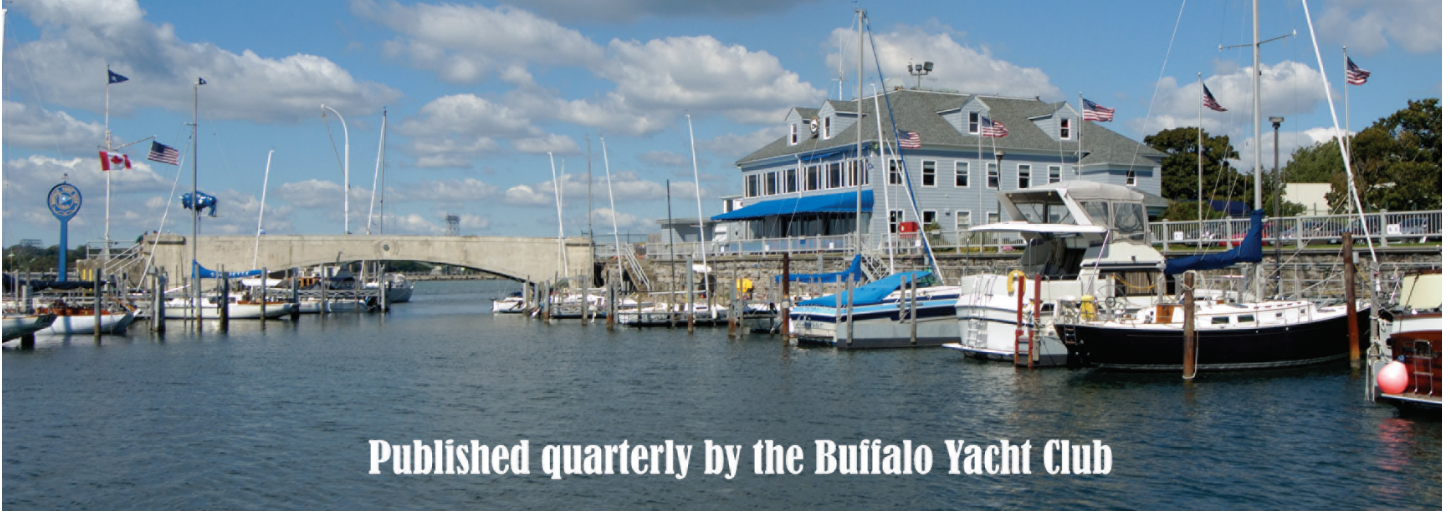


# The BINNACLE



Published quarterly by the Buffalo Yacht Club

Vol. CV No. 1

Buffalo Yacht Club

April 2020



From the Commodore

As I look back at the list of esteemed leaders of the Buffalo Yacht Club, including our Past Commodores, I recall the challenges they each faced. Somehow each of them met their challenges and persevered. This year we are faced with what seems like one striking challenge after another. If there is one lesson I learned from my predecessors, it was to place the right individuals into the correct position for optimum triumph.

As all of you are aware at the end of October, we were hit with two disastrous high windstorms causing severe damage to both the Point Abino and Porter basins. There are so many champions to thank who have gotten us to where we are today, but three individuals come to the top of the list: Immediate Past Commodore



Mike Barry, Past Commodore Dan Ward and Rear Commodore Doug Bienko. Through their guidance we are seeing light at the end of the tunnel, and are moving forward toward the opening of the basins. At Point Abino things are progressing towards reopening in May. The north catwalk sections have been replaced, waterlines have been connected on the south docks, the floating docks have been reinstalled and stone is being added to the south berm drive. The day ranges & lights are being fabricated for replacement,

we extend our appreciation to Dave Nieman and PC Timothy Hunt for their contribution towards completion of this project. Thank you to Jeff Hayes for fabricating the welcome sign replacement and spearheading this task. All in all, the Point Abino station under the guidance of our operations manager, Captain Ruth Sparks who says she plans on having this facility operational by the beginning of the boating season. At Porter we too are moving forward towards the reopening of the

COMMODORE — continued on page 2



**THE BINNACLE**  
**BUFFALO YACHT CLUB**  
 One Porter Avenue  
 Buffalo, New York 14201-1097  
<http://www.buffaloyachtclub.org>

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Commodore .....James A. Kulwicki  
 Vice Commodore.....Stephen C. Munschauer  
 Rear Commodore .....Douglas P. Bienko  
 Fleet Captain .....Ed Gawarecki  
 Secretary.....Kim Reynolds  
 Treasurer ..... Paul Johnson

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 Mark Hamberger Eric Christensen  
 Jeff Hayes Mary Theresa Seitz  
 Jonathan Johnsen Mike Ellison

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Club Manager.....Sam DePasquale  
 Banquets & Dining .....Christine Storfer  
 Accounting/HR.....Mike Scheid  
 Executive Chef .....David Miller  
 Membership.....Meghan Lee-Mueller  
 Point Abino ..... Ruth Sparks  
 Boating Education..... Jonathan Johnsen  
 BINNACLE Editor ..... Doug Bienko

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**Marlene Bienko at the Antigua Yacht Club. Notice Buffalo Yacht Club burgee over her right shoulder - left there by Jim and Sandy Kondziela, about a month prior!**

COMMODORE — continued from front page basin. The outer wall north docks have been ordered for replacement, but due to prior commitments, Kropf, the manufacturer of our docks, will not have them ready for installation until mid-August. Through the cooperation of members owning slips in the inner basin we are accommodating those members directly affected, by suggesting relocating to Point Abino, late launchings, or even possibly moving to another marina for the season. Through the combined efforts of Fleet Captain Ed Gawarecki and RC Doug Bienko it looks as if we have found a home for all our Porter basin members. Quotes are still being received for other damages incurred after the October storm, such as the catwalk, electric for the docks headed by PC Robert Gage, and fence replacement just to name a few. The rafts holding our FJ's (Flying Junior) sailboats used for boating education are being reconstructed under the leadership of Roy Jordan. The floating docks and moorings have been reinstalled, with appreciation to Joe Gelsomino and RC Doug Bienko. Through the combined efforts of many members and individuals we too are moving forward to the 2020 boating season. A huge thank you goes out to all our volunteers! Our clubhouse building weathered the storm only sustaining minimal damage. New awnings and some minor alterations will prepare our building for the summer season too. During our winter shutdown we were able to make some needed maintenance improvements so that your club will once again be the jewel you are so proud to be a member of.

Our second obstacle/challenge is the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) and how it has affected your Club. First of all, the health and safety of our BYC members and staff is our top priority. This virus is frightening, we don't know where it might be hiding or even who might be a carrier. It is the Buffalo Yacht Club's commitment to doing our part to slow the spread of COVID-19 by practicing social distancing, therefore the normal operations of the clubhouse and restaurant have been suspended temporarily. This situation is ever changing, so as of this point I can safely say we are cancelling all

activities at the club through the end of April. This virus has changed many things for all of us. I want to reassure all our members that we will do everything possible behind the scenes so that when this passes, we will be swift to continue business as usual. I wish to thank all the members of the board for their commitment to the Buffalo Yacht Club and its members. They have all been working tirelessly and have had to make some difficult decisions in the past few weeks, alleviating a lot of uncertainty for all of us. We are looking at all aspects of the club operations and how we might have to make some changes and adapt to them. In the meantime, stay safe and take all reasonable precautions.

**MEMBERSHIP**

The following new members joined the Buffalo Yacht Club since the last issue of the BINNACLE:  
 Active: Paul & Diane Noel, Craig Bruening & Shirley Stolarski,  
 Social: Andrew Jakubowski & Dr. Geraldine Napierski  
 Crew: Bernadette O'Connell


Reinstatements accepted from:  
 Pt. Abino: Graham & Joy Stubbs

Change of classification accepted from:  
 Active to Social: David Eckel

Resignations accepted with regret from:  
 Retired Active: Ronald Rosser  
 Active: John Weimer  
 Pt. Abino: Donna & Kim Crossman  
 Social: Robert & Julianne Preston, Jim & Marylou Mucklewee, J. Keith Alford, and Dr. Robert & Joan Con-schaffer.  
 Non-Resident: Roger Forden, Peter Cook, Robert Tocker  
 Intermediate: Michael Szymoniak, Amy Waldmiller,

We mourn the deaths of: Warren Barbour, Mary Louise Makey, Thomas Morsheimer, Tony Grukka, Richard "Ric" Hilliman, Thomas McCarthy, and our longtime employee Patricia Spinelli.

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Vice Commodore comments

As I write this we are completing our second week of mandated shutdown due to the Coronavirus. Accordingly, we have had to temporarily lay off the entire kitchen and wait staff except Dave Miller, our Head Chef. It was decided that we were not particularly suited to be able to support a takeout or delivery service currently allowed.

Things are very fluid and we are following the guidelines as they change and trying to project out on a two week basis. As of March 23rd, we have canceled everything through Easter. We are constantly evaluating the situation for changes that will allow us to reopen for our members.

We do, however, have some things to report on that happened up to the point of closing. During our annual shutdown we were able to refinish the wood floors in the bar area and the dance floor upstairs. The first floor Ladies Room had some touchup work and some accessory replacement/upgrades. The employee locker/bathroom has been entirely gutted and refurbished. Many thanks to Doug Bienko, Ruth, and George for their work on that much needed project.

Up through the closing, Chef Dave Miller has been hard at work. He and his kitchen crew produced an absolutely outstanding

Valentine's Day dinner event which was repeated the next night (a Saturday night). He has created a new spring menu, with a chance to preview it just before closing. When we reopen, be sure and come in and try it out. There are great new selections in a variety of price points, all fabulous in presentation and taste.

We are working on, and anticipating introducing, a few new specials, such as a Thursday night in the bar \$10 Burger and Brew, as well as, a Wednesday night pasta special featuring three items from the creative skills of Chef Dave.

Immediately after the February Board meeting, a purchase order was placed to acquire 144 new dining room chairs. This has been in the works for quite some time and will replace the well-used current barrel chairs, which have served us very well for several decades. A spring delivery date is subject to production schedules, which are currently in flux. Some of the old chairs will be moved to the bar area and other may be potentially offered for sale to members. On a somber note, we mourn the loss of our 40 year employee, Patti Spinelli. There was a Celebration of Life for Patti at the BYC on March 8th to recognize her and her time at the BYC. She will be missed.

Stephen Munschauer

## Upcoming Events

### May

1 - First Friday/New Member Event – Cinco de Mayo at the BYC

- 2 - Pt. Abino Work Party
- 8 - Fleet Night
- 10 - Mother's Day Buffet
- 17 - Commodore's Break-

### fast

21 - General Membership

### Meeting

25 - Memorial Day – BYC

### Closed

### June

- 5 - First Friday
- 13 - Graceland and the

### BYC

June 27-July 1 - Interclub Cruise (Erie Dover)

### July

- 3 - First Friday (5:30)
- 4 - July 4th – Closed Reverse PHRF
- 9 - Cotter Fireboat Cruise
- 17 - Family Movie Night

Below is your 2020 BYC Board of Directors. L-R Standing: Ellison, Christensen, PC Obersheimer, PC Barry, Commodore Kulwicki, VC Munschauer, RC Bienko, FC Gawarecki, Hamberger. L-R Kneeling: Johnsen, Seitz, Treasurer Johnson, Secretary Reynolds.



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Rear Commodore Comments

Well.

I hope this edition finds you and your loved ones well, and you are practicing social distancing (my wife keeps trying to get in the house :) and all the recommendations on staying safe. Point Abino station is ready to open, Captain Ruth has done a yeoman's job in preparing and coordinating contractors work, when we are able to cross the border again it will be ready. Of course as our Canadian residents are able to leave their houses they will be able to get their boats in and enjoy right away. The floating docks are installed, thanks to Ruth and her family, the north pier is fully repaired, and we have repaired the water lines and tested the electric for the docks. The range is being worked on by Tim Hunt and Dave Neiman, and should be ready, again when we are able to cross the border. Jeff Hayes had his staff design and fabricate a new sign, install will be done when we can get up there. Manny Giambicorta is working with a subcommittee on the party deck planning, we will be looking for a work party when the design work is finished. The berm has been repaired, with new stone installed and graded. The new WiFi system is scheduled to be installed April 30th. I am really looking forward to getting up there with Marlene on our new boat.

Putting on my Ships husband hat, I have been busy at the Buffalo clubhouse rehabbing the employee locker room, with a lot of help from Ruth and George, it is going to shine, and be a very nice place for our great staff to use. Thanks to Jeff Hayes for his gracious help installing a new ceiling in the room. Thanks due to Bill Flaglor and Trey Baret (Advace Glass) for their addition of a shower door for that project as well. During the shutdown Jason Dziadzio installed a new food warmer in the kitchen, as well as fixing a soup warmer – nice work, Jason! The contractor is starting work at the Buffalo basin, he tells me he should be finished within two weeks, we will try to get the floating docks in using social distancing, cannot have too many people at a work party. The south outside docks that the member work party re-decked in the fall will be reassembled and launched soon. The Kropf docks there are in, as well as the moorings that are still in the field, we lost a few in the Halloween storm. Thanks to Joe Gelsomino as usual, Commodore Kulwicki was the other part of the trio working that day, thanks Commodore! The contractor will replace those missing as the last thing they do. As schools are closed, the high school sailing season has been cancelled for the spring, so no hurry there. But the club will be open as soon as we can, of course we need the boatyards to open up, or it will be a short season indeed. So please support your club where you can, and stay safe everyone.



Top: collage of lower deck bar floor progress. Middle Upper deck floor. Below:sunsets still gorgeous !



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**Fleet Captain Comments**

As I write this, the situations we are all dealing with are in flux. By the time you read this, many things will be different. And they will continue to change after you read this.

As I write this, many places are closed or operating on a different basis, including the club. But we all know that things will improve and toward that end we are continuing to work to get the Porter Basin back into shape after sustaining significant damage in a storm toward the end of last year. Contracts are in place for some work. Other contracts are in the process of being awarded for other work items. And much work has been accomplished through the efforts of volunteers and our staff. As a result, some things will have a different and improved look. This includes some new and improved docks, and upgraded electrical service.

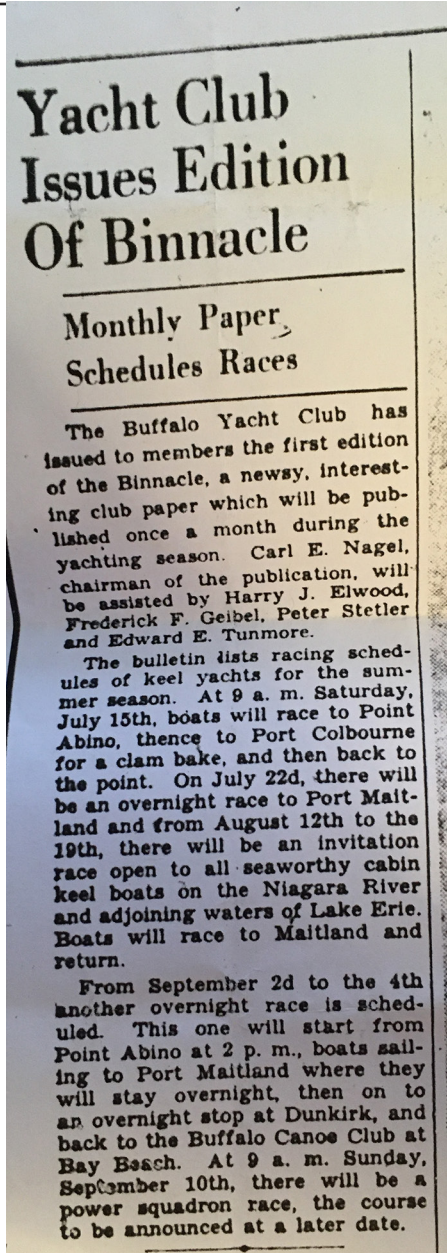
As I write this, the long pole in the tent is the project to have new docks fabricated and installed to replace the channel side docks on the outer wall as they were damaged beyond repair. The schedule is for the new docks to be delivered in late July with installation to take place soon thereafter. However, the COVID-19 pandemic can certainly change things from the moment that I am writing this. In the end though, we will end up with a proven design as they will be similar to the new floating docks that were installed along the clubhouse wall recently. Those docks were a nice upgrade and they turned out to be tough enough to survive the storm without any signs of distress.

As I write this, we are still expecting to have a work party day to get the basin in shape for the summer season. A good time to see everyone and get into the swing of things.

As I write this, I know that in the long history of the Buffalo Yacht Club we have overcome other difficult situations and that spirit will continue and carry us through this one.

As I write this it's cloudy and cool. But we are all looking forward to the time when the weather and all else improves and we see bright sunny days come our way once again.

**Right: Mary Theresa Seitz submitted an article she came across from the Courier Express Sunday July 9, 1944. Thanks Mary Theresa!**



**Yacht Club Issues Edition Of Binnacle**

**Monthly Paper Schedules Races**

The Buffalo Yacht Club has issued to members the first edition of the Binnacle, a newsy, interesting club paper which will be published once a month during the yachting season. Carl E. Nagel, chairman of the publication, will be assisted by Harry J. Elwood, Frederick F. Geibel, Peter Stetler and Edward E. Tunmore.

The bulletin lists racing schedules of keel yachts for the summer season. At 9 a. m. Saturday, July 15th, boats will race to Point Abino, thence to Port Colbourne for a clam bake, and then back to the point. On July 22d, there will be an overnight race to Port Maitland and from August 12th to the 19th, there will be an invitation race open to all seaworthy cabin keel boats on the Niagara River and adjoining waters of Lake Erie. Boats will race to Maitland and return.

From September 2d to the 4th another overnight race is scheduled. This one will start from Point Abino at 2 p. m., boats sailing to Port Maitland where they will stay overnight, then on to an overnight stop at Dunkirk, and back to the Buffalo Canoe Club at Bay Beach. At 9 a. m. Sunday, September 10th, there will be a power squadron race, the course to be announced at a later date.

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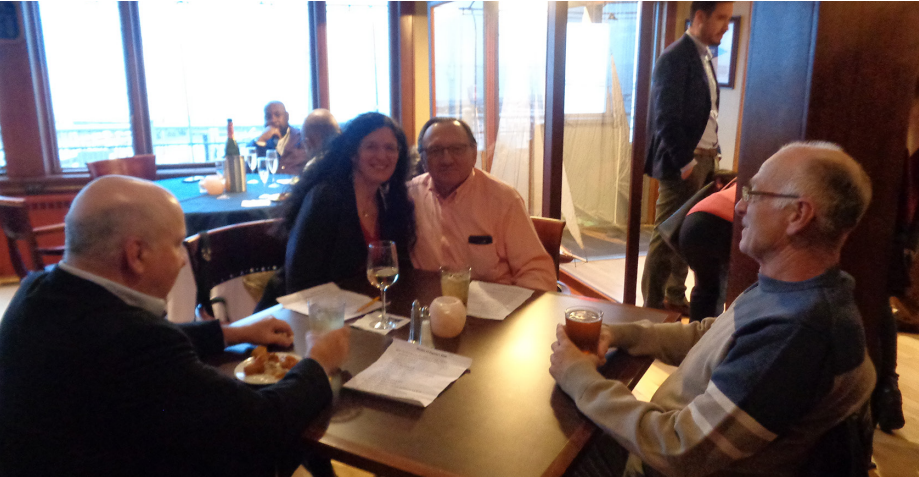
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Looks like a good time had by all! Can't wait for the next one!




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Valentine's Day was well attended, amazing food and great service - as usual! Opposite page bottom right: dancing by most of the guests too!

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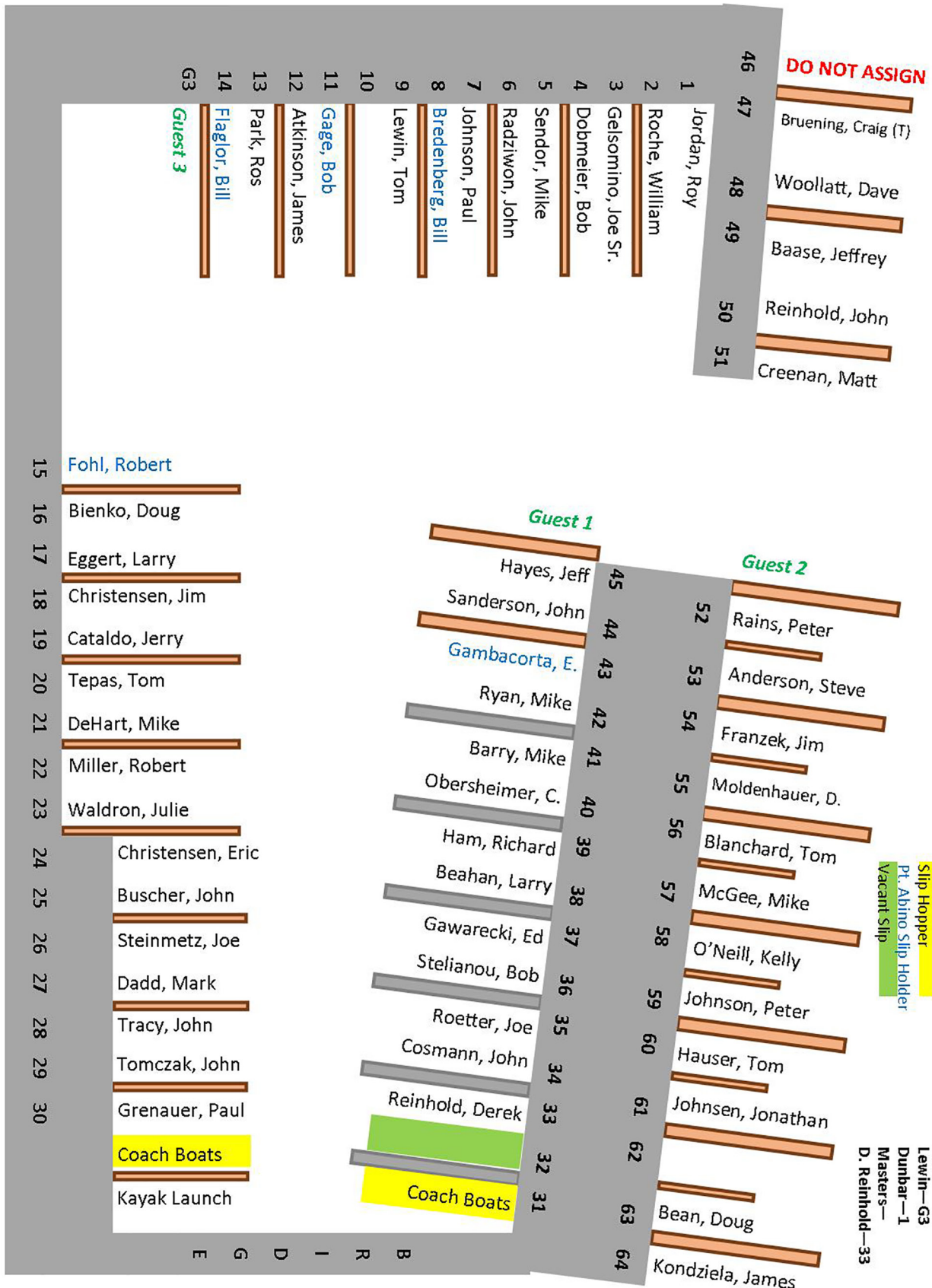


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Porter Avenue Basin 2020



Key:  
 Guest Dock  
 Slip Hopper  
 Pt. Abino Slip Holder  
 Vacant Slip

Sliphoppers:  
 Eggert—2  
 Lewin—G3  
 Dunbar—1  
 Masters—  
 D. Reinhold—33



**Buffalo Basin 2020**

Joseph Gelsomino, Sr.	1
John Radziwon	2
James Christensen	3
Thomas Leising	4
Robert Miller	5
Claudette Eggert	6
Claudette Eggert	6.5
Laurence Beahan	7
Paul Neureuter	8.1
Frederick Cohen	9.1
John Murty	10.1
Roy Jordan	11
Michael Ryan	12
John Sanderson	13
Charles Obersheimer	14
Joseph Gelsomino, Jr.	15
John Cosmann	16
Robert Fohl	17
Robert Lutz	18.1
Douglas Bienko	19
Paul X. Johnson	20
Richard Ham	21
Thomas Tepas	22
James Atkinson	23
William Flaglor	24
Michael Sendor	25
William Bredenberg	26
Tom Lewin	27
Tom Lewin	27.5
William Roche	28
Robert Gage	29
Michael McGee	30
Timothy Hunt	31.1
Jerry Cataldo	32
Emmanuel Gambacorta	33
Ted Johnson	34
George Anderson	35
Edward Gawarecki	36
Robert Dobmeier	37
Michael Barry	38
Jeffrey Hayes	39
Peter Johnson	40
Mark Dadd	41
Paul Grenauer	42
Merrily Kuhn	43
Mark Stuhlmiller	44.1
James Franzek	45
Roswell Park	46
James Kondziela	47
Robert Stelianou	48
William Markel	49.1
Douglas Bean	50
Jodi Osinski	51
Mike Dehart	52
John Tracy	53
Peter Godfrey	54
Joe Roetter	55
Andrew Dunbar	56
Joseph Steinmetz	57
Jonathan Johnsen	58
Eric Christensen	59
Julie Waldron	60
Stephen Anderson	61
Dwight Moldenhauer	62
Peter Rains	63
Thomas Blanchard	64
Eugene & Kelly O'Neill	65
John Buscher	66

Rick Lewis	67
John Higgins	68.1
Patrick Neill	69.1
Tom Hauser	70
John Reinhold	71
Clement Arrison	72.1
John Pettis	73.1
Michael Kraft	74.1
Stephen Munschauer	75.1
Alan Aquilina	76.1
Jonathan Graff	77.1
Jeffrey Markarian	78.1
Bernard Kolber	79.1
Trey Barrett	80.1
Joe Gambacorta	81.1
Howard Hain	82.1
Carl Hensler	83.1
John Tomczak	84
Peter Egloff	85.1
Kimberly Whistler	86.1
John Bratek	87.1
Ronald Resetarits	88.1
Michael Jordan	89.1
Daniel Ward	90.1
Robert Kaine	91.1
Richard Scherer	92.1
Adam Masters	93.1
David Woollatt	94
Steven Molik	95.1
Jeffrey Baase	96
Pam Menard	97.1
James Grenauer	98.1
Paul Noel	99
Craig Bruening	100
David Krystaf	300
Derek Reinhold	301
Matt Creenan	302

**Abino Basin 2020**

Carl Hensler	1
Malcolm Bourne Jr .	2
Thomas Leising	3
Alan Aquilina	4
John Murty	5
Gerald Gasz	6
Sandy Vogel	7
Paul Neureuter	8
Paul Neureuter	8.5
Jeffrey Markarian	9
William Flaglor	10
William Flaglor	10.5
Irving Barrett	11
Timothy Hunt	12
Michael Jordan	13
Michael Kraft	14
Richard Wiesen	15
Robert Fohl	16
Gregroy Zagon	17
Stephen Munschauer	18
Robert Dobmeier	19
John Montague	20
Andrew Dunbar	21
Dr. Emanuel Gambacorta	22
Dr. Emanuel Gambacorta	22.5
Daniel Ward	23
Daniel Ward	23.5
Craig Jones	24
Peg Leous	25

Howard Hain	26
Peter Godfrey	27
Robert Kaine	28
John Tomczak	29
Mark Stuhlmiller	30
Robert Gage	31
Jeffrey Hayes	32
Jeffrey Hayes	32.5
Mark Cryan	33
John Bratek	34
Kimberly Whistler	35
Peter Egloff	36
Peter Egloff	36.5
Edward Sippel	37
Joseph Bellonte	38
John Tracy	39
Jonathan Johnsen	40
Barry Goodin	41
James Blount	42
Richard Scherer	43
Paul Johnson	44
Donald Boyd	45
William Bredenberg	46
Dwight Moldenhauer	47
Joseph Gambacorta	48.1
Douglas Bean	49
John Cosmann	50.1
Roy Jordan	51
Eugene & Kelly O'Neill	52.1
Frank Hayden	53
Steven Molik	54.1
Joseph Schwab Jr.	55
Joseph Schwab Jr.	55.5
John Higgins	56
Patrick Neill	57
Pam Menard	58
Merrily Kuhn	59
Joe Roetter	60
Jonathan Graff	61
John Sanderson	62
Edward Gawarecki	63
Trey Barrett	64
Jerry Cataldo	65
Julie Waldron	66
Robert Lutz	67
Paul Noel	68
Craig Bruening	69
Vincent Brannigan	401
Jonathan Wright	402
Martin Myers	403
Delbert Voth	404
Wiltold Skala	405
Joy O'Donnell	406
Kerry Kraft	407
Irina Schwartz	408
Lee Smith	409
Gary Norman	410
Mark Osinga	411
Bob Dyer 412	
Graham Stubbs	413
Rene Bouchard	501
Rene Bouchard	501.5

Pt. Abino Basin 2020

		Boom	
		G9	
BARGE	NN6	N26	Kuhn, Merrily
	NN5		
	NN4		
	NN3	N25	Jordan, Roy
	NN2		
	NN1		
		N24	
	N23		Higgins, John
	N22		Schwab, Joseph
	N21		Neill, Patrick
	N20		Markarian, Jeff
	N19		Aquilina, Alan
	N18		Menard, Pam (T)
	N17		Boyd, Donald
	N16		Scherer, Richard
	N15		Zagon, Greg
	N14		Flaglor, Bill
	N13		Gage, Bob
	N12		Noel, Paul (T)
	N11		Stubbs, Graham (T)
	N10		Dyer, Bob
	N9		Jones, Craig
	N8		Kaine, Robert
	N7		Leising, Tom
	N6		Gambacorta, Manny
	N5		Bredenber, Bill
	N4		Dunbar, Andrew
	N3		Hayes, Jeff
	N2		Egloff, Peter
	N1		Stuhmiller, Mark
			G8
			G7
			G6
			G5

Jordan, Mike	S1
Hunt, Tim	S2
Bellonte, Joe	S3
O'Donnell, Joy	S4
Godfrey, Peter	S5
Schwab, Joseph	S6
Bourne, Malcolm	S7
Voth, Delbert	S8
Hain, Howard	S9
Whistler, Kimberly	S10
Skala, Alla	S11
Brannigan, Vincent	S12
Neureuter, Paul	S13
Goodin, Barry	S14
Bean, Doug	S15
Osinga, Mark	S16
Leous, Peg	S17
Kraft, Mike	S18
Fohl, Robert	S19
Ward, Dan	S20
Bratek, John	S21
Vogel, Sandy	S22
Montague, John	S23
Moldenhauer, Dwight	S24
Myers, Martin	S25
Kraft, Kerry	S26
Murty, Jack	S27
Hensler, Carl	S28
Munschauer, Steve	S29
Dobmeier, Robert	S30
Smith, Lee	S31
Cryan, Mark	S32
Bouchard, RJ	S33
Wright, Jonathan	S34
Johnson, Paul	S35
Blount, James	S36
Barrett, Irving	S37
Norman, Gary	S38
Schwartz, Irina	S39
<b>Pump Out</b>	
<b>Pump Out</b>	

Sippel, Ed	T16	T8	DO NOT ASSIGN
Wiesen	T15	T7	Tracy, John
Gasz, Gerald	T14	T6	Flaglor, Bill
Neureuter	T13	T5	Hayden, Frank
Tomczak, John	T12	T4	Gambacorta
Hayes, Jeff	T11	T3	
Egloff, Peter	T10	T2	
Ward, Dan	T9	T1	Bouchard, RJ

20'

25'



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Top: Greg Zadrozny is Member of the year, Bottom: Dave Miller is Employee of the year. Top right: PC Barry with Tom Hauser being inducted to the Blue Gavel. Middle: PC's gather to place his photo, bottom: with his photo.

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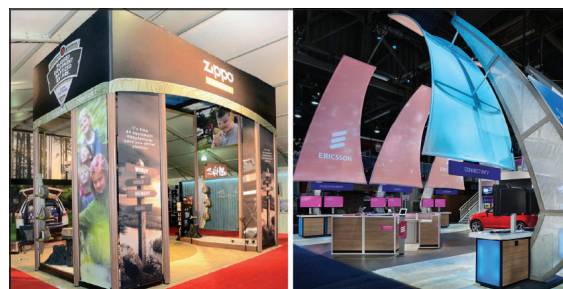
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