



## YYC Celebrates Its 75th Anniversary

### A 75 Year Sailing Heritage

*In researching material for this issue it became obvious that there was no better telling of the Club's history than that written by Club Historian Tom Hooker. In March 1996 he published Sixty Five Years of Beautiful Sailing, A journal of the Youngstown Yacht Club. The 56 page publication is a compilation from Club records and the invaluable oral histories of Club members and their spouses, the folks upon whose shoulders this Club was built. What follows is from Tom's journal. Ed.*

"We are so blessed with reliable sailing conditions in Youngstown that often we don't realize how lucky we are. Long Island Sound has many doldrums and bugs in the summer, as does Chesapeake Bay which is also alive with jellyfish which spoil swimming. Florida waters are plagued with shoal water and barnacles plus uncertain breezes. At Youngstown we can nearly always count on wind in either the lake or river, and we have a wide variety of convenient and interesting destinations like Toronto, Wilson, Olcott, Port Dalhousie, Fifty Point, Hamilton, Bronte, Oakville, Bay of Quinte, Rochester, Sodus bay, Oswego, and the Thousand islands.

"Where else could the Level Regatta be held with reasonable assurance of usable breezes in midsummer? Count your Blessings."

#### Lower Niagara River History

Early in American History the lower Niagara River was recognized by the French, and later the British, as a strategic harbor controlling access to the upper Great lakes. "A deep water port, nearly free of shoals, it was protected from all but northwest winds."

Three forts were built: Niagara, George, and Mississagua. After the British took control from the French, "they established Newark (now Niagara-on-the-Lake) as the capital of Upper Canada, whose legislative assembly met in Navy Hall, directly across the river from YYC.

"During the War of 1812, American troops crossed the river and burned Newark, provoking the British... into a raid... that burned nearly all the buildings from Youngstown south to what is now Buffalo.

"Prior to... the Erie Canal in 1825, most of the freight to the West passed up the Niagara River to Lewiston from where it was

See [YYC Heritage](#) on Page 6

### Launching YYC's 75th Anniversary Year

*Watch this 75th Anniversary column in Ripples for a monthly chronicle of events, personalities, and races that established our Club during its inaugural year. Ed.*

MaryAlice Eckert has heroically rescued original YYC documents, photographs, and other memorabilia, some of which were found in paper bags in the gristmill! She has carefully organized these historic and irreplaceable

documents in protective sleeves and binders, in a chronological arrangement. Throughout our Anniversary year, selected historical documents and photographs will be featured in *Ripples* and digital reproductions will be displayed in the Clubhouse for all to enjoy.

Judy Volpe will take advantage of technology and preservation resources at the University at Buffalo

Libraries to digitize and mount selected historical materials for display.

#### 1931

It was in late April, seventy-five years ago, when twenty-eight "boating enthusiasts" from Niagara Falls, Youngstown, and Lewiston gathered at the Youngstown Fire Hall to discuss organizing a "Boat or Yacht Club" to be located at Youngstown. Several of the founding fathers were also members of a syndicate to purchase the New York 30 *Blue Moon* with plans to bring it to Youngstown (see *Blue Moon*, Page 6).

A report of this meeting, dated April 29, 1931 (see Page 7), documents that A. G. Porter was elected as "Chairman" (by acclamation) and A. E. Murphy was elected "Secretary." Photographs of these dashing gents will appear in future columns.

Committees were appointed for Membership, Finance, Constitution, Building and Clubhouse, and Publicity.

Twenty-eight people indicated their willingness to join the proposed Club. All are listed in the April 29 report document. However, as will become clear in the next couple months, YYC's group of charter members grew

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Original YYC Clubhouse at right - boat shed beyond was destroyed by a snow load .

**Restaurant and Club Hours**

The Club bar and restaurant are open for dinner Friday evenings. To ensure seating for your party, call for a reservation: (716) 745-7230, ext. 18.

To arrange for a private party at the Club, call Clare Crawford directly: (716) 445-2846.

**YOUNGSTOWN YACHT CLUB**

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75th Anniversary

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**Ripples** is published monthly and distributed to eligible Club members and to subscribers. To subscribe contact Josie at [josie@yyc.org](mailto:josie@yyc.org).

News about Club events and members are always welcome and highly encouraged. E-mail articles and photos to [LibertaT37@verizon.net](mailto:LibertaT37@verizon.net) or drop them off with Josie in the YYC Club Office.

Editor: Ray Volpe  
 Copy Editors: Judy Volpe, Melanie Tisdale

**Consultant Says All Clubs Experience Aging Membership**



Yep, it's April 1st and time for a little foolishness. Mixed in with this Anniversary issue are, we hope, some humorous items. The 75th Anniversary articles and Board reports are real - honest injun. But for the rest, well, you can't always believe what you read - or see... :=)

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Donna and Jim Huggins report that 26 YYC snowbirds gathered in Punta Gorda for the “reunion” cruise March 20th on the *Cabbage Lady*. A good time was had by all, Donna said, and she and Jim are already planning next year’s adventure.

YYC Team wins San Diego NOOD Regatta: Commodore Gary Tisdale teamed up with Don Finkle to co-skipper the Beneteau 36.7 Fandango to win the San Diego NOOD for the second time. This team first won this event in 2004. The crew included PC Melanie Tisdale (pit), Morgan Paxhia as tactician, Scott Walter & Mike Bowley shared the bow, and Kevin Gregory (PC of BCC) trimmed the main. The owner of this gorgeous red 36.7, Tom Reilly of SDYC, also sailed with us and did cockpit duties. We picked up another SDYC member, Jesse James, as floater to get us up to maximum class weight for the event.

The series featured three good days of course racing, during which we sailed seven races. The competition was good, with some excellent sailors and sailmakers aboard various boats helping to bring the skill level up. On Saturday one of our competitors had a crew emergency and called in his neighbor to take the place of the ill sail trimmer. The substitute turned out to be world class sailor Vince Brun. Kea had three firsts that day! It took us a few races to get sorted out with the local conditions, since we had not been sailing since last fall but the locals sail year-round there. Once we got the feel of the wind pattern and the sea state...chop on top of large ocean swells...we found our groove. As the series went on we grew more and more confident and the crew work was outstanding. Going into the last race we were ahead by one point and reached the weather mark in first, only to have a bad spinnaker hourglass wrap that allowed two other boats to pass us. We got things sorted out, though, and held on to win the series by one point.

Sailing in San Diego is a treat. The weather is beautiful, as is the scenery. The airport is only about 5 minutes from the yacht club, and it is an easy area to get around in, although the traffic can be pretty bad on the freeways. We watched a steady parade of navy ships including carriers and submarines and so forth.

See [Scuttlebutt](#) on Page 10



### From The Bridge Deck

Don Finkle, PC Melanie and I were very proud to fly a large YYC burgee on the boat we borrowed for the recent San Diego NOOD regatta hosted by the San Diego Yacht Club. This was our third time attending this event and we were not disappointed. The racing was very competitive, the event was well run and it was great to see old friends and make new ones. Sailing on the ocean with an awesome view of the city of San Diego sitting below snow-covered mountains is a wonderful way to spend a long weekend.

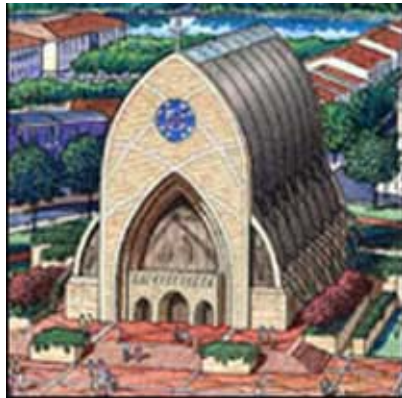
One highlight of the trip was the opportunity to climb aboard and around a 6 Meter yacht named Sprig that was sailed out of Youngstown by Bud Doyle in 1942-43. Skip Doyle connected us with the current owner of Sprig, Greg Stewart. Greg is a designer with Nelson Marek Yacht Design. He showed his talents in the beautiful rebuild of this classic yacht, which is featured in the January edition of *Sailing* magazine. Greg was happy to talk about his work on Sprig and share stories about the Lake Ontario 6 Meters with Don Finkle – I’m far too young to remember the 6’s and enjoyed listening. I’m always amazed on these sailing trips at the many Youngstown connections we come across.

I mentioned in my last article how excited I was about the entertainment schedule being planned by Clare, Maura and VC House Mike Banks. A couple “Port of Call” nights and other parties have been held and they have been terrific. We’ve had tango dancing, a magician, tarot card readers and Irish dancers entertaining us on Friday nights. I’d like to thank Maura and Clare and the members that have volunteered to be hosts for these evenings. Let Clare or Mike know if you are interested in hosting one of the upcoming evenings. The next “Port of Call” will be Cape Town, with the entertainment focused on the wine tasting table and hosted by Kenya natives, Jan and Maggie Steyn. I encourage everyone to support these events. I know you won’t be disappointed.

The ice boom has been removed and there is activity in the boat yard. Spring and early launching aren’t far off. The first Sunday race is scheduled for the first weekend in April. Our 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary sailing season is about to begin. With your support and participation it will be a successful year.

**In the News: Cannon Design**

Cannon Design's key role in the development of Ave Maria University near Naples, Florida was featured in the March 19, 2006 issue of *The Buffalo News*. In the *Business Today* section, the \$400 million dollar



project is described as the vision of Domino Pizza's founder, Tom Monaghan, an orthodox Catholic who has been making news internationally with his controversial views for a surrounding community where "Roman Catholic values are expected to govern daily life."

Cannon Design is the architect for Ave Maria University which will "serve as anchor for the planned city...with a planned population of 40,000, which will have strong spiritual and physical ties to the university."

Harry Warren, design principal on the project, said "we're just the architect and engineer.... Hopefully, our design will be considered beautiful and memorable, not controversial."

Cannon was drawn to Monaghan's attention by their design of Sabanci University in Istanbul, Turkey, "a \$200 million 'from scratch' project for which Cannon has won numerous design accolades."

Monaghan is a fan of Frank Lloyd Wright and the design of the Ave Maria campus was influenced by Wright's Prairie-style: "The design skillfully incorporated a dense university plan that allows for a walkable campus, a key program requirement."

Central to the university is the Ave Maria Oratory, a 65,000 sq. ft. church that will seat 1,100 and will be "seen as a destination for Catholic pilgrims from around the world."

Cannon is not only the master planner for the university, but also for the Town of Ave Maria, "helping write building codes,... providing interior design services for all the campus structures, and even assisting with the design of signs and tableware."



Cannon's reputation continues to grow and they reportedly are talking to developers in Dubai and India about new campus projects in those countries.



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## Disastrous Wave Destroys Buffalo Waterfront Community

“A powerful wave of water appears from out of nowhere, sweeping unsuspecting victims to their deaths.” That was the lead sentence in the article<sup>1</sup> headlined “Deadly Wall of Water Plays Role in City’s History.”



The disaster occurred about 11 pm on October 18, 1884 “when a wall of water quickly inundated the commercial and residential districts along the waterfront.”

78 people reportedly were known dead, but some estimated that as many as 200 of Buffalo’s poorest residents perished.

Unlike the Asian tsunami that resulted from an earthquake in the ocean floor, the wall of water that swamped Buffalo’s harbor front community “was caused by a seiche — pronounced SAY-sh.”

Buffalonians are familiar with the effects of strong winds pushing waters the length of Lake Erie until they crash onto South Buffalo shores. In the case of a seiche, when the winds stop, the built-up waters shift in the opposite direction, much like water sloshing around in a bathtub.

Google’s Weather Almanac says “In basic terms, a seiche is a standing wave forming in an enclosed or partly enclosed body of water by strong winds, atmospheric pressure jumps, landslides or distant earthquakes. Seiches produce regular, periodic fluctuations of lake waters as the standing waves race between opposing shores within the lake basin, diminishing in height with each transit, like those sloshing waves...produced in [a] bathtub.”

The seiche that hit Buffalo came without warning. It breached the city’s 14-foot seawall and rolled into the late night waterfront flooding the wharves and shantytown homes of the city’s poorest residents.

Meteorologist Steve McLaughlin is quoted as saying that seiches are fairly common, and can raise lake levels 6 to 7 feet in a few hours time. He believes that although “Buffalo has two or three seiches a year, the city has largely eliminated the threat by building a breakwater in Lake Erie, a project that starting in the 1860s.

<sup>1</sup> *The Buffalo News*, January 5, 2005

## Ed Ziegenfuss Age is A State of Mind

The March 19, 2006 *Weekend Life* section of *The Buffalo News* featured an article with the tag line “age-defying population is growing strong in Western New York as ‘middle age’ moves up a decade or two.”

Prominently featured in the article is YYC *Hot Ziggetty* captain Ed Ziegenfuss, 73. With 43 years experience as a ski patrol member at Holimont, Ed was in



good company alongside elder Buffalo Bills General Manager Marv Levy, 80, and other active Buffalonians.

Ed is hardly a one-dimensional guy. A few years ago at age 69 he earned a pilot’s license, and when not traveling, sings in a barbershop chorus.

Believing that it’s never too late to start new adventures, Ed didn’t start skiing until he was 30, the same year he started sail boat racing.

In the News article, Ed is quoted as saying, “A friend of mine once said, ‘Once you retire, you’ve got to have a reason to get up in the morning.’ You’ve got to like what you’re doing. I know people my age who are still very active in their profession, because that’s what they love, so that’s what they should do.”

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**Port of Call: Cape Town**

Friday, April 7, 5:30 p.m. South Africa produces fabulous wines from its stunning wine regions. The entertainment for the evening will likely revolve around the wine tasting table! We will be serving an a la carte South African/Cape Malay menu as well as our usual menu. We expect a crowd for this one, so call ahead for reservations. M. Banks V.C. House

For a more complete schedule of upcoming events, see the back page of Ripples.

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portaged to the upper river at Fort Schlosser, then shipped on through Lake Erie. This traffic ended when the Erie Canal opened.”

The opening of the Welland Canal in 1828 “increased the significance of the Niagara River as a port of refuge or transfer.”

Tom further writes that by the mid-1800s the amount of trade and schooner traffic had led to the establishment of shipyards at Youngstown.

In 1893 the U.S. Coast Guard, recognizing Youngstown’s importance as a harbor of refuge, established the Youngstown Lifeboat Station at the mouth of the river next to Fort Niagara.

“A significant commercial fishing operation existed” and villagers rented skiffs and outboards to sport fisherman. The river yielded “handsome catches” until an ice jam in 1955 “which scoured all seaweed from the bottom of the river. It took a long time for fishing to recover.”



*The New York 30 Blue Moon (gaff rigged) is now in the Herreschoff Museum in Bristol, Rhode Island.*

**Blue Moon**

Tom writes that “Several of the founding fathers were also members of a syndicate in the process of purchasing the New York 30, *Blue Moon* which had been severely damaged in a storm on Lake Erie and then repaired in Tonawanda. We suspect that part of the original purpose of the Club was to provide a home for the *Blue Moon*.... Jasper Rowland, a key member of the syndicate, owned a cottage on the lake... and was well aware of the sailing potential of Lake Ontario. Jasper Rowland in *Endymion*, his brother-in-law George Lauder’s 200-foot schooner, had made several trans-Atlantic passages, one in six days and twenty hours.”

Jasper and other syndicate members including “Charlie Guernsey, John Williamson, Augustus Porter IV, Libby Pierce and five others... each put up \$100 to buy the *Blue Moon* for a total price of \$1,000.”

“On July 3<sup>rd</sup>, *Blue Moon* – the first sailboat – arrived from Lake Erie, having been towed through the Welland Canal by Charlie Guernsey’s motor cruiser, *Mercedes*. That summer *Blue Moon* showed the YYC burgee at the Queen City YC, the RCYC, and the Rochester YC.

“On July 4th entries took part in a power boat regatta.”

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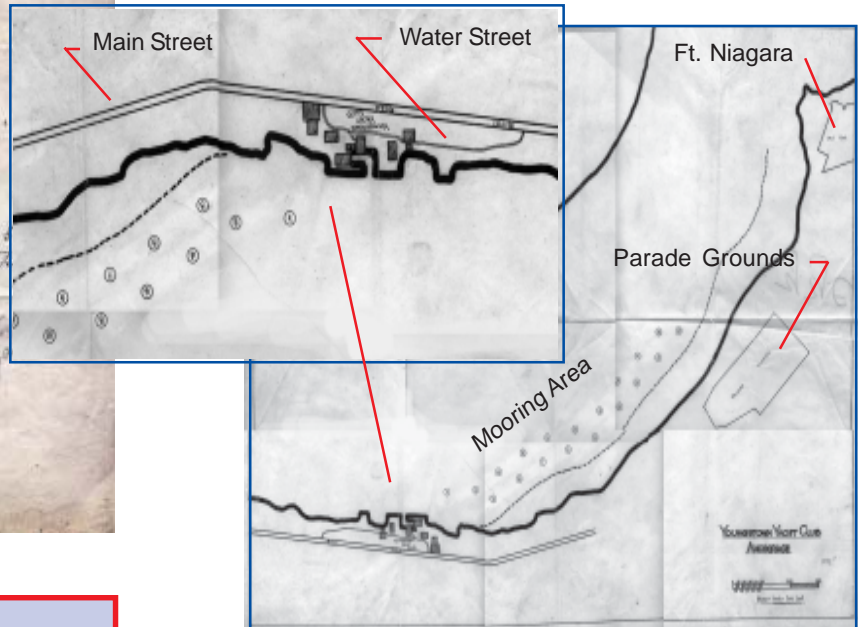
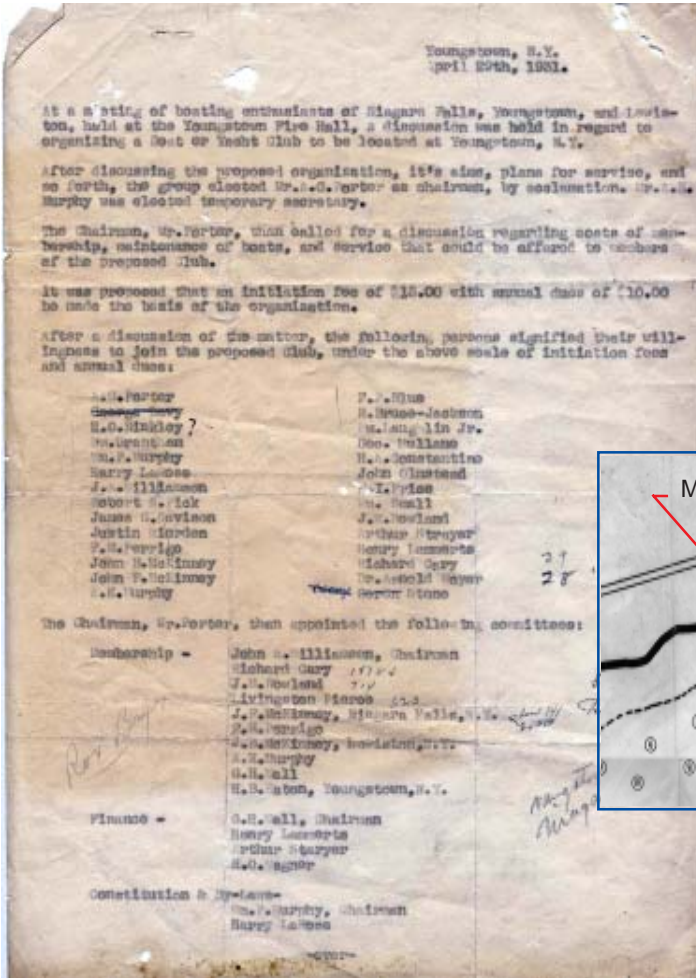
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**75th Anniversary** from Page 1

significantly. The original Publicity Committee must have done a great job!

At a second meeting held on May 7, 1931 Jasper Rowland was elected Commodore, A.G. Porter IV Vice Commodore, J.A. Williamson Rear Commodore, William Murphy Secretary, and Richard Cary Treasurer.

They moved fast, making arrangements to lease a building from the village as a Clubhouse. The present burgee was designed and it, and the name of the Youngstown Yacht Club, were registered with Lloyds of London by July. Despite the Depression, the \$15 initiation fee and \$10 annual dues soon attracted seventy two members.



**75th Anniversary Events**

- ◆ On April 29, 2006 we will hold a cocktail party to celebrate the formation of our Club on that date in 1931.
- ◆ The Club will have a 75th Anniversary Gala, celebrating our history, June 10th.
- ◆ June 11th is Commissioning Day, which includes the traditional flag raising ceremony and commissioning of the Club for the season.

Mark your calendars now, you won't want to miss any of these events. They will all hold some surprises.

There are plenty of plans in the making and a bit of work to be done. If you would like to get involved and have some fun party planning give me a call: (716) 754-0930. MaryAlice Eckert

The first YYC Clubhouse was on the North Dock adjacent to the launch slip. It had a balcony overhanging the small boat harbor, which was a great spot for spreader repairs. The building later housed Beek Fairbank's Sailor's Supply chandlery. Note the Gristmill in the background (sans upper floor condos). Judy Volpe



## Irish Dancers Top St. Patrick's Event

The highlight of the YYC St. Patrick's Day celebration was the Rochez Academy Irish dancers who made a late surprise visit to perform traditional Irish folk dances. 15 dancers, including championship dancer Becky Klauk, brought the crowd to its feet with their award winning routines.

The MC was Sue Wylie; the was music coordinated by Tom deGuehery. Both are the proud parents of dancers.

The dances performed included both soft shoe and hard shoe numbers.

Soft shoes are called ghillies and approximate dancing in bare feet, which is how these dances were originally done in Ireland.

Hard shoes, called hornpipe shoes, have fiberglass tips, which approximate nails driven into shoes so that the music can be tapped out without music. Both types of shoes are made in Ireland.

The British, some say, forbid the playing of Irish music, so hard shoes were fashioned to tap out the sound of the music. Some also believe that the stiff upper body style was a ruse so that labors waist deep in the fields could hide their dancing from the British.

The four hand reel that was performed is a group dance that is still done all over Ireland. It's a dance you'd be likely to see whenever people gather for a party, known as a ceili, or in a pub. Most of the group dances are reels, because they are very lively, fun to do and fun to watch. These dances are also done in competitions.

Rochez dance teams performed in the All Ireland International Dance competition held in Killarney in 2002 and 2003. The week-long event qualifies dancers for the World Competition held in Ireland every April. Visiting Ireland enabled the young dancers to see Irish dancing performed by local people - even in a pub!

Rochez dancers perform throughout the year at festivals, weddings - anywhere a there is a party! To learn more about the Rochez Academy and Irish dancing, visit [www.rochezirishdance.com](http://www.rochezirishdance.com).

Barb Johnson, Ray and Judy Volpe



## *With the Wind in Our Sails and Soybean Fuel in Our Tanks...*

### Sailors Lead New Conservancy

The advantages of diesel engines and fuel have long been known to sailors: less risk of fire or explosion, and engines that run better the longer and harder you use them. So it's no surprise that the introduction of biodiesel fuel at leading marinas is eagerly anticipated.

Biodiesel fuel is not complicated to make. Take 10 gallons of any vegetable oil, add one gallon of methyl alcohol and some sodium hydroxide and you get 10 gallons of biodiesel fuel and one gallon of glycerin. The end product is a clear yellow-gold liquid that is non-toxic and biodegradable. "You can use it on your hands, like you would a lotion," says Jim Wilder from the North Carolina Soybean Association. "You can even drink it. It won't hurt you."

Other benefits of biodiesel include being 10 times less toxic than table salt, that it mixes completely with regular diesel fuel, is an excellent engine lubricant, and that engines running on biodiesel emit fewer hydrocarbons, which means less smog and ozone in the air. Also, biodiesel doesn't contain sulfur (sulfur oxide and sulfate omissions are two major components of acid rain). Finally, biodiesel is made from renewable sources grown here in the U.S. For more information, contact the North Carolina Soy Producers Association at [www.ncsoy.org](http://www.ncsoy.org).





## Tom Burrows Receives 2006 Arts Council Award

Anyone enjoying a live performance at one of Buffalo's many theaters knows that Buffalo has a lot more to offer than beef on weck, chicken wings, and sponge candy. At the center of the performing arts community is YYC member Tom Burrows, Executive Director of the UB Center for the Arts (CFA).

On February 19<sup>th</sup> Tom and his CFA colleagues were featured on the front page of the *Arts & Entertainment* section of *The Buffalo News*. Described as "both intense and elegantly refined,... energetic and doggedly insistent." Tom is credited with "the Center [pulling] off its dual mandate – to provide cultural education to the student body, and to engage itself with the broader Buffalo arts community and general population as a whole."

The UB News web site reports that "Testimony to Tom's success came on March 21<sup>st</sup> when Burrows and other award recipients were honored at the 20th Annual Arts Awards Luncheon in the Buffalo Convention Center. The award honors individuals, businesses and organizations that demonstrate exceptional support, achievement and excellence in the arts and cultural community of the Buffalo Niagara Region."

Burrows has acted as executive director of the Center for the Arts since 1996. "Noting that the presentation of national and international dance was very limited" in Western New York, he secured "corporate sponsorships, grants, and revenue generation to increase dance programming and to keep ticket prices affordable.... He also began a dance residency program whereby visiting companies, work not only with UB students, but also with thousands of children in local primary and secondary schools. Another objective was to introduce thousands of local children to the performing arts through the Center's School Time Adventure Series. The Center's transportation stipend program helps absorb the cost of buses so that children in underserved communities may attend these events."

Prior to his appointment at the Center for the Arts, his distinguished career in the performing arts began in New York as production manager of Circle In the Square. He later served as general manager for The Establishment Theatre Company. His other career achievements include: managing director of Theatre Operations at Yale University School of Drama; general manager of Shaw Festival Theatre, Niagara-on-the-Lake; general manager of the O'Keefe Centre (currently Hummingbird Theatre) in Toronto, and just prior to coming to the Center, general manager of Hamilton



Photo: Sharon Cantillion /Buffalo News

Place, Hamilton, Ontario. He is past president of the board for Buffalo's Irish Classical Theatre Company."

For more information about Tom, the Arts Council and award recipients, visit <http://www.buffalo.edu/news>, and <http://www.artscouncilbuffalo.org>.

*For those of you receiving Weekly Waves and the digital, full color version of Ripples on-line, please notify us if your e-mail address changes so that you don't miss any issues. Email your new e-mail address to [yyc@adelphia.net](mailto:yyc@adelphia.net) and Josie will make the change.*

### Youngstown Yacht Club Notecards On Sale

This is a limited printing of notecards featuring the YYC Clubhouse as viewed from the water. They are based on the pen and ink drawing by Judy Grange which previously hung in the Club's upstairs dining room.

The cards are being sold by the YYCA in packets of five 4" x 7" notecards for \$10. These will make a great gift for any special occasion.

Call the Club to place an order: 745-7230 x10.

**Scuttlebutt** from Page 3

*The Thunder of the Niagara marina is expected to attract luxury yachts in the Lady Lola class*

## **Senecas Plan Hotel and Golf Course Are a Casino, Theme Park and Marina Far Behind?**

Local papers have recently reported that the Seneca Niagara Gaming Corp. has purchased 250 acres of land in Lewiston to build a "world class, championship golf course" resort.

Merchants interviewed in Lewiston are very supportive and believe that the \$2.1 million investment will be good for the local economy.

The vacant land, located between the Robert Moses Parkway, and Pletcher and Creek Roads, is adjacent to Joseph Davis Park on the Lower Niagara River.

Last year in our April Fool's issue we wrote that the Senecas planned to build a Thunder of the Niagara casino, historic theme park, and luxury marina in the same area. Is the planned golf course just the beginning of a larger master plan?

Actual plans for a championship golf course to attract tourists to Lewiston have been in the works for over ten years. Cost factors eventually scaled the planned project down to a municipal golf course, and many residents held reservations about the Town entering into the golf course business, believing that private development was a better solution. Lewiston and Porter officials are very supportive of the Seneca purchase, and especially happy that unlike the Senecas' casino and hotel in Niagara Falls, the Lewiston land will remain on the tax roles.

They claim March is their rainy and cold month, but it sure seemed pretty darn nice to us. We plan to go back in 2007 and try for the hat trick.

Plans for the coming racing season: We are taking a break this year, not hosting as many regattas as we have recently, but we still have a very busy season on tap. Of course we will be running the 33rd edition of the largest event of its kind on the Lake, the YYC Level Regatta, in late July. This event is extremely important to YYC for several reasons, but it runs on volunteers. It is expected that most YYC members will assist in some way, if they are able. Please sign up soon to be a part of the extravaganza, it is fun and you will meet new people. Stan Pasek and Gary Tisdale will be thrilled to have you contact them. If you sign up early you have a better chance of getting the job that you want, instead of being "drafted".

Tuesday and Wednesday nights have become the backbone of our racing program. For those who have never tried it, start with the Tuesday program, it is low-key. If you have a boat but don't know how to go about racing, ask any of the experienced racers and we'll help you get started. If you would like to crew the same applies, there are always boats looking for new people to join the ranks. We all had to learn sometime, don't put it off because you are afraid you don't know enough. As they say, "no experience necessary."

Sodus Bay Junior Sailing will be celebrating 50 years this coming summer. The dates are July 21 - 23. Lots of different activities are planned. SBYC is soliciting some tall ships, hosting alumni races, and having a Gala party with band, fireworks (they hope) and lots of activities for kids. They are looking for sponsors.

The Buffalo Yacht Club, a reciprocal club, has hired as its restaurant manager S. Donald Warfe, originator of Just Pasta back in the 80's, recently the concessionaire at the Albright Knox Art Gallery's Garden Restaurant, and creator of Brodo's on Main Street in Snyder.

The rendezvous of the Lake Ontario Hunter Sailing Association on the Canadian side will be held at the Village Credit Marina in Port Credit. It is a great spot with the whole marina reserved for the LOHSA event. Angus Yachts of Toronto, does a wonderful job every year putting the rendezvous together. Last year over 40 boats attended. The Port Credit Rendezvous dates are July 6-9, 2006.

## Cormorant Fish Snatchers Migrating South



Regarded as sinister, greedy, and “almost reptilian” in appearance, cormorants are those black birds that have killed all the trees in an area of the Toronto Outer Harbor, as well as in other chosen nesting areas in the

northern hemisphere. Their “guano” builds up for years on trees and rocks. The cormorant name is derived from the Latin words “corvus” and “marinus,” literally “seacrow.”

It was last summer that some of us first noticed a few cormorants gobbling up the fish in the Niagara River. New colonies of cormorants choose trees by freshwater lakes, gravel pits, and reservoirs. Thus, Youngstown may be soon faced with an invasion, and resultant denuding/killing of our trees, along with a huge diminishment of the fish in our river and lake.

Cormorants are expert fishing birds with insatiable appetites. They are often seen with their wings spread because they do not possess the waterproofing oil of other seabirds and must spend lots of time drying their wings. They appear to be constantly “flashing” all of us boaters.



Homeland Security, ever minful for our safety, recently captured a renegade Canadian cormorant on the Lower Niagara River. He has been named “co-co-nuts” due to his erratic behavior of parading in a stupor up and down the YYC Club lawn and depositing seemingly tons of guano on our the yardarm of our flagpole. Pressured by the upcoming fishing derby and the need to keep the fish plentiful, the U. S. Coast Guard is daily making numerous siren-screeching runs up and down the river in an attempt to scare these predators back to Canada.

The Coast Guard has also installed along the Niagara River several “automated scarecrows,” the top of the line commercial model named “Scareyman.” One is cleverly hidden near the YYC Clubhouse for our protection. YYC’s “Scareyman” is electronically operated (of course—YYC would not settle for anything not computerized), and displays/collapses on a

controlled time basis. It is endowed with all the extras— “hooters, sirens, lights.” The total cost of each “Scareyman” is 400 British pounds (but a deal is available in Canadian loonies).

YYC members are requested to never, under any circum-stances, feed the cormorants. With their ravenous appetites, they are more likely to try to feed on you (cover your appendages in their presence). If you see suspect “guano” on your boat, immediately scrub it off with rubber gloves and deposit the substance and cleaning rags in a “hazardous substances” container. The Coast Guard is offering portable containers for use on your boat for the nominal fee of \$15 (there’s a stiff fine for dumping it overboard).

Club members with homes along the Niagara River may want to consider purchase of a “Scareyman” for installation in their backyards. Also available are wind-powered models, the “Flashing Hawkeye” and the “Flashing Buddha Eyes.” These models could be the answer to a boat owner’s nasty bird problems. Contact: [www.Scaringbirds.com](http://www.Scaringbirds.com) or send email to [info@scaringbirds.com](mailto:info@scaringbirds.com) (located in Lower Upton, Little Hereford, Ludlow, Shropshire, England. Judy Volpe



Scareyman



**470 FOR SALE** (1999 Zeiglemayer) Fast Zeiglemayer hull, carefully maintained, and fully race equipped with 2 masts (Superspar M7 and Proctor), 2 Proctor spin poles, 1 set of racing sails, 3 sets of training sails, dolly, and both top and bottom covers. Please contact Kate Thompson at 647-200-0453 for more details.

## Board Reports

### Fleet Report

A preliminary schedule of this year's racing schedule has been approved by YYC and NOLSC (see page 12). Vic Snyder, V.C. Fleet

### Cruising

At the risk of giving these dates ad nauseum I want to say again that the Solstice Cruise to Mimico Cruising Club is scheduled for Friday June 16th through Sunday June 18th. In years past some folks have gone on to RCYC or another Toronto destination. As we get closer to the date and people want to do that we can use the notification system that Ray Volpe is setting up so we will have an idea of who is going on and where.

I mentioned before that a few people have asked about the Thousand Island Cruise. I will do the leg work on that but we need some folks to step up and say they want to go and when. We should also have somebody say he will be the leader of that cruise. As I said I will be happy to make phone calls and do other leg work but need some direction as to the dates and places. Please contact me with any ideas and suggestions for making this year's cruises a success. Email me at [yyc@dandbroach.net](mailto:yyc@dandbroach.net) or call 745-7696. Dick Roach, Cruising Director

### Membership

We would like to welcome Ken and Annette Tramposh as new regular members of YYC. In honor of YYC's 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary the board has elected to provide a 75% discount on initiation fees for new member applications this year. Any friends and family who thought about joining last year but did not can still get a great deal on membership to YYC.

We would like to thank everyone who responded to the club survey. We had over 160 responses and most took the time to provide written feedback. We have over 6 full pages of comments and suggestions which the board is carefully reviewing so we may pick a few items to focus on advancing this year. While we still have improvements to make and new challenges to meet, we were pleased to see that 72% of the survey responses indicated that overall quality and value at YYC is good to excellent.

Over the course of the next two months we will share survey results through Ripples as well as at the spring membership meeting. Thank you again for your thoughtful responses, they will help guide us in our efforts to continually improve the Youngstown Yacht Club for all members.

### Yard

April will bring lots of spring activity around the boat yard. It is no secret that the ice pack will not be a factor in the launch season. I would urge members to take advantage of nice weather to get the essential out of the water maintenance in the works.

Sue Doyle is this year's Harbor Master. She can answer questions about mooring placement and launch schedules. You can e-mail Sue at [suedoyle@adelphia.net](mailto:suedoyle@adelphia.net).

Saturday April 1 and 8 are dates set for the spring work parties. As you may have seen in earlier *Weekly Waves* submissions, we really need member participation to maintain our Club. My budget does not accommodate hiring professionals to maintain parts of our facility so I turn to our multi-talented membership to fill the gap. Last year the parties were fun and I had the pleasure of enjoying the company of members whom I did not know very well before. Get involved, I guarantee you will have more fun as a result! See you at our work parties. 9 to noon, food and refreshments at noon! Mark Kirby, V.C. Yard

### House

The results from last Friday are in and it's amazing the number of YYC members that are Irish - or at least celebrate St Patrick's Day. Many thanks to the Whelans and Doyles for hosting such a rousing success! It was a great turn out. Good craic & corned beef was enjoyed all around with reports of more than a fair bit of blarney as well, to be sure.

Clare, Maura, Chef Kevin and everyone else once again did a great job with a large and boisterous crowd! The special Irish dishes offered were delicious and added to the festive

*Continued on next page*

**Board Reports** from previous page)

atmosphere. The highlight of the evening, without a doubt, was the Rochez Academy Irish dancers. They made a surprise visit (thanks to Maura/ Clare et. al.) and entertained everyone with their traditional Irish folk dances. Le Metro's and our very own Becky Klauck brought the crowd to its feet with her award winning dance routine. We now understand how she was able to serve drinks as fast as she did last summer after the Wednesday night races! M. Banks V.C. House

**YYCA**

YYCA held a very productive meeting at the Club on February 15<sup>th</sup>. Clothing has been ordered to commemorate the 75th Anniversary. The majority of clothing is Gear wear, but a new supplier may be found this year for men's shirts.

As a 75th year fund raising project, YYCA ordered glass art from Nova Scotia depicting sailboats and etched on the back with 75th Anniversary and the artist's name. There is also a sun catcher sailboat and 3 rectangular trays in varying sizes.

YYCA approved \$400 for the Landscaping Committee to purchase a commemorative item for the centre garden. We have specified that it be of a nautical theme (perhaps a sun dial) that includes a plaque. Sheila Kalm is making plans for the early spring gardening.

Under the expert guidance of Judy Volpe and assistance from the University at Buffalo, the YYCA has adopted a project of digitizing historic documents and photos of the Club over the last 75 years. It is Judy's plan to publish some images on the YYC website and to mount and display some in the Clubhouse throughout the year. We are thankful to Judy for her expert guidance and feel this will be a very worthwhile project.

Elaine McLanaghan will Chair the 75th Anniversary Tea in September, honoring the wives of Past Commodores and past Presidents of the YYCA. The date has been set for September 24th and details will unfold in the next few months.

(See **75th Anniversary** box on Page 7.)

**A maneuver that you won't find in Chapman**

Approach the bridge with caution....



using lots of fenders on the starboard side....



and let the current do the rest!



Did we mention that all the hatches should be dogged down ?



Buoyancy is a scientific fact ....power & sail.



See **Chapman** on Page 15

<b>Preliminary -YYC-NOLSC RACE SCHEDULE 2006- Preliminary-6</b>							
Month	Series	Day	Date(s)	Host	Invited	Special Instr.	
<b>April</b>	Furlined (N)	3/4	Sunday	2,9,16,23	NOLSC	Interclub	1 start
	Seven Year (N)	3/4	Sunday	30	NOLSC	Interclub	1 start
<b>May</b>	Seven Year (N)	3/4	Sunday	7,14,21	NOLSC	Interclub	1 start
	Wednesday Practice	-	Wednesday	24	NOLSC	Interclub	-
	Port Weller (N)	-	Sunday	28	NOLSC	Interclub	Yes
	Tues. Louis Mies Series	4/4	Tuesday	30	YYC	Registrants	Yes & White Sails
	Cyril Read (N/Y/R)	4/5	Wednesday	31	NOLSC	Interclub	-
<b>June</b>	J22 Racing	-	Thursday	1,8,15,22,29	YYC	Interclub	Yes
	Sprints	-	Saturday	3	YYC	C&C29,J22,36.7	Yes
	NOLSC Sailpast	-	Sunday	4	NOLSC	NOLSC	-
	Tues. Louis Mies Series	4/4	Tuesday	6,13,20	YYC	Registrants	Yes & White Sails
	Cyril Read (N/Y/R)	4/5	Wednesday	7,14,21,28	NOLSC	Interclub	-
	Secretary's Race	-	Saturday	10	YYC	Interclub	Yes
	YYC Sailpast	-	Sunday	11	YYC	YYC	-
	Optimists & Prams	-	Thursday	15,22 ???	YYC	Interclub	Yes
	Fathers Day Regatta	-	Saturday	17???	DYC	Registrants	Yes
	Pelican (N/Y)	3/3	Sunday	18	NOLSC	Interclub	-
	Toronto NOOD Regatta	-	Fri-Sun	23,24,25	RCYC-NYC	Registrants	Yes
	Tues. Founder's Series	4/4	Tuesday	27	YYC	Registrants	Yes & White Sails
	Laser	-	Thursday	29	YYC	Interclub	Yes
<b>July</b>	C&C Owners	-	Sat-Sun	6/30,1,2	NYC	Registrants	Yes
	Jr. Sailing Alumni Regatta	-	Saturday	2??	YYC	Registrants	Yes
	Tues. Founder's Series	4/4	Tuesday	11,18,25	YYC	Registrants	Yes & White Sails
	Sheet Tailer's (N/Y/R)	3/4	Wednesday	5,12,19,26	NOLSC	Interclub	-
	J22 Racing/Laser	-	Thursday	6,13,20,27	YYC	Interclub	Yes
	Optimists & Prams	-	Thursday	6,13,20,27???	YYC	Interclub	Yes
	Laser Regatta	-	Saturday	15	YYC	Registrants	Yes
	Niagara Cup (N)	-	Saturday	15	NOLSC	Registrants	Yes
	Level Regatta	-	Sat & Sun	29,30	YYC	Registrants	Yes
	LYRA Founder's Cup	-	Monday	31	LYRA/SBYC	Registrants	Yes
<b>August</b>	LYRA Centennial	-	Tuesday	1	LYRA/SBYC	Registrants	Yes
	LYRA Freeman Cup	-	Wednesday	2	LYRA/SBYC	Registrants	Yes
	LYRA Day races	-	Fri-Sun	4,5,6	LYRA/SBYC	Registrants	Yes
	Tuesday Fall Series	4/4	Tuesday	1,8,15,22	YYC	Registrants	Yes & White Sails
	Lincoln Trust (N/Y/R)	4/5	Wednesday	2,9,16,23,30	NOLSC	Interclub	-
	J22 Racing/Laser	-	Thursday	3,10,17,24,31	YYC	Interclub	Yes
	Optimists & Prams	-	Thursday	3,10,17,24,31???	YYC	Interclub	Yes
	Junior Olympics	-	Fri-Sun	???	RYC	Registrants	Yes
	Hospice	3/3	Saturday	12	YYC	Registrants	Yes
	1812 (N/Y)	1	Sunday	27	NOLSC	Interclub	Yes
	Tues. Doug Hooper Ser.	3/3	Tuesday	29	YYC	Registrants	Yes & White Sails
<b>Sept.</b>	Cornucopia Regatta	-	Sat-Sun	2,3	DYC	Registrants	Yes
	Tues. Doug Hooper Ser.	3/3	Tuesday	5,12	YYC	Registrants	Yes & White Sails
	September Wed Night (N)	2/3	Wednesday	6,13,20	NOLSC	Interclub	-
	J22 Racing	-	Thursday	7,14	YYC	Interclub	Yes
	Cock of the Walk	-	Sunday	10	YYC	Interclub	Yes
	Fall Series (N/Y)	3/3	Sunday	17	NOLSC	Interclub	-
	Shark-Homecomers	-	Sat & Sun	23, 24	NOLSC	Registrants	Yes
<b>Oct.</b>	October Cup (N)	4/5	Sunday	1,8,15,22,29	NOLSC	Interclub	1 start
	Tom Turkey	-	Saturday	14	NOLSC	NOLSC	Yes
	YYC Awards	-	Saturday	21	YYC		
<b>Nov.</b>	NOLSC Awards Brunch	-	Sunday	12	NOLSC		

\* Counts towards NOLSC Boat of the Year (N) \*

\* Counts towards YYC Championship (Y) \*

\* Counts towards River Championship (R) \*

ver. 2006/6

## Asian Carp Invade the Great Lakes

As dusk settles in, whether sitting on your boat or walking along the docks, it's not uncommon to hear the flopping sound of fish jumping for their evening meal. Could they be the dreaded Silver Asian Carp, known for their spectacular leaping ability? Silver carp are a danger to boaters, other water enthusiasts, and fishery biologists. Some luckless folks have sustained broken bones and concussions.

Asian carp were introduced into the U.S. by fish farmers from Arkansas in the 1960's and 70's. In the 1990's, flooding on the Mississippi River helped several of the species to escape from ponds in Arkansas.

The federal government, ever on the alert for our safety, is taking this seriously, and has erected an underwater electric barrier near Chicago to keep the aquatic invaders out of the Great Lakes.

Once they grow to 12 to 15 inches long, there are no native predators that can consume them, so they keep growing and expanding their territory.

Last spring they were reported to have advanced to the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal, known for its outflow of water into the Great Lakes. The carp reportedly have advanced to within 22 miles of a temporary electric barrier in the canal and within 50 miles of Lake Michigan. They have also been spotted at Horseshoe Lake in Illinois and as far north as Lake Pepin (approximately 40 miles south of St. Paul Minnesota). Grass carp have been caught in Lake Michigan, and bighead carp have been caught in Lake Erie.

Described by one fishing captain as "an eating machine," one environmental group fears that the Great Lakes can be reduced to "five giant carp ponds." Once invasive species like Asian carp become established,



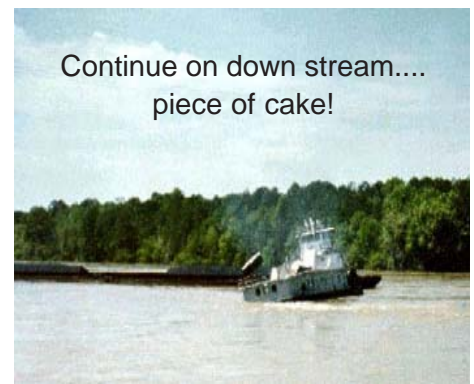
*Dangerous Flying Asian Carp Can Leap 10 Feet, and grow up to 4 feet in length and 100 Pounds*

they are impossible to eliminate and very difficult to control

The grass carp has been reported to eat 45 kg (99.2 lbs) of vegetation a day! Half of it is digested and the other half is expelled into the water which helps promote algal blooms. These algal blooms decrease oxygen levels and water clarity. Some of the species can eat one-half their body weight each day, and other species have been reported to eat two or three times their weight in plankton (microscopic plants and animals) each day. Asian carp are a big nuisance to commercial fishermen. It has been reported that in some of the areas in the Mississippi River, below Cairo, Illinois, 90% of the biomass is Asian carp.

So come May when the Spring Fishing Derby is held here keep an eye open and your guard up, and report any sightings of the nasty high flying, aquatic devils.

### Chapman from Page 13



***Before trying this on your own, we advise taking a Power Squandran course....***

**Events Calendar**

Fri, April 7 Port-of-Call event: Cape Town  
(watch *Weekly Waves* for details)

**75th Anniversary Events**

Sat, April 29 Cocktail party to celebrate the official beginning of our Club.  
 Sat, June 10 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala, celebrating our history.  
 Sun, June 11 Commissioning Day

**Boat Show Calendar may be found at**  
[www.boatus.com/boatshows/us\\_shows.htm](http://www.boatus.com/boatshows/us_shows.htm)

**Obersheimer Winter Sailing Seminars**  
 (Wednesdays, 7:15-9:30pm)

1884 Niagara Street, Buffalo (716) 887-8221

Wed, Apr. 5 Spinnaker Trim  
 Wed, Apr. 12 Cruising

**bis·tro**  
**beestro**  
*noun (plural: bistros)*  
**1** : an informal, unpretentious restaurant  
**2** : a small bar or tavern



opening may 2006



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**Sabreline 38 Hardtop Express**



**Beneteau 343**



**J/100**

Want to go for a ride, sail or power? RCR has demonstrators in the water and we enjoy taking people out for demonstration rides. We have the 33 foot J/100 and 36 foot Beneteau First 36.7 sailboats on moorings right here in Youngstown. For those interested in power, we have the Back Cove 26, Back Cove 29 and the new Beneteau 42 Fast Trawler available for rides. Give us a call, we would be pleased to take you out, family and/or friends are welcome too. No obligation, no cost! Cruisers welcome! There is always talk of racing at our Club, and with good reason because we have such an active program. But there are actually more sailors here whose interests lie not in racing but in cruising or day sailing. RCR has a very extensive line up of cruising boats available in a wide variety of sizes and price ranges. We offer both new and used, sail and power. Contact us with your thoughts and needs and we'll go to work for you!