

ERIE YACHT CLUB LOG

HAPPY NEW YEAR

VOL. 4 NO. 1

ERIE, PENNSYLVANIA

JANUARY 1972

COMMODORE'S COLUMN

These past four years and especially the last one as your Commodore has been some of the fondest most memorable years of this boatmans life. I want to take this opportunity to thank the many people who made these years such happy ones for me.

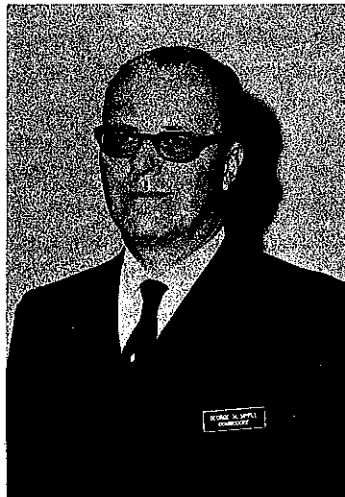
First - I would like to thank my Vice-Commodore, Fritz Busse (Who is now your Commodore) for his help and cooperation, my Rear-Commodore, Robert Painter, (Who is now your Vice-Commodore) also for his help and cooperation, My Fleet Captain, Wendell Good (Who is now your Rear-Commodore) and to our Secretary-Treasurer Kenneth Welsh (who could get along without Ken?) and my very able staff of Directors, Richard Loessel, David Schuler, Douglas Nagle Jr., Allen Ridkloff, C. Dean Klahr, Jr., Gordon Way and Richard Waller.

I also want to thank my committees who did such a beautiful job in 1971.

A very sincere thanks to all of you.

- ALOISE BUSSE**
Publicity
- KEN & ROSE MARIE RENZ**
Entertainment
- DICK & FLORA SARVER**
Log
- GAIL GARREN**
Small Boats
- HAROLD OGDEN**
Auxiliaries
- PERKY PUNDT**

GEORGE SIPPLE COMMODORE



- RICHARD LOESEL**
D/N Ice Boats
- JACK AMTHOR**
Coast Guard Auxilliary
- HAROLD OGDEN**
Power Squadron
- RICHARD C. SARVER**
Editor for the Log
- RICHARD SWANSON**
Reporter
- JOHN HALL**
Reporter

There are a great number of people behind the scenes that are not mentioned above, but have unselfishly chipped in to help without any thought of thanks, the bartenders, Nick, Frank, John and Jim, all the girls who served you over the past year. I cannot forget Marty, Miller and Whitey either, without any one of them things at the Club

E. Y. C. LOG

CAPTAIN BILGEWATER

My goodness, here it is Winter already and all the boats are out and wrapped up like big cocoons, awaiting the warm rays of a spring sun to let them come forth for another season.

As we look back over the summer and fall, though, it was a pretty good season, all things considered. The weather was better than average on most weekends. The way the ice has held out from forming, a lot of people wish they still had their boats in the water. This is the first time in many years that the Ice-Boaters were not able to set up their boats between Christmas and New Year's Day.

There sure was a lot of sailing this past season--nice to see so much additional activity along these lines, what with the M.O.R.C. fleet getting more active, the Auxiliary fleet adding races earlier in the spring and later in the fall, and of course the always great interest in the Small Boat Racing. Incidentally, they (the Small Boat Committee) sure put on a nice feed and a good program on Oct. 16th.

While on the subject of sailing, your ol' Cap'n Bilgewater wants to extend special congratulations to Dick Gorny, his son Greg, and all the crew members of "Banshee." They've sure had a wonderful season with their new boat.

Was sorry to hear that "Jock" Brodie and his lovely wife moved

them well in their new home in New Hampshire . . . mighty glad to see Fran Golden back in circulation again after his recent illness . . . congrats to Audrey and Bernie Heaverly, who became grandparents of twins back in the fall . . . hear that the E.Y.C. America's Cup Bowling League is a big success this year--more bowlers than ever and lots of good fun and fellowship . . . the Coast Guard Auxiliary, Flotilla 5-3, made up largely of E.Y.C. members, had a real fine picnic at the Coast Guard Base to wind up their season. What would boating be like if it wasn't for all the volunteer help of the Coast Guard Auxiliary members and the Power Squadron members.

Was certainly sorry to hear about Marion Henshaw's recent hospitalization. Sure hope by the time you're readin' this, Marion, that you're much, much better. We're all rootin' for you and remembering you in our prayers. Also want to extend sympathy to all the members of the Ralph and John Heard families on the recent death of Flo. We'll all miss a dear friend, yet share with the family a sense of relief that her suffering is over.

Eric Ambro has left Cleveland to seek his fortune in California, and we'll miss him around the club-- especially John Hall will miss him in ice-boating as those two were really a great "double" team.

E. Y. C. OFFICERS AND STAFF FOR 1972

Commodore Fritz Busse
 Vice-Commodore Robert Painter
 Rear Commodore Wendell Good
 Fleet Captain Richard Amthor
 Secretary-Treasurer Kenneth Welsh
 Directors George Sipple,
 David Schuler, Allen Rickloff, Gordon Way, Richard Waller,
 George Althof and Ralph Herd

COMMITTEES

Publicity Betty Waller
 Entertainment The Bentons,
 The Blumsteins, The Renzes, The Samples & The Swansons
 and two more to be announced later. *Dick Gorny*
 Small Boats Gail Garren
 Auxiliaries Harold Ogden
 Ice Skating & Arrow Ice Boats Perky Pundt
 D/N Ice Boats Richard Loesel
 Coast Guard Auxiliary John Hall

This is a partial list of committee people who are confirmed at this time. A more complete list will be released at a later date.

E.Y.C. Phone 453-4931

DICK GORNY

Would you believe that this magnificent skipper, and his fabulous "Banshee" that took more first places in the 1971 Auxiliary Sailing Races than any other boat in the Erie Yacht Club Fleet, got his start in 15' MFG power boat, about fifteen years back. Dick said that this first boat of his represented a total investment of \$400.00 for the boat, motor and trailer. He and his family used it for about 4 years, mostly for fishing and running about on the Clarion River, Lake Chautauqua and Presque Isle Bay.

Dick's next boat, a 19' outboard, was also used for water skiing, as well as fishing. He kept this boat for a couple seasons, and then moved into a 23' Chris Craft Sea Skiff, which he kept until he decided to try his hand at sailing.

The first time Dick went sailing was with Vic Grumblatt. His second time sailing was a day's cruise with Gus Orton, at the end of which Dick had purchased Gus Orton's boat, a 32' Pearson Vanguard. Dick's third time sailing was as the owner and skipper of that vessel. He claims that the reason he went into sailing was because he got too old for Water Skiing, but somehow the writer of this article doesn't quite believe that tale! Not when you see Dick scampering around his boat when he's sailing it or working on it!

At the urging of Ted Schuler, Dick immediately entered the Auxiliary Races, and sailed them using his family as crew. His family consists of his lovely wife, Olga, 2 daughters, Sue and Deb, and 2 sons, Greg and Pete.

After racing and sailing "Aeolus," for three years, he then ordered his Redline 41', a C. & C. designed sloop, built in Oakville, Ontario.

Dick was finally able to set sail with his new boat on April 15, 1971, and sailed her from Oakville to the

Welland Canal on that date. On April 16th he motored her through the Welland Canal to Port Colbourne, and there he was greeted with an ice jam in Lake Erie that stretched as far as the eye could see. From that day until May 29th, he couldn't move his beautiful new boat out of the canal into Lake Erie due to the ice on the Lake. Making the car trip to Pt. Colbourne 3 times a week during this period got pretty discouraging, especially when he saw all the boats being launched and sailed at Erie.

Finally, on May 29th the ice was free enough that Dick was allowed to pass through the levelling lock on the canal and he sailed into Lake Erie, heading for the E.Y.C. This, you may recall was a Saturday. The following Monday, two days later, he entered the boat in the Gus Mork Trophy Race on Memorial Day, and took his first "First." The first of many such "Firsts."

But, due to being locked up for six weeks in the ice off Port Colbourne, he decided on the name "Banshee," or "Ice-Witch." The way "Banshee" sails sometimes makes the other skippers wonder if she's an "Ice-Boat" instead of a "Sailboat."

Dick's crew in most of the races this year consisted of his family, previously mentioned, plus Herb Heidt, Dave Calvano and John Douglas.

In addition to sailing and fishing, Dick and his son Greg are thinking of getting into Ice-Boating this winter. Dick's vocation finds him sitting in the President's Chair of Keystone Electric Co. Hmmm, maybe that's how he gets some secret power to move "Banshee" so well! Congratulations on a fabulous season to a great sailor, a worthy competitor and a good sport.

Comments From The Editor

I would like to make a few comments in this final issue of the log, that I think, might not hurt anyone and maybe will get some thinking.

A club such as our Erie Yacht Club is a social club comprised of boaters, nearly 100% participating in some form or another, and I think the key to the whole problem of running our club successfully is participation. The slogan is "Support our club" there is a lot of truth in this, without the participation of the membership the revenue picture changes drastically and without revenue we cannot maintain the full time employees necessary to keep "our" club as we would like to see it.

So you've had a bad meal or bad experience one time or another at the club, this happens everywhere once in a while - give the club and yourself a break, the food is good, the service is good and the fellow-

ship is the best in the whole world.

I have enjoyed being your editor for the past year and although it was a new experience for me, I have enjoyed it tremendously and I hope that I have contributed in some way to your enjoyment of the club and its activities.

I would like to thank all the Officers, and Board members for all their help through the year, also all the committees who have submitted articles to me for publication.

And lastly I save a lot of thank yous for a fellow who has been my Ghost Writer on the Captain Bilgewater Column all these months and has done a fantastic job for me, Richard Swanson. Thanks again, Dick.

Editor

SUPPORT YOUR CLUB

E.Y.C. LOG - CAPTAIN BILGEWATER (Con't. from page one)

Arrow Regatta last year. David Ambro has rejoined the service and has been stationed in Iceland, where he has recently been joined by his lovely Spanish wife, Carmen, and their son Paul. Congrats to Art Althof, who got a fine promotion and has been transferred to Dallas, Texas. Hear that Jerry and Judy Emling and Nancy Sherwood had a fabulous trip to Europe and hope to go back again before too long. The Dick Amthor's are looking tanned and happy these days, having just got back from a Christmas trip to Florida. Was nice to see the Jack Raimey's around for the holidays, too.

Bob Way's "Miway" sure looked nice at the end of the season. Saw it out on the bay several times during October and November. Congrats on a fine restoration job on an old and familiar "queen." If you want to hear a funny story, ask Bob or Peg to tell you about their "restful" evening on New Lake, along about Nov. 15th!

Missed seeing "Kahili" in her stall on the West Dock at the end of the season now that Frank Zurn has sold her to Fred Oberscheimer of Buffalo--but those who sail the annual Interclub Series each year will continue to see that magnificent sailboat . . . also sorry to hear that Lou Wingate has sold his lovely "Raider"--we'll miss that boat, too.

Want to offer congratulations and best wishes to all the new officers and board members--they all need our support and cooperation as well as our thanks for doing such fine work for the club. Was glad to see a record 145 men out to the Annual Meeting, yet one wonders why more don't take enough interest to attend this important session each fall.

A couple of the fall social events were rather poorly attended, but the Christmas Dinner Dance was a sellout, and all present had a won-

New Year's Eve saw a crowd of over 200 ring in the New Year. I understand our new Commodore, Fritz Busse has some good ideas regarding the set up of social events, their frequency, etc., so that maybe we'll have fewer but better attended parties this coming year.

Don Bross is going back into the hospital early in January--still trying to solve that nagging back problem of his, and we all wish you a full and speedy recovery . . . the pinochle club, meeting every Wednesday evening, is in full steam these days and still welcomes new members--understand that Byron "Skipper" Cooley has a great new play planned for the Annual Pinochle Banquet, which usually takes place in late April.

Well to close on a bright note, we offer congrats to Roger and Kathy Zurn on the birth of their lovely daughter during the fall, and also to Chuck and Kitty Good on the arrival of their firstborn, a son.

With that your old Cap'n will sign off until another issue goes to press, wishing you all a Happy New Year and remember, it's only about 90 days until the first boats can go back in the water!

**WELCOME ABOARD
NEW MEMBERS**

Welcome aboard to new members since last Log. Junior Membership - Steven Waller and Charles Roberts. Associate Membership - Charles English.

The Regular Membership charter is closed until January 1, 1972 when the board will meet and review the situation.

T. Kenneth Welsh

SEASON'S BEST

COMMODORE'S COLUMN

(Continued from page one)

would have been different.

Again I say Thanks, from the bottom of my heart . . . everyone.

The year 1971 was a great one for the Erie Yacht Club. Our growth for the year was tremendous. From our winter Ice Skating program and Ice Boating right through our spring and summer boating has been quite a year and one I shall not soon forget.

The potential of the club is enormous and some of the advanced plans that are in the offing, makes me think that under the leadership of your new Commodore Fritz Busse, the Erie Yacht Club is not through making history on this great Lake Erie.

When you receive this Log it will be 1972 and I would like to take this opportunity to wish each and everyone of you a very Happy New Year. May it be as good to you as the last one has been to me.

Now I would like to close by thanking each and every one of you for the privilege you have offered to me by allowing me to serve as your Commodore for the Year 1971. Your Past Commodore

George Sipple

SUPPORT YOUR LOG

ICE SKATING

It is time again to sharpen the skates and come down to the club for some winter fun. There will be hockey rinks and a large ice skating rink. The rinks will have lights and music for evening skating. Bring the kids for some family fun. Join us. I sincerely hope by the time you receive this log you will have

**WELCOME
ABOARD**



FRITZ BUSSE

1972 COMMODORE

**WELCOME ABOARD
NEW OFFICERS
AND
COMMITTEE MEMBERS**



ICE BOATING

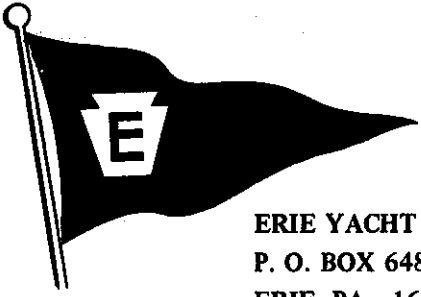
The officers for the Arrow Ice-boat Fleet this year are;

- Fleet Captain - Don Bross
- Ass't Fleet Captain - John Hall
- Safety Officer - Dick Szymanski
- Director - Perky Pundt
- Secretary - Audrey Brown

Two new arrows have been added to the Erie Fleet so far this year. Plans are forming to have the Arrow Regatta sometime in February. Also the Club Championship is being held on Lake St. Clair, Mich. in January. Planning to attend to date are: Perky Pundt, Audrey Brown, John Hall and Richard Swanson. If there are any others who wish to go or would like more information on the Club Championship race please contact either Audrey Brown

**HAPPY
NEW YEAR**

SUPPORT 
YOUR
 **CLUB**



**ERIE YACHT CLUB
P. O. BOX 648
ERIE, PA. 16512**

**BULK RATE
U.S. Postage
PAID
Erie, Pa.
Permit No. 344**

MR. FRITZ BUSSE, JR.
RD 1
FAIRVIEW, PENNA. 16415