



August 2003

The Windward

The Official Newsletter of the
Owasco Yacht Club

FROM THE HELM

The season is winding down, and I'm very pleased with all progress we made with all of our projects. A big thanks goes out to all the members that worked so hard. We were able to make our funds go a lot further because of all your help. We still have a few more improvements schedule before next season. Our membership is at it's highest level ever, but the board has seen very little in problems with the increase, on the contrary it's allowed us to take on all these new projects.

We have some board positions to fill for next year so please if there's any member that would like to help their club out, please tell anyone from the board that you might be interested. We are always looking for new people to get involved! So step up and help your club out!!

Bob

SHIPS STORES NEWS

Once again our summer season at OYC is quickly coming to an end. I remind you to please return the food baskets to the kitchen. We never close with the same number that we open with! Even though our kitchen will close on Sept. 1, I hope we can still enjoy some nice weather by the water. Trash cans will be removed so you must take all of your trash with you.

Remember the last day to use your chits is Mon. Aug. 25. There will still be dinner served on Aug. 29 and all of the last weekend events to enjoy. Please remember to make your reservations and to keep them. Do not forget the kitchen helpers who depend on your tip. Liz always surprises us with her "mustgo" buffet. (new paragraph) Thanks to all members who supported the kitchen and special events again this year. Liz works hard and spends many long hours preparing delicious food to please us.

We have all enjoyed the new look in the club house including the new style window dressing. Isn't it nice to be able to see outside and yet block out the bright sun? Just recently, the new chair cushions help to lighten the look of the interior. (NO wet swim suits, please)

If you forgot or were not aware that the kitchen sells bags of ice at a bargain price, keep it in mind for next season. The lost and found pile (outside the North entrance) continues to grow. After Labor Day all unclaimed items will be given to the Salvation Army. Isn't anyone missing their towel or shoes?

A very special thank you goes out to Don Devine for his donation of our nautical clock. It adds a nice touch to the new d'ecor. Thank you so much. Enjoy your winter, it comes around too fast every year. I am already anticipating the summer of 2004.

Shirley Bayus

SOCIAL NEWS and COMMENTS:

I am so thrilled to be back and very THANKFUL to all of you who stepped up and took many of my duties at our Club. I am most grateful for your prayers, happy thoughts and the light that you gave to our family during Erin's illness and surgery. My daughter is doing well and now faces 9 months of chemo and radiation. Please continue your thoughts and prayers for Erin....still needed very much.

Only a few more events left for the season. If you haven't been to any you are missing a great meal and a special time with your family. By the way, I understand we haven't seen some of our younger families at events. Children are ALWAYS WELCOME to any event....we always provide for our kiddos. It's a great time for Moms and Dads to go to a social event without the expense of a babysitter. We also have a family rate for our buffets....you never have to pay more than \$38.00 for your family to eat and listen to music. There are always playmates for the children, and all events are member/guest, so bring Grandparents, relatives or another family with you if you like.

Here are the last of our events:

1. SAT. Aug. 30, starts LAST HURRAH HULLABALOO WEEKEND. Free KEG and free JUKEBOX with 40's, 50's 60's and 70's music.

2. SUN. Aug. 31 BYE'S 3rd ANNUAL BEER BLAST, 3-5pm on the deck. FREE event. Bring a 6 pack of unusual beer and a beer snack. This one is a riot! We have beer from all over the world and such delicious snacks as pickled eggs in beet juice and pickled pig's feet..YUM!! If you prefer another type snack bring it to share. Does anyone make deviled eggs? After this we have, MUST GO BUFFET, serving 5-?pm. Liz makes delicious stuff with any food left over in the kitchen. She cleans out the larders! Price \$7.00 for adults and special children's prices. Bring guests and eat until you DROP! Sing and dance to the juke box as well so the calories will not make a difference.

Don't forget FRIDAY NITE SERVED DINNERS from 5-8pm. RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE at least 3 DAYS in advance to any special event!!!!!! CALL KITCHEN: 252-7850.

TIP PLEASE: This is how we pay our servers. The tip jar has been EXTREMELY LIGHT all season.

MON. AUG. 25th....LAST DAY FOR CHITS! No ifs, ands or buts.

Again Thanks for being YOU....your kindnesses are most appreciated.

NEW MEMBERS please introduce yourselves to me....I'd love to get to know you.

As ever, Adele, Social Director/Commodore Elect.

253-7957

Buildings

We still have them and they are great. I continue to have great praise for volunteers. Scott Anderson did a fantastic job on the counters and sinks. He has some great plans to frame in the mirrors in the Ladies room as soon as we can free up some budget money. This should be next year.

Bob Westover, Fred Prentice, and others did a great job playing with the paintbrushes and rollers. Judy Romig did a fine job of coordinating the design and fabric choices. Hobie Romig spent so much time with his multiple abilities. Wow. So many who pitched in, Thank You from my heart and from your fellow members.

At the January Annual Meeting I was given a task to accomplish and a budget to stay within. Only because of the skilled work of your fellow OYC members, and there were many volunteers, did this project get accomplished. Yes unfortunately we did exceed our budget and we still need to address a few items, the floor for one, but we got the project to a very successful near-conclusion. An example of where your capitol funds (initiation fee) money goes. Other projects that need to be tackled in the near future:

We would like to upgrade the steward's cabin for next year. As budget money has been used up this year, it will be a next year project, provided we get some volunteers to head it up.

The small cabin by the steward's cabin is in rough shape. We would like to clean it up and offer it as over-winter storage for some of the items left at the club. The big danger here is that everyone will attempt to use this instead of bringing his or her stuff home. We would like to restrict this to those who are limited by apartment size. Hopefully this won't lead to more complaints.

As you know by attending the Annual Meeting in January, we currently have long-range plans, going out five years or so, to replace the ceiling in the clubhouse, and light in the clubhouse, replace the roof, and other items. If you see an area that could use some work or have an idea for a future building project, feel free to talk to me at the club.

We have recently established a waiting list for membership. We are over 200 families now and space seems to be at a premium. Let us know how you feel about the waiting list, do we already have too many members or can we take in more? Applications can be voted on now but will be placed on a waiting list for next year. I will be preparing a budget for Buildings in the near future and would like to include items we may have overlooked in the past. Let me know your needs and wishes.

Jake H.

From the Treasurer.

A lot of money has been spent on the Club this summer and I hope that everyone has had a chance to see the results of the visible changes as in the lady's and men's changing rooms and bathrooms and the new window dressings in the clubhouse. Many thanks to all those members who made the renovations happen. The other big-ticket item is the floating dock, which seems to please the sea gulls as much, if not more than the boaters. The installation of a sewage pump and the connection to the new sewer along East Lake Road has definitely improved the sights and smells at the north end of the Club House. The Club also purchased an ice machine, making ice available to Liz AND MEMBERS. If you need ice please see Liz and it is ONLY \$1.00 per bag.

Our capital improvements are financed by initiation fees and over the past few years we have budgeted each year about \$7000 from the operating budget to be placed into the capital fund. It is the goal of the Board of Directors to keep the Club in tip top shape without overburdening the membership and dues structure. Future improvements over the next 8 years include more improvements in the Club House, major repairs to the driveways, an upgrade of the swimming dock deck, improvements to grounds and a new roof. The cooperative effort of our membership is what has made the Owasco Yacht Club unique and has helped keep our Club looking great at an affordable price.

The Club has welcomed 25 new members this year while losing only 5. We currently stand at 202 memberships and as of August 1, all new requests have been placed on a waiting list. The debate has raged all summer whether to hold the line on new members or keep it open. If you have any thoughts on this issue please let one of the Board members know what they are.

If there were any errors in the Yearbook or there have been any additions to your family, as well as other changes, please let me know so that I can keep the records up to date. Also, please keep us informed of your current e-mail address. My phone is 252-6101 and my e-mail address is richk@owascoyachtclub.com. The Club provides a financial statement to those members who attend the annual meeting but if there are any member who wish to know more about the Club's financial health please contact me.

Unfortunately, summer is about to draw to a close but the Club remains essentially open until the water is turned off around the first of November. Please remember to treat the Club as you do your own home. If you see any problems please don't be afraid to rectify them if possible and/or let one of the Board members know if necessary. After Labor Day please put any trash generated at the Club in the dumpster or take it home. It has been another great summer. I will be in touch during the month of January with bills for next year

Rich Knaul

From The Grounds

Hopefully we'll have more sunny days in towards the end of the season..

This fall we will be cleaning out the garage and surrounding area. There are a few old chairs in the garage and by the dumpster. All of these chairs will be thrown out this fall. Please contact the steward if you would like to claim your chairs.

Reminders:

Dogs are not allowed on the club grounds during the summer season, please leave them at home.

The club doesn't want any more old tires. Do not drop them off.

We still have a few members using stones to block their boat trailer tires in the upper field. Please use wooden blocks. No Stones, Bricks, or Cinder Blocks in the field. Do not be the one responsible for damaging the lawnmower or injuring the operator.

Thank You: Don Devine
dondevine@aol.com

Fall Clean-Up Day

Oct. 4th rain date Oct. 5th

All members are encouraged to come and help out.

If you can't make the 4th feel free to ask what might be done on another day!

We'll supply some drinks and food

Cottage Furnishing

Joyce Cavanaugh has volunteered to outfit our caretaker's cottage with different furnishings. She would like anyone with good clean and usable furniture that they could donate to the club to contact her.

Joyce's # is 253-9555 or 253-9242

From the Waterfront

When the muggy days and cool nights become more common, we recognize that each sunset at the Yacht Club becomes more precious as summer plays into fall. But September is still a wonderful month to enjoy the lake by boat and the club grounds.

Tips and reminders

- a.. Lake levels are dropped on the 15th of October. So that we don't get caught high and dry on a hoist, have boats trailered by Columbus Day weekend.
- b.. Hoists will be lifted out by crane in the middle of October.
- c.. Moored and trailered boats: the boat ramp gets very shallow when the lake lowers. You may want to use Emerson Park afterward. Plan to wash off the algae and zebra mussels by taking it to a car wash right away. D&L Truckstop Owasco road does up to 20 footers, the car washes on North Street are wider and higher for boats over 20 feet and pontoon boats.

Moored boats: your chains should be dropped to prevent early chain failure- use a winter buoy or a laundry detergent container 1/3 full of water attached to the chain by a slack rope to pull chain up in the spring when the water is high again.

- a.. Blocks for trailers need to be returned to pile by the driveway. This saves on mower blades.

Contact Ralph Estrich at restrich@adelphia.net if you have a question.