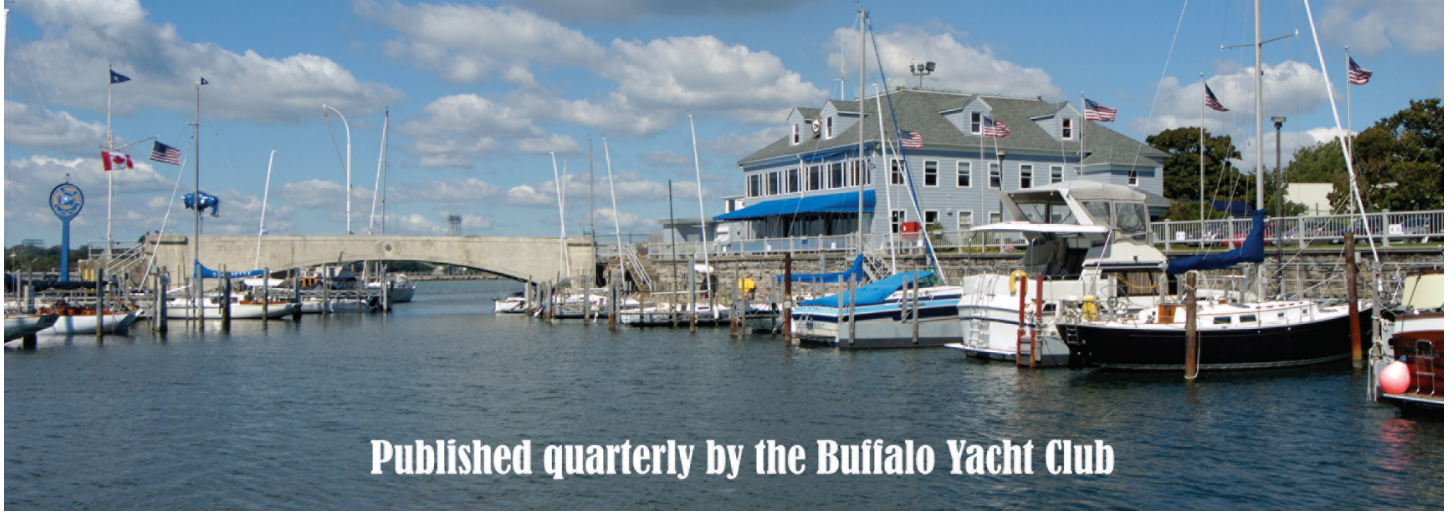


The BINNACLE



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Vol. CVII No. 3

Buffalo Yacht Club

October 2022



**Commodore Doug Bienko's
comments:**

As I write this, the rain is coming down, looks like the next week is more of the same. Had a late start on this edition, seems like everything has conspired to get my attention at once. But I like being busy, and knocking off jobs is satisfying. Went sailing yesterday with new members Kevin and Karen Jordan, we had a really good day. blowing 20 knots, and their first time on their new yacht. Really enjoyable day.

There have been a lot of parties at the club since last edition of the binnacle, you really should check them out, from the kilt party, cigar night, to family movies, Mary Theresa and her committee have been hard at work



to make things exciting, please consider the upcoming parties in your planning.

The kitchen has been plating some delicious food these days, the staff there are really coming together lately, expanding the specials offered and flexing their creative muscles. If you have not been in lately you are missing out on some great food. Our servers are doing a great job as well, we have a very good group. The room is fabulous, as well as the view.

I have to thank Jeff and Mindy Hayes for their space in Hayes Construction yard, as well as the use of equipment

to accommodate the grey floating docks for the winter, we needed to get them off our property to create enough space for the soon to commence reconstruction of the stone wall under the cranes. While they are at Hayes, we are going to rehab a couple of them that are leaking. Look for an e-mail asking for help in the future, nothing too strenuous, and maybe take your mind off of winter.

Thank you to all the boat owners who moved your boats to get those docks out early, as well as the

COMMODORE — continued on page 2



THE BINNACLE
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COMMODORE —from page 1

work crew that helped get them out and moved, I thought the job went pretty well, we have some talented and hard working members. Well done.

Also thanks to Kevin Arnold for his submission of another great article. Last edition I spoke of changing the masthead photo (front page top) to a new version, and still looking for submissions, I have received exactly one. Please participate in the contest, I know we have some talented photographers in our membership. As always, if you see something we are doing that could use improvement, let a board member know, we are here to serve.

Upcoming events:

October

- 29 - Adult Halloween Party
- 30 - Family Halloween Party

November

- 6 - Bills Game @ the BYC
- 12 - Trophy Night
- 13 - Bills Game @ the BYC
- 17 - Annual Meeting & Election

December

- 18 - Friendsgiving
- 19 - Pt. Abino Floating Dock Party
- 20 - Bills Game @ the BYC
- 24 - Thanksgiving Buffet
- 28 - Clubhouse Decorating Party

December

- 3 - Commodore's Ball
- 9 - Tree Raising
- 11 - Bills Game @ the BYC
- 18 - Kid's Party
- 31 - New Year's Eve Dinner

Cover photo, calm basin at night. Left, double rainbow on Fireboat Cotter.

Membership

The following new members joined the Buffalo Yacht Club since the last issue of the BINNACLE:

Active: Jessica & William Moore, Amy & Jim Starck, Greg & Mary Robinson, Jonathan & Jaclyn Moyer.

Social: Catherine Forbush, Raymond & Anne Spasiano, Laurie Kennedy, Barbara & Thomas Holub, Noel Burke, Kevin & Karen Jordan.

Intermediate: Egon Moldenhauer, Caroline Gross & Scott Danforth.
Crew: Christopher Altreuter, Mark Nesbitt.

Junior: Gabrielle Regnet, Ainsley Kelly.

Membership reinstatements accepted from:

Social: Dianna Civello

Change of classification accepted from:

Active to Retired Active: John Tracy, Tony Daily, Tom Lewin.

Intermediate to Active: David Kirszenstein & Kevin Arnold.

Intermediate to Social: Joseph Celmer.

Crew to Intermediate: Zachery Harris.

Resignations accepted with regret from:

Active: Adam Masters, John & Kristen Bratek.

Social: Chad Juenker, Jack Smith, David Hoelscher, William Skretney, David & Judith Quinn, Dwane Schmitt, Jack & Mary Quinn, Thomas & Kelly Burns, Dr. Timothy & Melissa Haley, Linda & Rick Kramer, Don & Mary Jane Eppers, Naomi Lasco.

Intermediate: Barrett Lloyd.

Crew: Bernadette O'Connell.

We mourn the death of: Beverly Ebert.



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Vice Commodore Ted Johnson's comments:

Will someone tell me where summer went? Didn't it just start? Did that go fast or what? It seemed like yesterday (last June) that the clubhouse was painted as I was looking at it from the water last night I took stock of what a treasure it is for all of us. My family joined the club in 1964 or 65, it is getting a little fuzzy, and I have enjoyed our facility for all those years in-between. There have been some changes over the years and many upgrades but until I stopped and thought about it last night I realized how much I have taken this facility for granted. I remember climbing up on a stool to the same bar over 50 years ago to order a kiddy cocktail (see nothing has changed). The room is basically unchanged. It has a history not easily matched in Buffalo. Our trophies from days past and current remind us of the heritage of the past and that we now make ourselves. The models and the artwork reinforce our love of the water and our desire to be with like-minded individuals. I know many of you, as I have, have enjoyed the lower patio for a refreshing drink, lunch or dinner and a few meetings. The impromptu parties at the bar, out on the outer wall after a race and the general comradery have been endless. How many times have we all sat in the dining room, upper patio, almost anywhere at our club, and said "This is the best view in Buffalo." We have something very special here, next time you come in take a deep breath, and take a moment to take

it all in. Enjoy it, it is ours.

I would be remiss if I did not single out Dick Weisen for all his work in putting our archives in order. He has worked tirelessly through the last several years to bring this project almost to its conclusion. Very soon the work he has done will allow you to see some of this heritage and history. It really is exciting and very interesting reading, especially the Deed of Gifts for racing between clubs and for certain trophies. There is an amazing amount of documents to sift through and see how things were done in the past.

We have had an interesting time with Chefs for the last few years. As you all know the restaurant business has been hit harder than almost all the other businesses in our nation. I am happy to say that our new chef Robert Barnhart is doing a wonderful job. Our specials have really been popular and they have been selling out. That is something we have not experienced in a long time. I strongly recommend reservations as we are starting to get booked up. The second Friday in October was a sellout and I expect more to come. We will be unveiling a brand new menu in the coming weeks so keep an eye out for the announcement. We now have some drink specials at the lower bar and will be working on changing these every few weeks. If you haven't heard, if you have that special wine you would like to have for dinner and it is not on the menu you can bring your own bottle and have our team take care of it for you for a nominal corkage fee.

The Buffalo Bills opening tailgate party was a big success and watching the games have been a big hit on game day with drink and food specials. The chicken wing special is so successful we are expanding this for Sabres Nights at the club. Please keep an eye out for the special promotions. We hope to have an announcement soon on a fall wine dinner. You will need to make a reservation early as the Spring wine tasting sold out quickly. Please see Sam for any private party needs as we are getting

booked up for the Holidays.

We are still working on some plans for taking care of our building and upgrading our facilities. Some of the things we are working on are the downstairs bar ceiling, wall model cases, First floor ladies room and the upstairs back bar.

I would like to personally say thank you to Sam and his team. Sam has been working with his staff to improve your experience when attending the club. I think they are making impressive progress and I cannot say enough good things about our wait-staff and bartenders. He also has been working with the maintenance staff to fight off our spiders and bees. He has made great strides here. I do not know if I have ever seen the spider population we had this year. We are winning the war on this front and have a plan in place going forward. Thank you to our team.

If you have any questions or concerns please let me know what they are so we address them.



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Rear Commodore Carl Hensler's comments:

The Point is alive and well!

After a couple of years of living in what seemed like a ghost town with only a dozen or so boats in the entire Point Abino basin, this year was different. Almost every slip was occupied! It was great to see all the people on the dock, at the pool, using the kitchens and the BBQ at the "Big House".

There were also a few great parties over the summer. First was the Smok'n Budah food truck evening along with live music with over 100 people in attendance. Thank you Ruth Sparks for all the arrangements. Then there was the "Full Moon" pot luck dinner on the turn around at the end of the berm with fresh corn supplied by Mike and Liz Jordan. And last but not least the pot luck dinner at the Big House over Labor Day weekend. It's a good thing we don't have pot luck dinners every weekend or I'd be more than slightly overweight! Thanks to all the great chefs and their fantastic dishes.

As many know, the heater for the hot tub had a melt down and needed replacing.

The pools were built to codes around 1983/84. In order to meet current codes, we had to install a new 2" gas line from the source to the pool house. A new heater for the hot tub as well as a heater for the baby pool were purchased and installed. Then, before we could get those hooked up, the large heater for the main pool decided to quit over Labor Day

weekend. A new heater has been ordered. Because we are replacing the main heater, we will also have to upgrade the wiring and electrical panels in the pool house to meet codes.

The Landscape Master plan adopted by the Point Abino Committee and approved by the Board is a three-phase plan to be accomplished over the next three years has been put on hold due to the extensive renovations in the Buffalo Clubhouse and the high cost of the Basin Wall Project. The good news is it should be started as soon as funds are available.

Bicycle racks were placed near the pool and near the end of the north dock. We also used one of the "H" frames from the old "T" docks stored in the back yard as a kayak rack. All were well used and if we need it, another H is available for additional kayaks.

Railings were also added to the North docks to assist our members with the stairs to their docks.

Good news! Ma Bell has installed the new FIOS (fiber optics) lines past the Club. We will soon have the service available to us. So look for much needed, improved Wi-Fi at the Point next year.

As I write this, the season is rapidly winding down, most our boats are on the hard or have moved back to Buffalo. I would like to remind everyone the basin officially closes October 15th and all boats must be out by then.

Thanks to all who helped and participated this summer to make a great year at the Point.

This page: Fun Run at the Point



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Fleet Captain Jonathan Johnsen's comments:

It is hard to believe that summer is over and the 2022 season has nearly come to an end. It was great to have the Club fully open after a tough couple of years. I hope everyone got out on the water more than I did. My early New Year's resolution is to sail more next season.

As everyone has probably noticed the gray docks came out earlier than usual because of the wall repair project starting around October 1st. We scheduled the removal for September 24th to allow for inclement weather or other delays. This meant that a lot of people were asked to be out early or move. I thank everyone for responding to my emails and being gracious about the inconvenience of having to haul out early or move to another slip.

I also want to thank everyone who came out to help remove, wash, and transport the docks on September 24th, especially Jeff Hayes, who brought his truck and flat-bed trailer to transport the docks to his yard for winter storage, as we could not keep

them in the parking lot this year because of the wall repair project.

The Fall work party will be Saturday, October 15th, starting at about 8:00 am. I encourage people to come out and help finish closing the Basin for the season. A free lunch is offered for those who come and help out.



Left: Jim Christensen Above: Mike Barry, both taken from top of Cotter Below: aerial shot courtesy Larry Cobado.



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Guest Column by Kevin Arnold

6 Reasons to Look Forward to the End of Boating Season

As summer 2022 comes to a close, I have that pit in my stomach when I think about hauling the boat out of the water and settling in for another Western New York winter. I always feel a little sad this time of year but there are also a few things I try to enjoy about the end of summer.

Admittedly, this is a very short list. While I don't think any of us are truly happy about the end of the boating season, here are some bright spots to help keep your spirits up.

1. Other hobbies and interests. Whether it's baking, photography or just reading, we'll all soon have a lot more time for those activities we've gotten away from the past several months. I'm already excited about getting back on the ice with Trey Barrett's hockey team this winter.

2. Free Tuesdays, Wednesdays and weekends. If you're involved in racing, how many dinners, concerts and other invitations have you had to turn down since the start of the season? Suddenly my weekly calendar feels completely open again!

3. Winter Travel. I try to avoid traveling during the summer because I stand by my belief that there is no better place to spend it than Western New York. Snowbirds can look forward to returning to warmer climates while the rest of us can dream about a sunny vacation somewhere.

4. A reprieve from cleaning, maintenance and repairs. We all know that the yachting lifestyle isn't what it looks like in the movies. Enjoy taking a break from all of that work for a little while and start planning for the projects you want to get done next year.

5. Social events at the club. With everyone spending so much time outside and on the water, we naturally have a dip in the number of

parties, dinners and other formal events during the summer. I can't wait to see what our wonderful Entertainment Committee has in store for us in the coming months, especially at the Commodore's Ball.

6. Excitement and anticipation for next year. As a native Californian, I appreciate how the Western New York climate encourages us to savor our short but spectacular summer season. There's just nothing like the joy and energy that's in the air during those first few warm days of the year when you know summer is right around the corner. It will be here again before you know it!



Top: Benny Augello on Sledge Middle: Joel Wagoner's pic of waterspout. Left: Bowen and Emmitt

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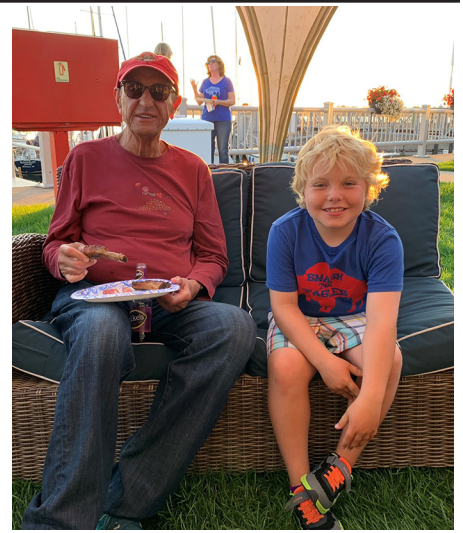
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This page: Tailgate party at the club, good time, helps when the Bills win. Thanks to Ted Johnson for the tent and decorations. Opposite page: Smokin Buddha day.





This page: Mayor's Cup and Queen City Regatta photos.

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This page: High school sailors, thanks to Leah Trow for the pics.



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