



BROCKPORT YACHT CLUB

PORTHOLE

The Official Newsletter of the Brockport Yacht Club
David Pulhamus, Editor



February 2018

COMMODORE'S CORNER



Happy February. This week we received our approval from the Army Corps and Department of State. On Feb 11th we advertised a public notice in the Hilton-Parma Post per the DEC requirement. David Manning and Tom Pavone met last week. We expect to have six bids for the project instead of three as originally proposed. We are making good progress.

The Eboard met last night. We made some changes to some items as suggested. We also made a change to the dues and dock fees. In order to make it more equitable we reduced the dues and increased the dock fees. The net budget revenue remains neutral but puts less of a burden on the social members.

I will not be at the February meeting as we will be on vacation that week. Enjoy the meeting !

(John Stevens, Commodore)

VICE COMMODORE



February is half over all ready! That means only 77 shopping days until launch! (or so) Soon the work will begin at the club so please be aware that if you do any work on your boats early this year that there may be obstacles in the parking lot. "H" beams, heavy equipment, etc. Looking forward to launch and opening up the club. It seems like eons since we all were there. Being a lot of work was done on the docks over the winter, (Nice job Erik and crew) be sure to check all of your lines and such since they've all been moved around. See you all soon.

(John Saucke, Vice Commodore)

REAR COMMODORE



It's a little hard to believe launch is less than 90 days away. We should be in better shape this year with the docks now set at a higher elevation. The

latest combination dock raising – Super Bowl party was a lot of fun and it was great to be at the club again. Let's hope the lake levels will be more kind to us this Spring.

View some picture of the Work Party on back pages.

(Ken Beghini, Rear Commodore)

FLEET CAPTAIN



Thanks to everyone who came out to the Superbiwl Sunday dock work party on the ice. A lot of progress was made, including getting all of the wood joists in place where we could get to them. There was no ice on the finger pier behind the club so there are still chains on some of those docks. Also, the two docks by the "blah-blah" tree have not been touched. They will wait until after the work to remove the old diamond steel is done. The same can be said for the seawall and creekside docks. That work will come after construction of the elevated seawall is complete. Which means it may happen after launch. Too early to say at this point. But plan on more dock work parties in the spring for sure.

As Ed Vorbach pointed out at the last meeting, there is a concern that the big red pole in the creek has gone missing. It is believed the ice flow knocked it over. We will need to figure where it is and hopefully can drag it to an out of the way place. Discussions with Tom Pavone and Dave Manning seemed to indicate that new H-beams can be driven in while the creekside seawall work is going on. Consideration is being given to driving two H-beams for each of the creekside docks to replace the existing poles. Again, too early to tell. But expect a longer than usual creekside dock work party this year.

BUSINESS MEETINGS

- General Membership Meetings are held on the last Thursday of the month
- at Foster's in Hilton during the months of January thru April
- May through October meetings are at the Club.
- No meetings in November or December.
- Reservations are required for the dinner portion.
- Appetizers @ 6:00PM,
- Dinner @ 7:00PM, meeting to follow.
- email reservations to dinner@brockportyachtclub.org prior to 6PM on the Sunday prior to the meeting

CALENDAR

- May 5 Boat Launch
- May 19 Club Opening
- May 27 Commodore's Review & Holiday Cocktail Party
- July 3 Holiday Cocktail Party
- July TBD Kids Sunfish Classes
- Club Cruise: Begins the Last Saturday of July
- Sunfish Regatta TBD
- September 2 Annual Wine Tasting
- Saturday, September 8 Annual Corn Roast
- October 12-13 Haul Out
- October 25 Corn Beef Dinner & General Meeting
- Oct 27 Club Closing
- Nov. 10th Commodore's Ball

As for water level, the docks in the basin have been raised to an average of approximately 248.8 feet. They are where they are. Should the water level go above it, we can look at putting in temporary planking and guide ropes, but we might just have to splash through it until the water level comes back down, assuming it goes above it. This also assumes we launch this year, of which I remain optimistic and is my highest priority. Launch is scheduled for Saturday, May 5th!

(Eric Grape, Fleet Captain)

DINNER MEETING 22nd!

Once again we will be hosting our winter meetings at Fosters Restaurant, 50 Canning Street, Hilton NY (Feb. 22nd / March 29th / April 26th). Cocktail hour begins at 6:00 pm with dinner served at 7:00 pm, and the general meeting starting at 8:00 pm. The first 3 dinners will be a buffet and the last dinner on April 26 will feature prime rib. The cost will remain the same, \$16.00 / person. Reservations for the dinners are required. Please e-mail cancellations or reservations to:

bycdinner@brockportyachtclub.org prior to 6:00 pm on the Sunday before the meeting. As usual, if you're on the permanent list and aren't able to attend, cancellation is required, otherwise no action is required for members on the permanent list who will attend. All members are welcome to attend the general meeting even if they choose not to purchase a dinner.

Putting away the Bobby G:

With last month's issue so chocked full of material, I decided to wait till this month to show how expertly and adroitly the Bobby G was hauled out last fall. Here are the pics documenting said endeavor:



From The Surveyors Perspective

By Bob Spencer

A new addition to the Basin?



BEACH ASSOCIATION NEWS:

BY Bob Jones.

As the Ground Hog has his predictions with six more weeks of winter . . . I honestly believe that we as Members of BYC and the SH Beach Association need to be heard as well. No one really knows what this Spring will bring. With Plan 2014 calling for higher water levels it is inevitable that it will happen sooner than later. With that said, we need to fight the fight together when needed. Bob Jones, BYC Member/Sandy Harbor Beach Association President.

TUESDAY BREAKFAST:

Everyone is welcome to come and enjoy the companionship of BYC at breakfast at the Hilton Diner every Tuesday morning at 9 AM.

BYC PERSONALIZE TRIBUTE COOKIES:

At the January meeting Emily Grape presented the members with fabulous cookies, thanks to her sister. They were both eye catching and delicious!



Thanks, Emily!

UPDATE ON STATUS OF JETTY REPAIR/EXTENTION:

By Dieter Hentschel

Ken Lendeck and I had met with Senator Schumer's Chief of Staff who said he would reach out to Assemblyman Steve Hawley's office since Hamlin was in Congressman Chris Collins 27th Congressional District. Reaching out was, we thought, the light at the end of the tunnel. Several weeks ago I visited Hawley's office and they said they were never reached out to. Guess Schumer is preoccupied with POTUS. Hawley's person was very helpful: she faxed a copy of our study to Collins. I just got back from the meeting I attended with Ken in Hamlin with Mike Kracker, Collins' Chief of Staff and Kracker was the one who called the meeting.

We went over the background of the jetty and mentioned how the emphasis changed from just a navigable channel to a barrier, protecting 25 cottages from NorEasters. We also pointed out that other benefit of the jetty is to the general public, i.e. fishermen, recreational boaters, marinas. With

the jetty benefiting all these other parties, our Self-Help BYC no longer could undertake this project. Mike Kracker asked how the process could be started and we suggested that Sandy Creek be designated a Harbor of Refuge. The US Army Corp. of Engineers is the key player in this project and that status determines where projects are in the queue.

The light at the end of the tunnel is turned on again; we will be in contact with Mike Kracker and let the membership know of developments.

A quick note on property tax exemptions.

By Dick Olsen.

In most taxing jurisdictions in New York, the "Taxable Status Date" is March 1. This means that you have about a week to apply for any exemptions you may be entitled to. These include:

Veterans – This has changed for the better. If you are a veteran take a copy of your DD-214 to your assessor. A few years ago, New York authorized exemptions for Cold War Veterans which most taxing jurisdictions now allow. Not likely to find it for school districts, but it's likely available in your town as well as the county. You won't know unless you apply. If you were in a combat zone, it's 25% subject to locally set limits. Disabled vets can get larger exemptions.

STAR – if you live in it, and own it, you should receive a STAR check **or** reduction in taxes on your school taxes. This is worth about \$750.00 a year. How you get it depends on when you bought your home.

Enhanced STAR – this is for owners over age 65 – one over 65 works. It is income based and the income is in the mid \$80K ranges. Income does NOT include IRA distributions, but it does include 401K distributions (not explained rationally). Some taxing jurisdictions allow medical expenses to be deducted. If you think you MIGHT qualify for it, take a copy of your last few years tax returns to your assessor.

Limited Income – this varies greatly from place to place, but if your income is under \$45,000.00 it might be worth at least insuring about. Again, see your

assessor and bring a copy of your income tax return.

SHIP'S STORE:

In stock: T-shirts, hats, koozies, burgees, and more! See last page.

Give me a call or email me for prices, colors and sizes. Jack Evans 455-5701

An additional item this year for those who need a smaller BYC Burgee: It measures 8 X 12 inches. Used for bow flag staffs.

FOR SAIL:

29.5 foot Sea Ray (Sweet Pea) for sale. Air/heater , hot & cold pressure water, microwave , twin 260 HP engines. contact Bruce Martin [585-734-1141](tel:585-734-1141). \$13,900.

Pearson 25, Lilly. New(er) sails. Roller furling. Motor. \$3,800. Dave Pulhamus

Pearson 26 Weekender hull. Almost free. Wil help move. Dave Pulhamus

Canoe: Sawyer Yellow Yankee Rebel. Mat fiberglass. \$275 Dave Pulhamus

Wait! Don't Stop Now ! There is more Porthole on the next two (2) pages!

Miscellaneous Ramblings:

Thank you to all who sent in the many, and varied, pictures to illustrate what goes on at BYC.

Special Thanks to Ken Lendeck for the pic of the Snowy Owl on his neighbor's dock. A great photo of a distinguished visitor.

As you can tell by the lay out of this issue, I am still struggling with Microsoft Publisher. Wish I could get columns to wrap when I want them to.

As Oddball would say: Keep those positive brainwaves coming to insure a successful 2018 season.

Keep your spars clean.

Dave



ROVING REPORTER:

By Dave Hale

Gifford's Big Boat

Gifford Morgan and his brother Henry, sons of Brockport industrialist Dayton Morgan, were charter members of the Brockport Yacht Club. Gifford was Commodore 1908-09. They owned a small boat, the *It*, for racing. Gifford also owned the *Waubashene*, a 32 foot double masted schooner for cruising. Information about another boat has recently been found. Gordon Fox wrote the following for the February newsletter of the Western Monroe Historical Society in Brockport.

In January I found an [undated] newspaper clipping from a Miami newspaper telling of the "heroic" sailboat journey that Gifford Morgan undertook in December with his family, but without a captain. They traveled along the coast from New York City to Miami Beach on board a 62 foot- long wooden boat. The article further mentioned that this boat had been built in 1916 at Nevin's Boat Yard, located on City Island in the Bronx. I contacted the City Island Nautical Museum to inquire if they could give me some additional information on this boat, known as the *Seamaid*. Mr. Tom Nye, historian, kindly replied saying this boat was well known on the Island, as it lay for many years at anchor off the Nevin's yard. Mr. Nye provided me with a wealth of information about the boat, her owners and sent me several photos. One of the pictures showed Gifford Morgan's pendant, which was flown from the mast.

She was "well made, well maintained." A shoal draft yawl could sail in Lake Ontario with less risk of running aground. Powered by gaff rigged sails and a 70 h.p. engine it made good time on its voyage to Miami Beach. Below deck were mahogany-lined spacious rooms with heaters to take away the winter's chill. Gifford purchased the *Seamaid* in the "mid-1920s and no longer owned it after 1938." He moored her at the Rochester Yacht Club since the Brockport Yacht Club basin was too shallow (even though she only drew 3 and a half feet of water). As far as we know, the last known sale was around the 1950s.



Seamaid under sail



Gifford's pendant



