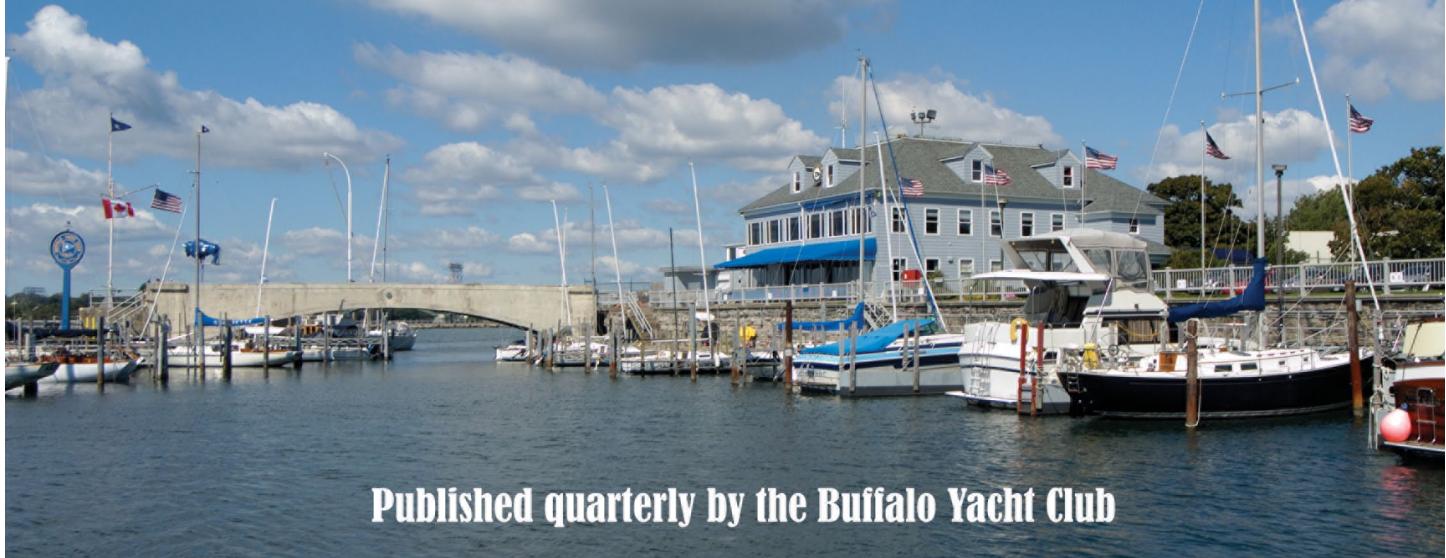


# The BINNACLE



Published quarterly by the Buffalo Yacht Club

Vol. CI, No. 4

Buffalo Yacht Club

December 2016



## COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

As I sit writing this article, I'm looking out the window on some serious lake-effect snow covering my driveway at a rate of about two inches per hour. I just got in from snow blowing the driveway and realize that I'm probably going to have to do it all over again at about 6:00 AM tomorrow. Oh well, small price to pay for the absolutely finest sailing summer ever and a great year serving as Commodore to the best yacht club anywhere.

2016 has been a great year and the Commodore's Ball a couple of weeks ago was a great way to put an exclamation point on it. The upper deck was decorated in a combination of Caribbean and Christmas themes and we had a full house. The party was enjoyed by all, the dance floor was full all night and we got to howl at the moon and blow conch shells. I was absolutely thrilled that the party was such a success! It was



*Outgoing Commodore Jim Kondziela poses with some of the ladies at the Commodore's Ball December 3rd. He obviously was the happiest Past Commodore present!*

## ROSWELL PARK TO LEAD BYC IN 2017

The newly constituted Board of Directors elected Roswell Park Commodore for the ensuing year, following the November 17th Annual Meeting and Election of Directors. They also elected Charles G. Obersheimer as Vice Commodore, Michael T. Barry as Rear Commodore and James Kulwicki as Fleet Captain. David M. Straitiff will remain Secretary and Michael DeHart will remain as Treasurer.

Gregory DeCinque, Dwight Moldenhauer and Social Member David Krystaf were elected to 3-year terms on the Board, replacing retiring Directors Cristen Gregory, John C. Tracey, Douglas Bean and Joseph O'Donnell.

**COMMODORE** — *continued on page 2*



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

### OFFICERS—2016

Commodore .....	James P. Kondziela
Vice Commodore.....	Roswell Park
Rear Commodore.....	Charles G. Obersheimer
Fleet Captain .....	Michael T. Barry
Secretary .....	David M. Straitiff
Treasurer.....	Michael DeHart

### DIRECTORS

P/C Daniel F. Ward

Douglas Bean	Peter Godfrey
Douglas P. Bienko	Cristen Gregory
Jason Dziadzio	James Kulwicki
James C. Franzek	Stephen C. Munschauer

### MANAGEMENT

Club Manager.....	Sam DePasquale
Banquets & Dining.....	Christine Storfer
Accounting/HR. ....	Mike Scheid
Executive Chef .....	David Miller
Front Office/Membership .....	Benjamin Minter
Point Abino .....	Ruth Sparks
Boating Education.....	Timothy (TJ) Wright

BINNACLE Editor ..... Gerould R. Stange

Dining Reservations—883-5900  
Business Office—883-5900  
Point Abino—905-651-7957

### COMMODORE — continued from page 1

made possible by the efforts of a great committee with everyone contributing their unique talents: notably flowers and decorations by Sandy Vogel, cookies by Carol Stelianou, a shot-oar crafted by Dan Ward and a great tribute by VC Ros Park. Thank you to everyone that made it a memorable Commodore's Ball.

The past five years serving on the Board and going through the chairs has been interesting to say the least. We have had some challenges and we've had some successes. It's been a team effort by the BYC staff and managers, the Board of Directors and the Officers



Mark & Meaghan Piegay



Jonathan Nash

### MEET NEW MEMBERS

Welcome these new Buffalo Yacht Clubbers when you see them next!



Michael Benner & Susan Fatta

### COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN ASSIGNED

Incoming Commodore Park has announced the chairman assignments for 2017.

As required in the By-Laws, the House Committee is under the chairmanship of Vice Commodore Charles Obersheimer, the Point Abino Committee is under Rear Commodore Michael Barry and the Basin Committee is under Fleet Captain Jim Kulwicki.

The Future Planning Committee chair is not yet announced; Finance Committee is under Tim Hunt; Boating Education: Peter Godfrey; Foundation Committee: Paul Neureuter; Regatta Committee: Douglas Bienko; Membership/Marketing Committee: Dwight Moldenhauer, co-chairs Gregory DeCinque and James Franzek; Entertainment Committee: David Krystaf; Facilities: Jason Dziadzio; Technology: David Straitiff; Constitution & ByLaws: Stephen Munschauer; Dock Implementation: Michael Jordan.

of the club and I'd like to thank everyone who has contributed. Most notably I'd like to thank my wife and "Commodorable" Sandy for putting up with me and supporting me. She is absolutely "The Best"!

I'm looking forward to a slightly more relaxed year as the Immediate Past Commodore and I'm gladly passing the baton to our incoming Commodore Ros Park and his Board of Directors to continue the positive trajectory. Cheers to 2017 being another great year!

Jim Kondziela  
—2016 Commodore



When disaster strikes, wouldn't you like to be insured by someone local, who knows boats?

## We Know Boats!

Contact Peter Stevens  
[pstevens@vannerinsurance.com](mailto:pstevens@vannerinsurance.com)  
for personal attention

11 Pinchot Court, Suite 100  
Amherst, NY 14228  
716-688-8888 [www.vannerinsurance.com](http://www.vannerinsurance.com)

  
**Stevens Marine**  
A Division of  
**Vanner Insurance**

  
**TRAUTMAN ASSOCIATES**  
ARCHITECTS / ENGINEERS  
Robert P. Stelianou, P.E.  
[RStelianou@TrautmanAssociates.com](mailto:RStelianou@TrautmanAssociates.com)



## VICE COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

So what do we Flag Officers do when we're not flagging around? Well, one little tidbit is that we tend to our uniforms. Every December, for instance, we make the trek up to far-away United Uniforms to tailor our outfits to our new assignments. The poor Fleet Captain has to actually buy a uniform at this point, and let's face it, a yacht club uniform is pretty much like a bride's maid's gown: it's not as though you're going to wear it anywhere else.... Alterations must occur after the Tree Raising and before the Installation Ceremonies.

December is also the time when any first responder who wears a uniform needs to fulfill his or her annual uniform allowance. So a trip to the uniform store is window into what folks in law enforcement have to wear to protect themselves as they protect us. These are young people in the prime of life. Meanwhile, I'm over in a corner getting ribbons on my yacht club uniform. The trip apparently does offer some compensatory benefits. Recently, Deb has come along. With all the young virile guys coming out of multiple fitting rooms, I'm sure she feels like a guy at Victoria's Secret on Valentine's Day.

As I looked around at the disconcerting spectacle of people outfitting themselves in Kevlar, a thought suddenly occurred to me: "Hey, I'm about to become Commodore; maybe I should get one of those vests, too?" Just a fleeting thought....

Jim Kondziela has provided us with an exemplary operation that's upped its game on every level. Our regattas were

bigger, our food and service are better, both basins are full, our catering is more robust, and so is our boating education program.

In my piece of paradise this last year, the Buffalo House operation, we introduced seasonal menus, began a transformation into a downstairs Grill Room and an upstairs formal Dining Room (certainly there will be exceptions). The new Upper Deck offers a magnificently crafted outdoors bar, as well as custom-designed Sunbrella awning. The Upper Deck offers our Christine some useful additional catering options. We will build on all of these improvements. Increased revenues followed these innovations.

The new year may require a little Kevlar, nonetheless. Our Executive Chef, Dave Miller, has just left us for Ellicottville, where he'll earn more with, I believe, an equity stake. He leaves us with a great organization and staff, all of whom are holding steady while we interview for a new chef. We knew we couldn't hold on to him forever and we wish him well.

Then there is the Buffalo Basin sea wall over by the J/22 hoists. We want to assure that it remains nice and stable now that we've discovered that a Buffalo City storm drain is compromised right in the area of our hoists. Jason Dziadzio and Doug Bienko are on this and have just met with City reps this week (with our lawyer).

In the meanwhile, our plan is to build on last year's success. We'll continue to enhance your experience as members

of the best yacht club on this end of the lake. That means tending to things as prosaic as ripped upholstery on dining room chairs, as well as replacing worn carpeting and freshening up the facilities. When I say freshening up our facilities, let's include finding ways to offer more slips at the Buffalo Basin. Rest assured that will be the first priority of the Future Planning Committee. The ultimate enhancement of the BYC is a vibrant and engaged membership. Current members need to feel value from their memberships but we need more such members. And when we get those members, we need them to feel value from their memberships. Accordingly, I've merged the Membership and Marketing Committees. Director Dwight Moldenhauer will be capably supported by co-directors Jim Franzek and Greg DeCinque. Jim Kulwicki was so successful with Entertainment that he became Fleet Captain, where he won't be doing it anymore (except we know he can't stop). But Dave Krystaf will be channeling him. Dave's a guy who likes a good party and he'll assure that you will, too.

So for 2017, expect us to build on our successes and address our weaknesses. Our success depends on all of us. Don't wear Kevlar, sail with it. Then visit our bar.

Ros Park

—2016 Vice Commodore

## C-ME MARINE SALES

America's Largest Selection  
at Guaranteed Lowest Prices

Your One-Stop Marine  
Supply Store Since 1947

1850 Hertel Ave. 837-5232

### John E. Roberts Funeral Home

Providing WNY's low cost, high quality  
funeral and cremation service

James J. Roberts

716 873-3478 716 874-3377

1357-1361 Hertel Ave. 280 Grover Cleveland Hwy.  
Buffalo, N.Y. 14216 Amherst, N.Y. 14226

[www.jerfh.com](http://www.jerfh.com) [jerfh@aol.com](mailto:jerfh@aol.com)

Are you nostalgic about the "the old days"  
or thirsty to learn more about local history?  
Check our quarterly magazine!

WESTERN NEW YORK  
**HERITAGE**

Call 893-4011  
or visit [wnyheritagepress.org](http://wnyheritagepress.org)  
for a subscription



## REAR COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

The summers go by so fast. What a good year we had at the point this year, good weather, little rain, new docks, new deck, and a good team run by Ruth Sparks to keep the place clean and tidy.

We are looking forward to two new 30 foot docks and new floating "T" docks for next year, Thank you Mike Jordan for working on this.

We had a work party of 16 that braved the weather in December to move the docks into the center of the Point Abino basin for the winter. Many hands make light work. These members gave up - Skiing, Working on their boats, other duties or just staying warm just to help the club. Thank you!

I would like to thank all the members that helped me this year. You made the club a better place.

Charlie Obersheimer  
—2016 Rear Commodore



### Healing Wisdom

#### Dr. Merrily

Health & Wellness Counselor  
C: (716) 491-9558  
O: (716) 649-1350



Merrily A Kuhn, RN, PhD<sup>2</sup>, ND  
6748 Boston State Rd  
Hamburg NY 14075

[www.DrMerrily.org](http://www.DrMerrily.org) ~ [merrily@drmerrily.org](mailto:merrily@drmerrily.org)

Helping the body establish its own state of good health



873-6320  
873-3440

167 Southwood Drive  
Kenmore, NY 14223

CHARLES R. VOIT  
"A Man for All Seasons"

Heating • Air Conditioning • Sheet Metal  
Fabrication • Light and Heavy Gauge

### Become an Advertiser!

*The BINNACLE welcomes  
new advertisers.*

**This size ad for 4 quarterly issues  
will cost you \$300.**

*Call the Club Office at (716) 883-5900*

### MICHAEL J. SENDOR, PLS

President of NUSSBAUMER & CLARKE, INC.

Professional Land Surveying Services

BOUNDARY AND TOPOGRAPHIC SURVEYS  
HOUSE AND CONSTRUCTION STAKEOUTS

3556 Lake Shore Road, Buffalo, NY 14219  
716.827.8000 / [msendor@nussclarke.com](mailto:msendor@nussclarke.com)



*Members and Guests display their Yuletide finery at the Buffalo Yacht Club's Commodore's Ball on December 3, 2016 (Pictures courtesy of Jennifer Kuhn)*



*Members and Guests display their Yuletide finery at the Buffalo Yacht Club's Commodore's Ball on December 3, 2016 (Pictures courtesy of Jennifer Kuhn)*


**MARK C. PAGANO**  
NYS Licensed Real Estate Broker

716.570.2369 mobile  
 716.881.1043 fax  
[mpaganobroker@gmail.com](mailto:mpaganobroker@gmail.com)  
[RoycroftRealtyWNY.com](http://RoycroftRealtyWNY.com)

2770 Delaware Ave, Kenmore, NY 14217



**"Serving the Buffalo Boating Community for 44 years"**

**SALES • SERVICE • DOCKING • STORAGE**

**Dealers for**

- Alerion
- Beneteau
- J/boats
- Back Cove
- C&C

RCR Buffalo Marina:  
 284 FUHRMANN BLVD., BUFFALO, NY 14203  
 (716) 856-6314

[www.rcryachts.com](http://www.rcryachts.com)



*Members and Guests display their Yuletide finery at the Buffalo Yacht Club's Commodore's Ball on December 3, 2016 (Pictures courtesy of Jennifer Kuhn)*

LEVANTE. THE MASERATI OF SUV'S IS HERE.

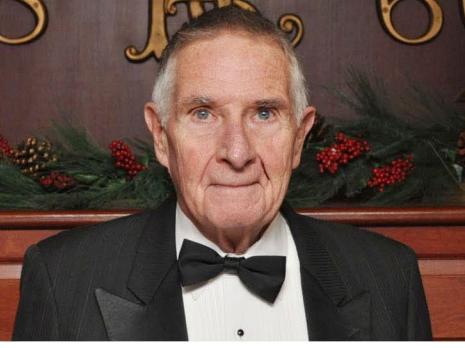
MASERATI

TOWNEMASERATI.COM

SIGHTSEEING  
GROUP TOURS  
CHARTERS

**Bedore Tours**  
*The Spirit of Adventure!*

For charter sales call 696-3200  
John O'Hear, President  
Bedore Tours & Charter, Inc.  
[www.bedoretours.com](http://www.bedoretours.com)



*Members and Guests display their Yuletide finery at the Buffalo Yacht Club's Commodore's Ball on December 3, 2016 (Pictures courtesy of Jennifer Kuhn)*



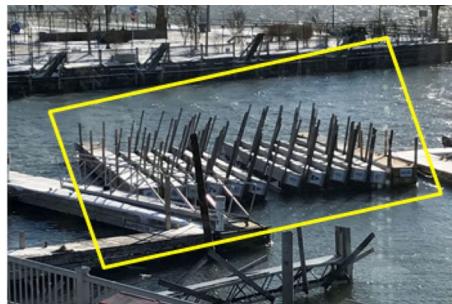


## FLEET CAPTAIN'S COMMENTS

As I write this, it's very cold and snowing. Clearly it's not boating weather in Buffalo. Fortunately, both basins are buttoned up thanks to the efforts of many volunteers and staff.

In Buffalo, we're trying something new. Largely this is out of necessity. As I mentioned in my last article, we have some issues under the dry sail parking lot. We still have hopes of addressing that prior to opening the basin next spring. Because of this, we are trying to keep the dry sail parking lot clear. Hence, the floating docks that are usually pulled from the water and stored on land in the dry sail area have been nestled inside the new pilot floating docks and left floating in the basin for the winter. The upside to this is that we have a little more parking, at least until we start repairs.

Regarding those repairs, we received an engineering report on the issues and are in the process of getting bids on the required repairs. In short, there is a broken sewer pipe that washed out the fill under part of parking lot. We need to have the pipe fixed, the fill and paving repaired and put some tie backs in the basin wall to prevent it from



bowing further in to the basin. There is some hope that the city will help us out with some of this.

Slip request form should all have been returned by now and assignments completed for 2017. We are doing our best to accommodate everyone, but as we all know, we are limited on space in the basins. If you did not receive a slip request form, and feel you should have, please contact the office.

At our recent Annual Membership Meeting we passed some long overdue updates to the club Constitution and By-Laws. The next step is to align the Basin rules with the Constitution and By-Laws. The Basin Committee will be working with BYC Director Stephen Munschauer over the winter to make these adjustments. The goal is to have these completed and published prior to the reopening of the basins.

As stated in my opening, it's clearly not boating weather, but that doesn't mean we can't enjoy our club. I know I try to get there for First Friday's and a few lunches and dinners every month. I hope I see you there!

Mike Barry  
— 2016 Fleet Captain



## TROPHY WINNERS FOR 2016

Trophy	Boat	Skipper
James Rhoads Outstanding Member		Nancy Robinson
Maythem Wheel	Amazing Potato	Erie Christianson
Williams Trophy	Myouri	Paul Johnson
Smith Cup	Amazing Potato	Erie Christianson
Colonel's Cup	Gypsy Wind	Peg Leous
Knox Cup	Sledgehammer	Tom Lewin
Obersheimers Cup	Little Sister	Joe Gelsomino
J/22 Fleet Championship	Train Wreck	Adam Masters
"Buzz" Jokl Memorial	Plumb Bob	Mike Sendor
Buffalo Courier Express	Sledgehammer	Tom Lewin
July 4th	Little Sister	Joe Gelsomino
Labor Day	Black Sheep	Adam Masters
Betty Kay		Not awarded
Clair EB	Damn Yankee	Ted Johnson
Rear Comm Edward Oldham	Poison Ivy II	Sandy Kondziela
Mayor's Cup	Storm Warning	Merrily Kuhn
Molson Cup	Storm Warning	Merrily Kuhn

 **Fichte Endl & Elmer EYE CARE**  
*First to do LASIK & Laser Cataract surgery in Western New York!*



Set your sails for clearer vision!  
We are always accepting new patients



**1-800-309-2020**



## Let us treat you like Family



**Modern Dentistry  
in the Heart of Snyder**



4498 Main St | 839.1546 | Mike & Michelle Augello



## Jack W. Hunt & Associates, Inc.

*The exclusive providers of  
the Perfect Transcript™*

Court Reporting • iPad Realtime  
Photocopying • Video Services  
Video Conferencing

*Principals—  
Kevin R. Hunt  
PC Timothy M. Hunt*

**716-853-5600**

424 Main Street  
Suite 1120 Liberty Building  
Buffalo, NY 14202

See us on the Web at [www.jwhcorp.com](http://www.jwhcorp.com)



## SAILORS COLLECT LOOT

On Saturday, November 12, the Buffalo Yacht Club victorious racing sailors gathered for an evening of award presentations and sharing of memories over the past 2016 boating season, which turned out to be one of the best in recent history. Regatta Chairman Doug Bienko had the honor of making the trophy presentations.

**The Downing Family and Towne Auto are proud to support the Buffalo Yacht Club.**

Please contact Anthony Daily (BYC Past Commodore) with any of your automotive needs at 716.662.7400 or [adaily@towneauto.com](mailto:adaily@towneauto.com).



**towneAUTO.COM**

**PRINTED** *Image*  
UNION SHOP PRINTING & GRAPHICS  
1906 Clinton St.  
Buffalo, NY 14206

Graphic Design  
Digital Printing  
Business Stationery  
Postcards/Flyers  
Brochures  
Newsletters/Catalogs  
Booklets  
Bulk Mail Services  
Benefit  
Fundraiser Tickets

[www.printedimageofbuffalo.com](http://www.printedimageofbuffalo.com)  
**716.821.1880**  
Call today! Let us quote your next print job.



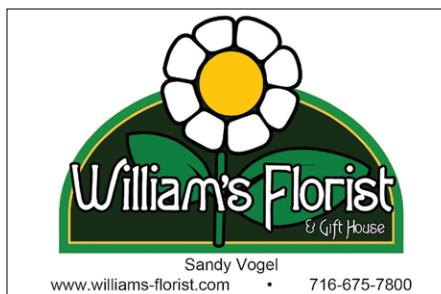
**The BINNACLE**  
Official Publication  
of the  
**BUFFALO YACHT CLUB**  
One Porter Avenue  
Buffalo, N.Y. 14201-1097

PRSR STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
BUFFALO, NY  
PERMIT NO. 801

## MEMBERSHIP

The following new members joined the Buffalo Yacht Club since the last issue of the BINNACLE: *Social*: Peter Quartararo and Jonathan R. Nash; *Intermediate*: Robert Armstrong and Mark & Meaghan Piegar. Changing classification were: *Social* to *Active*: Peter Rains; *Intermediate* to *Non-Resident*: Amanda Dollinger; *Crew* to *Non-Resident*: Joshua Perlstein. Resignations were accepted with regret from Donna Murray, Jonathan O'Connor, James Cassar, James Stephenson, Emily Reynolds, Bee Schwartz, Kathleen Shafer and Bill Zimmerman.

Sheila Rebstock, wife of Norman "Bud" Rebstock, passed away in October. The Rebstocks, BYC members for over 30 years, led an active part in the Club's social and sailing life, sailing their 26' sloop Creole out of the Point Abino basin for decades, and attending all of the major social functions. Our most sincere sympathy is extended to Bud, sons John, Tom and Jim, daughter Mary Beth, grandchildren and sisters.



Sandy Vogel  
[www.williams-florist.com](http://www.williams-florist.com) • 716-675-7800



873-8667  
3807 Delaware Ave.  
Kenmore, NY 14217  
[www.markarianrugs.com](http://www.markarianrugs.com)

**MARINE INSURANCE**

*Our love is Boats  
But we write  
Other insurance too.*

*Business • Personal  
Life*

**CLAUSS &  
COMPANY**

735 Delaware Ave.  
Phone (716)886-6600  
Fax (716)886-4128  
[www.claussinsurance.com](http://www.claussinsurance.com)

**Sea Ray®  
Smith Boys**

280 Michigan St.  
(on Tonawanda Island)  
North Tonawanda, N.Y.  
695-3472  
Western New York's  
Number One Marine Retailer

**RICH MARINE SALES**

*Boston Whaler*  
**SEA CHASER**  
*By Carolina Skiff*  
Mercury -Volvo  
Winter Storage with Mast Up

**SALES SERVICE STORAGE**  
[richmarinesales@gmail.com](mailto:richmarinesales@gmail.com)  
873-4060                    5 Austin Street



**Hadley Exhibits**

David & Ted Johnson

Exhibits • Graphics • Interiors  
Models • Signage

[www.hadleyexhibits.com](http://www.hadleyexhibits.com)  
716 • 874 • 3666