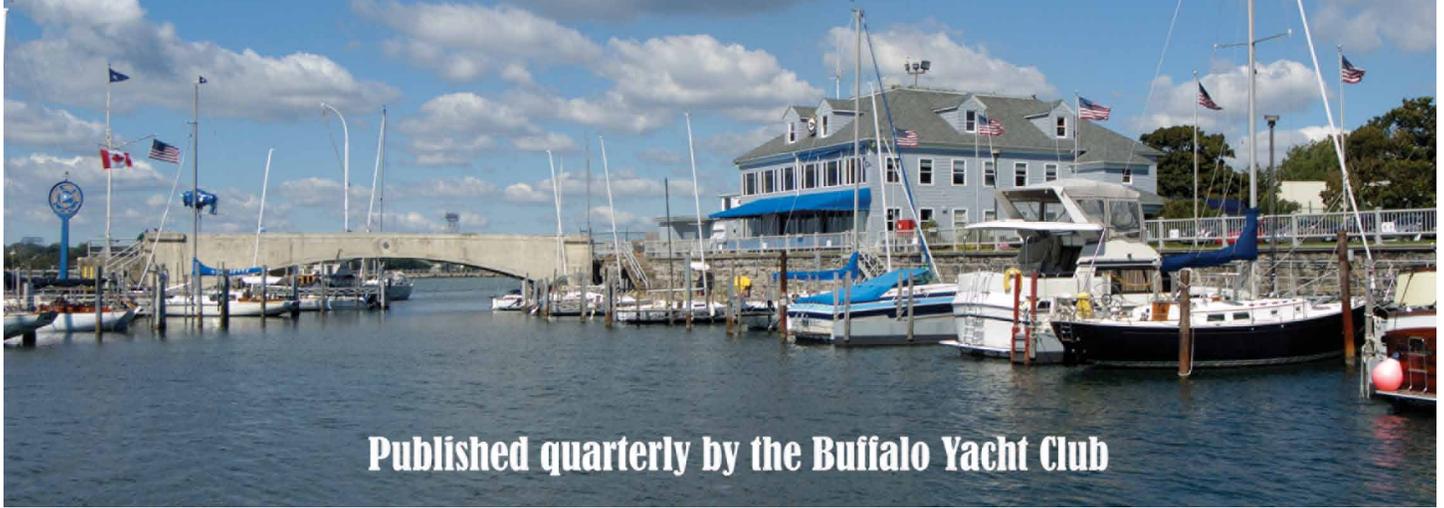


# The BINNACLE



Published quarterly by the Buffalo Yacht Club

Vol. C, No. 3

Buffalo Yacht Club

October 2015



## COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

While the sun has now set on another fine boating season in Western New York and Southern Ontario we can look back on many great times that were had on the shores of Lake Erie, and can also look forward to many events in the coming months ahead.

Looking back, our club played host in August to another very successful Leukemia Cup Regatta, which was only made possible by many dedicated volunteers and BYC staff. Our members stepped up once again to support this very worthwhile cause. Our staff worked exceptionally hard to pull off a very successful day with the Gala Dinner being the highlight of the event. Leukemia Regatta chairman Robert Spampata and his hard working committee did an outstanding job of organizing the myriad of important details that were critical to the success we achieved. Thank You to everyone who supported this initiative!

Our Point Abino Station was the



*The UB sailors get ready for an afternoon of fun and education in front of the Buffalo Yacht Club.*

venue for a really fun post-race party that the Mayor's Cup racers thoroughly enjoyed! This one brought back memories of years past. When the "Big House" is rocking on a balmy Saturday night we're all reminded how special this little bit of paradise is, just a 15 minute car ride from the Porter Avenue clubhouse. Our members and

guests were truly impressed this season by the continued improvements in our Point Abino facility, most notably the transformational change that brought new floating docks into the realigned basin. The new docks performed extremely well this past season and we can proudly boast of now offering

**COMMODORE** — continued on page 2



**THE BINNACLE**  
 BUFFALO YACHT CLUB  
 One Porter Avenue  
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<http://www.buffaloyachtclub.org>

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**COMMODORE** — *continued from page 1*

the finest dock system on Eastern Lake Erie! Once again, our members deserve a round of applause for supporting this major investment in our club!!

Looking forward, our slip request forms will soon be in the mail for next season. It seems like every year the deadlines for next year's slip reservations are earlier and earlier at WNY Marinas. As market re-pricing of slip fees continues at the public Marinas, the BYC remains a cost effective location to keep a boat on either side of the border. We are actively getting that message out to the community. Look for our TV spots on WNED-Ch. 17 which reaches

WNY and all of Southern Ontario and the Greater Toronto Area (also seen on the BYC Website). New Active member applicants requesting a big-boat slip in Point Abino will be assured availability of a new, floating dock for the upcoming season without having to wait for a future expansion project. This is a very positive marketing message that could bring new BYC members, so please help us by getting the word out to your friends and associates.

Soon we will be holding our annual membership meeting and election of BYC Directors. I am most grateful for the efforts of Nominating Committee chair John Cosmann, and the dedicated committee members who have presented an excellent slate of candidates for board service. I encourage all members of all classes to attend the Nov. 19th meeting! Everyone is welcome and there is much to learn about the recent about the accomplishments of the BYC Directors and staff. This year will also be historic as we will proudly elect our first ever Social Member to the BYC Board! Following the member meeting in the Dining Room, the BYC Board conducts a brief organizational meeting in the Prochnow Room, then introduces the new Flag Officer's and Director's to an excited audience "holding court" in the lower deck bar. This is one of the many BYC traditions! If you have not previously participated please join us for this annual election night celebration.

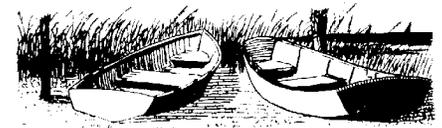
While this past year has certainly been a challenging time to be Commodore of the BYC, we have made great strides working together as a team, with a common goal. Our staff has new faces, new energy, and new ideas on how to meet or exceed your expectations. The BYC Directors have worked very hard to deliver good financial results for the fiscal year just ended, and have also delivered a balanced budget on time for the October start of our next fiscal year. We are now well positioned for the coming year, but as always, our actual

performance will depend largely on BYC Members' use of the club. The BYC Treasurer has pointed out that if each member utilized the BYC dining room once more per month, this important department would have little difficulty making budget next year. With new menu choices and a new emphasis on fresh, local sourcing, the BYC Dining Room will be offering good reasons to use your club more often.

And supporting your club most definitely has benefits! Your Board is currently working on some very exciting plans, and at the top of the list are significant enhancements to the "ambiance" of the 2nd floor outer deck. The vision includes comfortable furniture, lighting, fireplace, permanent awning protection, and improved beverage serving. These and other worthwhile capital investments are only possible when we can achieve our financial targets. So supporting your club is the surest way to ensure our ability to reinvest in our facility and our operations.

I look forward to joining my BYC friends at the December 5th Commodore's Ball, which surely won't disappoint! Mark the date on your calendars and get your reservations in early for a great night of libations, fine dining, and outstanding music. We will be rocking the house to the music of Party Squad, a well-known group of Buffalo Hall of Fame musicians, each of whom are inductees in their own right, as well as the band a whole. It's going to be an event to remember and I do hope to see you there!

Dan Ward  
—Commodore



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## VICE COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

It's hard to believe, but summer is in the past and fading into a memory. It was a great summer at the BYC with a lot of sailing activity and a number of social events including several reverse PHRF races, the Leukemia Cup and of course the Obersheimer Cup with plenty of grog in the punchbowl. We had a couple of Sunday brunches and will likely have more in the coming months. We also had a "Local on the Lawn" dinner which featured locally grown and produced products. We had great participation at both of the basin closing work parties and everything is buttoned up snug for the coming winter.

Earlier this year, I was approached with a question regarding the house rules at the BYC. After doing a little research I found out that there is not a single, unified set of house rules. Rather, there have been various sets of rules published and posted over the years. In view of this, the House Committee undertook the task of creating a single unified set of "Buffalo Yacht Club House Rules". The Committee gathered together several different versions of BYC rules as well as several sets of house rules from other local yacht clubs and country clubs. Using these previous versions of BYC rules and borrowing some ideas from the other clubs' rules, an initial draft was prepared, reviewed by many and subsequently revised and finalized. The final version was adopted by the Board at the August meeting and is posted on the BYC website on the member's only section. [A copy is also included in this issue.]

## MEMBERSHIP

The following new members joined the Buffalo Yacht Club since the last issue of The BINNACLE: *Active*: Kenneth Bienko, James & Kathryn Marshall, Dwight & Moira Moldenhauer; *Social*: Dean Stanley, Edward & Eleanore Gelia, James & Lisa Schiavoni; *Pt. Abino*: Larry Woronchak & Roseanne McIntyre; *Intermediate*: Scott Janowski & Rachel Michalec; *Junior*: Rachel Braun. Changing membership classifications were: *Non Resident to Active*: Cooper Lansing; *Non Resident to Retired Active*: Daniel Mullan; *Active to Social*: Jack Kuhn. Michael & Sharon Lamparelli were reinstated to *Active*, Robert & Deborah Woepfel were reinstated to *Social*. Resignations were accepted with regret from Richard & Patricia Fors, Traci & Shaun Lee, Dennis Griffin, William Derrick, Robert & Evie Miller. We mourn the deaths of John F. Hartman, Donald K. Peebles, Margaret Kania and Mary Ann McCleary.

Although summer is over and the boats are put away, there are still a lot of great reasons to come to the Club. Of course there are "First Fridays", "Comfort Food" specials every Wednesday and "Dining around the World" on Thursdays. There will also be a "Buffalo Bills Party" for all of the Bills away games featuring hos d'oeuvres and food specials related to the Bill's opponent that week. Come on down and cheer on our team! This month on the 29th we will be having a beer pairing event with some great food and micro brews.

Some other events to keep in mind include:

- > Family Halloween Party – Sunday October 25th
- > First Friday Happy Hour – Friday November 6th
- > Trophy Night – Saturday November 14th (Not just for sailors. It's a great party and all are welcome)
- > Annual Meeting and Election – Thursday November 19th
- > Thanksgiving Buffet – Thursday November 26th .

After Thanksgiving there are also several great events to attend between

then and Christmas. On Monday November 30th there will be a party to decorate the BYC for Christmas. This is always fun and is a great way to meet new people and kick off the holiday season. We can use all the volunteers we can get. Don't forget the tree raising and the children's' Christmas Party.

Saturday December 5th is the Commodores Ball where we will thank our Commodore, Dan Ward, for his service over the past years and especially for all his work this year as Commodore. This party will definitely be one to remember. More details to come....

I've been honored to serve as your Vice Commodore this year and I would like say a big THANK YOU to all of the members of the House Committee for your participation this year.

Don't forget that we have the absolutely best sunset in town and there is no better place in to enjoy a cocktail and dinner than at our Club. I hope to see you all many times this fall and winter.

Jim Kondziela  
—Vice Commodore



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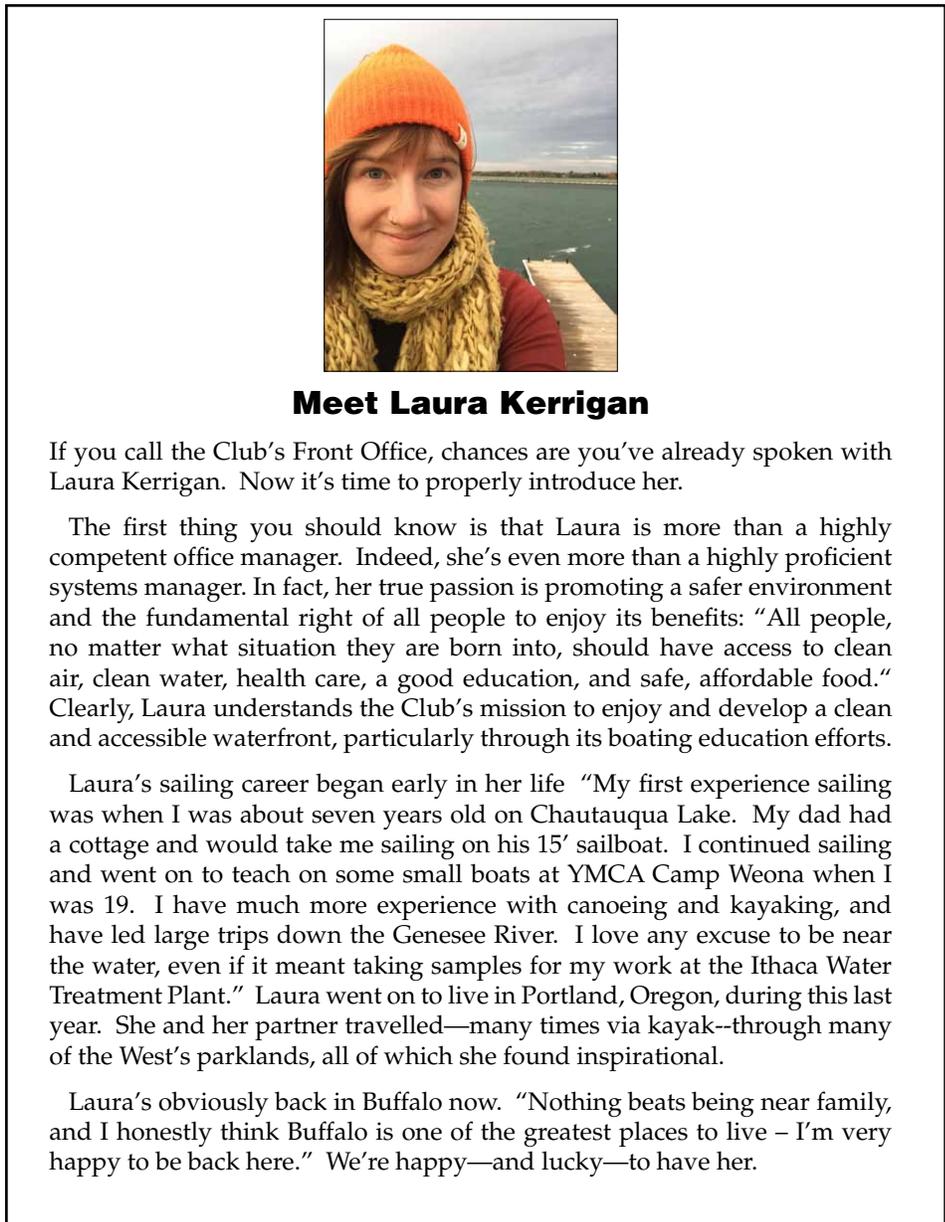


### REAR COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

So, sure, my boat is out of the water and more or less winterized. So, yeah, I'm depressed, but not because I'm done with sailing for months on end. My problem is now I can't escape the household chores that I use the boat to avoid. I've tried using Bills' games as my replacement Sunday afternoon excuse, but even I have some shred of remaining integrity. I was, however, successful in using the Point Abino work party as a recent Saturday excuse.

The BYC work parties are parties to the extent that members cheerfully go about the business of tending to the Club's seasonal responsibilities. In short, we do all the jobs that I avoid at home. And I like it. There is no other time in the year when our DIY spirit is more evident. This spirit is vital to the Club's success and bottom line, but it's just as vital in another way—it develops and maintains our commitment to the Club and its identity.

That said, probably the majority of the Club's facilities stems from the DIY commitment of our members. From committee participation to outright gifts of materials, supplies and sweat equity, your generosity demonstrates this commitment. Just this last year alone, the ad hoc Floating Dock Committee, the Basin Committee and the House Committee were invaluable in guiding us through interesting times. My time as Rear Commodore is coming to a close and I thank Captain Ruth, the Point Abino Committee and everybody who helps to make the Point—and ultimately the full Club—realize its full



### Meet Laura Kerrigan

If you call the Club's Front Office, chances are you've already spoken with Laura Kerrigan. Now it's time to properly introduce her.

The first thing you should know is that Laura is more than a highly competent office manager. Indeed, she's even more than a highly proficient systems manager. In fact, her true passion is promoting a safer environment and the fundamental right of all people to enjoy its benefits: "All people, no matter what situation they are born into, should have access to clean air, clean water, health care, a good education, and safe, affordable food." Clearly, Laura understands the Club's mission to enjoy and develop a clean and accessible waterfront, particularly through its boating education efforts.

Laura's sailing career began early in her life "My first experience sailing was when I was about seven years old on Chautauqua Lake. My dad had a cottage and would take me sailing on his 15' sailboat. I continued sailing and went on to teach on some small boats at YMCA Camp Weona when I was 19. I have much more experience with canoeing and kayaking, and have led large trips down the Genesee River. I love any excuse to be near the water, even if it meant taking samples for my work at the Ithaca Water Treatment Plant." Laura went on to live in Portland, Oregon, during this last year. She and her partner travelled—many times via kayak—through many of the West's parklands, all of which she found inspirational.

Laura's obviously back in Buffalo now. "Nothing beats being near family, and I honestly think Buffalo is one of the greatest places to live – I'm very happy to be back here." We're happy—and lucky—to have her.

potential. I've been continually amazed at the skills, the diverse talent and the resources of our greatest resource—you.

So, if you're reading this, and you're not a member of a committee or participating in our various and entertaining events, please consider doing so. The Club encourages social members to become similarly involved, since it now welcomes them to run

for Board positions. Join a committee. You'll be amazed at how significant your participation can become. You'll make new friends and increase your sense of the value of your club membership.

Not only that, you just might find a reason to get out of the house and a few responsibilities, too. It works for me.

Ros Park  
—Rear Commodore

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### “SHRINE OF FRIENDSHIP”

This is the way the dining room was described in the caption for this rare photograph of the Buffalo Yacht Club dining room as it appeared in a 1962 BINNACLE article. The picture is thought to have been taken in 1949, two years before the devastating 1951 fire which destroyed the original top floor of the Clubhouse.

### JUNE WEDDING AT THE BUFFALO YACHT CLUB BETWEEN TWO BYC MEMBERS.

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Coaches TJ and Andy Wright



The coaches pose with the University at Buffalo sailing team.

### ACTIVE FALL SEASON FOR BOATING EDUCATION

As UB students and Buffalo High-Schoolers return to school, a group of adventurous teens gear up for the water right here at the Buffalo Yacht Club. You’ve probably seen them sailing around between the mooring field and the Club, and if you look close you can see constant smiling. With warm water and lots of sun, the late summer and fall is a great time to introduce new students to the sport. Just this September fifteen brand new sailors received training to compete with the 30 experienced racers. Growing our program leads to better competition and all together more fun!

The program made some new additions to the coaching staff this season. Katie Braungart, Peter Schiavoni and Andrew Green all joined as assistant coaches. All three of them participated in the BYC sailing program before graduating. Brothers TJ and Andy Wright returned as senior coaches. TJ, formally known as Timothy, started a new role this season as the Boating Education Program Coordinator. The Program Coordinator manages the staff, organizes regattas and events, and works with the club to introduce new sailing opportunities to the community.

This fall the High-School program includes students

from Canisius, St. Joes, Buffalo Seminary, Nardin, Nichols, City Honors, Orchard Park, Mount St. Mary’s, Williamsville East, Williamsville North, Lewiston-Porter, Springville, Fredonia, Clarence, Newfane, and Depew.

On Friday nights all the schools come together to compete right in front of the Club. In addition to Friday races, the region hosts three weekend regattas open to teams from Rochester, Buffalo, and Chautauqua. At the Rochester invitational, the Orchard Park team won first place and qualified to compete in the MASSA Fall Fleet Race Championships in Norfolk, Virginia. The sibling skippers of the Orchard Park team, Tanner and Jenna Probst, finished 8th overall in the Lightning North American Championships down in New Orleans. This past summer Tanner and Jenna won the Lightning Junior North Americans.

Sailing at the Buffalo Yacht Club brings together a group of smart and athletic students every fall and spring. The coaching staff is driven to apply this success to the summer season at the Buffalo Yacht Club. The Porter station offers a location for racers who live in Buffalo throughout the summer to continue their sailing education. With no other junior racing program in the city, the BYC has the opportunity to nurture a new summer race team to compete against the Canoe Club, Youngstown, and Rochester. — *Tim Wright*





# BUFFALO YACHT CLUB HOUSE RULES

*Approved by The Board of Directors on August 24, 2015*

The Buffalo Yacht Club seeks to provide the utmost satisfaction to its members and their guests. These House Rules provide a code of conduct so as to assure this satisfaction and maintain the best interests of all of its members, their families, their guests, and the Club's staff. All Officers, Directors and BYC management are charged with the responsibility for their enforcement. Accordingly, the following rules have been approved by the Board of Directors.

## General Expectations

1. Members will note that a gratuity is included in their food and beverage bills. Tipping is therefore unnecessary. That said, however, it is quite acceptable, for exceptional service, to increase the tip amount on bills, as well as at the bar.

2. Members may be required to identify themselves to the Club staff. Please be courteous and identify yourself, if asked.

3. The BYC is pet friendly. Please return the favor. Don't leave your pets unattended in locked cars or boats. Dogs and other pets must be leashed and under control, and their owner/caretaker must clean up after them. Pets must be attended at all times and are not allowed inside the buildings. Barking or, worse, yapping dogs will not be allowed.

4. The Buffalo Yacht Club maintains an established smoking policy so as to ensure compliance with State, Provincial, and local regulations where we operate. These include the New York State Clean Indoor Air Act, Erie County Clean Air Act, and the Smoke-Free Ontario Act. BYC Management and Staff are responsible for ensuring strict compliance with this policy by all members and guests in order to provide a smoke free and pleasant environment at our club.

5. Private catered member events will be accommodated to the best of the Club's abilities according to its published schedule. There may be dates when the Club simply cannot accommodate a desired event because of regularly scheduled regattas, parties or holidays.

6. Even in the event of a catered function on the Porter Lower Deck, the starboard side of the bar is always open and available to all members. Please be decorously respectful of the function.

## Porter Avenue House Rules:

1. Since the BYC is a private club, the Porter Avenue Clubhouse and grounds, including the docks and dry sail facility, are reserved for the exclusive use of the members of the Club and their families. Non-members, excepting those holding guest cards, will not be admitted to the grounds except through the personal introduction of a member.

2. Members are at all times responsible to the General Manager or the House Committee for the conduct of any guests that they introduce into the Club and for all liability incurred by their guests to the Club.

3. Children under the age of 16 are not permitted on the Porter Avenue facility unless a parent or other member responsible for them accompanies them on the grounds, unless the child is participating in BYC sanctioned activities.

4. Life jackets are required for all children on the docks and walkways.

5. No loud, boisterous or offensive conduct by members or guests will be tolerated. Members and guests must conduct themselves in a quiet manner in the basin vicinity after 11:00PM.

6. Beer, wine and liquor will be served and consumed in strict conformity with the laws and regulations of the NYS Liquor Authority. Consumption of personal liquor will be limited to the basin area and will not be brought into the clubhouse.

7. The dress code for the dining room is "smart casual." The Club recognizes that the summer boating season necessitates more casual attire, but asks that such attire be limited to the Club's downstairs facilities.

8. Talking on a cellular phone in the dining room or bar is not allowed. If you must take a call, please seek a private area. While in the dining room, please put your phone on silent or vibrate mode.

9. Fireworks are forbidden on the BYC property.

10. Garbage must be deposited in designated cans on the properties.

11. Nothing is to be taped or affixed to any walls, posts or windows at the club without permission of the Club Manager or the Board. There are designated areas for posting.

12. Parking on the Porter Avenue property will be in accordance with the posted BYC Parking Policy.

## Point Abino House Rules:

1. As with the Porter Avenue facility, use of the Point Abino Station is limited to the exclusive use of Club members and their families and guests. Non-members, excepting those holding guest cards, will not be admitted to the grounds except through the personal introduction of a member.

2. All guest boats must register by calling the BYC Office or by signing in at the shore head facility.

3. Children under the age of 16 are not permitted on the Station facility unless a parent or other member responsible for them accompanies them on the grounds, unless the child is participating in BYC sanctioned activities. Members will be held strictly responsible for the conduct of their children and will assume all liability incurred by them to the Club.

4. Life jackets are required for all children on the docks and walkways.

5. No loud, boisterous or improper conduct by members or guests will be tolerated at any time. Members and



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guests should conduct themselves in a quiet manner in the vicinity of the basin after 11:00PM.

6. The Station's communal dining room and kitchen are provided for the cooperative use of members and guests. In the event of Club parties or reserved Member parties, the Entertainment Committee or the reserving member will assume priority in the kitchen. Those who use the facilities must leave them as they found them: clean, with garbage removed, dishes and utensils washed, dried and returned to their proper places immediately after use. "Day refrigerators" are provided for the convenience of members who are not staying overnight at the Station. Refrigerators must be completely emptied and cleaned before departure. Any food found in these refrigerators at the end of the day will be destroyed. The grill may be used by members, and they are responsible for cleaning it after use.

7. No sleeping overnight in the Big House unless permission is provided by a Club Manager or the Board.

8. No fires in the fireplace unless a member is present. The member is then responsible for safety of their family and guests, and assumes liability for any damage to Club property.

9. Pitching tents is allowed in designated areas only, and they may be required to be moved by Management. No fires are allowed in the tent areas.

10. Use of the pool must be in accordance with posted rules.

11. Beer, wine and liquor will be served and consumed in strict conformity with the laws and regulations of the Liquor Control Board of Ontario.

12. Autos being driven on the Club premises must be operated within posted speed limits.

### 13. Parking Regulations

a) Lakeside parking is restricted to slip holders only.

b) Slip holders and dry sailors will

be permitted to park one vehicle in the restricted zone on weekends and holidays.

c) Guest and crew parking is permitted on the Clubhouse side of Point Abino Road only.

d) Recreational vehicles with sleeping facilities, trailers, truck campers, etc., are not to park on the waterside of the road or in front of the Clubhouse. Such vehicles may not park overnight, but day parking in assigned areas is acceptable, as designated by the Fleet Captain, Rear Commodore or Board of Directors.

14. Fireworks not sanctioned by the Point Abino Committee are forbidden on all Station property.

15. Broken glass is a serious problem. Members will be held responsible for the conduct of their children and guests in this regard.

16. Garbage will be deposited in the designated area on the Clubhouse side of the road, and must be securely tied in plastic bags.

#### Overview:

1. In the best interest of the BYC and its membership, the Board of Directors may make exceptions to the above rules.

2. The BYC will not be responsible for the loss or damage to any property of Members or Guests.

3. The control and superintendence of all BYC employees shall be the responsibility of the management. Under no circumstance will the conduct of an employee be the subject of a personal reprimand by a member or guest.

4. No one except an Officer, Manager or the General Manager shall send an employee off the premises or give any order to remove BYC property from the premises.

5. Any member infringing any of the foregoing rules shall be liable to be summoned before the Board of Directors where his or her case will be dealt with as provided in the Constitution and By-

Laws of the Club. Reports of

violations should be made in writing over the member's signature and delivered to the Board of Directors for appropriate action.

6. The Club's Management and Board of Directors welcomes all suggestions and criticisms about its service and facilities and how to improve them. Please write them down and mail them to our Porter Avenue Clubhouse.

## FUNDING OF BYC'S SAILING PROGRAMS STILL A MUST!

If you haven't yet helped your Club in this important community project, now is the time to take action! Your generous contributions to purchase and maintain the boats and equipment used for education qualify as a charitable tax deduction.

We recommend the "easy" way of giving — giving Joette in the BYC business office a call and signing up for a monthly tax-exempt contribution to be added to your BYC bill. At the end of each year you will receive a statement of your year's contributions for income tax reporting. The Buffalo Yacht Club Foundation, Inc. received its entitlement in summer 2012 to collect donations that are exempt from income taxes under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Of course if you would prefer to make a single donation, the procedure is just as easy: send your check, payable to Buffalo Yacht Club Foundation, Inc., to the Buffalo Yacht Club, One Porter Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14201-1097. All contributions will be recognized by letter which becomes your tax deduction record.

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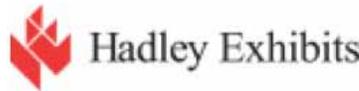
Damn Yankee with Tom Ehman (Americas Cup) and Peter Huston and Aly Di Nas

## 2ND ANNUAL LEUKEMIA CUP REGATTA — HIGHLIGHT OF THE BYC BOATING SEASON

Saturday, August 8, 2015 saw 33 local yachts compete to raise money to cure cancer. One of a number of regattas across the nation under the aegis of the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, this year's event was chaired by Robert Spampata, assisted by Tom Lewin, Ted Johnson, Carol Stelianou, Sandy Kondziela, and a host of others.

Racing was in seven fleets over a course off Buffalo Harbor, with most boats finishing within one to two hours. Top scorer among the spinnaker fleets was Tom Lewin in *Sledge Hammer*, followed by Tom Tepas in *Sister* and Mike Barry in *Vinyasa*. Top scorer among the main & jib fleets was Commodore Dan Ward in *Fire Dancer*, followed by Paul Johnson in *Myouri* and Peter Johnson in *Bamboozle*.

Racing was followed by a dinner with Tom Ehman as speaker. Tom spearheaded on-the-water umpiring that has been used in the America's Cup since he instituted it for the 1992 Cup in San Diego.





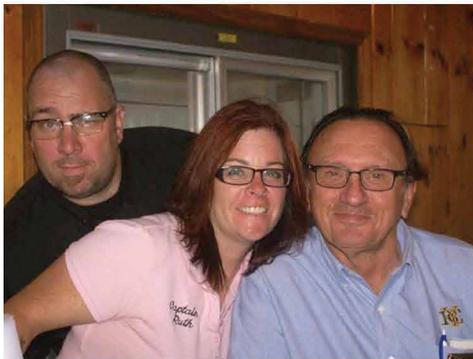
*In honor of Patrick Waldron, the "PatStrong Race" was part of the Leukemia Cup activities*



*The fund-raising dinner, held under a large tent, featured an address by Tom Ehman.*

**BYC HOSTS FORT ERIE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

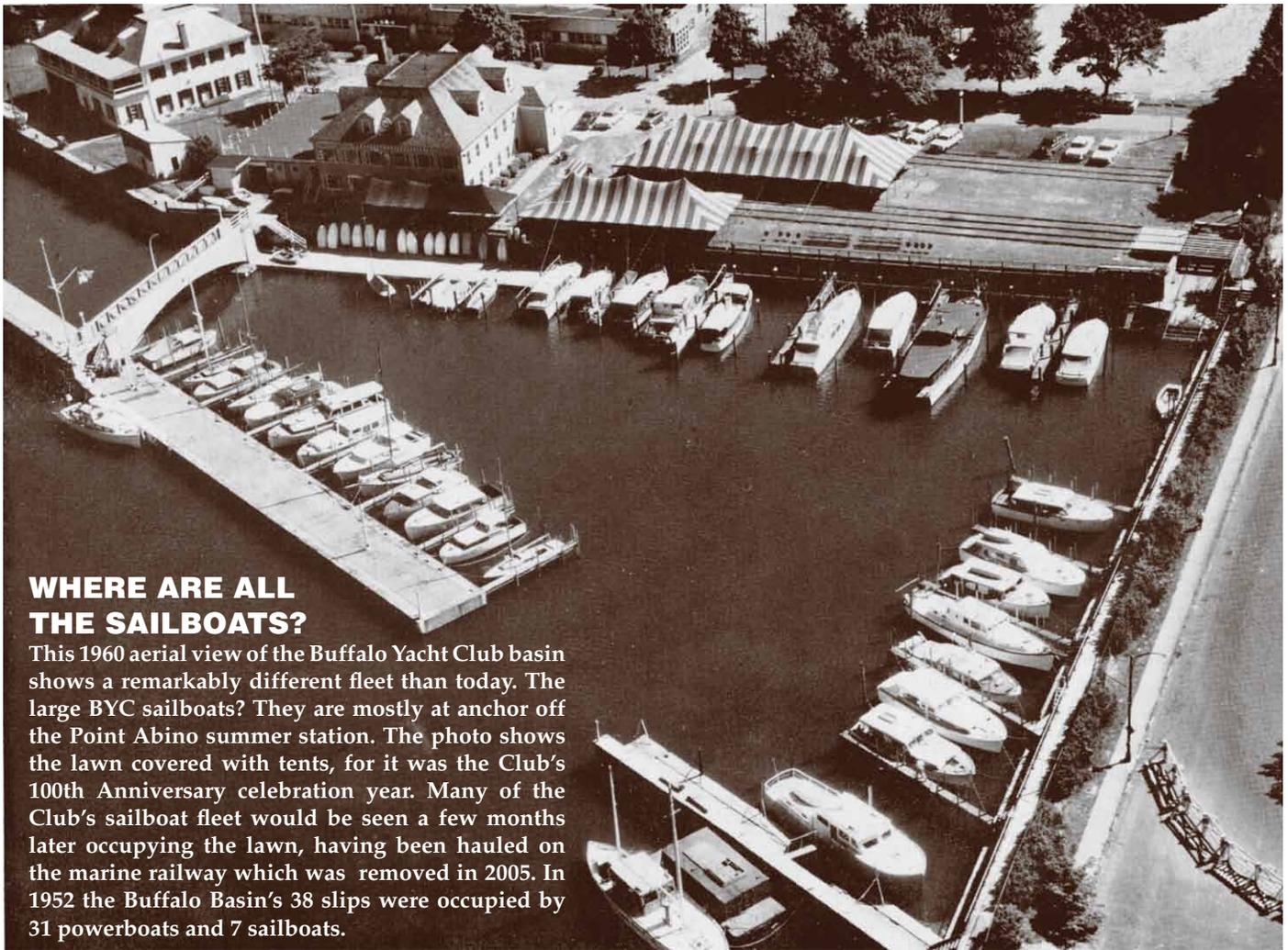
On Thursday, September 24 the Fort Erie Chamber of Commerce met at our Point Abino facility for their monthly "business after five" event. It was an opportunity for business owners in the Fort Erie to see our club, and perhaps create new member interest. Joseph Estate Wines came to do a wine tasting, and Chef Dave Miller came over to cook delicious BYC cuisine. Most of the BYC directors were present for the fun afternoon.



Margaret Kania, wife of 1997 BYC Commodore Frank Kania, passed away on October 15, 2015. Marge and Frank have been wintering in Jupiter, Florida while spending their summers at Point Abino. The Club's sympathy is extended to Frank, daughters Margaret Lesniak, Kathleen Clancy, Suzanne Battaglia, and Tricia Neeson; brother John Downey; grandchildren and her many friends and other relatives.

Mary Ann McCleary, wife of the late Herbert McCleary, died October 20, 2015 at the age of 87. Mary Ann and Herb were active on the BYC boating and social scene for decades, joining in 1970. Herb died in 2002. Our deepest condolences are extended to daughter Maureen ("Mo") McMullen, grandchildren, relations and good friends over Mary Ann's death.

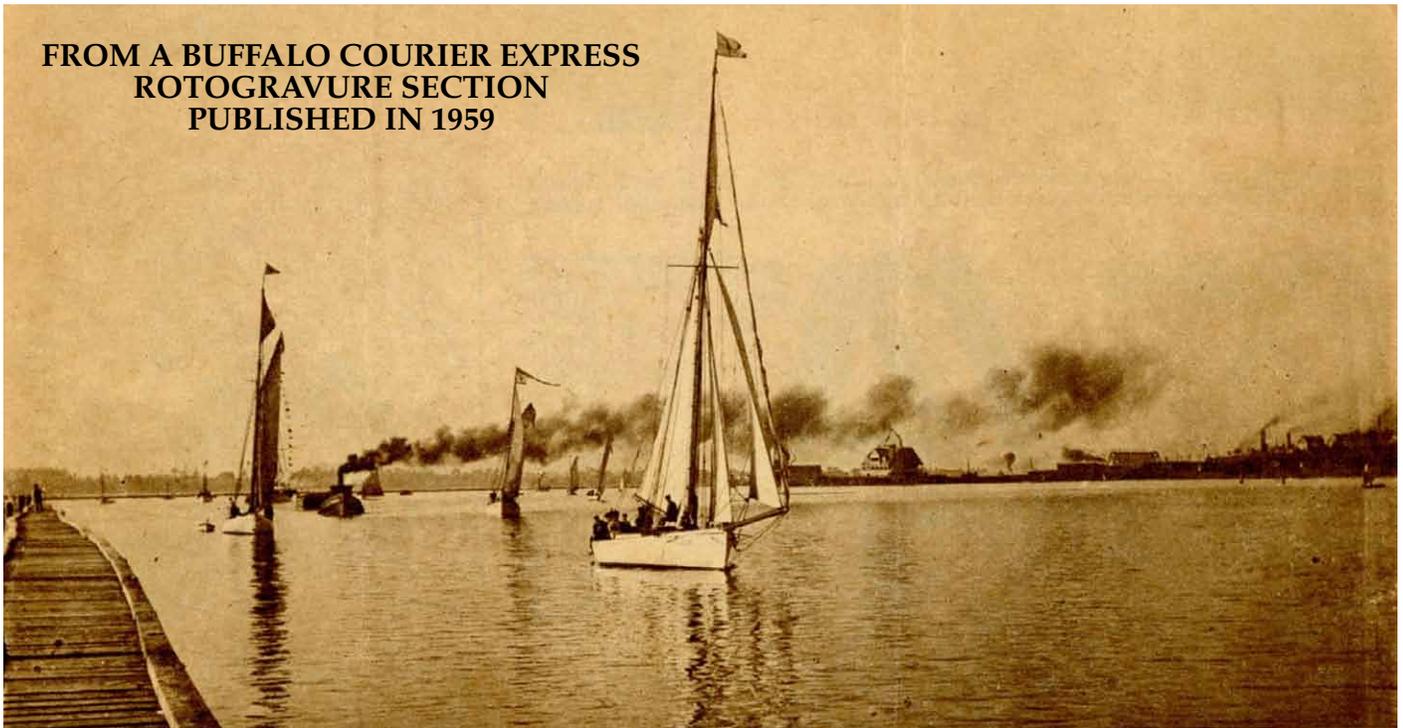
Social member John F. Hartman, passed away August 2, 2015 at the age of 94. A retired pediatrician who practiced in Buffalo for 50 years, Dr. Hartman enjoyed the BYC for the past 20 years. We express the Club's condolences to daughters Grace Costantini and Briget Humann, sons Daniel, Andrew and John David; grandchildren and great grandchildren.



### WHERE ARE ALL THE SAILBOATS?

This 1960 aerial view of the Buffalo Yacht Club basin shows a remarkably different fleet than today. The large BYC sailboats? They are mostly at anchor off the Point Abino summer station. The photo shows the lawn covered with tents, for it was the Club's 100th Anniversary celebration year. Many of the Club's sailboat fleet would be seen a few months later occupying the lawn, having been hauled on the marine railway which was removed in 2005. In 1952 the Buffalo Basin's 38 slips were occupied by 31 powerboats and 7 sailboats.

### FROM A BUFFALO COURIER EXPRESS ROTOGRAVURE SECTION PUBLISHED IN 1959



THE FLAGSHIP "MERLE" leads the fleet in the squadron run of the Buffalo Yacht Club on Ladies Day in 1903. In this view of Black Rock Harbor, Bird Island Pier is at left; the yacht club in right background. The club celebrates its 100th anniversary next year.



## FLEET CAPTAIN'S COMMENTS

When I was small my dad would take me down to the BYC for lunch in the spring before the boats were launched. Commodore Nelson Oldman would come to lunch in his tug from the Oldman Boiler Works. During lunch he would leave the tug running in gear, facing Porter Ave. By the time lunch was over the basin was dredged for the year!

Each spring at Point Abino I loved to watch Commodore Ernest 'Shorty' Holzworth dredge the channel from the end of the drainage ditch to the lake with his big white boat *Elske*. For a young boy this was a wonderful thing. I could watch his boat move back and forth moving the sand out of the channel for hours. This was in the mid 50's.

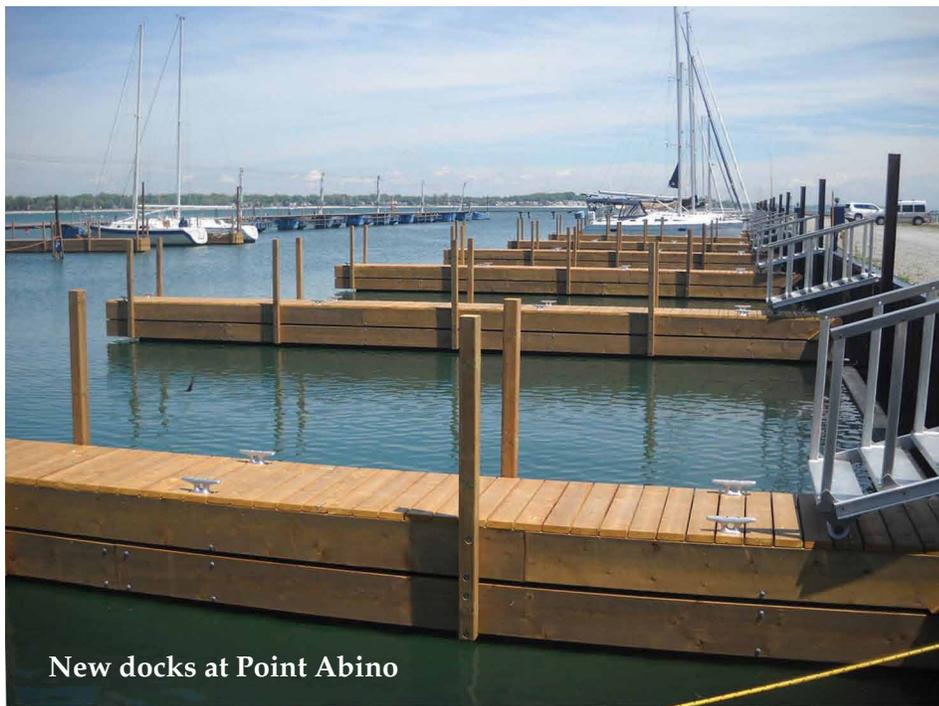
This is a far cry from what we do now. Back then we only needed a 4 to 5 foot depth for our keels. Now we need over 8 feet in both basins — and thank goodness we have the dredge and Ruth to run it. This fall we will be dredging along the north dock at Point Abino to accommodate the new floating docks that will be installed for the 2016 boating season. We will also be dredging along the north-north dock for extra docks.

For 2016 we will have some new dock rates, change of some rules and a clarification of others.

All members are entitled to unlimited nights of guest dockage per season. Point Abino slip holders docking in Buffalo for dinner will not be billed for that night. Buffalo slip holders docking in Point Abino for a party will not be billed for that night. Limits on nights does not include parties, regattas or other functions.

"Dry sail" is defined as a boat on a trailer. Dry sail boats must have a sticker and be registered with that basin's dock master.

Dinghies, kayaks, board boats, canoes, Sunfish and Lasers on the grounds (either on a dolly, on a rack or on the ground) will be billed as dinghy storage. Each must have a sticker and be



New docks at Point Abino



Collegiate 420's find safe harbor for fall sailing

registered with that basin's dock master.

Each Point Abino slip holder may store one trailer in the back lot. You must have your name on your trailer and the trailer must be registered with that basin's dock master.

There will be a maximum of one boat per slip, which can include a dinghy of 12 feet or less. The maximum length of a dinghy or Jet Ski in your slip is 12 feet;

vessels over 12 feet will be billed.

No trailer storage will be allowed at any time in the dry sail area.

These newly clarified rules will be applied to the 2016 boating season. Please make sure you understand them in advance of receiving unexpected charges.

Charlie Obersheimer  
—Fleet Captain

## A message from the General Manager

Change — change is good when it's welcomed!

So — Welcome Aboard to your rejuvenated BYC! You can feel a new passion and direction around the BYC both here in Buffalo and in Point Abino. New floating docks are slowly replacing old fixed docks, we have a new Chef and Sous Chef promoted from within, new front office staff, we expanded the Boating Education program with TJ Wright, and brought Christine Storf back to take control of banquet/events and the dining room. The new team is under way! There may always be choppy waters, and our new team is determined to get us ALL through it comfortably and “positively different.” Welcome back aboard.

The most striking message we all can promote about the Buffalo Yacht Club is that we are a binational club steeped in rich local history both in the U.S. and Canada. We are two unique destinations for the price of one! We are two gems on the Lake Erie waterfront only 12 miles apart. We have amazing true western sunsets in Buffalo, and incredible sunrises in Point Abino! We have the best dining views in Western New York at the Buffalo location, coupled with our new Chef and a new Dinner menu being introduced to members on Wednesday November 11th.

We will be defining the seasons at BYC by three—they each start respectively on the first of February, June, and October. Each BYC season will be four months, accompanied by a different menu and hours. Keep close-by so you don't miss the excitement. We have added three more taps for draught beer, focusing on local craft breweries like Big Ditch, Community Beer Works, Flying Bison and more to circulate. Come sample the craft beers, and enjoy a BYC burger and some oysters.

Thank you very much to ALL the club volunteers that worked hard to close both Basins on time and properly! This is volunteerism at the best! Thank you!

Because we are restricted in advertising (laws), we ask ALL members to PLEASE get onto Facebook and LIKE our pages/posts. The more we share and like the BYC, the more we expose our Club offerings, the more people will join, crew, sail, kayak and use our wonderful binational club. If you can't join us in person, join us online! It would be nice in the future to be in a position that we have to “cap” membership in order to deliver the best club experience in Western New York and Southern Ontario! We are about 75% full at present — not far away from full!

Lastly, most of you have noticed the



increased activity with scholastic/collegiate sailing here at the BYC in Buffalo. Our program has been elevated to the next level and we want to keep growing this critical initiative for the health of our club and our youth. The BYC Foundation has been instrumental in the orchestration of our plans. Please consider donating monthly, quarterly, annually to the BYC Foundation knowing that the end product is critical to boating education, instruction, safety and skill. Please support the BYC Foundation financially so the Foundation Board can reach their goals. Thank you.

See you soon.

Timothy J. Connelly

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Donald K. Peebles, a Buffalo Yacht Club member since the late 1950s, died August 10, 2015 at age 88. He joined the BYC upon buying one of the Club's fleet of International-21s, which he named *Elixir* and raced with the active I-21 fleet of 21-foot deep-keel sloops. Don sold the boat a few years later, the next *Elixir* being a 22-foot Columbia sloop which was replaced in 1973 by the red-hulled 25-foot C&C *Elixir* he sailed — mostly with this wife Patty as crew — until selling it a few years ago. For many years he has been a regular Friday "luncher" at the POETS table with his BYC cronies. Don had a 40-year career as a pharmacist in the Town of Tonawanda, retiring in 1985. He and Patty spent their summers at Crystal Beach, Ontario and their winters for a number of years in Hilton Head, South Carolina. Patty died in 2006. They had been married 57 years. We extend the Club's condolences to Don's sister-in-law Kathleen O'Mara O'Connell, nephew Michael O'Connell, nieces Heather and Colleen O'Connell, their progeny and all of Don's many friends both inside and outside of the Buffalo Yacht Club. Don is missed.

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