senses, until the last of the day dissolved into night.

The next morning I was off for Gore Bay, half-way down the island. The wind was NNE 15, with fickle gusts and a perverse sense of humor. If I tucked in a reef, the wind lessened; if I let out a reef, it strengthened. I reefed the main, then the headsail. I put the centerboard down, then up. For each of my maneuvers the wind had a disruptive response. By 4:30 p.m. I was securely docked at Gore Bay. Again, there were cruisers anchored. And while I longed to anchor, I had yet to inflate my dingy and, thus, couldn't row to shore. (After I discovered how poorly my dinghy rowed in any wind, I quickly abandoned this fancy.)

Gore Bay is a smaller and narrower bay than Meldrum Bay, but equally beautiful. On the western shore, the hillsides are wooded but less steep. The bay contains a large municipal marina, a fuel point, a small commercial fishing fleet and a marine supply store. Canadian Yacht Char-

ters (CYC) is here, a professional operation. CYC has numerous boats, sail and power. Most were newer, and all were spotless. I wouldn't hesitate to charter from CYC given the current favorable exchange rate (\$1 US = \$1.32 CAN; 9/20/2016), the saved wear on your boat, and the value of time gained by avoiding the long trip north. There is an airport nearby, so flying here is an option. (Sadly, while I was there, one of their sailboats was put out of service when struck by lightning while leaving the bay.)

Gore Bay has a proper, though small, village; it even has a courthouse, and on Fridays a farmer's market is held at the waterfront. There are small restaurants, a medical facility, a grocery store and a hardware store. But there is no Walmart or any chain store, not here, nor anywhere on Manitoulin Island. On my first night, a strong wind funneled down the bay and persisted for hours, but caused no trouble to the anchored vessels. The Wi-Fi was free but weak, and I was thus obliged to worship at the antenna and pray for service.

Adjacent to the village, modest houses populated short, hilly streets. A couple of B&Bs are across from the marina. I often encountered deer, wandering in small groups through the neighborhood. It was in Gore Bay that I noticed a small power-boat with the memorable name "Ship Faced." A 53-foot Nordhavn trawler docked here dwarfed every other vessel.

Kathy's arrival with Dylan gave us a chance to see Manitoulin Island by car. The island is mainly empty, with few houses outside the small towns and villages. Trees and scrubland predominate; there is little farming, but lots of lakes, many quite large. Remember, Manitoulin is the largest freshwater island in the world. We visited the airstrip, backtracked to Meldrum Bay for a family dinner at the inn, and explored the island. Kathy and Dylan visited the small



The appropriately named Bridal Veil Falls.

village of Kagawong in Mudge Bay and toured Bridal Veil Falls, while I spent a day changing engine oil and cleaning the boat. The road along East Bluff overlooks Gore Bay and offers spectacular views.

I was eager to anchor out; my crew, not so much. Dulcibella lacks hot water or a shower. I concede this is spartan; when she is feeling charitable, Kathy prefers the word "primitive." There are innumerable anchorages in the North Channel; among the most popular are the Benjamin Islands, but in mid-August the best anchorages would be crowded. On the advice of other cruisers, we settled (me eagerly, my crew reluctantly) on Oak Bay near Hotham Island.



The Little Current Swing Bridge where the current changes speed and direction in a moments notice, so it is good advice to keep your distance.

On Sunday mid-morning, with a strong but favorable wind, we were off. It was a downwind sail, and I rigged a preventer. By 3:30 pm, after a tight entrance, we were tucked into Oak Bay with an anchor down. Kathy and Dylan took the dinghy for a row. Near dusk another boat arrived, but didn't stay. We spent a quiet night on the hook listening to the call of a loon and a bullfrog's plaintive croak. Each day I heard radio calls indicating that sailors were approaching Little Detroit. Upon inquiry, I learned that this was a narrow one-boat passage, and it was customary to announce your transit and direction of travel to avoid impact.

Soon we were off for Little Current, the heart of the North Channel. Little Current's most prominent feature is a swing bridge which must be navigated by all east-west traffic. There are several marinas here, but it is best to stay at the town docks, either along the wall or in the nearby municipal slips. The town docks are in two clusters along the waterfront; stay as far from the swing bridge as possible, because the closer the bridge, the stronger the current. The current here shifts direction and strength without notice.

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Dulcibella's Adventure

(continued from previous page)

Upon departure you can be swept out of your slip and into the boats behind before you can back and turn down the fairway. A small buoy in the channel shows the direction of the current and suggests its strength. But be careful: when I asked the dock attendant about the current's direction, his opinion, honed by a summer's experience, was dead wrong. Trust, but verify. If the current is adverse, warp your boat around to avoid backing out.

Little Current is a small, quiet town, with prime dockage on the wall we stayed and explored. Our favorite restaurant was the Anchor Inn, just steps from our boat. The North Channel cruisers net broadcasts at 9 a.m. each morning during July and August on channel 71. After the news, weather, and sports, boaters from 50 miles around check in with their name and location; some request assistance or advice. This broadcast is also streamed live on the net; you can listen in from Erie.

After a few days stay in Little Current, we sailed and motored to Killarney using large scale chart # 2205,



The Sportsman Inn In Killarney, although quite modern with all the amenities we opted to stay aboard in their marina.

which marks the many obstructions in the Lansdowne Channel and adjacent Killarney Bay. These rocks make entrance to Killarney's village channel challenging for the novice. The Chart depicts Hole-in-the Wall, Snug Harbor, Lions Rump, Powderhouse Bay, Portage Cove, Covered Portage Cove, and many other passages and anchorages. Killarney itself is a tiny fishing village, oriented not to the main street but to its watery channel. We stayed on the boat at the Sportsman's Inn: a hotel, restaurant, and marina; it was new, clean, and sleekly modern. But my heart was captured by the Killar-

ney Mountain Lodge at the other end of town. This is a 1940s Adirondack-style resort with small cabins, dockage, a swimming pool, gracious grounds, and a picture-perfect central lodge.

From Killarney, I was able to muster my reluctant crew to anchor-out again, this time in Baie Fine, also called Narrow Bay, or both on some charts. (The linguistic battle again.) Baie Fine is a long, narrow bay, off the much larger Frazer Bay, and as close to a fiord as you'll find on the Great Lakes. Steep sloping hills predominate. A resort and a few cottages are near its entrance, but it is largely unspoiled land. There are many narrow, rock-strewn passages here, and close attention to the chart is essential. Near its end, this narrow bay requires you to thread the needle in order to enter the approach to The Pool. And it was in The Pool, at the very end of this bay, that I wanted to anchor. The Pool was empty, and we selected a secluded anchorage; two other cruisers came later, but The Pool, though small, allowed them to be out of sight and sound. We swam, played, rowed the dingy, and reveled in our remoteness.

The rugged beauty of this land was captured in the 1920s by members of the Group of Seven, famous Canadian landscape painters, and Artist Lake is close at hand. We climbed in

search of Topaz Lake, a landlocked lake on the hill far above and with a view (hopefully) of Dulcibella anchored below. The trail is marked, but we managed to get lost, only to encounter other confused hikers, but through perseverance, we finally gained our objective. It was a unique perspective to look down on The Pool far below; alas, no view of Dulcibella.



Overcoming some misdirection we finally found the gorgeous Lake Topaz.

By August 24 we were back in Little Current, and overnight the weather changed. Low, grey, leaden clouds blanketed the sky and blocked the sun, the wind had a cold bite, and rain sharpened the edges of this cold. A cruise ship, the Saint Laurent, arrived and stayed overnight; the town ran fire hoses to replenish the ship's fresh water. But the docks, which had been nearly full a week earlier, were now largely empty. Clearly, it was time to dress for fall.

On August 28, I dropped Kathy and Dylan off in Gore Bay for their long drive home. For our part, Dulcibella and I needed to sail home in a series of mostly day-long passages: Gore Bay to Meldrum Bay, then to Rogers City, Michigan, next a long non-stop day-night-day run south past Harbor Beach (fogged in) to Port Sanilac, and finally back to Port Huron. Thence, down the rivers, and with the current at my back it was like sliding down a bannister. I was bottled up overnight at the bottom of the St. Clair River by the threat of

severe thunderstorms. And storm it did, from late afternoon until near midnight. As I was tying up the boat, the first storm hit, and in the stinging rain I struggled to set a second set of dock lines, which were sorely tested by the wind. Cabined below in my small craft, listening to these storms rage, it almost seemed rational to believe that the Titans were battling in the heavens.

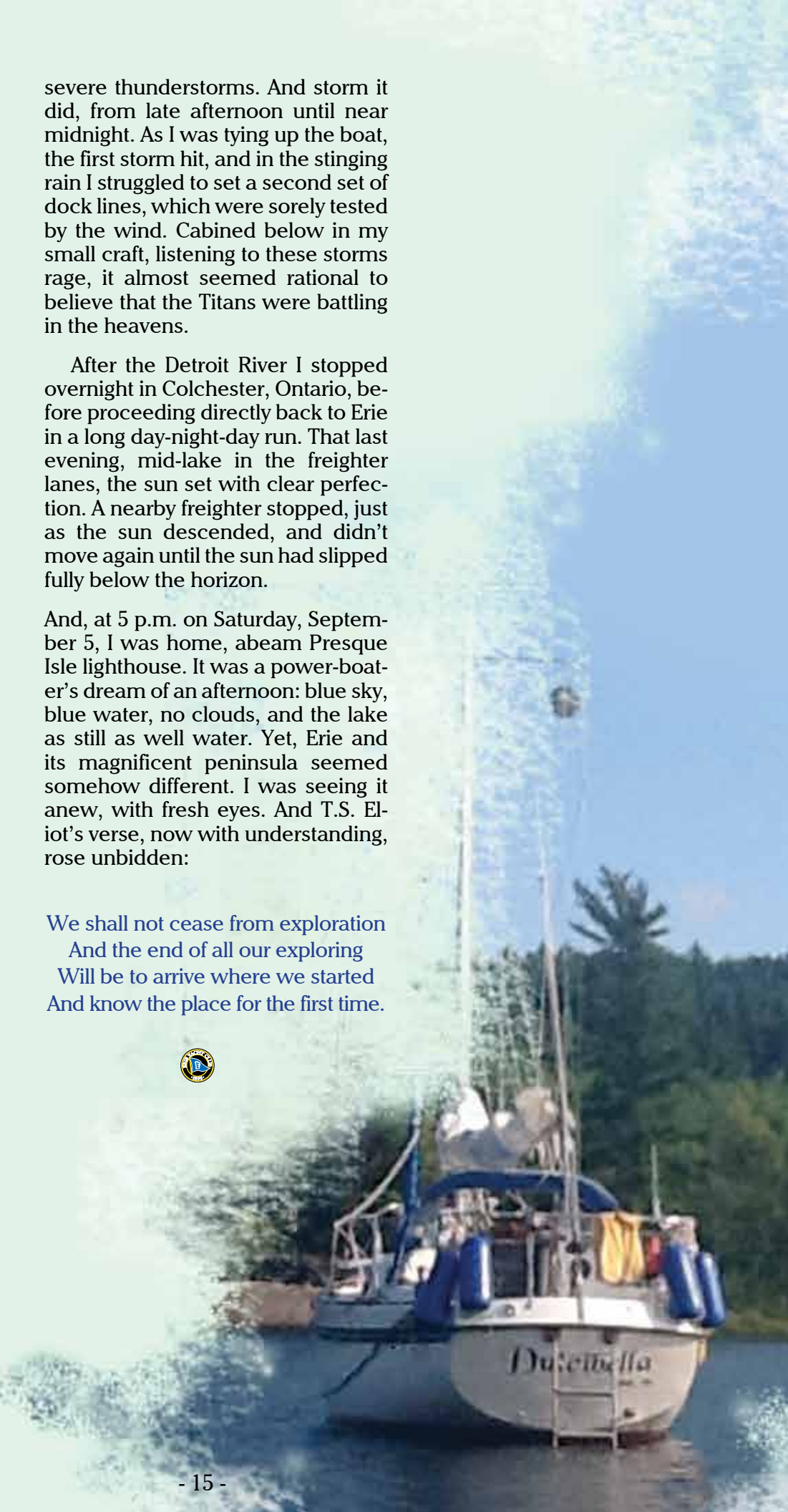
After the Detroit River I stopped overnight in Colchester, Ontario, before proceeding directly back to Erie in a long day-night-day run. That last evening, mid-lake in the freighter lanes, the sun set with clear perfection. A nearby freighter stopped, just as the sun descended, and didn't move again until the sun had slipped fully below the horizon.

And, at 5 p.m. on Saturday, September 5, I was home, abeam Presque Isle lighthouse. It was a power-boater's dream of an afternoon: blue sky, blue water, no clouds, and the lake as still as well water. Yet, Erie and its magnificent peninsula seemed somehow different. I was seeing it anew, with fresh eyes. And T.S. Eliot's verse, now with understanding, rose unbidden:

*We shall not cease from exploration
And the end of all our exploring
Will be to arrive where we started
And know the place for the first time.*



Dulcibella navigating the tricky fiord on route to "The Pool" at the end of the bay.



TATTOOS TOO!



by Tom Madura

Several years ago we ran a LOG photo essay of tattoos seen around the EYC.

Well, we've found more, and the owners of these examples of this now common form of body art are anxious to show them off, so here we go again!

Understandably, many of the tattoos seen around the Erie Yacht Club reflect a nautical theme, but whether large or small, simple or elaborate, tattoos are very personal and can represent one's passions, beliefs, personal milestones, or just a sense of whimsy!

So check these out and look for them around the Club!

Maybe you'll be inspired to get some ink of your own!



Are You Ready?

The Seventh Season of The EYC's Trivia Night Starts Soon!

by P/C Dave Heitzenrater

Q: What refers to bits of random data, facts or figures that generally is of little to no importance combined with an abundance of FUN?

A: Obviously it's EYC Thursday Night Trivia and you can come join in on the excitement. Meet with your friends, enjoy the food and beverages, answer a few interesting no stress questions, smile and laugh all while making winter pass by a bit faster and much more enjoyable!

The questions start flying on January 5th, 2017 as we launch our seventh season of EYC Thursday Night Trivia. The wide-ranging questions are tossed up at 7:00 PM sharp by our infamous quizzing, questioning and inquisitive quizmaster P/C Ronald 'the riddler' Busse.

Much laughter and fun banter was heard throughout the room last March as the EYC Thursday trivia games wrapped it up for the 2016 season. It was another successful year of crafty questions and some weird answers that brought the players to the games. It was Fun !

Team Smarty Pints had waited in the shadows most of the eleven week season to make their big move. In the final night of play, they brought their best to overcome a multi-week deficit to not only win the evening but to take home the prestigious 2016 Trivial Trivia Trophy with a massive 675 points. Congratulations to team members Pete Austin, Tom Brasco, Gary Johnson, Phil Katen, the Kohler Brothers, Matt Lechner, the Lincolns, Matt Rogers and the Wachter Brothers who jointly bested their 19 rival teams.

What do you have to do?

Just gather up some of your best buds to form a team or join an existing group. It may be a good idea to have both life experienced and more youthful members of both sexes in your line-up. Most importantly a clever name is required for your team but it's not necessary unless you want to be assigned a name like the Periodic Table Dancers, Agatha Quiztie or the previously lightly used Nauti-Mermaids.

Our maximum is eight people seated at a table and we do keep weekly scores for those interested. Prizes are awarded after each of the six rounds of questions. Come on down the hill and join the fun. Did I mention it was FREE? We'll keep the light on and the beverages cold for yah!

We thank P/C Matt Niemic for building and donating the beautiful custom EYC serving tray each season (See photo)



2017 Dates are:

JAN 5, 12, 19, 26
FEB 2, 9, 16, 23
MAR 9, 16, 23



2016 Teams

Smarty Pints
Dover Stairmasters
Lazy Jacks
Grand Cru
Ice Bear
Red Herring
Team Joker
Route 66
Deyzd & Confused
Unplugged
BECKinator
Wisenheimers
Bay Rats
Schadenfreude
GYST
Duke & Duchesses
The Other Team
Akenator
Serenity Now

Once Upon a Time... If These Docks Could Talk

by P/C Gib Loesel



A few weeks ago, as part of the EYC history committee's project to record oral interviews with all living past commodores, it was my responsibility to interview P/C Doug Nagle III. During our recording session the name Chet Curriden came up several times and this got me thinking (again), when the Tom & Jerry New Year's Day Party is in full swing, new year's toasts are being made and the glasses "cling" how many of our members will recognize the name imprinted on the glass "Chet Curriden". Better yet how many will have remembered why it is there in the first place??

The Tom & Jerry Party is also a time to recall fun sea stories also known as "yarns" and some of the best are about Chet. It is important at this point to state that Chet was one of the most qualified Captains in this area and perhaps the Great Lakes, his knowledge of the sea, boats, rules of the road and engines was amazing and he was always willing to share and pass on his skill and knowledge. He was also a fun loving "guy", a tough "old salt" who, like a lot of us, found himself in a bit of trouble which created some of what I will call "the Legends of Chet".

First let's deal with the Tom & Jerry Party; back in 1999 at the request of Commodore Pat Geary I did a story on the party history. Following are a few excerpts from the story:

"In 1920, L. M. Nagle purchased the cottage behind the Club garage for the use of Rip Sawdey; Honorary Commodore of E.Y.C. Rip Sawdey was Skipper of L.M. Nagle's Eleanor II. The following New Year's Day, Rip invited a few friends down to his cottage for Tom and Jerry's. He had a secret recipe for his batter and he became famous for it.

Year after year this party went on getting bigger and bigger as more members heard about it. Than on New Year's Day 1935 it was moved to the Club House and became a formal Club party with officers in uniform." "Rip Sawdey started from the beginning as "mixing boss" of the batter with chief helper, Chester Curriden. When Rip died on January 10, 1946, Chet became the "mixing boss" until his death in 1983. Rich Loesel, a trusted trainee and guardian of the "secret formula", then took over. Gib Loesel, who also had trained under Chet, relieved Brother Rich as "mixing boss" in 1989.

Only a few members and friends have served on the "mixing crew"; Chuck Schauble, Bob Loose, Jim McKnight, Bill Behr, George Sipple, Lou Faulhaber, Doug Loesel, John Dauber, Pete Gorny, Ken Smith, and our ever-faithful friend, I. Martin Pomorski.

At the Old Timer's Night, September, 1995, the question was asked of Rich Loesel: "What is the secret behind the recipe?" "Loesel's reply was, "Snuff." He then added in a low but

audible tone, "the real secret is... is it used or unused?" Perhaps, just perhaps the real secret will come out on January 1, 2000."

If you do the math you will understand why Chet's name is on the glass honoring him for over 50 years of service to our Club!!

Here are a few stories from "The Legend of Chet" most of which are basically true but like most "yarns" have more than likely been slightly embellished along the way:

The "Doc Baker" story (LOG 2012): "The "mixers" are club members and as part of the "show" they do their mixing close to the serving line, that way (especially in the "old" days) their boat buddies could come over do a little "kibitzing" shake hand and wish each other a Happy New Year..."

When thinking about this story keep in mind several things:

- (1) Chet was the head mixer for about a zillion years and was extremely popular with everyone.
- (2) He would have a "blast" or two to start the party (blast a shot) to get the morning started.
- (3) He was the central figure of the "show"
- (4) The base of the secret formula is eggs (with a little snuff mixed in)
- (5) The eggs are mixed after the white and yokes are separated
- (6) Chet always mixed the whites

(7) In the "old days" members dressed up, most wore suits and ties for the occasion... Got the Picture???

Now picture this, each year Dr. Henry Baker would arrive dressed to the "9's" in a beautiful blue suit complete with neck tie, the first thing the "Doc" would do is head for Chet to shake hands and wish him a Happy New Year. One year Chet pulled the electric beater out of the whites to wipe his hands and shake with the "Doc", that is when this amazing spray of egg white was plastered on "Doc" from stem to stern. The wet towel used to wipe off the suit didn't help any... oops.

The "Admiral Curtze" story (LOG 2012): "When our current club house was new (1989) we had spray flying again. P/C George Sipple who was in the electronics business (long before modern day computers) arrived with a "silent whistle switch". This little gadget was used to turn lights on and off without getting out of your chair, we also discovered it also worked quite well on Chet's electric beater.

Admiral Charles Curtze who was not clued in to the prank was watching, George would hit the "whistle switch" and stop the beater, Chet would pull it out of mixing bowl to look at it and George would turn it

back on sending the batter flying every which way, this happened several times. The Admiral was convinced that something was wrong with the new electrical system and or the extension cord, crawling on his hands and knees he would exam the length of the cord and each time he would pick it up George would do his magic again stopping the beater. Finally he placed a plate under the extension cord where the beater plugged in and it never happened again, he was happy, Chet was happy... however no one ever had the guts to tell Chet or the Admiral."

The "Tough Sea Captain" by P/C Rich Loesel: "Somewhere" on the East Coast, Ken Eckerd was a guest on P/C L. M. Nagle's new Eleanor III. While the boat was in port, allegedly Ken wondered off and was in a local saloon where all of the local water rats hung out. After a few "belts" Ken started to brag that the Captain of the Eleanor III was the toughest Sea Captain in town. The story than goes that Chet was out looking for Ken in all of the local "watering holes" so they could leave the port, at about the time he was telling the story Chet came through the door... Eckerd announced "here he comes now" and the fight was on!!"

The "Booze From The Bahamas" by P/C Doug Nagle: "During prohibition P/C L. M. Nagle and Chet took the Eleanor III to the Bahamas where it was loaded with booze. L.M. had called back to Erie and told

Chet to take "her" back to Miami. The story goes that when customs agents discovered that cargo trouble was afoot... Chet offered them all a drink and got them plastered, problem solved the "Chet" way."

"A Way With Women": Chet was a charmer, married and divorced twice, both of his ex-wives would call and want to talk, he told me that one of them actually wanted to get married again. Along about age 80 he had a cute girlfriend who was in her early 20's they became great friends and she would accompany him to dinners, parties and (wink wink) when he died I was asked to do a eulogy... something I am not very good at. I was about to start when she arrived dressed totally in black with a large black hat and veil she sat in the first row and started to cry her eyes out and sob, from that point on I had a hard time getting the words out. I always wanted to ask her about the (wink wink) but never saw her again.

If These Docks Could Talk, they would say "Chet thanks for the memories... Happy New Year everyone!!"



One Day Adventure Barcelona NEW YORK By Micheal Dent

On May 30th Grace Louisa and crew (Dave Strong and Michael Dent) made a day cruise to Barcelona and back to check out the recently dredged harbor.



The forecast was for a 10-15 kts west wind. We started with a beautiful sunrise and not a breath of wind. We left O dock at 6:00am and motored up the bay optimistic that we would pick-up a breeze on the lake. The channel was busy with a large lake freighter leaving to go west.



Out in the lake and still no wind so we set the auto-pilot and motored for 4½ hours to Barcelona. We made a slow and cautious entry with a sharp eye on the depth.



There were no problems with depth. 17 - 19 ft at the entrance and 7 - 8 ft all the way to the municipal dock. Boats up to 30' LOA can use the docks on the west side and over 30' LOA use the north wall. Rafting is permitted.



There is a modern clean amenity block with toilets and showers. The dock fees at Barcelona will raise a smile. There is no charge to dock for a day visit and the overnight charge is \$10 regardless of boat size.



What to do at Barcelona:

- Talk to the locals they are a friendly bunch proud of their little harbor and community.
- Walk up the hill from the marina, take a right and stroll down route 2. Take another right at the gas station and wander down to Munro's boat yard, the Fish monger and the "When Pigs Fly - BBQ Pit".



Munro's has an interesting collection of boats on the hard. Some resting peacefully and dreaming of great past adventures and others in various stages of repair. Pictured below is the "GAD FLY TOO." She looks like a converted lake fishing trawler. She has a hinged mast and two new self tailing winches. Does anyone know the history of "Gad Fly Too"?



We wandered back to Grace Louisa trying to talk the wind into going north or south. No luck so we motor sailed straight into a 20-23 Kt westerly for about 5 hours back to O dock at the EYC.



What did we learn?

- Barcelona is a great little harbor and should be on every cruising sailors "Do list".
- We need a better connection to the weather gods.
- Do a three port cruise - Erie - Dover - Barcelona. This will give you at least two good sailing legs regardless of the wind direction.
- When Pigs Fly is a go to destination for great food and friendly people.

Take a cruise to Barcelona and have fun.



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A SAILOR'S LAST FAREWELL

BY DAN DUNDON

The Erie Yacht Club family recently said farewell to long-time member and life-long sailor... Tom Schuyler III.

Four boats, Tom's beloved Infinity (skippered by son, Tom IV and daughter, Gillian), Dreamer, Anomaly (owned by Tom's brother, Stan) and Raven transported family and friends onto Lake Erie.

After a few remarks, readings and poems spoken over the VHF for all to hear, Tom IV placed the paper urn in the water off the transom of Infinity as the bag pipes played on the bow. All watched as it drifted west and settled into the warm lake waters, a sad and sobering moment.

Lastly, a dozen blue and silver balloons were launched. Everyone watched them rise and quickly disappear into the western sky.

The burial at sea was done.



Photos Courtesy of Steve Watts

E. LANE

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BY DAN DUNDON

WHAT'S THE GOOD WORD?

Here 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. Here are some "good words" to ponder:

The difference between genius and stupidity is that genius has its limits.

- Albert Einstein

If we put the Federal Government in charge of the Sahara Desert, in five years there would be a shortage of sand.

- Milton Friedman

If you got a beautiful dream, by God, don't wait too long, because you'll be a long time gone!

- Willem Lange

Worry is a thin stream of fear trickling through your mind. If encouraged, it cuts a channel into which all other thoughts are drained.

- Arthur Somers Roche

The pleasantest things in the word are pleasant thoughts. The great art of life is to have as many of them as possible.

- Montaigne

As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them.

- John F. Kennedy

The truth of the matter is that you always know the right thing to do. The hard part is to do it.

- Norman Schwarzkopf

If I like you, I'm gonna tease you, and give you crap. If I don't like you, do you know what I'm gonna say to you... nuthin.

- Jesse James

You cannot hang out with negative people and expect to have a positive life.

- Dave Runser PC CPYC

Doing nothing is very hard to do. You never know when you are finished.

- Leslie Nielson

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, some good words from two friends who very much get along with one another:

Fun is about as good a habit as there is.

- Jimmy Buffet

The best way to make a place safe for people is to remove the people.

- Tom Madura



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A Leaky Sailboat Changes Her Tune

PART 1

by Larie Pinte

I was in the middle of the bay and the south west wind had just disappeared. Things had started out fine from my tie ups at one of the docks of the commercial fishing company. The whole thing started when classmate Ross Kingsley offered to take me for a sail in his sailboat. Since Ross was at the steering stick at the rear of the boat, I was quickly relegated to the large tin can to scoop and throw out the water leaking into the boat.

Well!! I thought this must be a custom of all sailboats to toss out the water. If I slackened my pace, Ross encouraged me to fling more water. We sailed over to the Public Dock and then returned to the West Slip where his father had a docking space. I thought sailing was okay unless you were the guy who throws out the water.

Ross then made his proposal: he would sell me the 12 foot boat, complete with sail for \$50. He knew I had been saving my pay from the A and P grocery store on 12th near French. It must have been a crazy moment, but after a minute of thought, essentially (that I could take girls for a ride in my sailboat) I said yes for \$45. We shook on it and he showed me how to take the sail down - and put it up. He explained the stick at the back of the stern as a tiller used to steer the boat.

See I was learning fast about sailboats - this is the bow and this is the stern. Good.

Two days later I stood in the Kingsley backyard and found my sailboat there dry as a bone. I discovered it was so since it was out of the water. Undaunted the two of us managed to put the boat on the back bumper of my 1932 Ford coupe and over the roof. Why it didn't fall off during the ride down to the waterfront, I don't know and with the indomitability of a seventeen year old, less than one year away from the draft and my role in World War II.

I owned a leaky sailboat, whose claim to fame was that it was built by the Lund Boat Works, when the Depression cut the building rate of big yachts.

I drove down to the dirt road leading to the fish company, visible through the huge wooden reels used to dry the gill nets they put down in Lake Erie to catch the blue pike. I wondered what next?

What I was doing there I can't explain at this late date. But I drove in to the commercial area and looked for a place to put the boat while I repaired it - obviously it needed some surgery. How was I going to get the boat off the car alone? Suddenly the solution came without a cry of "help."

Two commercial fishermen, seeing my dilemma, came over and without a word, lifted the boat and put it on some wooden horses. They must have recognized her (boats are female) as needing help, lots of it. They looked it over and said there was rot in the planking where it joined the transom and more rot in the transom. Help! No one answered. The job was all mine.

As they explained it, I needed to cut four inches off the stern of the boat and find a new transom. I started to look around at home. But luck was with me. In a closet at home I found the perfect piece of wood. It was the piece my mother used to expand the dining wood table at home during Thanksgiving.

Larie Pinte is the retired managing editor of the Erie Morning News.

At the age of 89 he is still writing, reaching way back for some early day sailing stories.

Mom would never miss it, I figured, and Thanksgiving was a long way off. The boat needed it more than the dining room table.

So I set to work with some of my father's best tools and cut four inches off the stern, piece by piece, by piece. It was a long job. The old transom finally on the ground, the stern wide open, I used to transcribe the piece of oak from a stogy old piece of dining room table into a magnificent boat transom (so I thought.)

With my father's plane I beveled the ends of the planking and spent my last two bucks on galvanized wood screws - and now to put it all together!!

(Continued in next issue of "The LOG")

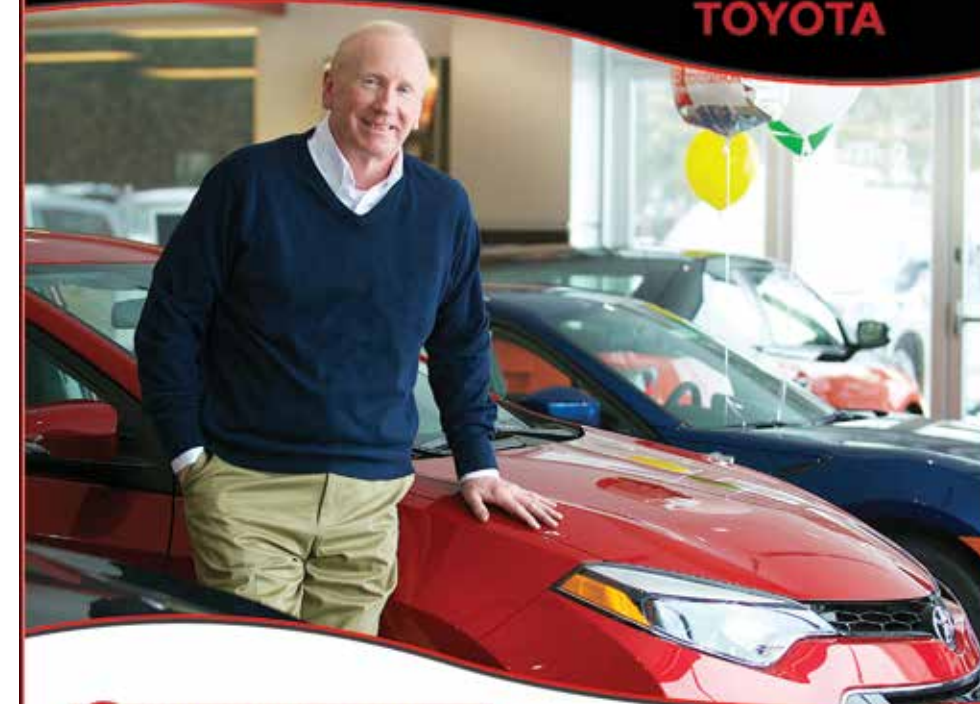
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Cruisers Rocked the Season!

By Bob Cunningham

The excitement and fun continues for EYC Cruising Fleet members this fall, despite that our vessels are on the hard. I think I can speak for all that as a result of our inaugural summer's cruising adventures, we have new friends and wonderful memories to share.

As word has spread about our cruising fun, many other EYC power boaters have expressed interest in joining our group next season. The time to join is now! As fellow boaters plan a cocktail get-together on November 10th from 6 to 8 pm at the Club. We hope you will join us as we look forward to growing this Fleet during various winter get-togethers.

During our upcoming meetings, we will enjoy the camaraderie, grow our membership and plan more travel excursions. Next year in addition to short trips and local events, we would like to plan one or two longer trips, maybe 7-10 days. Possible destinations would be Cedar Point, Put-in-Bay, Kelly's Island etc.; or we'll consider heading the other direction to Buffalo and Grand River.

And what a summer it was! The Cruising Fleet held events late in the season, including another fun raft up in the marina. The new friendships we have all developed along with one of the best Erie summers in recent memory made for an enjoyable time to say the least.

Won't you join us?

Contact me at 873-4756 or Karen Imig-Cairns at 881-5367.

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 18th, 2016.

CANDIDATES

COMMODORE - ELECT ONE:
David Haller

VICE COMMODORE - ELECT ONE:
Greg Gorny

REAR COMMODORE - ELECT ONE:
Bill Gloekler

FLEET CAPTAIN - ELECT ONE:
Peter Lund
Bob Cunningham

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - ELECT TWO:
Gary Borowy
David Davis
Christopher Grychowski
Richard Seibel

NOMINATING COMMITTEE - ELECT THREE:
P/C David Heitzenrater
Danton McGill
Alex Nagle
Russell Thompson
Stephen Watts

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 18th 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 Brad Enterline, Tom Madura and Ross Rectenwald.

Also Nominating Committee members:
P/C Tom Trost, Chair, Dan Dundon-First Vice Chair, P/C Gerald Urbaniak-Second Vice Chair, Jeffrey Benson-Member, Michael Koehler-Member, P/C Ed Schuler-Ex-Officio and Commodore John Orlando-Ex-Officio

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

The minutes of the 2015 Annual Meeting and the 2016 complete Financial Statement will be made available for members to pick up on November 8th, 2016 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 DAVID HALLER

I would like to thank the Bridge, the Board, the House Committee, the membership and all the dedicated Yacht Club employees who supported me as Vice Commodore for this great year we have had.

The House Committee this year consisted of the the following dedicated Erie Yacht Club Members - John Orlando, Bradley Enterline, Andrew Fritts, Dan Dundon, Rob Orlando, Rick Hersey, Bob Nelson, Julie Arthurs, Sue Kuebler and Mike Lynch.

The hot box, griddle, broiler, system blender, and steamer are of course the House Galley items which we purchased under capital budget in 2016.

This year we solved a major mystery as to why the WI-Fi system was so poor and we are in the long process of bringing it up to speed. We introduced many new menu items which were generally well accepted. We continued to make Thursday Night Happy Hour a great success with Food and Beverage sales increased 8+%. With these and the many other events which are held throughout the year the House remains profitable. I have to mention the overwhelming popularity of the catering events which we enjoy also. The above is a general overview of the House for 2016. If you would like details, come to the Annual Meeting.

As your Commodore, I will pursue my responsibilities with the same vigor and enthusiasm as in the past, and I ask for your vote for this office. The honor of serving the Club is my pleasure. I wish to thank my wife Ann for supporting me all the time I have spent away from home.



VICE COMMODORE GREG GORNY

I want to thank this year's Dock Committee members for the time and effort they put into handling the numerous challenges that we faced this year. There were requests for new slips, numerous requests for slip changes, and requests by members returning to boat ownership. The Committee worked tirelessly to align the member's requests and the Club's policies.

This year I passed the reins of the Grounds Committee to Bill Gloekler under whose capable hands several major projects were completed. This year I also spent significant time as a member of the Finance Committee, a committee which I feel has made the most significant contribution to the long term financial well-being of the Club.

I am looking forward to serving the Club this coming year as Vice Commodore and chairing the House Committee. I expect a smooth transition as I was involved with that committee this year under Dave Haller's leadership. The entire team of Club members, staff, and management worked together to upgrade the house business. I will strive to continue to improve the services we provide.

I would like to thank everyone who has helped me these past two years on the Bridge, and am looking forward to working with them and many other new faces in the coming year.



REAR COMMODORE BILL GLOEKLER

This has been a very active year for two committees on which I serve as chairman, Grounds and Finance. Both committees are supported by a great set of member volunteers who truly make my job as Fleet Captain much easier. Thank you!

Grounds Committee project list is very long and included many significant projects; evaluation and purchase of a new dump truck, purchase and installation of new alarm pedestal pull boxes, installation of new Wi-Fi routers, upgrade of the natural gas well, installation of a new east fence, and addition of 2 drainage zones to the east side of Ravine Drive.

If that was not enough, the I-Dock renovation was fully developed and approved. It is truly amazing the amount of detailed work that is needed to launch this \$ 525,000 project! Some of the milestones included: evaluating floating vs fixed finger piers, creating detailed specs, working with contractors to get firm quotes, tabulating all bids for full project cost estimates, modeling Basin Fund cash flow, creating a mock-up of improved finger piers, and holding a Town Hall meeting with I-Dock slip holders. The next 6 months will continue to be very busy as this project gets underway and moves to completion in this spring. Thank you for your patience during this time!

The Finance Committee has been very busy as well. As you read this we will be in final negotiations to refinance our Basin debt. While no new funds are being sought, we had an opportunity to refinance the existing debt. The refinance loan is at a significant lower interest rate with improved terms. Our goal is to retire this debt sooner than the Dec 2021 maturity date. I look forward to assuming the duties of Rear Commodore and wish to thank all of you for your support.

The Bridge Officers



FLEET CAPTAIN BOB CUNNINGHAM

As a 28-year member of the Erie Yacht Club. I've enthusiastically dedicated much time serving as an EYC Board of Director and on many Club committees, some of which include the Long Range Planning Committee (past chairman); Dock Committee (8 years); Grounds, Centennial and House Committees and on the Fundraising Committee for the Rickloff building.

My wife, Dianne and I have also been dedicated to building our business, "Home Instead Senior Care" through the years. With a combined roster of almost 500 employees and clients, we work hard to ensure that our tagline "to us it's personal" is revered. To this end, as business owners we are also committed to supporting charitable endeavors and special events in our community and our Club.

For years many of us have witnessed the camaraderie of the EYC Sailing Fleet. Inspired by this, Dianne and I along with other members established the EYC Cruising Fleet. We were blown away by the response and participation in the first season and look forward to the continued growth of this fleet!

Speaking of being "blown away", this summer with prior sailing experience under my belt, I had the pleasure to race on Vinnie Cifelli's J-24, "Full Blown." Our Wednesday night races provided new friendships and a deeper appreciation of the agility required in sailing. I am fully committed to the continued vitality of the Erie Yacht Club. If elected, I will use my EYC Board and committee experience to build upon the legacy set forth by our Past Commodores.

And like so many members, I've raised my kids and now my grandkids here. The Club remains our "home away from home" and our three-year-old granddaughter's favorite place to eat and relax. (Just ask Lilly!)

It would be my privilege and honor to serve the members as Fleet Captain. Thank you for your consideration.



FLEET CAPTAIN PETER LUND

The Erie Yacht Club has been my second home for more than 50 years. Like many of you I grew up at the Erie Yacht Club. I remember fondly the activities at the Reyburn Sailing School, fishing off the EYC docks, and even my first summer job washing a few boats each week. These experiences developed my understanding and respect for the water as well as a sense of independence and responsibility. My youth spent at the Erie Yacht Club carried into adulthood where the club has been an endless source of many an exaggerated sailing story!

I have watched our Club thrive and grow even as other clubs in Erie have struggle. This is a direct result of the dedicated efforts and active leadership by past and present bridge members in conjunction with our excellent management team. Outside of the obvious assets of our clubhouse, docks, and location our greatest asset is the membership and their respect for the water and one another which makes our Club very special and successful. I have had the privilege to contribute to the health and welfare of our Club as Fleet Surgeon and the occasional article to The LOG. I wish to do more and carry on the good work of our past leaders. I hope to use my leadership skills to continue our Club's inviting atmosphere for the families of northwest Pennsylvania. My mission as Fleet Captain is to be a good steward of our Club. I will promote the Club's health and welfare, camaraderie, and the maritime experiences. Like any good steward, my goal is to leave the Club and membership in better condition.

Thank you for the privilege to run for Fleet Captain

**Don't Forget to Cast your Vote
On Friday, November 18th at 7:30 PM**

Candidates for Board of Directors



GARY BOROWY

I am happy to volunteer to serve on the Board of Directors of the Erie Yacht Club, and will do so faithfully, if elected. I was born and raised in Erie, and am happy to say I have lived here my entire life. I love Erie, particularly its waterfront, and have boated here since I was a child. Joining the Erie Yacht Club in 2006 was one of the best decisions I have made. The friendships my wife and I have formed, and the entertainment we have enjoyed here, are very special. I hope to contribute my talents to help enable this Club to continue to operate successfully so others may enjoy what we have.

After graduating from Penn State, I began a career in the insurance industry and have owned and operated Borowy Insurance Agency since 1974. I enjoy interacting with people, and look forward to listening to, and satisfying the needs of our membership. I currently serve on the Board of Directors at Harborcreek Youth Services, and Supportive Living Services.

Working with others, we have been able to guide these organizations to operate efficiently, while providing the best possible service to our clients. If elected, I promise to assist the Erie Yacht Club to continue to deliver the service you expect, and operate in a fiscally responsible manner. Thank you to the Nominating Committee for selecting me as a candidate. I look forward to seeing everyone at our Club.



DAVID DAVIS

I am honored 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 25 years and living just a few minutes "up the hill" have considered it our second home. Our children Sarah and Ben grew up here learning to sail, jet skiing and boating. Now 22, Ben is a member. Aboard our boat "Steel' N Time" we enjoyed becoming a part of the EYC Cruisers this summer.

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 30 years where I have had to make critical financial decisions and hard choices, always looking at the big picture and not letting the menusha of the moment alter my path.

I have been 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%.



CHRIS GRYCHOWSKI

I wish to thank the Nominating Committee for selecting me as a candidate for this year's ballot for the Board of Directors.

A little over 7 years ago I had a conversation with P/C Tom Trost telling him how much I enjoyed spending time at our Club. I expressed how warm and welcoming the membership is, and how it's been a home away from home for me. That night Tom challenged me to get more involved at the Club by volunteering my time. Since then, I've been very active. I currently serve as a member of the Grounds Committee (6th year), the Rickloff Community Boathouse Committee (3rd year), and as an advisor to the Reyburn Sailing School Committee (7th year). I am also the current Director of the Reyburn Sailing School (7th year) and have been blessed to have all three of my children participate in the program. In the past, I even served as a member of both the Docks and House Committees. I can't thank Tom enough for challenging me that night; my involvement at our Club these last 7 years has been amazing.

I would be honored to serve you as a member of the Board of Directors and I thank you for your consideration and support.



RICHARD SEIBEL

It is an honor to be recognized as a candidate for this service. Enjoying the waters of Erie's shoreline has been a passion of mine since visiting my grandparents and departing from the EYC for a fishing trip when I was just three years old, I was eternally hooked! Since then, our family has enjoyed an assortment of boats, from power to sail, from PWC to self-propelled, taking pleasure in both the fun and the work associated with such ownership. Through my family, I have enjoyed the benefits of the EYC for more than 50 years, appreciating the club's offerings through every season. Each member of my family enjoys a different aspect of the water, which allows me to experience it all.

A little about me for those faces I recognize but have never had the pleasure to socialize with. Born in Erie, having lived here the majority of my life, I am just one component of a loving family. A Mercyhurst College grad, a CPA, having started my professional life at Price Water House Coopers, Pittsburgh, then locally with RS&S, and Zurn Industries, before a fulfilling 30 years in banking that is ongoing.

Volunteering is inherently my nature, I believe in giving back to the community that has provided me so much pleasure and support. I have served in many volunteer roles both professionally and socially, and currently am involved on the Junior Sailing Committee for the Club.

I believe I can effectively serve by blending both my affection for the Club, applying my professional training and experiences. I have witnessed firsthand the impressive evolution of the club's grounds and facilities over the past 50 years. Its continued improvement and the sustainability are of my utmost desire. With your confidence, I will continue the Club's attraction.

Candidates for Nominating Committee



**P/C DAVE
HEITZENRATER**

Having been a member of our fine Club for nearly forty years, I have served and continue to serve on numerous Club committees that have given me a great understanding of the mechanisms of our Club and the makeup of our membership, as such

I will strive for the best candidates to protect our important EYC traditions, candidates who will keep our Club strong and viable, candidates who will maintain and improve our lounge and galley services while fully understanding that we are by design a Yacht Club with numerous essential boating requirements that need to be maintained.

It is the obligation of the nominating committee members to select very dedicated, capable, highly quality candidates. If elected, I will seek candidates possessing these important attributes. I am highly honored to be nominated to serve on this extremely important committee, a committee which has considerable influence on shaping the future direction of our great organization.

Thank you for your consideration.



**DAN
McGILL**

I am honored to be asked to serve on the Nominating Committee. As someone who grew up away from any significant body of water (Grove City), I truly appreciate the opportunity to spend time by and on the water, and EYC is my favorite place to do so. My wife

Barbara grew up in the neighborhood above the Club. We bought our first boat in 1978, a Catalina 22, from the Erie Sailyard. We now enjoy having our family join us on our sailboat Serenity Now!, and one of my fondest hopes is they will be able to enjoy being by the water at EYC for their entire lifetimes. It is that hope that motivates me to become a contributing member of the Club.

I retired in 2011 from Koch Industries, where I managed a sales organization with annual revenue of more than \$160 million. As a manager, I understood that to achieve our goals, it was very important to find good candidates for our team. For the Club to continue to thrive in a future certain to full of challenges, I believe we need to continue to find good candidates for the leadership of the Club.

Thank you for your consideration!



**ALEX
NAGLE**

It is an honor to be a candidate for a position on the Nominating Committee, and I look forward to continuing my service to the Erie Yacht Club.

As a current member of the Junior Sailing Committee I have gained a deep respect for the hard work that goes into running our Club.

While I have the utmost respect for our professional management and staff, the success of our Club would not be possible without the leadership of our Bridge and Board and the countless hours of volunteer work performed by the many committees that oversee every aspect of the Erie Yacht Club. Seeking out enthusiastic members to serve on these committees has made our Club what it is today and is what will ensure that we have a strong future.

I have been a member of the Erie Yacht Club for over 15 years, though these docks have been with me my entire life. It is my belief that the great things in life can never be taken for granted, and I hope that I can continue to give back to this Club as a member of the Nominating Committee.

Thank you for your consideration for this important position.



**RUSSEL
THOMPSON**

Thank you for the honor of this nomination. Electing the right people is paramount to the future success of the Club. While clubs all around struggle in varying degrees, it is clear, through strong leadership and intelligent management that this Club has not only survived but thrived. If elected, I intend to help to continue this fine tradition.

I believe I have the experience and judgment necessary to help render solid recommendations to the membership. I have been a member of the Club since 1995 and served the Club in many ways. I led the Sailing Fleet as Chairman in 2005 and I have been serving in many capacities ever since, including the Dock Committee.

While it is true that I hopped the fence as a teenager to catch a glimpse of 'The Masker' I hope that my power boat friends will know that I will serve all boaters and all members equally.

I am the CEO of a software company based in Allentown, PA since 1989. I draw on that experience and my experience here at the EYC.

I ask for your support and thank you for your kind consideration.



**STEPHEN
WATTS**

There is no place that has had more influence on my life than the Erie Yacht Club; consequently, I would welcome the chance to serve on the Nominating Committee. I have been either a guest, employee, associate or regular slip holding member of the Erie Yacht club for

35 years and I feel that my diverse exposure to our Club will allow me to make informed decisions on our future leadership.

Like the businesses I have worked for during my manufacturing career, our Club faces succession planning issues and the need to get new team members onboard as the organization grows and faces challenges.

Our Club is growing and meeting these challenges due to the hard work and skillful efforts of those that we will nominate on your behalf. I to, pledge my hard work and best efforts to insure that this continues.

Countless hours sailing with lifelong friends in the EYC Racing Fleet and welcoming my son as a Junior Family member have been great experiences for me; not to mention meeting my wife under the picnic shelter during a Reyburn Sailing Class. I would be honored to give back to the Club with a seat on the Nominating Committee.

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Club Offers Absentee Ballot

The 2016 Annual Meeting will take place on Friday November 18th On September 20th, 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 like your ballot mailed. Ballots will be mailed on Monday, October 24th, which is 25 days prior to the Annual Meeting on November 18th.

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 18, 2016 @ 7:30.

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

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New Years Day
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Sunday
January 1st
2017
1100 to 1300 Hours

Members Only Please



November Calendar of Club Events

- 5th EYC Racing Fleet Awards Banquet
Club Closed at 2pm
6pm Registration & Cocktails
6:45 Dinner Buffet - \$24 per person
Entertainment by The Breeze
See registration form on the Club website
- 6th A la carte Breakfast • 10am - 2pm
- 9th EYC Fellowship Dinner
"PA Sea Grant"
Presented by David Boughton
6pm - 9pm • Dinner 6:45
Reservations at 453-4931
- 12th Special Wine Tasting Dinner • 6pm
Featuring Wines of South America
A five course Tapas menu with
specifically selected wines to
compliment each course
\$75+ per person / limited seating
- 13th A la carte Breakfast • 10am - 2pm
- 18th EYC Annual Meeting • 7:30pm
Only regular members permitted
at meeting • No guests or spouses
Dining room opens at 5pm - 7pm
- 20th EYC's Sunday Jazz Brunch
Music with the Jim Madden Duo
10:30am - 1:30pm • \$19 per person
- 23rd EYC Turkey Bowl • 5pm - 9pm
Complimentary Hors d'oeuvres
Drink Specials • \$14 Dinner specials
Entertainment by Encore
- 27th A la carte Breakfast • 10am - 2pm

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Keep Christmas
Merry and Let
the EYC Handle
Your Party!

Another Christmas party season is fast approaching! The Erie Yacht Club is the perfect location for your business or organization's 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@eriyachtclub.org.

Happy Holidays!



December Calendar of Club Events

- 3rd Members Christmas Party & Dinner
Dance
6:30 Cocktails & Hors d' Oeuvres
Entertainment by Manhattan
\$32.95+ per person
Reservations at 453-4931
- 4th A la carte Breakfast • 10am - 2pm
- 10th Breakfast with Santa • 10am
Visit with Santa • Decorate an
Ornament from Claytopia
Entertainment from the Collegiate
Academy Vocal Jazz Ensemble
reservations required
- 11th A la carte Breakfast • 10am - 2pm
- 13th Dinner with Santa • 6pm
Santa Visits • Kids decorate an
Ornament from Claytopia
Entertainment from the Collegiate
Academy Vocal Jazz Ensemble
reservations required
- 17th On Deck Winter Solstice Party
6pm - 10pm • Join Old Man Winter
and EYC members in celebrating
the longest night of the year!
Drink specials and entertainment
by Key West Express
- 18th A la carte Breakfast • 10am - 2pm
- 24th Christmas Eve Club closes at 2pm
- 25th Christmas Day Club Closed
- 31st The EYC's New Years Eve Bash!
Hors d' oeuvres at 7:30
Party Favors • Champagne Toast
Music with Street Level 9pm - 1am
reservations required

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

www.eriyachtclub.org



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