

The Windward

The Official Newsletter of the
Owasco Yacht Club

April 2001

FROM THE HELM

Welcome to the 2001 season at the Owasco Yacht Club. Over the course of this past winter many changes have begun. The Club's website is up and running with much thanks to Hobie Romig for its design and Jim Kusche for the pictures updating us on the progress of this past winter's capital projects. The Club's web address is <http://members.localnet.com/~romigh/>. There is a great deal of information about the Club on the site. The "Members Only" section contains meeting minutes, financials, and member names with phone numbers and email addresses. This is only for the use of Club members. The password is firelane2.

The same contractor doing the work at Emerson Park, Bongiovanni, Inc., has redone the mole area with a new sheetpiling wall and reset the crane. The crane is in a new position allowing the boat dock to be moved to the north end of the mole. This will provide for one new boatlift space and the shifting of the current lifts further north from out in front of the swim area. The electric still needs to be run to the crane and the topping repaved. The repaving will be held off until next year to allow for any settling that may occur.

The swimming area has a new concrete wall and deck done by Scott Rafferty Masonry. It looks great. We would like to have extended the platform further out but the New York State Department of Conservation would not allow it. We will also be moving the swim dock to the south end of the platform. This move will place the dock in shallower, less mucky water, in better view of parents from the deck, and further away from the powerboats.

A new garden tractor, John Deere Sabre 2254, was purchased to help Mike with his upkeep of the grounds. We were beginning to throw good money after bad to maintain the old one.

Rafferty Masonry also poured a new concrete wall with steel posts to replace the leaning guard-rail at the parking lot just to the north of the clubhouse. This will provide for a much safer barrier for the picnickers. The old boards still need to be reattached.

These improvements plus last year's kitchen renovation, the new retaining wall behind the mole, and future planned projects will keep the Owasco Yacht Club as one of the greatest lakeside organizations in central New York. In the future, we can look forward to playground improvements, driveway repairs, mole resurfacing, sewer hook-up (which would allow for the possibility of showers), and dock upgrades.

In order to keep the Club as one of the best bargains around three things are necessary. (1) *Proper planning*: Your Board of Directors has spent many hours budgeting a plan that will allow for these improvements, current programs, salaries, and general maintenance without a dramatic change in the dues. We are planning for the Club of tomorrow that will attract and keep members while still re-



taining a conservative dues structure. Please realize that most other yacht or sailing clubs have dues double or more what ours are. (2) *Sustaining the membership level at or above its current size*: It is imperative that we bring in new members on a regular basis to offset resignations and potentially increase the total number of members to allow for a more rapid completion of future projects. (3) *Active involvement of members*: It is important that **all** of us take an active role in the Club. Clean-up and Project Days not only get stuff done cheaply but also create a bond and camaraderie among the members.

Let's all look forward to a fun summer with sunny days and fair winds.

See you on the water,

*Peter Whiting
Commodore*



TREASURER RINGS UP

Again, I would like to thank all those who paid the first half or more of their dues by March 31. There were 20 who failed to respond by the deadline, and I hope that all those members will eventually be reaffirming their membership. As of April 9, we have had **eight resignations** and **ONLY one** new member. I hate to sound like a stuck record (or should I say CD) but we all need to do our share of recruiting new members. The comfortable number we have been shooting for the past few years is **185** and we are now at **159**. PLEASE, get out there and recruit at least one new member.

If you haven't been able to keep an eye on the OYC web site you need to take a drive up to the club and look at all the work that has been done over the winter. The need to move snow and the heavy equipment that has been in and out of the Club over the winter have been hard on the driveways and parking areas. We have spent almost \$50,000 on the mole and almost \$18,000 on the swim area and the new retaining wall at the north parking lot. If we are to pay off these projects in the time budgeted then we need to maintain our membership as close to the magic number of 185 as possible.

The water was turned on April 9 so the bathrooms are in working order. There are a few minor repairs that need to be done to sinks and faucets so bear with us for a while. The roof of the Clubhouse has taken a beating this winter and there are a number of missing shingles.

The latest version of *QUICKBOOKS*, the program that I use for keeping our financial records, allows for email billing. To save on postage, I will be using the feature so please keep checking your email. To those without email or access to the web please consider its advantages and come on board. I am sure Hobie will provide us with the official numbers but our email addresses now number about 100.

Don't forget, *NOW* is the time to make changes in the annual *YEARBOOK*. If you noted **ANY** errors in last year's book please let me know what they were. Also, if there are any changes in your family, please let me know. It is the responsibility of the Treasurer to maintain the membership list. The book goes to press around the middle of May.

It won't be long and this long winter will be completely behind us and another great summer will be had by all at the Owasco Yacht Club.

*Rich Knaul
richk@relex.com
252-6101*



FROM THE GROUNDS

Mark your calendar! **Spring Clean-Up Day is Sunday, May 20th**. Spring has finally arrived, though it seems like it took a particularly long time this year! If you haven't been up to the Club lately, be prepared to be surprised. You're not gonna recognize the place! There has been extensive work done on the mole, the water front, and the north parking lot. All are wonderful improvements; however, the trucks and heavy equipment have left quite a mess on the road ways and parking lots. After the clean-up, we will have a Club that promises to look better than ever.

We are happy to hear the Mike Carbary will be back as steward. He does a great job. This year he will need a good head start at keeping the grounds up!

This year, more than ever, we need a good showing at Clean-Up Day. If you cannot make it on the 20th, any day you can stop up for a couple of hours would be greatly appreciated. Of course we will have pizza and refreshments on Clean-Up Day. Duties include raking leaves, sweeping driveways, arranging picnic tables, mowing lawns, and installing docks. Bring a rake and a broom with you. Clean-Up Day is fun and a great way to meet new members and get some exercise.

See you there!

Gary Mason
mason@dreamscape.com
253-8420

SHIP'S STORE NEWS

As I write this the sun is shining and the sky is bright blue, which gives me hope that Opening Day (Saturday, June 16) can't be far off. Hope you all were able to enjoy the winter in spite of our snow-fall.

We are happy to welcome Liz Dello Stritto back to manage the kitchen again this season. The food service hours will remain the same: Sunday through Thursday, 12 pm to 7 pm and Friday and Saturday, 12 pm to 8 pm. Liz will continue to delight us with her culinary skills and daily specials. She plans to add milkshakes to the menu this year.

We will continue to have Ladies' Day Luncheons, Sunday Brunches, Friday Night Dinners, and special social events. Remember that your chits may be used at any of these functions. Also guests and prospective members are always welcome at any of these events. Chits will expire this season on Monday, August 27.

We are still looking for a high chair to be left in the dining room for our little members to use. Once again, please check out your attics and store-rooms.

Enjoy your spring. Warm weather will surely come.

Shirley Bayus

SOCIAL NEWS

The good news is that the Lake is free of ice the BEST news is that Liz Dello Stritto is coming back. We will have a **PRE-OPENING PARTY at DELLO'S on Tuesday, May 22nd from 5:30 to 7:30 pm.** The main items on the buffet will be:

Sliced Roast Beef with Marsala Mushroom Sauce
Jamaican Jerk Chicken
with Onions, Peppers, and Black Bean Sauce
Penne Amatriciana
Jambalaya
Ratatouille
Strawberry Cobbler
with Chocolate Struessel Topping

Call me (253-7957) or email me (ask@baldcom.net) NOW for reservations so we know we have the support to go ahead with music. Price will be around \$13 (no more than that).

Audrey McNally and I have been busy getting plans ready for an exciting summer. Our opening party in the Club House will be on Saturday, June 16th. LOOKS LIKE A LUAU!!! Get your hula skirts ready!

Any requests or ideas for Club gatherings this season, let us know now. More to come.

Adele Keegan

BEFORE THE MAST

By the time you read this maybe some of the ice will be gone from the lake! After a winter like this, I don't know about you, but I'm ready for some warm weather thoughts. Hopefully some of you got south to enjoy some sailing. Russ Kincaid took his Tri down again for some early racing action. We'll expect to hear some details and maybe get a look at a trophy. The countdown to the sailing year is progressing slowly (see the Club's web page). For those of you who haven't had a chance to see the sailing web page, check it out (at <http://web.a-znet.com/jkuche/OYC/OYCsail.htm>). I'll be keeping it up to date throughout the year.

We'll have a preseason sailing meeting in early May to plan the upcoming year and schedule a short work detail to get the boats ready.

Spring will get here!

Jim Kusche

CLUB PROJECT DAY

SUNDAY, APRIL 29 AT 9 am

BRING TOOLS, SHOVELS, AND RAKES
FOOD AND REFRESHMENTS SERVED

PROJECTS INCLUDE
(BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO):
SWIM RAFT REPAIR
INSTALL POWER CONDUIT
TO CRANE
INSTALL BOARDS
FOR PARKING GUARDRAILS

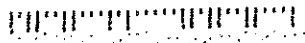
SPRING CLEAN-UP DAY

SUNDAY, MAY 20 AT 9 am

BRING TOOLS, SHOVELS, AND RAKES
FOOD AND REFRESHMENTS SERVED

CLEAN-UP DUTIES INCLUDE
(BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO):
RAKING LEAVES
SWEEPING DRIVEWAYS
ARRANGING PICNIC TABLES
MOWING LAWNS
INSTALLING DOCKS

IT'S YOUR CLUB—PLEASE PARTICIPATE



Mr. & Mrs. Hobert Romig
127 Stryker Avenue
Auburn, NY 13021

Owasco Yacht Club, Inc.
c/o The Windward
111 South St.
Auburn NY 13021

