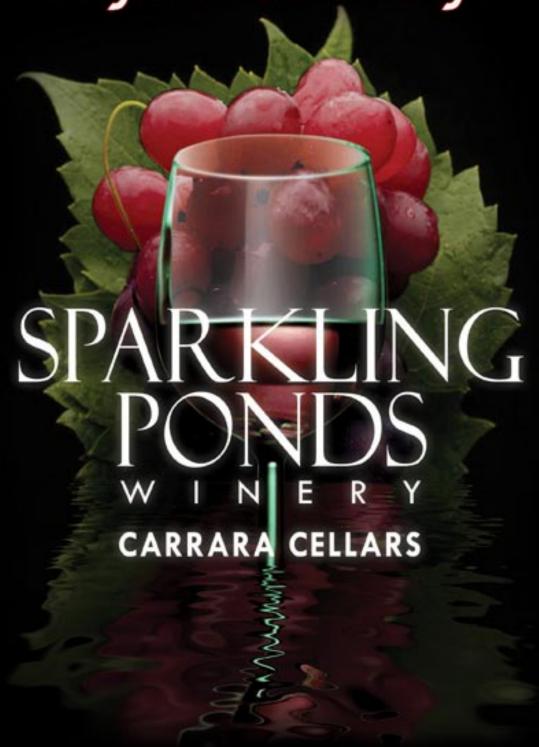


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CONTENTS

Welcome Home Niagara	4
Trans Atlantic Cruise	6
Colebrate Winter	8
Reyburn Saffing School & Racing Team	10
Cruise the Granalines	114
Learning the Ropes	24
A Commodore's Wedding	26
EYC Election Section	33
Honey I Can't Help It	13
Jr Salling on the Move	16
Calabrate the Holidays at the EYC	31

From the Bridge

by Commodore Gerry Urbaniak

As I think back over the years of my service here at the Club, I have so many memories of my family; that is to say, my Erie Yacht Club family. I am grateful to you for the moments when we shared fun, and light-heartedness, for the times when hard work and endless meetings and discussions yielded great things, and even for those times of tragedy, when our family came together for support, while helping one another to heal our wounds. If a family shows its true colors in times of adversity, then our Club has been a brilliant rainbow for all to gaze upon. To say I have been proud to be at the helm of this organization during these years would be an understatement, as they have been some of the finest years of my life.

I am in the debt of good friends and past

Commodores who have helped guide my hand, and I am excited for my Bridge Officers. Dave Heit-

zenrater, Matt Niemic, Ed Schuler, and Karen Imig, for the work and development that they will carry on. They have great plans for our Club, and the abilities needed to match those plans.

My 93 year-old father once told me "Take pride in your family, and always give them your support". As I conclude my service to this great Club, I promise that I will. And I look forward to so many more wonderful times with all of you.

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On the Cover...

The EYC helped welcome home the Niagara with a celebration at the Club's Lighthouse. The event served as a fundraiser and membership promotion for the Niagara League.



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set a time, you won't go." This was my introduction to Mr. Buckley. Security Peoples Trust was holding a reception for Mr. Buckley before he spoke at the Bank's luncheon. I was introduced to WFB as a sailor who planned to sail across the Atlantic Ocean. WFB then asked when I was going. I replied, "We haven't set a time." This prompted his abrupt response... typical of the man! But, WFB's reply sent me to the telephone, I believe later the same day, to consult with Jim Stolley of EYC and George Hays of Mentor Harbor Yachting Club. They concurred; let's set at time to sail across the Atlantic, and we did. May 25 of the following year, 1983, was the target. [WFB conceded that if we had to change the date, that was OK, but we would likely make the trip.]

The book AIRBORNE authored by WFB spawned the thought of a Trans Atlantic Cruise. I had read the book some months before WFB was in Erie to speak. In the book WFB admit-

illiam F. Buckley, Jr. said, "If you do not ted to a number of mistakes as a yachtsman. Impressed that such a knowledgeable gentleman could make such errors, I wrote him a letter advising him that there may be hope for me as I made some of the same mistakes with Diablo. Following in the footsteps of such a notable, intelligent and worldly sailor was most encouraging. WFB resurrected my letter prior to his Erie visit. He knew he would likely meet me as I had invited him to take a sail after his speech. Unfortunately his schedule did not permit him the time to go sailing on Presque Isle Bay.

> So, with a date set it was time to plan. George went to work examining routes to Europe and weather patterns along various routes. Jim purchased a sextant and began taking sun and moon sightings using his neighbors roof as a horizon. I, along with our daughter yacht broker, Linda, began looking for a sailboat to charter. We wanted a captain, someone who knew the boat we were chartering very well.

When something malfunctions at sea, the only repair talent is on board the vessel on which you are sailing! We all agreed, the sailboat we would charter was to be large enough that we could have other crew members. But, as we would be together for a month or more, we wanted to be sure of choosing well known compatible friends

Sparkman Stephens, a noted sailboat designer (Diablo, for instance) and yacht broker, advised Linda and me that they may have the perfect fit. A two year old Swan 56' would be sailing from the Caribbean in the spring for a charter in midsummer in the Mediterranean. The sailboat, Stampede, a ketch, was presently in Falmouth, MA having her teak decks replaced as the originals were too thin and showed evidence of warping. Her captain, Andy, and wife, Wendy, were living aboard while the deck was replaced... a perfect time to meet the professional crew and inspect the boat. Jim, George and I all agreed, a two year old Swan, not with standing the needed teak deck repair, would be more than acceptable; our chief interest was the nature of the professional crew.

Joan and I quickly arranged a visit to Linda and Ethan in Marblehead, MA and then a drive to Falmouth to see Stampede, but primarily to "interview" Andy and Wendy. The boat and Wendy passed my inspection on sight. After a tour of the beautiful Swan and a long lunch with Andy and Wendy, it appeared a perfect match as Sparkman Stephen's representative suggested! My report to George and Jim was glowing. The quoted charter price was acceptable. I had mentioned to Andy that my sailing friends, George and Jim would also like to meet he and Wendy. Sparkman Stephens advised that Andy would like to meet, or at least visit by phone with other crew members. It seemed, Andy and Wendy were also very interested in being comfortable with the "crew", who would be with them for a month, before

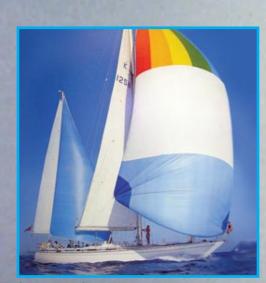
they accepted us as a charter.

After all hands had talked and met, the charter was finalized. Stampede was to be in St. Thomas on the date we planned to cast off. We did by necessity defer our original departure date by one day. Mr. Stolley had a Hammermill Board Meeting that took precedent. (George and I felt Jim had trouble properly establishing priorities.)

From St Thomas we planned to sail to Bermuda, from Bermuda to the Azores and then to Puerto Banus, Spain. Now, who would like to join us on the cruise? The three of us had sailed each of the past five years with a group of friends to Port Dover; we called it the Annual International Diablo Fall Cruise. This took place in early October. We had some stormy sails and had many opportunities to know our crew mates well. Most all were interested in our Trans Atlantic Cruise until we stated a one month time frame... hard for most to take off that much time to say nothing of the family

complications if one is gone for that period. EYC P/C Dave Schuler knew of our cruise and asked if he could sail one of the legs. That's how we could accommodate several of our sailing friends who had weddings, graduations and other priorities. The three of us arranged a lunch with Dave so George, also a P/C of MHYC, could meet Dave. The lunch went well, after which we asked Dave if he'd like to join us. He asked, "Which leg?" We said, " How about the whole Cruise." He was delighted... now we were four. Jim Stolley's twin brother, Dick, then Editor of People Magazine, and Bill Underhill joined us for the sail to Bermuda. Bill returned to Erie for several graduations and doctoring responsibilities. He returned two weeks later along with Don Leslie, to join us in the Azores. Felix Davis, the Merrill Lynch stockbroker who we knew through his relationship with Zurn Industries and Russ Newton, a close friend of Dave's, joined us in

continued on page 21



Stampede a Swan 57 Ketch and our temporary



Joan Bert in Charoltte watching Stampede and crew depart for Puerto departure for Puerto Banus, Spain.



Stampede in Puerto Banus with Joan Bert & Captain Andy Smith.



Stampede arriving in Puerto Banus Spain. (I to r) Dave Schuler, Boyd Bert, George Hays, Capt. Andy Smith, Wendy Smith First Mate, Chef & Andv's Wife.



After our arrival in Puerto Banus Spain (I to r) Joan Bert, Dave Schuler and yours truly.

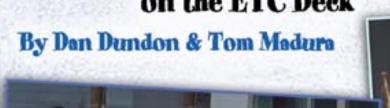
Trans Atlantic Crise

"If you don't set a time, you won't go."

by Boyd Bert

Celebrate Wimter! At the Winter Solstice Happy Hour

on the EYC Deck



he 2010 Winter Solstice Party was another resounding success! If you were there, you know what we're talking about - and if you weren't, well - WHY NOT?

An outdoor deck party in the middle of December may seem crazy to some, but when the formidable resources of the Erie Yacht Club are put in motion, Mother Nature is no obstacle to a rocking good time!

First, in the days leading up to the Solstice, R/C Matt Niemic and Dock Master Bill Vogel impressed us all by once again framing in the south end of the deck and installing a door. Then Matt assembled a motley crew consisting of P/C Dave Amatangelo, P/C Ron Busse, P/C Tom Trost, John Orlando, and Tom Madura to shrink-wrap the entire deck and hold winter at bay (at least for one night).

Saturday December 18th - cloudy, gray, 25 degrees - Time to Party! With the gas heaters going full blast, and Key West Express providing some tropical tunes, the party got underway. Except for the North Pole-style attire worn by most folks, it almost seemed like a summer Sunset Happy Hour! There were a few brave (or perhaps crazy) souls in shorts and tropical shirts trying to stretch the season, and the dance floor was constantly crowded.

But then, slowly, it seemed the seasons were changing as temperatures plunged through autumn and slid toward "arctic".

Disaster had struck! The gas heaters had shut off! Undaunted, the EYC members took it in stride and just huddled closer together for warmth, and our intrepid bartender Lynda kept

serving up the Irish Coffee or Hot Buttered Rum to keep the party going. Commodore Gerry Urbaniak and V/C Dave Heitzenrater leapt into action! A desperate call to Dock-master Bill Vogel resulted in a miracle. Bill left a warm fireplace at home on his day off to rescue shivering EYC members. Bill worked on the gas well and heaters with Dave and Gerry until the warmth roared back on. Disaster averted - Party on!

Then, just to liven things up even more - it was time for fireworks! John Orlando and "Skip" Grychowski worked their pyrotechnic magic out on the lawn and the guest dock. As the "oohs" and "aahs" were subsiding, what to our wondering eyes should appear? Not St. Nick. but Old Man Winter himself, here to greet the Solstice at EYC! The personal appearance was arranged by P/C Tom Trost and his band of cohorts. As he strode from table to table, passing out candy and good cheer, Old Man Winter sure was popular, judging by the women crowding around to have their picture taken with him. Rumors that he bore a striking resemblance to P/C Dick Robertson are still being investigated. You can judge for yourself from the accompanying photos.

So once again, The Erie Yacht Club Winter Solstice Party accomplished its goal: The double celebration of both the turn-of-the-seasons as well as soon-to-be-increasing daylight hours! In a very short time we will again be enjoying our Thursday Sunset Happy Hours on the EYC Deck! See you there, December 17, 2011! Woo-hoo!

How the Granch (almost) stole Winter Solstice By Tom Madura

(With profound apologies to Dr. Seuss)

The Grinch hated winter! He hated it all The snow and the cold, and the roads by the Mall No one knows why he hated it so It could be, just maybe, he had no place to go. But perhaps the most likely reason of all, His imagination was just a few sizes too small.

But whatever the reason. No dreams or no space. He stood up on the hill with a big frown on his face, Looking down at the Yacht Club, with all its decorations in place. For he knew Dan and Tom, and their cohorts in crime, Were planning to celebrate, this cold winter-time!

"A party in Winter!" he growled, most disgusted. "These EYC members just can't be trusted!" Then he thought to himself, while Grinch-ily humming, "I MUST stop this Solstice Party from coming!"

For he knew on the Solstice, all those boaters and crews, Would party outside what did they have to lose? And they'd laugh and they'd mingle, and they'd drink! Drink! Drink! Drink! Then they'd mingle some more, and they might even feast, But mingling the Grinch couldn't stand in the least!

And then they'd do something he liked least

Every EYC member, the tall and the small, When Key West Express put them all in a trance,

To the tropical music, all those boaters would dance!

They'll dance and they'll dance! And then dance some more! They'll dance in bare feet on that wooden deck floor! The Grinch thought and he thought, 'til he furrowed his brow, I've got to stop this party and stop it right now!

Then the Grinch hatched a plan, on that cold winter night; A plan so ingenious, it might work it just might! So he knew what to do, and without missing a beat, He grinned a Grinch grin and he turned off the heat!

Then the Grinch wandered down, To confront the Club members, Laughing outside in the midst of December. "It's freezing out here! Go back inside!" "Boaters partying in Winter! This I cannot abide!"

"All this shrink-wrap and heaters What a big waste of time! This deck is for summer not mid-winter time!" But as the Grinch looked around, he saw that no one was there! They'd all left the deck there were fireworks in the air!

And then with much ooh-ing and aah-ing, the boaters all cheered.

When Old Man Winter approached, as the smoke and sparks cleared! He had candy to toss, and a big smile on his face Why, it seemed that his being there really warmed up the place!

So the party continued, and the band kept on playing! The hot rum kept flowing and the dancers kept swaying! They swayed and they swayed, and they danced to each song! And the Grinch watched and thought to himself "Could I have been... wrong?"

Then the strangest thing happened To the Grinch on that day. First he listened, and watched, then he started to sway! Then he did something else a most un-Grinch-like treat, The Grinch started laughing. and turned up the heat!

Whatever it was, The Grinch changed his tune. He now likes December just as much as June! "Why waste time moping", he says with a grin, "These winter-time parties are a WIN! WIN! WIN! WIN!"

And the Grinch even danced, and mingled some, too. He had a few drinks, with friends old and new. And the Grinch, he himself, after one final beer, Said "I love Winter Solstice, just wait 'til next year!"







his past summer, the Reyburn Sailing School enjoyed its 61st season. Thanks to a strong and committed staff we saw our numbers grow across the board from 2010. On August 16th we celebrated the summer with our annual Junior Sailing Banquet. That night we celebrated all of our kids' accomplishments and looked back at the precious memories that we shared together.

Every year during the last week of the season the kids show off their skills by competing in races against one another. Everyone of our kids work very hard in the weeks leading up to the races for a shot at winning. Each of the winners is then memorialized on trophies and plaques, which are on display in the Erie Yacht Club lobby. Following is a list of kids and their amazing accomplishments:

Commodore's Cup

1st Place

Nick Pardini and Noah Nicolia 2nd Place

Anna Bloomstine and Mikey Szelwach 3rd Place

Grant Kennedy and Fletcher Swanson

Opti Cup

1st Place

Jacob Stuart

2nd Place

J.J. Case 3rd Place

Michael Brennan

Opti Star Cup

1st Place

Andy Hedderman

2nd Place

Henry Polaski

3rd Place Garrett Blake

Friday Cup

1st Place

Peter Bloomstine and Andrew Schultz 2nd Place

Caroline Mashyna and Hannah Marchant

3rd Place

Tommy McWilliams and Jake Lehotsky

Instructor Cup

1st Place

Robert Schneider, Ken Schnall, and Thomas Francoeur

2nd Place

Andrew Polaski, Shane Moore, and Michael Tseng

3rd Place

Jane Taylor, Alice Squeglia, Payton Taylor, and Catherine Taylor

Junior Cup

1st Place

Jack Niemic and Alexander Jones
2nd Place

Julya Polaski, Hannah Marchant, and Kaitlyn Kneidinger

3rd Place

Emma Francoeur, Mara Elliott, and Isabel Pontzer

Sportsmanship Boy: Garrett Blake

Sportsmanship Girl: Alice Squeglia

Most improved Boy: Andy Hedderman

Most Improved Girl: Emily Grychowski

Along with honing their sailing skills our kids were treated to many fun and exciting events. Once again we held our annual ice cream social on the deck, which was a huge success thanks to all of the moms who volunteered and helped every child build their own ice-cream sundaes. We also had one of the best "Pirate Days" ever. The day started with a massive water balloon fight on the water and concluded with a scavenger hunt. Thanks to some great planning from the instructors, the kids had to find clues both on and off the water, which led them to a treasure chest full of gold (chocolate) coins.

We also brought back a couple of old junior sailing traditions for the kids to experience this year. The first was "Big Boat Days"; it was two days of fun which gave our kids a chance to experience keel boat sailing. There were 6 boats that participated; Dreamer, Infinity, Lake Shark, Outlaw, Penguino, and Raven. We also had two back up boats who volunteered to host our kids but were not needed this year; Halcyon and Rakish. Everyone involved in the Reyburn Sailing School would like to extend a special thank you to all of the owners for their time and also sharing their boats with us.

Another great experience this year was a three club regatta against MHYC (Mentor Harbor) and CYC (Rocky River). This was the first competition between the clubs regular junior sailors in over 30 years. Back in the 70's it was

continued on page 28







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favorite magazines. I read an article by Chris Caswell who articulated the point that sailing behavior is in our genes. I have known this subconsciously and now I can rationalize my sailing guilt-free. So why is this important? Let me set the stage with my premarital and marital history.

When Amy and I were first dating in the summer of 1970 I asked her if she would crew on our little Rhodes Bantum. She said she was an experienced sailboat racer. I thought I had hit the jackpot with this woman. She was sexy, smart, and she could sail! On our second date, we were on the racecourse and I was skipper and Amy was crew. As we were approaching the windward mark I asked if she had experience in putting up and flying a spinnaker. She replied that she was a little rusty. Therefore we switched positions in the boat for the downward broad reach with Amy on the tiller and I was crew.

We rounded the mark in a good breeze, switched positions, and the spinnaker went up without panic or calamity. As the breeze picked up the boat became less stable and as I recall (Amy may differ at this point in the story) I calmly asked her to fall off to stabilize the boat. When she did not respond, I calmly repeated that several times saying, "Please fall off" (Amy may again have a different opinion on the sequence of events). To my surprise and shock, Amy responded with several ex-

pletives and said , "If you think I am jumping overboard for this G_d__ race, you are crazy."

This is how we began our life together on the water. Since that time I have missed our second wedding anniversary to sail the Lake Erie Interclub race on Boyd Bert's boat, "Diablo", purchased a laser instead of living room furniture while in residency in Toledo, OH, almost drowned Amy on our C & C 33 "Breakaway" while doing a jibe broach, subjected her to a few open ocean crossings with 25 foot seas in the Caribbean, and made her finish a race while she was suffering from biliary colic or a gallbladder attack. She experienced two major collisions on my current boat, "Taz". She was designated sewer rat on numerous races, has been injured and endured cuts, bruises, broken nails, cold wet underwear, bug bites, and bad food.

Despite all that history she is still at my side. She is either a saint, crazy, or perhaps has even had brain surgery of which I was unaware. It is my opinion that even the most inconsiderate jerk would feel guilty and I did until I read the article and now I realize IT IS NOT MY FAULT!!! Here comes your Fleet Surgeon and the science we all need to know and understand. There is good evidence that the previous disposition for certain behaviors can be found in our genes. As far back as 1910 Charles Davenport of Cold Harbor, NY tried to analyze and predict which men would be good naval

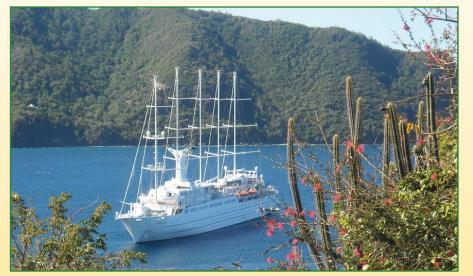
officers. He thought there was a Mendelian inheritance to these seafaring traits. This was explained in his 1919 monograph and he even named the trait thalassophilia. They have also recently found a gene that is associated with high-risk, irresponsible, and aggressive behavior. It is called the MAOA-L gene. Looking around the Yacht Club, I am sure there are a few in the racing fleet who would test positive for that geno type.

However, if it is not good enough to blame our DNA for our irresponsible behavior, there is good scientific evidence that we can blame our parents. There is new evidence that proteins that surround the DNA called epigenomes which interact with our DNA to unlock genes and allow them to be active are influenced by our environment and influenced even in utero by the experience of our parents, grandparents, and even our great grandparents. Currently there is a large human epigenome project aimed at cataloging and interpreting these epigenomes and looking at the specific exogenous influences such as stress, environment, and diet that may unlock much of the behavior of our DNA.

So brothers and sisters of the sea, you have heard it from your Fleet Surgeon. If the lawn needs to be cut or the laundry needs to be done but there is a beautiful breeze calling and it is dragging you away from these tasks, you can be AWOL guilt-free because it is in your genes!



Raising the sails, while guests enjoying breakfast on the open air Veranda.



The WindStar at anchor in a beautiful picturesque setting.

Wind Surf Cruise of the Grenadines

by Mary Morrison, PDYC



This large adult sea turtle is ready to be released in the ocean.



Baby turtles in a tub are part of the conservation program to "save the sea turtles".

So, you've cruised the Caribbean; seen the basic Nutmeg beans were for sale, you need to crack tourist islands – how about a ship that claims to be open the shell, and grate the Nutmeg. "180° from Ordinary"? That is the motto of the Windstar Line. They have 2 ships; the Spirit and the Star, that carry 148 passengers; plus the bigger ship Wind Surf (312 guests), that we chose because its' itinerary visited very small, out of the way islands of the lower Grenadines. It looks like a sailing vessel, with 5 masts, and 7 self-furling sails, of 26,881 sq. ft. of Dacron sails. But below they to reveal all the water toys, when anchored.)

We sailed from Barbados, and unfurled the sails, to cruise to tiny Bequia (pronounced Beckway). A scenic sightseeing tour of the small island was intriguing in the typical island-style taxi, face to face, bench seating, in the back of a pick up truck. A visit to the Old Hegg Turtle Sanctuary, introduced us to Mr. Orton King, whose mission in life is to save the turtles. He rescues the babies from the sand beach, and raises them in several tubs. feeding them at his expense, for 5 years, until they are ready to be released back to the beach from which they came. Mr. King does presentations to classes of school children, to teach them also to try to protect the endangered turtle.

Grenada, the Isle of Spice – we were welcomed by the steel band, and transported to the Donaldson Estate, to see the nutmeg drying in the sun on large roll out platforms (rolled back under the building in case of rain). The red plastic-like cover over the bean, known as Mace, was removed and dried in the sun, for separate sale. Of course, packages of

After a day at sea, when we sailed past the Grand Pitons of St. Lucia, we arrived at Roseau, Dominica. Being gutsy old guys, we took the Rain Forest Aerial Tram, through the lush vegetation of the forest. We were aware of the second half of the excursion, which included a walk across a suspension bridge. After nightmares of an Indiana Jones disaster of the bridge ripping in half and falling to accommodate 123 guest staterooms, 31 suites, and the side of the cliff, we were pleasantly surprised 2 deluxe Bridge suites, large restaurant, several to find the bridge fairly sturdy, if you didn't look specialty restaurants, a spa, fitness center, and the down, and nobody shook the bridge! Talk about amazing water sports platform, (the stern lowers kissing the ground! Pigeon Island is a National

continued on page 22



Sign says it all..."Welcome to Grenada the Spice of the Caribbean".



School children bonding with a teenage turtle.



The ship's Water Sports Platform has just about everything you'd want to frolic in the water.



PDYC's P/C Bob Morrison checking out the drawer of Nutmeg drying in the sun which can be quickly shoved back under the building in case of rain.



The "Gentleman's Chair" at the St. Nicholas Abbey Sugar Plantation, Barbados.



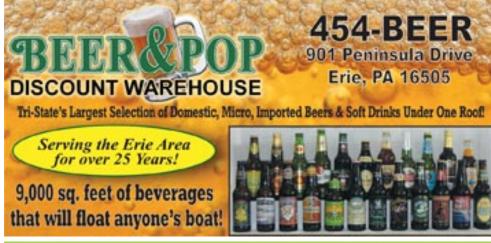
"Mace", is the outside of the nutmed seen here drying in the sun. Mace, like nutmeg, is used to flavor cakes and other sweets, but mace is also used in many savory dishes. These include meats, sauces, curries, pickling, ketchup, and even Worcestershire sauce.



Mr. Orton King pleads his case for turtle conservation, at the Old Hegg Turtle sanctuary. The sanctuary teaches school children the importance of turtle

- 14 -- 15 -





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Jr. Sailing... on the Move

by Fleet Caption Ed Schuler

The Jr. Sailing wing dock, at one time the north wall of the Club, is no longer there. It was removed in September to allow the Basin Reconstruction project to continue. However, that left us with a problem. We had to move the Jr. Sailing storage building. This building was built by members David Haller and John Willow, both construction industry veterans, in the 90's.

They had the foresight to design and build it to withstand being moved by a crane. It is a very stout little building, it suffered no ill effects from the trip across the road. Member Kim Carrara, from Carrara Steel Erectors, facilitated the move. The building will continue to serve the Jr. Sailing program until a new one is built on the west wall addition.









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THE FINAL INSPECTION



The Soldier stood and faced God. Which must always come to pass. He hoped his shoes were shining, Just as brightly as his brass. 'Step forward now, Soldier, How shall I deal with you? Have you always turned the other cheek? To My Church have you been true?' The soldier squared his shoulders and said, 'No, Lord, I guess I have not. Because those of us who carry guns, Can't always be a saint. I've had to work most Sundays, And at times my talk was tough. And sometimes I've been violent, Because the world is awfully rough. But, I never took a penny,

That wasn't mine to keep. Though I worked a lot of overtime, When the bills got just too steep. And I never passed a cry for help, Though at times I shook with fear. And sometimes, God, forgive me, I've wept unmanly tears. I know I don't deserve a place,

Among the people here.

They never wanted me around, Except to calm their fears

If you've a place for me here, Lord,

I never expected or had too much,

But if you don't, I'll understand.

It needn't be so grand.

There was a silence all around the throne,

Where the saints had often trod.

As the Soldier waited quietly,

For the judgment of his God. 'Step forward now, you Soldier,

You've borne your burdens well

Walk peacefully on Heaven's streets, You've done your time in Hell.'

Author Unknown







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Trans Atlantic Cruise

(continued from page 6)



Here we are casting off Amalie Harbor, St. Thomas enroute to Purerto Banus, Spain.



Jim Stolley and I playing Gin... a favorite of sailors in passing the time enjoyably.



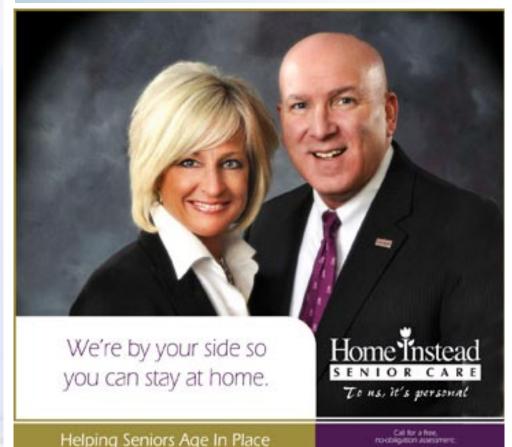
Stampede crew arrives in Puerto Bemus Spain (I to r) Boyd Bert, First Mate Wendy Smith, Bill Underhill, Don Leslie, Dave Schuler, George Hays & Jim Stolley.

Bermuda for the cruise to the Azores.

The cruise was delightful! A great sail, principally down wind, to Bermuda. Much calm weather and motoring to the Azores. (We had taken on extra fuel in 5 gallon cans) And, a tight reach with lots of wind from the Azores all the way to the Mediterranean. After a cruise through Gibraltar's harbor, we hoisted a spinnaker and ran 30 miles down the Med. to be greeted by our wives on the dock in Puerto Banus. A great time was had by all... the "crew" cruising the Atlantic and our wives touring England, Ireland and Europe.

So, if you are planning a cruise, start by setting a date. You, then, are almost certain it will happen!





Certified Alzheimer and Dementia Care



The tenders to shore require much diligent care due to the giant swells, but it's made possible by the great crew.

Wind Surf Cruise of the Grenadines

continued from page 15

Landmark of St. Lucia, and was reserved for the WindSurf beach barbeque. It was a challenge to bring everything from the ship to the beach, by tender, set up BBQs, steel band, toys from the sports platform, etc. But they provided a great BBQ, lots of beach chairs, music, -- a day to remember.

Not sure what the normal weather would be for end of February, but we had very strong gusts (of course being boaters, it was no problem for us), but one day the Captain had to pull away from the dock, as the gangplank was becoming too dangerous with the swells, so we anchored off shore. If I hadn't already been aboard, I probably would have panicked to see the ship backing up without me! At our eventual departure, the Captain was bidding everyone good bye, and remarked that we'd had 65 km. winds during our last evening's cruise. No wonder several passengers were staggering, and just walking the corridors was a real challenge!

We had decided to extend this fabulous vacation, by a 5 night stay at the Sandals' Grande Antigua, but needed to fill in a day in Barbados, before our 5pm LIAT flight (laughingly known as Leaves The Island Anytime) – typically 45 minutes late.

Our Barbados tour included the St. Nicholas Abbey Sugar Plantation, with a wonderful old 1930's film of the sugar plantation, narrated by the grandson of the Estate. They still produce the Estate rum, which, at \$70 for a bottle, they will engrave it with your name! An unusual extra to see was the 1936 Gentleman's Chair, with adjustable table, light, book holder, drink table, and footrest, all on wheels so if the gentleman fell asleep, he could be wheeled out to the next room!

After a buffet lunch, which included their famous flying fish, and more touring of gorgeous lookouts, we were delivered to the airport for our short hop to Antigua and Sandals. All in all, a great adventure; if you love to sail, and love good food and service, this may be the ultimate cruise for you!



Sailing on a gorgeous day in an equally gorgeous part of the world.



Sailing past the "Grand Pitons" of St. Lucia.



Simon, our Shore Excursion Director is wearing a "180 degrees from ordinary" tee-shirt, which is their motto.



Give him a rum punch and he'll join any band! Not to worry, Mon. I'm sure this native band really appreciates the depth of Bob's highly limited level of talent.



The dreaded suspension bridge. You can't have any fear of heights to attempt this adventure.



Starting out on the tram ride through the rain forest of Roseau, Dominica.



The unique entrance way to the historic St. Nicholas Abbey Sugar Plantation in Barbados.



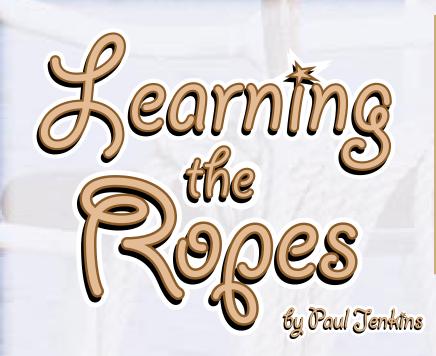
The unique sounds of steel band entertainment during the beach barbecue really added to the ambience of the day's event.



Here Bob and I are enjoying the swim toys during the barbecue on Pigeon Island, St. Lucia.



- 22 -





It was the last cruise of the day on a bright fall Sunday. The big old Nolan boat pushed its way through a heavy chop along the Peninsula beaches toward the Presque Isle Lighthouse. Captain Brooks, (Brooksie) called me to the wheelhouse with a sharp ring of the ship's bell. With a wide grin on his face he looked like he had something good on his mind and it had to do with his old First Mate.

A few weeks before I had decided to sign up for the captain's class. If I could slog through the stack of study books and pass the final exam, I might be the master of this classic old Erie built Nolan boat next summer. Captain Brooks was very encouraging and had showed me several times how to dock the old girl at our berth in Misery Bay.

"Hey Paul," he said, "how would you like to get a little sea time?" I'll do your narrating for awhile and you take her down to the lighthouse," he said.

Wow, I was blown away and thrilled for the chance to steer the big boat. Actually it is required for a First Mate to get enough time at the wheel to be ready in case we ever had a

"Captain Down Emergency", when I would have to bring the boat in myself. It was also good to know that the senior captain was only a few steps away if I had a problem. It would only take a ring of the ship's bell to bring him forward.

The wind that day had started out blowing briskly from the south and had slowly moved to the east and then northeast, which isn't Erie boaters favorite direction. Northeast winds often build up waves quickly if they increase and in most cases they do.

After I got the boat to the Presque Isle lighthouse and turned on our homeward leg, Brooksie didn't come forward. This is great I thought, he must actually trust me with the old girl and I'm having the time of my life. My thoughts went back to when I was a kid and the many times I had cruised across the bay on the Nolan ferry boats, Kathleen or gone fishing with my Dad on Flying duck party boat. That was almost 60 years ago and here I am close to being the captain on one of these very special vessels.

Enough day dreaming, I needed to concen-

trate my full attention on what I was doing. I must keep a close eye on all the gauges and especially the depth finder. It was also important to watch my heading and keep a safe distance from the brake walls that were being pounded by the building seas. I tried to steer a course that would lessen the chance of the larger waves smacking into our port side but we still had to maintain schedule to prevent getting behind on the homeward leg. Every so often we felt a jolt from a large wave that slapped into our port bow, sending up a white spray that flew along the side of the boat which was followed by a joyful yell from our passengers. At least I hoped it was joyful. Captain Brooksie often preached that we should always do our best to give our passengers a safe and comfortable ride. That also meant keeping them as dry as possible. I tried harder to steer more into the waves to lessen the spray.

As we neared Seagull Point, I decided to continue on a southern course to set up a straight heading for the run to the channel, which would keep the seas at our stern.

Just when I was ready to make the final turn

Brooksie appeared at the wheelhouse door. "What's your plan for the final turn" he asked. After describing my intentions, he said, "Good!" then vanished again.

On our final leg to the channel the big old boat wallowed along like a happy lady that somehow seemed content that the amateur at the wheel was doing an ok job and we would soon be home for the day.

When the channel was getting close, I gave a few sharp rings of the ship's bell, but no Brooksie. Did he want me to take her through the channel myself? The familiar waterway that I had navigated thousands of times in all my boats somehow looked much narrower. The biggest vessel I ever owned was a 26 foot sailboat but now I was at the wheel of a 65 foot monster with a 14 foot beam. No wonder the channel looked so small.

Time to ring the bell harder and longer.

"Was that our bell?" Brooksie said, when he finally came to the wheelhouse. "I was way in the back and could hardly hear it."

"You did a good job Paul," he said, "Now I'll take her in."

Oh, such sweet words.

On the following Sunday I was also working with Captain Brooks and after preparing and cleaning the boat, we warmed up the big diesel engine and greeted the passengers, checked the tickets and gave the safety talk before leaving. Once again Brooksie surprised me by calling me to the wheelhouse and saying, "Get up here and take the wheel so I can show you how to take her out."

Misery Bay is rather shallow and to make matters worse it's full of seaweed, especially later in the summer. Once the stern and main lines were cast off, I used the spring line to back the boat off the pier far enough make room for turn to leave Misery Bay in the deepest part of the channel. With Brooksie at my side I made the exit with little trouble, then another surprise, he was gone to do the narrating. Even though I had made the trip countless times before, it was always while in the back of the boat talking to the passengers, now I was at the wheel. I must pay attention to all the boat traffic, watch every gauges and be

very careful not to do something stupid.

We are so lucky in Erie to still have several Nolan, Paasch and Lund boats that still call Erie their home port. The Lady Kate was built here in 1952 and then spent the first 40 years of her service near Cedar Point and Sandusky Ohio, where one of it's names was Island Trader but then about 15 years ago brought home by Tom Macaluso, who named her after his wife. I was truly at the wheel of a piece of Erie's nautical history.

Luckily the wind was light and the seas were calm. I was living a dream for another day and the big old lake seemed to be smiling at me this time. Captain Brooks again gave me full responsibility to navigate the old girl on my own. Actually that responsibility was really starting to sink in and it's a large one. It was also more apparent why there were so many books to study for the captains course and why the Coast Guard were strict about having well schooled boat masters. I just hope this old deck hand can make the grade.











n searching the archives for our 117th year history, I discovered that on June 4, 2011, the EYC hosted an event that has never occurred before now, the marriage of sitting Commodore Gerry Urbaniak to Dinah Durr. Throughout our history we have elected unmarried Commodores, divorced Commodores, and even a few with both a wife and significant other, but never has a sitting Commodore actually tied the knot while holding that position

With a hush around he clubhouse and members still reeling in shock from the tragedy on Opening Day, everyone pulled together to make this wedding the dream that Gerry and Dinah had envisioned. Thanks to Elizabeth Duggan and her staff, the setting was romantic

and beautiful. Thanks to Chef Angelo and his staff, the food was superb, and as for the EYC wait staff, they were all very professional and pleasant. Everyone was determined to make their Commodore and his new wife proud. Dinah looked positively radiant and stunning, and Gerry, well, Gerry looked very Commodorish!

For those of us in attendance, the event was memorable for many reasons. First, a thunder storm rolled in at exactly 6:00 pm, the time the outdoor nuptials were to take place. Barely had the bagpipes begun when the wind lifted dresses and blew off hats. I think the Judge conducting the ceremony got out only two or three lines when the rain began pouring down in sheets and had everyone running for the

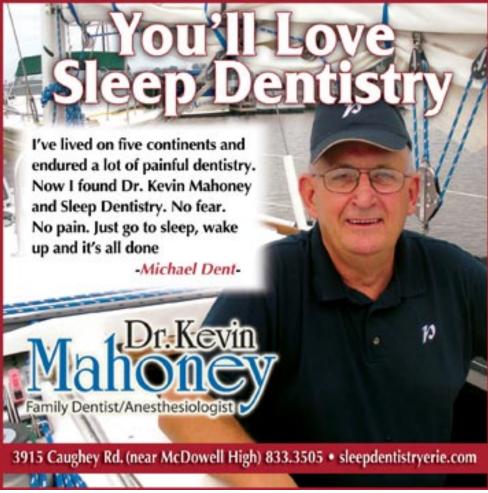
Club entrance. After a few minutes of reorganizing, Elizabeth had set up a lovely spot at the front of the ballroom and the bridal procession began anew, complete with bagpipes. Second, everyone in attendance was touched by the ceremony. We have all come to know and admire these two people who came together later in life but have found renewed strength, laughter, and genuine excitement in their love for each other. There were many moist eyes in the room. Third, Gerry's children and Dinah's children all get along fabulously and it was great to see them laugh and joke as they mingled with the guests cheering on this new blended family they are now part of. Their gaiety and loving support for their parents was infectious. And finally, the event was memorable because it fulfilled Gerry's dream of getting married when he was Commodore (sorry for the wait, Dinah). I doubt that either of them realized that they were making EYC history in the process, but there you have it.

As Gerry prepares to relinquish his duties as Commodore, I wanted to take this opportunity on behalf of the EYC to wish him and Dinah continued success, love, and happiness in their life together and to thank them both for all they have done for the EYC over the past years. As you can see from the pictures, they look GREAT together. We wish them all the











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Region Sailing School and Race Team 2011

(continued from page 11)

an annual event and it is one that we are looking forward to continuing for years to come.

At the end of July, the Erie Yacht Club hosted 85 participants at the 2011 Eriegatta. We had 85 competitors from our own Erie Yacht Club and numerous other clubs around the lake compete in 3 classes of racing; Club 420's, Radial Lasers, and Optimists. There were many EYC volunteers who worked very hard in preparing and running every aspect of the day. After the races, there was a very good buzz from our guests about our club and how professionally the Eriegatta was run.

Thank you to all of the parents and families who entrust their children to the Reyburn Sailing School each year. They are not only the future of the Erie Yacht Club but they are the future of the boating in Erie and around the world. The experiences and friendships that they build are invaluable and we are blessed to be a part of their lives.

Reyburn Race Team Recap

"Sail fast" - were the words emblazoned in duct tape on the back of the Reyburn Racing Team's trailer this summer – short and simple, but true to the point.

The expert coaching of Mike Bloomstine and Margret Szelwach brought members of the EYC race team to regattas along Lake Erie, and even Lake Ontario, with results that did the Erie Yacht Club proud.

The highlight of the season, no doubt, was Junior Bay Week in Put-In Bay, an annual ILYA regatta for sailors age 13 through 18 years old. The week was kicked off with an Ice Breaker dinner for all of the competitors. Each team presented a skit to introduce themselves to the other clubs. The EYC team, led by team captain Nick Pardini, did a rap song and dance that earned the team a first place trophy for their performance.





For the next four days, the team raced at Put-In-Bay, and by the end of the week, skipper Nick Pardini with crew Noah Nicolia had captured a 3rd place finish out of 33 sailboats in the 420 class; skipper Anna Bloomstine with crew Michael Szelwach brought home a 7th place finish; and skipper Geoffrey Wells with crew J.T. Timon finished 11th overall. On a separate course, the EYC was represented by Claire Christensen who competed in the Laser Radial fleet.

Coach Mike Bloomstine who was watching the fleet from a chase boat said of one of the races, "When the top ten 420's rounded the windward mark, I realized that all the EYC boats were around the mark and we could head down to the finish line. It was so cool!"

In addition to representing the EYC well for their sailing abilities at Bay Week, the race team also was honored to have won this year's Sportsmanship Trophy.

Overall, a very successful season for the Reyburn Race Team, whose members are already looking forward to next summer and the chance to once again "sail fast".

If you would like to learn more about the Revburn Sailing School or the Race Team, please feel free to view the 2010 and 2011 season videos at http://vimeo. com/27783759 and pictures at http://s1019. photobucket.com/albums/af314/Revburn-



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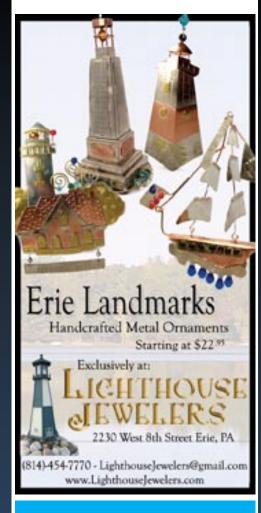


November Calendar of **Club Events**

- 5th EYC Racing Fleet Banquet Dinner Buffet • Awards Presentation Entertainment by the Untouchables Reservations Required • 6pm
- 6th Champagne Sunday Brunch 11am - 2pm • \$12.95
- Monday Night Football Pizza, Hot Dogs! All for \$4.00
- 13th Champagne Sunday Brunch 11am - 2pm • \$12.95
- 14th Monday Night Football Pizza, Hot Dogs! All for \$4.00
- 16th Turkey Bawl 5pm -9pm Dinner & Drink Specials Motown Entertainment with the **Breeze Band**
- 18th EYC Annual Meeting 7:30pm Regular Members Only Allowed Dinner Service from 5:30 - 7:30pm
- 20th Champagne Sunday Brunch 11am - 2pm • \$12.95
- 21st Monday Night Football Pizza, Hot Dogs! All for \$4.00
- 27th Champagne Sunday Brunch 11am - 2pm • \$12.95
- 28th Monday Night Football Pizza, Hot Dogs! All for \$4.00

Remember the EYC has the **NFL Sunday Ticket** For the Game you need to See!

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December Calendar of Club Events

- 3rd Mistletoe Christmas Dinner Dance Very Special Chefs Dinner • 7pm Music by the Dorels Reservations Suggested
- Champagne Sunday Brunch 11am - 2pm • \$12.95
- Monday Night Football Pizza, Hot Dogs! All for \$4.00
- 10th Breakfast with Santa Special Breakfast • Gifts for the Children • Photos with Santa Collegiate Academy Vocal Jazz Ensemble • 10am call for reservations
- 11th Champagne Sunday Brunch 11am - 2pm • \$12.95
- 12th Monday Night Football Pizza, Hot Dogs! All for \$4.00
- 13th Dinner with Santa Gifts for the Children & Photos with Santa • Collegiate Academy Vocal Jazz Ensemble call for reservations
- 17th Winter Solstice Party on the Deck Cold Beer• Hot Buttered Rum & Irish Coffee • Music by Key West Express • 6pm - 10pm
- 18th Champagne Sunday Brunch 11am - 2pm • \$12.95
- 19th Monday Night Football Pizza, Hot Dogs! All for \$4.00
- 24th Christmas Eve Club Closed at 3pm
- 25th Merry Christmas Club Closed
- 26th Monday Night Football Pizza, Hot Dogs! All for \$4.00
- 31st New Year's Eve Party 2011 Hors D' oeuvres • Party Favors Champagne Toast • Casual Dress Featuring Manhatten Reservations Required

Celebrate the Holidays at your EYC

by Elizabeth Dougan



nother 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 vuletide 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. Happy Holidays!





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A Taste of Tuscany - 10 Days . \$3595 (includes airfare) 3/31/12 - 4/9/12 Food & Wine are the focus of this unique tour, Learn how to select ingredients, prepare meals and appreciate some of the finest foods & wines in the world.

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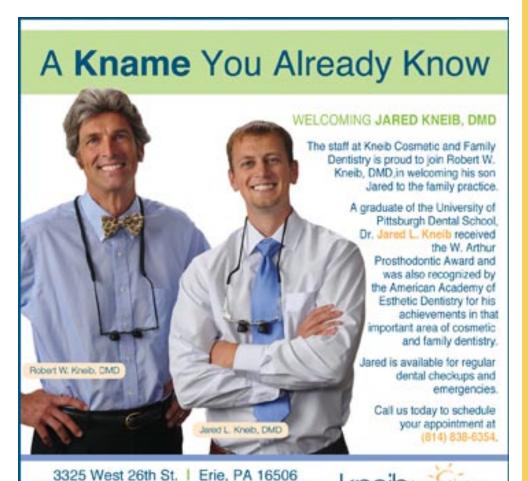
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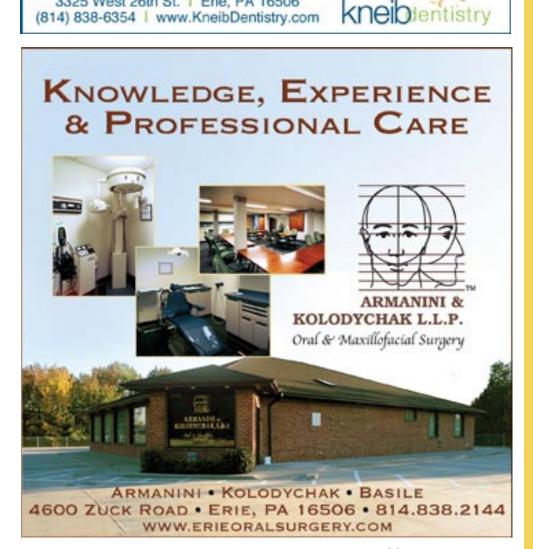
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- 30 -







Captain Humor

Once upon a time there was a famous sea captain. This captain was very successful at what he did; for years he guided merchant ships all over the world.

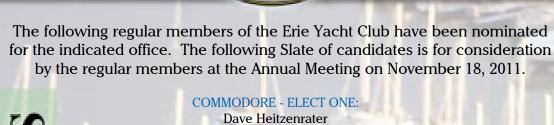
Never did stormy seas or pirates get the best of him. He was admired by his crew and fellow captains. However, there was one thing different about this captain. Every morning he went through a strange ritual. He would lock himself in his captain's quarters and open a small safe. In the safe was an envelope with a piece of paper inside. He would stare at the paper for a minute, and then lock it back up. After, he would go about his daily duties.

For years this went on, and his crew became very curious. Was it a treasure map? Was it a letter from a long lost love? Everyone speculated about the contents of the strange envelope.

One day the captain died at sea. After laying the captain's body to rest, the first mate led the entire crew into the captain's quarters. He opened the safe, got the envelope opened it and ... the first mate turned pale and showed the paper to the others.

Four words were on the paper...
Port Left,
Starboard Right.





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VICE COMMODORE - ELECT ONE:
Matthew Niemic

REAR COMMODORE - ELECT ONE: Edward Schuler

FLEET CAPTAIN - ELECT ONE:
Bradley Enterline

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - ELECT TWO:

Dan Dundon Tom Madura Ross Rectenwald Mickey McMahon

NOMINATING COMMITTEE - ELECT THREE:

P/C Robert Allshouse Dave Sanner P/C Gib Loesel Rich Speicher

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:

DOUGLAS BOLDT, JOHN ORLANDO AND P/C TOM TROST

Also Nominating Committee members:

CHAIRMAN P/C KERRY SCHWAB, P/C PETER GORNY, GREG GORNY, P/C RICHARD ROBERTSON, MATHEW BACON, P/C DAVID AMATANGELO AND COMMODORE GERALD URBANIAK

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

The minutes of the 2010 Annual Meeting and the 2011 complete Financial Statement will be made available for members to pick up on November 7th, 2011 in the Club's front office. In addition, an abbreviated version of the Financial Statement will be available on the club's website in the members only section and be emailed to those members with an email address on file.

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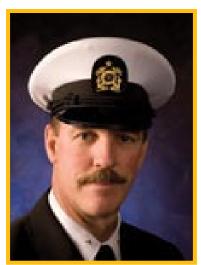
The Bridge Officers

DAVID HEITZENRATER, Commodore

I believe it was an honor to have been nominated, elected and permitted to serve you. As a Bridge officer, the past three years have brought a closer relationship between me and the membership, our employees and most directly my fellow Bridge officers. Each succeeding year has brought different duties, learning experiences and challenges just as those who have preceded me have encountered. I am confident my decisions have always been made from an unbiased position seeking only those alternatives that best improve the Erie Yacht Club. A number of these challenges have been difficult and despite having the effortless option of retaining the status quo, a change was made when necessary.

My experiences have typically been positive and I have had the privilege of working with a dedicated group of Officers and Directors whose ultimate agenda is the improvement of our Club while remaining within our financial restraints. Obviously, your enjoyment of our vast facilities and ongoing activities is the sole measurement of our success.

Much has been accomplished: however, there are more challenges ahead. I pledge to continue to energetically serve you as your Commodore. I thank each and every member and welcome your support and thoughts.



MATTHEW NIEMIC, Vice Commodore

Thank you for your support during my term as Rear Commodore. The Docks were my main focus, and I must say the new ones are much less maintenance than our previous docks. Overall, there were very few repairs this year.

Our Basin will undergo a dynamic change this coming year with the relocation of the Junior Sailing Dock to outside the west wall and the completion of A dock. This construction will make our dock space more uniform inside the Basin while increasing the learning area for the Junior Sailing Program.

I welcomed the many positive compliments about the new restrooms at the Light House Pavilion that we completed early this summer. They have made that area of the Club so much more enjoyable.

As Vice Commodore, I look forward to helping everyone enjoy our Club even more.



EDWARD SCHULER, Rear Commodore

I am very grateful for your support in electing me your Fleet Captain last year. I have truly enjoyed my time in this position. It was another busy year with projects at the Club. The Lighthouse Bathroom is a great new asset. Kudos to Matt. Ravine Drive has new drainage and blacktop. This has taken a long time to accomplish, many previous Bridge and Board members worked very hard to complete this massive project. It was my privilege to shepherd this to completion. Special thanks to fellow members Owen McCormick and Jon Tushak for their dedication to this project. The B-C Dock renovation is done, complete with new parking and grass.

I started the project to organize and cleanup the dry sail and south fence areas of the grounds. The dry sail area has a more orderly appearance, and hopefully will be paved at some point in the near future to allow for the assignment of spaces. The boat storage areas along the south fence look great following grading and application of the new stone. The rest of the gravel areas will get the same treatment next year. I also researched and ordered new gas pumps, which will be installed before next season. These are terrific upgrades for our Club.

We are constantly looking at ways to improve the Club and these are just some of the projects we completed this year. As officers of the Club, we are duty bound to be fiscally responsible with our available assets. I look forward to serving you as Rear Commodore.

Candidate for Fleet Captain



BRAD ENTERLINE, Fleet Captain

I am honored to be nominated for the position of Fleet Captain. While my memory occasionally fails me, some things I will never forget. Sailing with the family on Dad's first boat, a Highlander in the late sixties; swimming off the Flying Juniors on a hot summer day at Junior Sailing; drinking a cup of fresh Lake Erie water once on the Canadian side on early trips to Port Dover (they said it was a tradition); firing the sunset cannon when working on the grounds in the summer. These are but a few.

I have been a member for over 26 years and have served on the Historical Committee, LOG Committee and Constitution and Bylaws Committee, which I currently chair. I was recently appointed to serve on the Erie Yacht Club Foundation as well. I have contributed to the LOG and volunteer for the basin reconstruction project. I have also completed a 3-year term on the EYC Board in 2008.

In my day job I am a Family Law attorney and Mediator with experience in a wide variety of other legal areas. I am also active in other civic, nonprofit and religious organizations. My wife Lauri and I have four children and two grandchildren. We love racing at the Club, cruising on Lake Erie and attending many of the great events and parties at the Club. As your Fleet Captain, I will strive to ensure that you, your family and guests will also build lasting memories of our great Club. I will seek out your opinion and input and work with the Bridge and Board to ensure that as a Club, we utilize our multiple talents to provide excellent service at competitive prices, remain fiscally sound, and continue to be what we all know is the best Yacht Club on the Great Lakes!

CLUB NOTICES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Notice

2012 Slip Applications are due back by November 1st

Catering Reminder

Book your company Christmas party early. Dates are going fast! See Elizabeth Dougan for your date! 453-4931

Boat Haul Outs

The Last day for boat haul-outs is Sunday November 6, 2011. Please call the Club office to schedule your haul-out date, 453-4931.

We Got the Ticket!

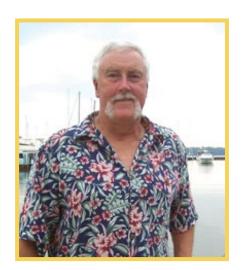
The Club has the Sunday NFL Ticket. When local television has the Steeler or Browns blacked out we have the game on here!

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

- 34 -

Candidates for Board of Directors

Candidates for Board of Directors



DAN DUNDON

For thirty years, since we joined EYC, my wife Kathy, children Laura and Chris and I have sailed our Catalina 25, *Ariel*, from L-dock

During this time, I have come to think of EYC as "home" and, so, have made efforts to see EYC is even more of a special place for family, friends and fellow members.

At his suggestion, Gerry Urbaniak and I co-chaired the Centennial Oktoberfest in 1995 which has become one of EYC's most popular annual events. In 2001 Pete Traphagan asked me to head the Entertainment committee. I have been doing so and have been an active member of the House Committee, since. Among events we have planned are the 100 Days 'til Summer Parties, Thursday Happy Hour on the Deck and the Winter Solstice Parties.

For many years, I volunteered at the Frolic-on-the-Bay. I took over as Frolic chairman three years ago and continue to chair this community-oriented event.

During the past few years, you would find me working shoulder-to-shoulder with fellow EYC members at the Saturday morning dock work-parties.

Most recently sailing with Dave Heitzenrater on *Raven*, I have been an active member of the EYC racing fleet for thirty years,

Recently, I retired from my AMSCO (STERIS) architectural-engineering career after 37 years of helping architects design hospitals and health-care facilities.

I thank the Nominating Committee for their confidence in me and assure you I will continue to treat our terrific Yacht Club as "home" while I serve on the Board of Directors.

Thanks! Dan Dundon



TOM MADURA

I am grateful to the Nominating Committee for placing me on this year's Board of Directors ballot.

As a life-long Erie resident, I've developed a deep love and respect for Lake Erie and the many opportunities it provides for fun and adventure. Growing up I spent most of my summers exploring Presque Isle's beaches or perch fishing from my father's power boat. While I look back fondly on those days, I am even more excited by the present and the future. I believe there is no better place than the Erie Yacht Club to fully appreciate the advantages of our wonderful lake and bay. Since joining in 2003, I have been continually impressed by the friendliness, enthusiasm, and passion for boating shared by all of my fellow EYC members.

My wife Cindy and I thoroughly enjoy the social aspects of the Club, attending as many functions as we can, and also spending time on our sailboat, "Good Vices", whether we're out day-sailing, racing, or just relaxing aboard and enjoying the spectacular Erie Yacht Club sunsets!

It has been a great pleasure to not only compete in the EYC Racing Fleet, but to serve on its Executive Committee, including a year as Chairman in 2009. I am also currently a member of the Club's Entertainment Committee, contributing to the great parties that we all enjoy year-round. I am especially proud to have helped develop the successful seasonal Wine and Beer Tastings and the popular Winter Solstice Party.

In my professional life as a Quality Engineer for BASF Corporation, I have developed teamwork, leadership, and decision-making skills which also serve me well in many areas of my private life. I am also a member of the American Society for Quality, and served for many years on their local chapter's executive board.

I would be honored to be able to put these skills and my enthusiasm for the EYC to work as a member of your Board of Directors, continuing to make the Erie Yacht Club the best on the Great Lakes!



ROSS RECTENWALD

I wish to thank the nominating committee for the honor of my selection as a candidate for one of the openings on the Erie Yacht Club Board of Directors. I am an enthusiastic sailor, a U.S. Coast Guard licensed Captain and a proud member of the Erie Yacht Club for over 20 years. With my entire family, I have taken the opportunity to enjoy participating in the multitude of events the Club consistently has to offer its membership. I have been involved in many projects at the Club, such as the EYC Building Master Plan, the Grille Room Renovation, the Gas Well Energy Study and the proposed Sailing School Education Building during these years. I feel, however, that I can offer much more by participating on the Board and committing to assist the Club in not only surviving during these difficult economic times, but thriving for the benefit of the next generation of members. It is difficult to belong to this Club and not recognize the outstanding voluntary effort put forth by many of the members to successfully complete numerous projects that benefits all members. I would like to assist these efforts and help this Club continue to be the premier yacht club on the Great Lakes.

I have been a local business owner for 26 years in Erie, continuing to be the sole principal of Rectenwald Architects, Inc. I have been involved in many large, complex building design/construction projects throughout my professional career and believe my reputation as a hard working, reputable businessman has provided me with the diverse education required to excel at the Board of Director's position. I also continue to participate on community organization boards that have given me the experience to work with many individuals and board committees to accomplish a common goal for the betterment of those organizations.

I would appreciate your support and should you honor me with election to this position, I promise to do everything possible to work with the Bridge, the Board of Directors, the administrative staff and all of the volunteer committees to promote the Erie Yacht Club's tradition to "promote, encourage and develop activities associated with yachting and yachting activities" for many generations to come.

Thank you for your consideration. Ross E. Rectenwald, AIA



MICKEY MCMAHON

It is an honor to be a candidate for the Board of Directors. I've been a member since 1983 and my wife Patty, sons Patrick and Michael, and I have enjoyed every minute spent at the Club. You all know me! I can be found in and out of the Clubhouse, cruising the yard with my stalwart man's best friend, Daisy, and fishing and boating with friends. My family and I have attended many of the wonderful Club events and that fact that I can never get Patty to leave is testament to their success. However, the EYC owes much of its success to individual member's efforts on behalf of the Club. Over the years, I have tried to give back to the Club in numerous ways and am honored that the Nominating Committee has recognized those efforts.

I have been a painting contractor for over 39 years, and am an owner of Beals/McMahon Painting. Not only has this given me the business experience necessary to responsibly take on the fiscal decisions required by the Board, but has also allowed me the freedom to donate painting services any time the Club needs some sprucing up. I have served on the House Committee, the Grounds Committee, and the Nominating Committee from 2008 thru 2010, the last year as Chairman. I am a Trustee for the EYC Foundation and a Committee member for the annual Bay Swim. In short, I love the EYC and am dedicated to ensuring its continued success.

If elected, I pledge to be an advocate for all members and to listen to your ideas and concerns. I will work tirelessly on your behalf and will bring all of my energy, business experience, committee experience, and genuine love of the EYC and its future success to the Board. I am a "can do" guy, and trust me; whatever needs done will get done.

Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to your support.

Candidates for Board of Directors

- 36 -

Candidates for Nominating Committee



DAVE SANNER

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

The Erie Yacht Club has been a very important part of our lives since we became boating members almost 25 years ago. I have always had a great love of boating, starting as a child when I learned to sail through the Junior Sailing Program. Now as a

family, my wife and our two daughters enjoy spending time boating and the many events at the Club. We truly appreciate the family atmosphere at the Club and want to see this preserved for many years to come.

I have proudly served as a Board member and on committees for the Club and I have learned a great deal about how our Club operates. It takes a lot of hard work by many people to ensure that our Club continues to grow and remains fiscally sound. I would work hard to help select candidates that would continue this legacy.

I would be proud to contribute my time and efforts on behalf of the members to represent their interests. I look forward to the opportunity and challenge of serving.



RICK SPEICHER

I have been a member of the Club since 2003. While I was a dinghy sailor growing up, my wife, MC Gensheimer, and I currently enjoy power boating in the Bay and local waters.

I have always believed that members should be actively involved in a club. This is the best way to ensure a close alignment between the club's direction and a member's interest. The

charge of the committee to nominate a slate of members to run for office - the task, to recruit members that will respect the Club's history, traditions and member interests while possessing the foresight to navigate the future is not simple.

If I am selected by the membership I will work as part of the committee to accomplish this task.





P/C ROBERT H. ALLSHOUSE

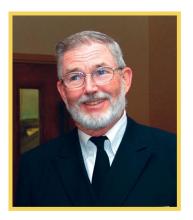
I am honored to have been asked to run for the Nominating Committee. I have been an EYC member since 1977 and enjoy sailing my Freedom 36, *Royalties*, out of A Dock when I am not crewing on Dave Blake's *Blake* Erie. I have the additional reward of seeing my family grow up here as they went through the

Junior Sailing Program.

I am a previous member of the Nominating Committee, and served on the Bridge and the Board. I chaired the Grounds Committee, the House Committee, the Dock Committee, the Thompson Memorial Trophy Committee and the Entertainment Committee. I served as project manager for the rebuilding of D-E Docks and the burial of overhead lines. In all those positions, I was privileged to serve with a great number of EYC members who gave enthusiastically of their time and talents.

As Commodore, I inaugurated a program with the Erie School District to bring disadvantaged youths into the Junior Sailing Program, and chaired the meeting that kicked off the Clubhouse Renovation/Expansion which was so capably supervised by P/C John Ashby.

As the General editor of the Centennial History of the Erie Yacht Club, I gained an appreciation for the heritage and traditions of the Club, and hope that my election to the Nominating Committee will allow these traditions to continue through the selection of progressive and competent Bridge and Board candidates.



P/C GIB LOESEL

I am Gib Loesel; I have been a member of EYC for 56 years. In that time I have served the Club in many capacities including Commodore 1988. I have been on and served as chairman of numerous committees including the Thompson Trophy Committee which requires the membership to be reviewed each year.

I also continue to be an active boater cruising my own boat and crewing with several other members in the racing and JAM fleets. Having served as an Officer of the Club I have the knowledge to advise future candidates on what they can expect as an officer; being familiar with the membership helps when searching for candidates. Thank you for your support.

