

The BINNACLE

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Buffalo Yacht Club

July 2015



COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

With the "blink of an eye" we have moved on from a picture perfect day in May at the Commodore's Breakfast, to June's wild, windy & wavy "Erie Dover" regatta (aka: Lake Erie Interclub Cruise), to July's beautiful & balmy Raw Bar Party. August is now bearing down on us and that means it is most definitely "high season" at the BYC!

Your club has tackled many changes over the recent months which are delivering notable improvements to member services both offshore and onshore. Our new parking policy has been well received by members as well as guests and racing crews. The reengineered Valet process is really providing a valued service while also making it easier for boat crews to get on the water quickly, while optimizing member parking availability. Power upgrades at the Porter Ave. basin are keeping the batteries charged and the beer cold, while our Point Abino slip-



BOATING SEASON OFF TO A GOOD START! See pages 6 – 9 for more pictures from the Commodore's Breakfast.

holders are raving about the new floating docks. Across all BYC departments, our staff and leadership team are making daily strides to meet or exceed member expectations.

Within our clubhouse staff, BYC team member David Miller has been promoted to the BYC Executive Chef position, following Tony Vitello's recent decision to depart from the club. Our new Chef is a familiar face in the kitchen, and he also brings new ideas and proven

skills to the job. He is energized to show you his capabilities with our menu, as well as new and varied specials that members can look forward to. This will be one more opportunity for the BYC team to impress you with what we have to offer, from Buffalo's best waterfront dining view.

Our biggest event of the season on August 8th is almost here! The 2nd

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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 Rear Commodore..... Roswell Park
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 Banquets & Dining..... Christine Storfer
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 Accounting..... Joette Baumgarten
 Point Abino Ruth Sparks

BINNACLE Editor Gerould R. Stange

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COMMODORE — continued from page 1

Annual Leukemia Cup is an event that really should appeal to every BYC member! While the WNY sailors from all local clubs will be well represented, I especially encourage our Social members to put this one on your “must attend” calendar! Make no mistake that this is much more than a Regatta! It is a monumental effort by a dedicated team of BYC volunteers who recognize the importance of philanthropy through collaboration to help a very worthwhile cause. It’s a great party where you’ll see many of your friends. It’s a great gala dinner where you’ll dine under the tent and can bid on many awesome gifts auctioned off for a purpose. It’s a great way to support your club in our



ERIE-DOVER— *Sledge Hammer* had a very strong start, first in fleet and first overall, but everything went wrong on the second day about 15 miles outside of Erie heading across the Lake for Port Dover. Yes, that’s skipper Tom Lewin at the helm with the coast guard cutter behind him. “We had something of a leak,” said crew Doug Bienko who took this picture. “On the bright side Jim Kondziela’s *Poison Ivy* was fifth overall for the event,” he added.

goal to exceed last year’s successful \$75,000 fundraising contribution to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. The Buffalo Yacht Club is very proud to host this event once again in 2015.

Please consider attending this worthwhile event, and pledging your support with an individual donation or sponsorship of a registered boat that will be competing in the Regatta. If you really want to stand out from the pack, you can also support the BYC Commodore’s - Team “Fire Dancer” by connecting to my own Leukemia Cup fundraising page at this link: <http://www.leukemicup.org/pages/wcny/buffalo15/DWard> . In addition to friends who have been challenged through illness, I will

be sailing “Fire Dancer” in dedication to Patrick Waldron, who left us in May, 2014 during the prime of his life, as well as Tricia Hoelscher, who just left us in July, 2015 after fighting the good fight for most of her life. While we will always remember those who have been challenged during their lives, we can never stop working towards a cure for our future generations.

The summer of 2015 will over before we know it. I hope to see you at the club to share the great times and the great views at the BYC!

Dan Ward
 Commodore



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VICE COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

It's been somewhat of a cool and wet spring and summer so far. In spite of that there has been a lot of activity at the club both inside and out on the wall. Our last "wine" dinner, which featured both wine and beer pairing was unique and met with very favorable reviews from those who attended. More recent early summer activities have included the Caribbean Party and our first Sunday brunch. Fourth of July activities included a fun reverse PHRF sailboat race followed by a great party on the outer wall.

I hope you have all gotten a chance to say hello to our new General Manager, Tim Connelly, and welcomed Christine Storfer back as our Dining and Events Manager. Both of these new additions to the Buffalo Yacht Club management team bring a lot of enthusiasm, energy and professionalism to our club. New ideas are already being implemented with an updated grill menu and a new dessert and after dinner drink menu. Don't forget the new Thursday "Dining Around the World" with specialty themed menus each Thursday. Look for more changes to come as our new team works to enhance the dining experience and provide more quality and value to members.

Looking forward, we have a number of events coming up at the club. The first weekend of August promises to be a busy one with our First Friday Happy Hour and King Crab Night on August 7th followed by the Leukemia Cup Regatta on Saturday afternoon and the Leukemia Cup party on Saturday evening. If you are a sailor, please sign up and register your boat for the race and everyone is welcome to attend the dinner and party. Your support for this event is needed and appreciated. Other August happenings include the Sunday Funday brunch on the 16th and High Tea at the BYC on the 20th.

We're also going to having a "Local on the Lawn" event on Sunday august 30th

Meet Chef David Miller BYC's new Executive Chef

The name may be new to you but Chef Dave Miller is no stranger to the Buffalo Yacht staff. In fact, you could say he stepped up 'from the frying pan into the fire.' The Le Cordon Blue Pittsburgh-educated chef who once worked at the Protocol Restaurant, Papaya on Chippewa Street, and most recently, as one of the "original five" at Lloyd's Taco Trucks and as a BYC line cook, is now our Executive Chef. He and his wife are parents to two daughters and a new born son.

Debra Park dishes with Chef Miller about his background and what's to come.

Q: *How did you begin in the culinary arts?*

A: I started from the bottom. My first job was as a dishwasher. Then I moved on to prepping and dicing and then a little more prepping. I would step up to the line when they were short-handed and I started to love it! I went to McKinley High School, which is a trade school, and took plumbing. But, I didn't follow up on that. I ended up taking the culinary route and went to college — Le Cordon Blue in Pittsburgh.

Q: *What have you enjoyed most as in your tenure as Executive Chef, so far?*

A: Bringing smiles and happy bellies and different ideas to people. I also love the work atmosphere.

Q: *What are some of your ideas for the menu? I know you would not completely change the menu in the future. But what would you like to incorporate?*

A: Right now, I would like to do more farm-to-table. From my previous



employer, I've learned a lot about using local ingredients — using more mom-and-pop places in Buffalo and Western New York.

Q: *I want to know about your guilty food pleasure. For instance, I can't explain it but I must have Cheez-It Crackers. What's yours?*

A: I love sweets. I like candy. I don't know what it is. Sweets are my problem. I'm not a baker either. I am a savory chef.

Q: *When its time to leave here, what do you eat and where do you get it? You can confess.*

A: I usually go and get Pho. That's my go-to food. It's so light. Great. I love it. There are lots of good places to get it. I love sushi, too. And chicken wings.

Q: *So your favorite food is Asian Fusion cuisine?*

A: Yes it is.

Q: *But I bet you are pretty good at Mexican.*

A: Yep, I learned a lot about that after four and a half years with Lloyds.

featuring locally grown and produced products. Stay tuned for more details.

Finally, I'd like to thank all of the staff for all of their hard work through the transition over the last few months at the BYC. Everyone from the kitchen and dining room staff to the bartenders, valets, maintenance, operational staff and the management team have pulled

together and are working hard to improve the member experience at the Club.

Summer is moving fast and now is the time to enjoy your Club. See you in the Club and on the water.

Jim Kondziela
—Vice Commodore



REAR COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

Today's a sunny Monday morning. I've taken the day off because I'm embarrassed by my shoddy treatment of long-suffering editor Jerry Stange, who has patiently endured my excuses and prevarications for ignoring his entirely reasonable Binnacle deadlines. I might also take a whack at my annual report for my employer, Buffalo State, but that isn't due until Thursday....

The truth of the matter is that I'm writing this on my boat and I know an imminent sail is in the offing. It's so sunny I can't see my computer screen while I'm in the cockpit. Since sunshine is where I want to be, it's good old pen and paper for me.

You all should be proud of me, since the gods are obviously sending me a sign. Indeed, so far this summer, the gods have been angry, but they apparently believe we've suffered enough. And when the gods tell you to play hooky, play hooky.

This year the gods want you to spend all your available time at the Point. If you're already there—and maybe reading this while you're on your boat—you know what I'm talking about.

Our new docks already make us probably the premier facility on the eastern lake. Not only are they beautiful, we've already seen them stand up to some sporty conditions. Pretty soon, the Mike Kraft Memorial Irrigation System will be installed and we'll have ourselves a verdant expanse of lawn. We even popped for a new tractor to keep it manicured, BYC style. This majestic lawn will be soon be complemented by



The Lake Erie Interclub Cruise (the "Erie-Dover") finished at Point Abino on July 1 where BYC hosted the combined fleet before the racers dispersed to their home bases in time for the Fourth of July weekend.

Captain Ruth's imminent installation of the proper gravel for our driveway and maybe even the gate lot. Don't get her started on the matter of pool inspections: That rainy June and early July? The provincial pool inspector made a habit of materializing on the days-after.

I could go on. The point—and I do

have several—is: 1) Use your club, 2) we're trying hard to make your club worthy of playing hooky, and 3) seize the opportunities the gods give you. It literally works for me—I'm shoving off as soon as I get this thing typed!

Ros Park
—Rear Commodore



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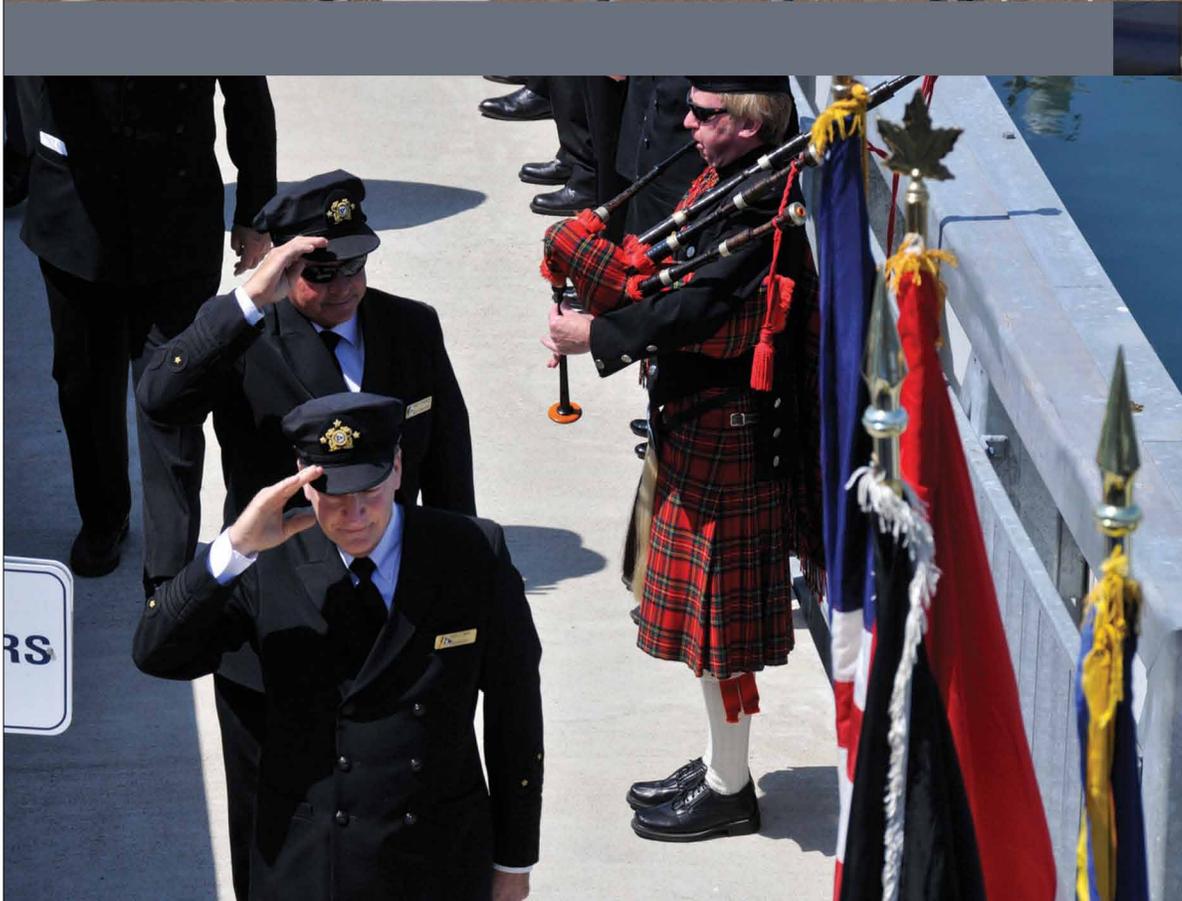
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Commodore Dan Ward presides



*Pictures from the
80th Commodore's Breakfast
on May 17, 2015*

BEAUTIFUL WEATHER WELCOMES THE OPENING OF THE BUFFALO YACHT CLUB'S 155TH BOATING SEASON.

As the collegiate sailors graced the channel racing the Club's fleet of 420 dinghies, the BYC members and guests assembled to honor the past year's departed members and to toast the upcoming boating season. Following the flag raising and traditional 21-gun salute by the Gun Crew, the Commodore made the annual pronouncement: "The sun is over the yardarm. Join me in the main dining room to splice the main brace."




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FLEET CAPTAIN'S COMMENTS

What a wonderful summer!

The water is warm and high, good depth in both basins. The new docks are working well. With the high water that we now have, the dock ramp-steps are working against us. This is the first year in a long time that my wife, Pam and I can just step across from the dock to the deck of our boat without having to sit on the dock to reach the deck.

The amount of work around each basin each year is monumental: Hooking up water lines, power, docks, replacing cleats, deck boards, dock uprights, floating dock sliders and rollers, removing debris from the water, cutting and harvesting weeds, bubblers, etc., as well as all the maintenance of the buildings and grounds — from cutting grass to repairing gates. We have replaced all the wiring along the Porter Ave wall in Buffalo due to a short that melted the conduit on a long section of wire. We upgraded the receptacles, lighting and wire to the new marina codes.

The Erie Dover race has come and gone; it was a cold and wet regatta — the coldest and wettest in my 50+ year memory of the Interclub.

The Raw Bar regatta and party has just finished and was a good one, a mix of fog and sunny skies, good wind



The crew of 'Ritual' took home numerous awards in this year's Lake Erie Interclub Cruise, which finished July 1. Back row from left, Scott Persall, Peter Ryerse, Mike Grummett, Matt Vogelzang; front row, Tyler Wilson, Mark Boerkamp, John Vallee (skipper) and Keith deMontfort. Other crew members include Don Lees, Mark Kohli, Steve Shaw, Larry Hewson and Brooke Snow. (Contributed Photo)

and a wonderful party. Next is the Leukemia Cup regatta and party. Don't forget the Mayor's Cup is at Point Abino on August 22nd & 23rd, the Reverse PHRF race on September 7th, and the Obersheimer Cup on September 19th. These last two races start right in front of the Porter clubhouse — come down and enjoy the excitement. Further regatta specifics are in the Compass newsletter.

Thank you for putting up with our new parking sticker policy. The intent is to give you the member a parking space closer to the clubhouse if you are not using the valet.

Charlie Obersheimer
—Fleet Captain



BUFFALO CANOE CLUB
Founded in 1882

The Buffalo Canoe Club is pleased to extend Members of the Buffalo Yacht Club the opportunity to use our Clubhouse for dining or as space for a special event.

Our restaurant is open 7 days a week in the summer and we offer the following services:

Monday	Pasta Night
Tuesday	Tuesday Grill Menu
Wednesday	Dining Room Menu
Thursday	Thursday Grill Menu
Friday	Patio lunch service 11am-4pm Fish Fry
Saturday	Patio lunch service 11am-4pm Dining Room Menu
Sunday	Patio lunch service 11am-4pm

Please contact the Front Desk for reservations at **905-984-2750**

Dress code in effect — Collared shirt, dress pants/shorts; no denim, t-shirts, bathing suits or hats

Snack Bar Open daily from 8am-8pm

BYC Members can also book our Abino Patio, our Dining Room or our iconic Outer Boathouse for special events, meeting or social gatherings.

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BUFFALO YACHT CLUB HISTORY

On August 7, 1878, fire broke out in the Clubhouse by the Car Ferry (Clubhouse Two) and destroyed it completely. With the fire went all records, fear and some spirit. Nevertheless a meeting was held immediately in the office of Mr. B. F. Ball, who acted as chairman. The lubberly manner in which the Club had been sailing its course was severely criticized and condemned. A committee was appointed to draft a new constitution and by-laws [see excerpt below.] Under the leadership of John Provoost, membership grew from about 24 to 75. Regattas were sailed among the members and both the Cleveland and Toledo Yacht Clubs were invited to participate in a Grand Union Regatta.

SQUADRON BUFFALO YACHT CLUB, 1879.
FIRST CLASS YACHTS, 35 FEET AND OVER.

Yacht	Port	Reg.	Open	Time	Length	Beam	Depth	C.B.	Owner or Lessee	Notes
Provoost	Buffalo	Sloop	Open	1:12	35.0	5.0	2.0	C.B.	J. Provoost	McCluhan
Kerr	"	"	"	1:15	34.0	4.8	1.8	"	"	"
Merrill	"	"	"	1:18	33.0	4.6	1.7	"	"	"

SECOND CLASS YACHTS, 25 FEET TO 35 FEET.

Yacht	Port	Reg.	Open	Time	Length	Beam	Depth	C.B.	Owner or Lessee	Notes
Clinton	Buffalo	Sloop	Open	1:25	30.0	4.5	1.8	C.B.	F. G. Cook, B. T. Ball	C. Beck
Flamingo	"	"	"	1:28	29.0	4.4	1.7	"	"	"
Merrill	"	"	"	1:31	28.0	4.3	1.6	"	"	"

SQUADRON BUFFALO YACHT CLUB, 1879.
THIRD CLASS YACHTS, 24 FEET AND UNDER.

Yacht	Port	Reg.	Open	Time	Length	Beam	Depth	C.B.	Owner or Lessee	Notes
Lottell	Buffalo	Sloop	Open	1:35	24.0	3.5	1.5	"	J. W. Sauer	Walker
Amber	"	"	"	1:38	23.0	3.4	1.4	"	"	"
Amber	"	"	"	1:41	22.0	3.3	1.3	"	"	"

FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER



Jumping in with three feet was the only option when I came aboard June 1, 2015 — as the Club was starting its FULL swing operations.

What a fantastic group of employees and members here at the BYC in Buffalo and Canada! The hard work I see daily is reflective of the dedication and commitment from the Board, the committees, officers and every employee. I say Bravo Zulu again.

The biggest news is we do have a new chef and a renewed spirit in the Kitchen —please welcome the promotion of Chef Dave Miller. We will let the food be his thanks and recognition as well! Believe me—you certainly want to book your parties, showers, birthdays and special occasions with the BYC and our new Chef Dave. The entire kitchen has stepped up and is ready to take us to the next level. Join the resurgence and come dine at your beautiful club. Due to the immediate reaction in our dining rooms we STRONGLY urge you all to adhere to the reservation process by honoring the time set aside for you to have an enjoyable evening at the BYC. The busy nights require that we spread out the reservations in order to assure fine dining. Please help us accomplish and maintain this goal.

The resurgence at BYC should encourage the members to bring their guests in, and to promote your Club by having more friends join the Buffalo Yacht Club. Don't forget about Point Abino---three pools and slips being available. Boat Slips in WNY have become a premium due to Buffalo opening the waterfront up with better public access for all — FINALLY!! The result is that the BYC and our facilities are also riding that wave of waterfront premium demand. The goal is to fill Point Abino, as our Buffalo basin is full. Nexus! E-ZPass. Fun time ahead.

Please don't forget to email me your ideas, suggestions, and constructive assistance. We are in this together. We will grow this together.

See you at the Leukemia Cup August 8th.
—Tim Connelly

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MEMBERSHIP

The following new members joined the Buffalo Yacht Club since the last issue of The BINNACLE: *Active*: Joseph Bellonte and Paul Koessler; *Intermediate*: Jennifer Hurley; *Social*: Nancy Yoerg; *Point Abino*: Witold "Vic" & Alla Skala. Changing classifications were: *Social* to *Active*: Stephen & Peggy Anderson, Anthony Piccione, Andy & Laura Ryan; *Active* to *Non-Resident*: Jeffrey Ortman; *Social* to *Associate*: Alice Gow; *Social* to *Non-Resident*: Gary & Jennifer Burger. Resignations were accepted with regret from Timothy Lewin, Frank Haveron, John L. Hill, George Blessios, William Moran, Frank & Jennifer Swigonski, Russ Sciolino, Joseph Voekl, Frederick Hill, Richard Brennan and Robert Dyer. We mourn the deaths of Vincent J. Brown, Jr. and Thomas J. Hogenkamp.

Vincent J. Brown, Jr., a Social member for 15 years, passed away April 23, 2015. His wife Sally died 10 years ago. We extend the Club's sympathy to his children, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Thomas J. Hogenkamp, a BYC member since 2002, passed away in Sarasota, Florida on March 10, 2015 at age 74. Tom and his wife Elaine retired to Florida about 8 years ago. We extend the Club's sympathy to Elaine, daughter Eileen Klubeck and grandchildren over their loss.

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