



# Ripples

September/October 2006



## From The Bridge Deck

At the beginning of what became a three year term as Commodore, there were several goals that the Board and I hoped to achieve. Our primary focus was to achieve financial stability, and I am proud to say that we have achieved that goal. This has been attained

through a focus on growing membership, careful budgeting and spending for both the Club and Level Regatta, and a successful House operation. These three areas, coupled with emphasis on membership retention, have proven to be the key ingredients which have placed us in better financial position today than we have been in many years. A complete financial analysis will be available at the Annual Meeting, scheduled for Friday, October 27, which I encourage all members to attend.

I am particularly proud of all the hard work put forward by the Board of Directors. Without their dedication we would not enjoy the recognition as such a fine yacht club, both by our members and by our visitors.

As the year winds down, please remember that we still have many upcoming events for your enjoyment. These include the Fleet Awards Banquet on October 21, the Annual Meeting on October 27, the Cruising Banquet on November 4, the Wassail Bowl on December 2, and the New Year's Eve Party on December 31. Even though you're not a racer or a cruiser, both sailing banquets can be enjoyed by sailors and non-sailors alike. The Club will remain open on Friday nights for dining through the end of the year, so please come down and enjoy the fireplace and the camaraderie.

YYC has just recently lost a long time member (since 1936) and friend, Dr. Edward (Ned) Gillick. Ned was a kind and gentle man who loved sailing on his boat Patricia. Ned knew how to have fun. I'll never forget the good times we had when we met up with Ned, Bruce Hansen, Bill McCleod and Tom Hooker while cruising in the Thousand Islands. You should have seen the smiles on the faces of the busload of ladies that Ned danced with all night at a bar in Alexandria Bay. He made us all smile and he will be sorely missed, not only by YYC members, but by the whole community.

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your Commodore for the past three years. I wish I could acknowledge every person individually that has helped during my tenure; unfortunately, that would literally number in the hundreds, so I won't do that here. But please know that you have my heartfelt appreciation for all that you have done. I do have to give a special thanks to our office manager, Josie Fittante for her support and hard work.

Melanie and I look forward to spending many relaxing hours at the Club and on the water in the new year ahead.

## Annual Membership Meeting

Friday, October 27:

Board Elections, Bylaw Revisions

Annual Report with Q & A

The Annual Membership meeting will be held Friday, October 27 starting with voting at 5 pm in the Clubhouse. The evening will include an Annual Report, Board elections, and voting on proposed bylaw changes.

This is an important evening that you should attend. If circumstances prevent your attending, make use of the proxy ballot sent to you with this month's Club statements. *Every vote counts. The Club's future is in your hands.*

*Voting begins at 5 pm and ends at 7:30 pm. Regular members who do not have a delinquent account are eligible to vote. Proxy voting for Board Members is described in Bylaws Section 4.07 E.*

**Board Candidates:** Nominating Committee Chair PC Don Burns and committee members PC Howard Noonan and PC Joseph Waple have announced the following eight candidates for the five open seats (see pages 4-5 for candidate biographies).

- Mike Banks (current VC House)
- MaryAlice Eckert (current Director for 75th Anniversary Planning)
- Mark Kirby, (current VC Yard)
- Dennis Niccola
- Richard Roach (current Cruising Director)
- G. Gordon Stephens
- Ray Volpe (current Club Secretary)
- Tom Walder

Those remaining on the Board for the second year of their two year term are:

Paul Cannon, current Membership Director  
Don Finkle, current Publicity Director  
Bruce Matthews, current Jr. Sailing Director  
Tom Tomaszewski, current Treasurer

*(Board Elections continued on page 4)*

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V.C. Yard

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Publicity

**Richard Roach**

Cruising

**MaryAlice Eckert**

75th Anniversary

**Youngstown Yacht Club Association**

**Laurie Hugill**

President

**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

**Cruising Banquet  
 Saturday, November 4<sup>th</sup>**

The second annual YYC cruising banquet is scheduled for Saturday, November 4<sup>th</sup>. A cash bar will open at 6 pm; dinner will be served at 7:30 pm. Dinner entree choices are Herbed Pork Roast or Pecan Crusted Chicken. \$23.95 per person includes entree, salad, desert, coffee/tea, tax and gratuity.

All members are invited, including social as well as regular boat-owning members. Come if you are a cruiser, racer or just want to have a fun evening. To volunteer to help, call Dick Roach at (716) 745-7696 or email [yyc@dandbroach.net](mailto:yyc@dandbroach.net).

Dick would appreciate your bringing an horsd'oeuvre to pass. To enter the Great Canape Competition bring it with your recipe. For reservations, call Josie at 745-7230 x10.

**YYCA Founder's Day Dinner at Niagara  
 Culinary Institute  
 October 25<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 PM**

Dinner to be held at The Niagara Culinary Institute to honor the founding members of the YYCA, which is now 20 years old. A cocktail reception starts at 6:30 pm; a gourmet dinner follows. Mark your calendars for this special occasion. Directions to the Niagara Culinary Institute: Cross the Lewiston-Queenston bridge. Continue straight to the QEW. Exit at Glendale Ave. Turn left off the exit ramp onto Glendale. Turn left onto Taylor to Niagara College. Upon entering the campus, proceed to the second driveway and follow the "restaurant parking" signs. This is only 10-15 minutes from the Lewiston-Queenston bridge. Elaine McLanaghan



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### Homeland Security Aims Target Practice for Youngstown - Wilson Shores

The Buffalo News reported on Oct. 7th that Homeland Security has proposed using a stretch of Lake Ontario between Youngstown and Willson for live artillery practice. The plan calls for restricting boating traffic several times a year.

Boaters and anglers, angered at being left out of the discussions, have been very vocal. A public hearing was held in Cleveland and another is now scheduled for Oct. 30th in Rochester. Rep. Louise Slaughter, D-Fairport, and State Senator George Maziarz, R-Newfane, have asked the Coast Guard to schedule meetings closer to Western New York.

The Ninth District Coast Guard acknowledged that many were unaware of the discussions and have extended the comment period to Nov. 13th.

The Rochester site for the Oct. 30th meeting had not been selected, but plans called for an open forum from 4 to 5:30 pm followed by a public information session from 5:30 to 8 pm.

### Cruising Banquet Photo Contest

Ahoy all cruisers! Send in one or two of your favorite personal photos taken during your cruising voyages this season. Photos can be of places visited, your boat, your family, etc. Your photos will be displayed at the Cruising Banquet and there will be prizes for the best photos as judged by a panel of impartial shutterbugs. Send just ONE OR TWO photos to: [LibertaT37@verizon.net](mailto:LibertaT37@verizon.net) or drop off your printed photos in the Club Secretary's mailbox. Entries should be received by Friday, October 20th. Judy Volpe

### YYC Annual Fleet Awards Banquet Saturday, October 21, 2006 – 5:00 p.m.

Come and join us for one of the most fun YYC parties of the season as the Fleet Awards are presented October 21. The bar opens at 5 pm, so enjoy a cocktail while you watch the slide show of racing and racing events, both on and off the water. LeMetro is cooking up a yummy chicken dinner at 7 pm, with salad, dessert and coffee, all for \$20 per person (plus tax and tip). Reservations are a must, so please call 716-745-7230, X10, by October 17 and let Josie know you'll be joining us. Please be sure to specify if you want to be at a specific table. If you have any questions, please contact VC Fleet Vic Snyder at 716.283-7073 or at [victorsnyder@yahoo.com](mailto:victorsnyder@yahoo.com). Melanie Tisdale



The WNY sailing community can be very proud of its local J/22 sailors who recently took home the top two prizes at the 2006 North American Championship held near Minneapolis. First place overall went to Paul Grenauer of Buffalo (Paul & his parents are former YYC members) in *Margo*. The trophy for First Amateur, and third overall out of 59 boats, went to the YYC team skippered by Chris Doyle with Will Harris and Morgan Paxhia crewing. The second boat from YYC, Vic Snyder's *Mo Money*, finished in the Top 20. Sailing with Vic were Kevin Doyle and John Goller.

YYC members Jim and Nancy Poole recently hosted the wedding reception of their daughter Mary at the Club.

Junior Sailing instructor Mike Dedario (son of PC Norm & Mary Stessing) was recently engaged to Bridget Hesse (daughter of Bob & Cathy). Mike has also started teaching in the Grand Island school district where he was once a student. What are the other YYC instructors doing this winter? Bruce Matthews teaches technology and coaches swimming at RoyHart. Justin Hays is a student at Brockport, Jim Carminati is a freshman at Buffalo State, Alyssa Funk attends Geneseo, Chelsea Simon is at College of Charleston, Tommy Lewin is at Old Dominion, and Jake Doyle is in his second year at the SUNY Maritime College. Beth Snyder is a substitute teacher. Katy Doyle and Tim Lewin are in high school.

John & Shirley Ruehl, long time members who now live in Florida, were here this August for a visit. John managed to join Don Finkle for a few races, one of which he steered to a second place finish. They are looking for property in the area with the hope of spending summers here once more.

Mark Shapiro was promoted to Captain at Chautauqua Airlines, which flies the 50 seat commuter jets out of Buffalo. His wife Lisa works for an accounting firm and is also taking courses at UB for her second degree in that field.

We at YYC are extremely fortunate to have some members who give very generously of their time and other resources. On such member is Mike Gotthelf, who along with his family at Merrill Press print many of our Club publications, such as the *Yearbook*, regatta race instructions, Club race and social calendar, etc.

(*Scuttlebutt* continued on page 8)

**Board Elections** (continued from page 1)

Five new Board Members will be elected from the following slate of nine candidates.

**MIKE BANKS:** Mike has been a member of the Youngstown Yacht Club since 1988, shortly after buying his first keelboat, a Catalina 22 that he raced in the Tuesday night races. Mike, his son Drew, and his fiancé Lee (Hooker) LaMantia now sail a Beneteau 343, Sunrise. During his time with the Club, Mike has been on the Board of Directors serving as VC House, active with Race Committee, is a Blue Moon driver, and has helped with the annual Race Mark maintenance. In addition, he has been a member of the Jr. Sailing Committee, Blue Moon Boatswain, and has helped in numerous Level Regattas. Mike is the Director of Financial Planning and Analysis for Delaware North Companies in Buffalo.

**MARYALICE ECKERT:** MaryAlice has been a very active member and volunteer since she and her husband, PC Ross Eckert, joined YYC in 1988. She served on the Board for the last two years; this year she was the Director in charge of the 75th Anniversary celebrations including the Gala, organized the Member Retention Committee and chaired the banking operations for Level Regatta. In 2005 MaryAlice was VC Yard. Past activities include: Dockmaster (2 years), YYCA President (2 years), Commodore's Ball Chair (3 years), Ripples Editor (1 year) Entertainment Chairman (2 years), Level Regatta Banking Chair (3 years), Level Regatta Communications Chair (2 years), Level Regatta Race Committee (3 years), J-22 North American Race Committee (2 years). MaryAlice is also a qualified driver for Blue Moon and she and her husband are active cruisers aboard their yacht Beautiful Noise. Outside of YYC, Mary Alice has been active in the community, including: President Lewiston Garden Club (3 years), President American Heart Association Annual Gala (2 years), Shea's Performing Arts Center Gala Chair (2 years), Chair and Founder of the Aquarium of Niagara Annual Fund Raiser (3 years). Always willing to help and not afraid of hard work, MaryAlice will give her best to the Board of Directors if elected.

**MARK KIRBY:** Mark joined YYC in 1980 and was fortunate to have sailed from Youngstown since his youth. His wife, Jane, and 2 teenage children have cruised and sailed a variety of sailboats ranging from Lasers to large displacement cruising sailboats. Presently he owns a J-24, Bonsai, which has been primarily day-sailed. Mark is the owner of Kirby Yacht Sales, a sailboat brokerage firm, which was formed in 2005. After working in the marine industry for more than two decades, Mark embarked on a life long dream and thus far has enjoyed this significant personal and professional challenge. Mark has varied recreational interests including sailing, hiking and biking. He is presently on the YYC Board of Directors, where he has served as Harbormaster and, for the past year, as VC Yard.

*(Board Elections continued on next page)*

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**Save Now, Save Big**

**While attending the Annual Meeting on Friday, October 27th, don't miss out on hugh - we mean HUGH - savings on Level 2006 clothing and merchandise, and YYC branded clothing.**

**Get 50% off on Level 2006 clothing and merchandise**

**Get 25% off on YYC branded clothing**

**Board Elections** (continued from page 4)

**DENNIS NICCOLA.** Dennis and his wife Cathy joined YYC in 2004. They are the happy owners of the motor boat *The Three Js*. A resident of the Town of Porter since 1973, Dennis is the owner of his own business, Healthy Lawn, and with son Mark is owner of the Main Street Gas and Grill in Youngstown, and with son Joe is owner of Joe Niccola Lawn Service. Dennis hopes to contribute to YYC projects the building skills he acquired as the prior owner of Lewport Builders.

**DICK ROACH:** Dick joined YYC in 1972 and is currently serving on the YYC Board of Directors as it's Cruising Director. Besides serving on the YYC Board, he serves on the Board of Directors of the Buffalo/Niagara Riverkeeper. He is a retired Vice President and Financial Consultant at Merrill Lynch. Dick and his wife, Bev, live in Youngstown and sail their Freedom 30, Moonlight Passage. When not sailing Moonlight Passage, Dick is an active racer at the crew level. Their two children, David and Christie, both attended the YYC Jr. Sailing program and are active sailors today.

**G. GORDON STEPHENS:** Gordon and his wife, Cathy, have been members since 1993 and reside in Niagara Falls. Growing up at YYC, he participated in the Jr. Sailing Program and has raced locally and internationally in many one-design fleets including Dragons, J/35's, J/100's & J/22's. In 2006, Gordon and Cathy recently sold their J/28 for a Freedom 35 which they cruise on Lake Ontario with grandkids Domenic and Mia. Gordon formerly was a tug boat captain on the Great Lakes for Buffalo Industrial Diving. He also worked with RCR Yachts in sales and service. Gordon is now President of BNG Wireless of Niagara Falls and manages one of Niagara's leading online travel guides, [www.niagarafallslive.com](http://www.niagarafallslive.com).

### 75% Discount on Initiation Fee

To help celebrate YYC's 75th anniversary the Club is offering a 75% discount on initiation fees. This a great time to introduce new members to YYC. Guest passes and membership applications are available from the Club's office weekdays and by calling Josie: (716) 745-7230 x10.

**RAY VOLPE:** Ray has served as Club Secretary for the past two years. His most notable accomplishments have been publication of the Club's Yearbook, *Ripples*, and *Weekly Waves*. Ray was one of the organizers of last year's Cruising Banquet, and served on the membership committee that compiled a SWOT analysis of the Club while working with the outside consultant to help plan for the Club's future. Ray was responsible for the installation of the WiFi (wireless) Internet service to the Grist Mill and rebuilding the Club's computer network infrastructure. Ray is an Information Technology administrator at UB, and his wife, Judy, is an author of various technology/culture books and is a Director within the UB Library administration. Ray founded Volpe CompuSystems, Inc., a custom software developer, and currently directs a computer procurement and software distribution service for the 65 campuses of the State University system. Ray and Judy live in Audubon. They sail extensively on *Liberta*, a lovingly restored Tartan 37CB.

**THOMAS WALDER:** Tom and his wife, Gail, have been members of the Youngstown Yacht Club since 1992. Since joining, Tom has been an active participant as a crewmember in the Wednesday night racing series. He has participated in a number of Level Regattas and works every year as a volunteer member of the Docking Committee. Tom was extremely involved in the major renovations that were made to the Clubhouse several years ago, and is very handy around the Clubhouse making necessary repairs. Gail and Tom frequently host guests on their Ericson 29, Redwing, for the Hospice Cruise and previously for the Up the Lazy River Cruise. They enjoy day sailing and cruising on Lake Ontario and are regular participants on the Critter/Summer Solstice Cruise. Tom currently works as an engineer at Praxair but will be retiring at the end of this year and will have the necessary free time to devote to the activities of the Board of Directors in the successful operation of the Club.

## Board Reports

### Membership

We would like to welcome the following new members:

- Benjamin & Debbie Farrell      Regular
- Geoffrey & Margaret Zakarian    Non Resident
- Frank & Claudia Del Russo      Social
- Christopher & Jodee Riordan    Social

2005/2006 again was a pretty good year for membership at YYC recruiting 24 new members in all major categories to the club. While overall membership numbers are down slightly, boat-owning and younger membership categories have been strong. The majority of the net loss in membership was in the non-resident and old salt categories.

Regular boat-owning membership has remained stable from 2005 to 2006...good news following several years of decline. Membership in age range of 23-34 has increased from 5 in 2004 to 23 at the close of our 2006 year. This is tremendous growth in our most important demographic, and is a trend we will work very hard to continue.

A great sailing program, excellent concessionaire, and some changes in the bylaws have all contributed to the positive results we are seeing in the membership numbers. But most importantly it is the sponsors who take the time to introduce their friends and family to YYC that makes all the difference. Thanks for all your efforts this year. Paul Cannon, Director

### 75th Anniversary Events

Before YYC's 75th Anniversary year comes to an end, I want to thank the people who helped make the celebration special. We began with the founding day Cocktail Party in April, where we displayed the "original founding documents" as well as the first gala photos and letters on a poster created by Judy Volpe. The hors d'oeuvres were great, the cocktails were plentiful and the company was the best! Clare and her staff shined!

YYCA, under the leadership of President Laurie Hugill, commissioned sun catchers and glass trays with the 75th anniversary date engraved on them. There was also specially embroidered clothing. If you are doing some early holiday shopping, keep the glassware and the clothing in mind for unique gifts. They have planned events around our 75th, such as the upcoming YYCA Founders Day Dinner (celebrating 20 years of YYCA) on October 25th. They have also generously donated a brass wind vane for our lovely garden on the

main dock. Thanks to YYCA; you are a very important part of the Club.

Paul Cannon and a friend of his came up with a great 75th Anniversary Logo which is on the banner on the side of the Club house and we put it on the votives that were the favors at the Gala.

The Gala - let's just say 165 people had a very good time!! There was a remarkable committee (I will start by saying my deepest apologies for ANYONE I leave out) of Ann Fromen, Melanie Tisdale, Bobbie Torrey, Karen Noonan, Bonnie Northrup, Kathy Goller, Adam Burns, Don Burns, Larry White, and my husband, Ross, along with several others who pitched in as they passed by. Commodore Gary Tisdale worked his tail off both the day of and the day after this event - I couldn't have done it without him! Clare, Chef Kevin and the staff made everything go smoothly and the food was delicious! The night literally sparkled - the band was stellar and the company was....THE BEST!

The very next day was our 75<sup>th</sup> Commissioning; it seemed really early as we all recovered from the great night before. The Bloody Mary's and Mimosas were cold and the weather was just beautiful. Many of us took advantage of the perfect day and had a great sail up the river afterwards. The next time you are at the Club, look up the flag pole at the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Bugee which we will hang in the Club next season. Once again, everyone had a good time - the company was... THE BEST!

The year truly was made easier for this committee by the hard work, organization and caring of Josie Fittante, our Office Manager. Thanks Josie. I would be remiss not to say thank you to all of you who attended and supported all of the Anniversary celebrations. I hope you enjoyed the festivities created especially to commemorate our Club's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary - remember, it doesn't happen without you! Thank you, MaryAlice Eckert, Director

### Fleet

Mark your calendars for the Fleet Awards banquet on October 21<sup>st</sup>. Cocktails will start at 6 p.m. with dinner and awards to follow shortly after. The menu will be announced soon. As always ANYONE that wants to may attend because the more the merrier.

The second annual YYC cruising banquet is scheduled for Saturday, November 4th. All members are invited, including social as well as regular boat-owning members. Cruising director Dick Roach is

*(Board Reports continued on page 5)*

## Board Reports *from previous page*

organizing the event. For more information or to volunteer to help, call Dick at (716) 745-7696 or email RLRoach@pclient.ml.com.

I will not be continuing as VC Fleet or running for the Board again next season. I encourage everyone to get more involved with our Club. As with so many things it seems you get out of it what you put in.

Now I want to thank people (in no particular order) for their help over this past season. As I will undoubtedly forget some names, I apologize. Your help was still appreciated.

Gary and the Board of Directors for all their efforts. Dick Roach for keeping the Cruising fleet going. PC Melanie Tisdale for all her help with Fleet entertainment events. Norm Behring, NOLSC Fleet Captain, for his attention to detail and being willing to meet over a.....couple of beers. YYC Office Manager Josie for just everything. Clare and all the LeMetro people for their help with social events, covering problems and just being good at what they do. Jan Steyn and his crew for keeping the racing marks out on the lake for us to use. Adam and Lori Burns, Will Harris, Paul Hays, Sue Doyle, and many others for starting the Meet the Fleet event. (That party should become a YYC tradition.) My daughter Beth for making sure Adult Sailing happened; to Bruce Matthews for his support of Adult Sailing and Junior Sailing. Ed Rogers for giving us total use of his boat for Adult Sailing. RCR Yachts for providing boats when needed for Adult Sailing. Paul Hays for all his time helping with Race Committee stuff and specifically for our Laser Regatta and Hospice Regatta RC duties. Maggie Steyn and my wife Helen for race scoring, and the Port Credit Single/Double RC commitment. Ed Rogers, Mike Banks, Tom Murphy and a cast of thousands (ok, dozens) for keeping the Tuesday night program fun. Young Jim Carminati for doing Level Regatta RC equipment and enabling me to again keep VC Fleet separate from Level Regatta. Jake Doyle for keeping good Level equipment records so it could be passed on so easily. Bob Schrack for delivering Blue Moon to Wilson. PC Harv Kolm for YYC protest chair and helping with the Wilson regatta. Patty and Bob Schrack, Andy Hooker, and the B36.7 fleet for their support for the Secretary's Race. Jason Sutor for equipment donation. PC Pat and Shirley Whelan for running the Cock of the Walk race. Chris Doyle for hanging on as YYC J/22 Fleet 53 captain even after being elected J/22 North American Class president, and for getting Race Committee for Thursday Nights. Chris and Dave Mierzwa, Paul Hays, Don Finkle, Jim

Carminati, and a host of others for Thursday Night RC and mark set. Jason Sutor for the new drains at the hoists. And finally my wife Helen for being there for me always. Vic Snyder, VC Fleet

### Cruising

The cruising season is about over but there will still be some nice sailing. Today, September, Saturday the 16th, is the Secretary's Race. This is lots of fun so I hope it is well attended. By the time this appears in *Ripples* the race will be history, but I hope a lot of people showed up (*they did, Ed*). The Cruising Banquet is scheduled for The first Saturday in November, November 4th. If you have ideas for this or would like to take charge please call me at 745-7696 or email me at [yyc@dandbroach.net](mailto:yyc@dandbroach.net). Dick Roach, Cruising Director

### Yard

We are in the autumn months of our sailing season our launch hours have tapered off accordingly. The hours for the remainder of the season are as follows:

Monday	10 am - 5 pm
Tuesday	10 am - 5 pm
Wednesday	10 am - 5 pm
Thursday	10 am - 5 pm
Friday	9 am - 8 pm
Saturday	9 am - 8 pm
Sunday	9 am - 5 pm

At the end of our sailing season we again need volunteers to help prepare the Club for the off season and perform seasonal maintenance to protect the investment in our facility. I will be announcing the dates of the "fall work parties" in upcoming Weekly Waves. These events are great opportunities for all members, young and old, boat owner and non-boat owner, to meet other members and take away the satisfying feeling that their efforts are part of what keeps the Club as nice as it is! Mark Kirby, VC Yard



*Scuttlebutt from page 2*

Mike does all of this for a very nominal fee and we are extremely lucky to have him do this for us.

One of the better gatherings held at YYC this season was the surprise 75<sup>th</sup> Birthday party for Skip Doyle, thrown by his family. The collection of sailors and "characters" (sorry, but many of them can best be described that way) from far and near gave plenty of opportunity for story telling. It was a super tribute to a special guy.

You may have seen that gorgeous dark-blue-hulled Swan 44 named Futures that is over at Youngstown Landings Marina. The proud new owners are YYC members John and Paula Reinhold, who brought her up from Newport, RI on her own bottom. Just to prove that sailing is indeed a small world, the former owners were Watt & Page Webb, who used to belong to YYC in the 1960s.

Updates from out of town former members and family members:

Lieutenant Bryan Mackey (son of Pat & Sue) was in town last week on leave from the US Army. Bryan had come home from his second tour in Iraq and is on the way to his next post in Colorado where he is looking forward to some skiing. He is up for promotion to Captain shortly.

Heard from John Simon the other day. He and Lori now live in Billings, Montana. Lori is State Director for one of the major charities. Their son Charlie is a senior in high school and just won Defensive Player of the Week in football as a nose guard. Daughter Chelsea, one of our Junior Sailing instructors, is on the sailing team at College of Charleston. John has changed jobs and now works in food service equipment sales.

From former member Tom Alley: "A quick 'Hi' from the Finger Lakes region where Tomfoolery now sails. Things are going well for the family and the boat is doing well, too. I had the chance to crew on a boat in the Clearwater to Key West race this spring. It was a very good introduction to offshore sailing and I'm hoping to repeat again in a couple of years. (The skipper said he wants me back, so that's a start!) Please extend my greetings to your staff at RCR and to folks at the Club. Keep the newsletters coming! I enjoy hearing what's new in my old cruising grounds. Tom Alley."

"Don, Tom, Gary, Small world...connected with Mike Robinson (son Larry & Nancy) who is living here in SD. Mike is going to join the Kea crew for the first time for a 36.7 SoCal Fleet one design regatta. We look forward to Mike showing us all your winning secrets. Cheers, Chick Pyle"

"Hi Don, It was nice to see your name in Scuttlebutt last week. Sounds like things are going well up there. The RCR website seems to be getting some good press for your info about the 10R. I bet you are excited for the 10R to make it up your way soon, if it hasn't arrived already. While I haven't been on it, Luke has raced on her a few Wednesday nights here in Annapolis. He is really excited about the boat. I wish we could follow the boat up to Youngstown for the Level. Some year I will be back! We are about to close on our first home just outside of Annapolis in Severna Park, so no big boat for us just yet! Someday! Things at Boat U.S. are well. It is great working in this business. Give my best to Heather and the guys. Susan (Shipman) Shingledecker, Environmental Program Manager, Boat US Foundation." (Susan is a former YYC Junior Sailor and her husband Luke is a Naval Architect with Farr Yacht Design who designed many of the boats owned by YYC members)

Emily Paxhia has moved to New York City where she is working on her Doctorate in Psychology at NYU. Her fiancé Marc Gitto completed his MBA in Boston, where the couple lived until recently. A 2007 wedding is planned.

We ran into both of the Ellcome children this summer in Newport, RI. Sarah was working as a waitress and Ben is crew on one of the classic 12 Meter yachts that take passengers out day cruising. Travis Finkle is engaged to Meghan Settelmeyer of Marblehead, Mass. Travis works for Deutsche Bank in Boston in equity research sales. Meghan is a special education teacher in Reading, Mass. A July 2007 wedding is planned for Chatham on Cape Cod. Coincidentally Jordan Paxhia is a special ed teacher in the same school district as Meghan. Jordan is a serious athlete who competes in Iron Man, marathon swimming, biking and other competitions, and she has consistently finished near the top of her age group.

Tyler Finkle is living in Newport RI with his girlfriend Shelly Staal. Tyler is learning the home building and renovating business with Kirby-Perkins Construction. His boss Jerry Kirby is also a professional sailor, having competed in numerous America's Cups and the recent Volvo Ocean Race. Shelly is a retail clothing store manager.

Tim Finkle is working for PNP Paribas Bank as a hedge fund pricing analyst and lives in Manhattan. He often runs into many other local young people in NYC including Wyatt Arthurs (son of Glenn & Heidi). Wyatt introduced Tom to a bar in Manhattan where all the Buffalo Bills fans hang out.



**Only Smart Poelpe Can Raed**

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*(And I though only us dyslexics could read  
 this stuff...we sure can write it! Ed*

**Ripples**

**will not be published in November.  
 Watch *Weekly Waves*  
 and monthly billing inserts  
 for news about Club activities.**

**YYC 75th Anniversary:  
 First YYC Stag Party, September 23, 1932**

YYC's first men's stag was planned by party guys Dr. Arnold Moyer, J. A. Williamson, William Grantham, H. Morton Jones, and James Davison. Festivities got underway smoothly with 3 cases of Canadian beer, cheese and crackers, followed by a 65-cent dinner. Activities must have been non-stop. A small casino-like sphere featured roulette, poker, dice, and backgammon. Apparently, somebody failed to pony up an "unpaid non-claimed" roulette debt of \$6.50! "Movies" ran during the event, nobody recorded the content or genre....

Active fun featured a dinghy race (oars or motor?). Guests hardly had time to congregate at the bar, due to competition in the following "exciting" events:

- egg throwing contest
- archery
- marbles
- bridge and cribbage
- shooting gallery (not sea gull or cormorant targets, hopefully!)
- ping pong
- and, a "weed pulling contest" (Sheila, want to resurrect this one?)

The evening culminated in a "Turkey Raffle" which garnered \$40.00 for the YYC coffers. Judy Volpe

**Snow Bird Reunion**

We are beginning to plan for our 2007 reunion in Punta Goda, FL. We are considering a lunch get together instead of dinner. Perhpas everyone can bring a dish and we'll use the tiki hut again. If anyone wanted to stay for dinner, the restaurant is there. Also the tour boat does a sunset cruise. I'm looking for some input. Do we want a week day or a week end? I'm thinking earlier in the monthe rather than later?

Let me know your thought and what dates most people are in FL in March. Donna Huggins: [homejames5@aol.com](mailto:homejames5@aol.com).

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**Hospice the Big Winner**

Hospice was the big winner at YYC this summer. Over a two day period that included river cruises, the Jack Beatty Memorial Regatta, and a raffle, the Club sponsored Hospice event raised \$30,000 for the care of patients dealing with end-of-life illnesses.

Paul Beatty Jr, Jack's nephew and the chairman of the event, expressed his thanks the Club, the skippers who volunteered their boats for the cruise, and the many folks who donated items for the raffle.

Ron Ciamaga, who again this year helped organize the event, reports that the funds raised this year represent about a 20% increase over last year's efforts. The regatta has in fact been growing steadily since its inception several years ago and that is the best tribute to everyone who volunteered their time and contributed to the event.

**2006 Richardson Cup Report from Team YYC**

by Adam Burns

*Friday.* Team YYC, Adam Burns – Skipper, Will Harris – Middle and Mark Sertl – Front, arrived at the BYC around 3 pm Friday afternoon. We rigged up on one of the event 22s and went out for a grueling 20 minute practice session. After a couple of sets, gybes and penalty turns we decided that it must be raining somewhere, and rather than risk getting wet it would be prudent to retire to the bar.

*Saturday.* The format of the regatta called for two different courses with two separate round robins. We were assigned to the Big Kahuna course with Joe Gelisimo as our PRO. The other LYRA team, Kevin Doyle and brothers Chris and Pete, representing BHSC, were on Course Nirvana with Bob Dobmier serving as PRO. We didn't get to see much of the sailing on the Nirvana course, so I hope Kev will be able to fill those gaps.

Saturday's forecast called for wind, and plenty of it. The forecast came through, and the breeze built steadily throughout the morning. Kahuna set her course in Lake Erie just outside the breakwaters.

Our first match was against Brendan Jordan's BYC team. We entered from starboard and were able to get down the line far enough to start the dial up pretty near the pin. They tried to wriggle away, but we managed to drive them upwind and outside the pin. We led back to the line and won the start comfortably. From there, good boatspeed and a loose cover allowed us to extend our lead and win.

The wind continued building, so Joe moved our course just inside the outermost breakwall. Our next match against the Chicago team of Steve Lowrey featured a pretty competitive pre-start. We were able to just roll them on the final approach to the line. We maintained a fairly comfortable lead for the rest of the match.

The wind continued building, and was pretty stiff when Joe sent us back to the harbor for the day. As soon as he signaled the postponement, we set our chute for the blast downwind.

*Don Finkle adds:* "Congrats to you guys. I want to make sure BYC gets ample credit for the effort they put in. Match racing requires a lot of support for a relatively small number of sailors and boats. But events like this are special and should be encouraged. Tim Hunt did a marvelous job, sticking to this and making it all happen."

**SANDRA KELLEY**  
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## Level 2006 Report

Well, this year's Level Regatta was, from all reports heard and observed, a real winner. Think great sailing and a mellow crowd enjoying themselves on the banks of the old Niagara River. With the changes in beer regulations and with the permitting of campers, we managed to pull off an event that, for the most part, consisted of sailors doing those things that sailors like to do, namely sail, reminisce, listen to some great music and enjoy a cool one or two. Of course, some of Saturday's racing was more reflective of NASCAR, with "bump drafting" a new tactic in the world of sailing.

This year, with encouragement from our friends at the State Liquor Authority, we sold draft beers for a dollar rather than have, as in the past, unlimited beer as part of the wristband price. Although the amount of beer poured was well below previous levels, wastage was practically eliminated. The other significant change was the introduction of a camping permit process, which allowed only campers who were actually participating in the event as sailors. Gone were those whose only intent was to party and cause mayhem. Much thanks to Bruce and Diana Newton for taking on the challenge of a revamped beer line and to Dawn Kauderer-Harvey and Geoff Harvey for tackling the complexities of registering all the Level campers.

Pat Macky, unrelenting in his quest for Level sponsorship, has probably added more to the actual "bottom line" of this event than any other single person. Thank you Patrick!

Of course a Level wouldn't be a Level without sailing and so, much credit is due to Commodore Gary Tisdale for taking on the challenging role of Racing Chairperson. Another superb job! Thank you, Commodore.

And, what would a Level be without outstanding entertainment and that's where PC Melanie Tisdale managed to entertain us all with some great acts plus she handled all the arrangements for the U.S. Customs and Immigration people which greatly facilitated ease of entry into our country for our Canadian guests.

Thanks to Ann Fromen and Gail Walder for handling the wristband tent so ably; to Debbie Perry for her first year as Clothing Chair and to Mark Kirby for his first year as "King" of the Docking Committee, "well done"!

Doug Clarke, our Chair of Engineering and his superb crew once again had the YYC compound set-up and ready to roll for the weekend. I cannot think of one single thing they missed in getting the grounds prepared. Without this hardworking, but unsung group there would be no Level.

There are many more Committee Chairs to mention and I'm afraid I'm going to miss someone, which is why most people refrain from trying to mention everyone,

by Stan Pasek, Level Regatta 2006 Chair

but here goes. Carol Calato, the Level's best PR person, despite the furry waterline on her boat. Shelia Perry and her first aid team just continue to do an excellent job AND she also doubles as the voice of the Level manning (or womaning) the public address system. Kit Williams was responsible for coordinating all of those professional grade signs for each committee. Lori Burns, also a first time chair, ably handled the awards with an outstanding display of loot for the Level winners.

Another important committee, but in the background, is the Level banking function which this year was handled by MaryAlice Eckert, aka "Rabbit" (you'll just have to ask her yourself). MA handled this task some years ago and despite knowing better, she volunteered anyway. Bravo!

Of course, it goes without saying that the entire Level experience would probably be in shambles if it weren't for Josie Fittante, our very capable Office Manager who could do the whole thing in her sleep by now. Thanks, Josie! I'd like to also acknowledge Josie's daughter Santana Fittante who made her Level debut by singing the American and Canadian National Anthems to start off the program on Saturday morning. There wasn't a dry eye in the house!

Others, who certainly went out of their way to make the whole thing come together were Lauri Hugill, President of YYCA and her crew who did their best to add some sparkle to the weekend, and Bruce Matthews who kept the Junior sailing contingent of tykes and parents busy throughout the regatta.

Clare Crawford kept her sanity throughout the entire weekend and helped provide an abundance of weenies, burgers and sausages for our volunteers, I didn't hear of anyone going hungry. Great job Clare. Pat Whelan, Rick Lohr and Shaun Weber put together another fun Thursday night on Main Street to help get the whole thing started, way to go, guys!

Our hundreds, yes hundreds, of volunteers who worked long and really hot hours keeping everything humming. It really comes down to the fact that great volunteers make great events and we've got the best of both. If you are a new member or a seasoned veteran who hasn't been too active lately, the Level, our biggest event, is a great place to meet others, have a fun time and significantly help your club in the process. The next time you see one of our Level committee chairs ask how you can help make Level 2007 a success.

Finally, special thanks to RCR Yachts and Youngstown Landings Marina for their much appreciated help and support in launching and recovering boats and for providing space for the Customs and Immigration people, and to the Village of Youngstown for their support.

**Upcoming Events**

*(see pg. 2 for more details)*

- Fleet Awards Banquet, Sat. Oct. 21st, 5 pm
- YYCA Founder's Day Dinner at the Niagara Culinary Inst, Wed. Oct. 25<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 pm
- Annual Meeting & Elections, Fri. Oct. 27<sup>th</sup> (Voting 5-7:30 pm; Mtg 7:30 pm.)
- Cruising Banquet, Sat. Nov. 4<sup>th</sup>, 6 pm

**Club Restaurant & Bar Hours**

The Club is open Fridays, only. The bar opens at 5 pm, the restaurant at 5:30 pm. To ensure seating for your party, call for a reservation: (716) 745-7230, ext. 18.

*At the present time, bookings for special events at the Club are not being accepted.*



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