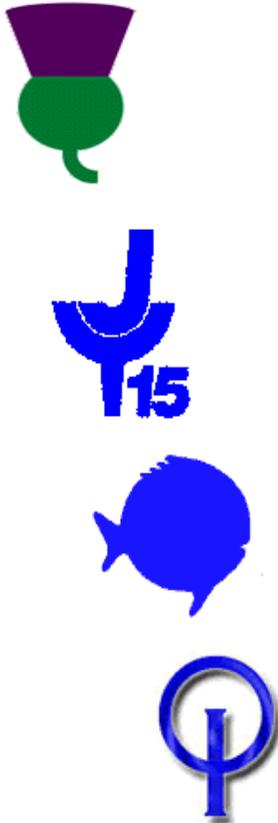


JIB SHEET

Volume IV Issue III!

December 2009



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Very Historical History

By Mark Weider

(Leo's Understudy)

My house is now filled with boxes of historical records, photographs and some very old (priceless) RCC trophies as Leo Balandis continues to turn materials over to me at the end of his tenure as Club Historian. We all recognize that Leo has done an extraordinary job researching and restoring our club's history. But don't think for a minute that Leo is going away. All fall during the frostbite season, Leo was waiting for me at the beach (as I put my sunfish together) with some new stories, facts, historical corrections, etc.



As new Historian, I will maintain the records, store the trophies and research anything you might want to know as soon as I get the records out of the dining room. But I also want to point out that I'm not retired, I'm still sailing and still chasing some of the best sailors in the country.

So for my first entry as Historian (and Earth Science teacher) I figured that I would go back, way back, before the well documented start of RCC:

SOME ICE, a REROUTED RIVER, and a TIPSY LAKE ONTARIO

Most are familiar with the history of the Genesee River. Prior to the glaciers, it once flowed through Dansville northward to about Rush, NY where it turned East towards Honeoye Falls, then turned North and followed Irondequoit Creek through East Rochester, Panorama Plaza, Ellison Park and out through Irondequoit Bay to an ancient East-West River that existed somewhere below Lake Ontario.

Well, then the place got a lot of ice for a long time. The ice scoops out Lake Ontario to over 500 feet below sea level and carves out the creek valleys and cuts out the Finger Lakes. All the stuff scooped up gets dumped all over the state. The ice and the sediment plugs up the works. The Genesee River gets rerouted through Letchworth Park, gets plugged up near Rush and goes through Downtown Rochester... leaving Irondequoit Creek as, well, a creek.

Now, here is where it gets weird and the reason we can sail on what is really Irondequoit Creek:

History continued on Page 5

FROM THE COMMODORE

Kevin Lofftus



What another great year of sailing. I don't recall not sailing due to the weather. But I would say it was quite a year making a decision on the direction of future investment, use of the greatly expanded web site by John Powers, and the flurry of history updates from Leo Balandis as he passes the club historian torch to Mark Weider.

Numerous ad hoc committees and regular volunteers are needed to enable these activities as well as the day-to-day running of the club. I have been fortunate to find willing and ready participants for the committees. To the goose, nominating, club house concept selection, capital finance, and boat hoist committees: Thanks for the hard work.

As a special recognition for going above and beyond the call of duty, Joe Kaukeinen was awarded the Order of the Frog at the fall banquet. Over the years, Joe has been instrumental in keeping the club ready to sail, the kids' toys ready to race, and so much more. Please let Joe know you appreciate the effort.

On a personal note, I missed taking the JY on the road this year with 3 trips out west to visit family. To make up for it, I took the boat to Boston at night while it was still on the trailer from boats in day, picked up Serena on Halloween morning, and raced in the Stamford Yacht Club Halloween Regatta. This regatta is the opening of their frostbiting season. Serena skippered consistently in strong winds with new challenges of heavy crew (me) and yachts and anchoring buoys as obstacles. Serena finished 5, 5, 4, 4, 4, and 4 to place 5th out of nine. After returning Serena to Boston, I made it home by 7:20 AM and found the trailer chock broken. I was able to unload the JY, repair the chock, and load up the interclub dinghy in time to make it to boats out for frostbiting on the river.

I was looking forward to a relaxed December board meeting where I could hand the reins over to Doug without much on the table. Alas, the agenda is full with items pursuant to this year's activities so that we can come into spring at full speed with hoist improvements and investment planning well underway. As always though, the top priority will be having fun and great racing.

- Kevin

FROM THE VICE: All Things Social

Doug Kaukeinen

The end of the 2009 Sailing Season has been a social success. Here are the year-end highlights:

RCC hosted the annual **Brown Jug Regatta** on Labor Day, September 7th. Thanks to our RC Phyllis, Jan, Trish, and Rich. Also, thanks to safety boat volunteers Jere and Joan Willsey, Sean Hamilton, and Chris Muir. Lyn Parsons' artist flair was eminent in the beautiful trophies that she designed and created. The cocktail hour and awards ceremony went off without a hitch. Great job RCC!



The **Clam Bake**: September 26th. The Dexter-Reinhardt team ran another spectacular event. Thanks to the score of additional volunteers that assisted Bill and Trish. What a blast and a bonfire to boot! In all, approximately 100 people attended.

The **End of Season Bash**: October 11th. Added to this traditional event was a punch bowl full of "Dark-n-Stormies." Reportedly, some of the attendees have since made the switch over to the "DARK SIDE" from the Mt. Gay -n- Tonic. For those wondering, a Dark-n-Stormy is 2 parts Gosling's Dark Rum and 1 part ginger beer. Just add ice and enjoy. This event was run by Doug and Deirdre with much assistance from the entire membership.

The **Fall Banquet**: November 14th at Lakeshore Country Club. Approximately 50 people attending this semi-formal event. The food was great, the photo slideshow of racing and fun from the season was awesome, and spending time with RCC "family" was priceless. The fleet captains did an outstanding job presenting their respective awards. Special recognition was given to Leo Balandis for all his dedication and hard work as Club Historian. Also the third "Order of the Frog" was presented to none other than Joe Kaukeinen. Joe has been a fixture at our club for over 30 years. During that time he has certainly helped keep the club operating with all his "behind the scenes" work that requires a fair amount of time, effort and sacrifice on his part. Also all his time running the Sunfish frostbite season along with Phyllis certainly qualified him for this prestigious award. Congratulations Dad!



As I end my tenure as the Vice Commodore and transition into my new role as Commodore, I reflect back upon all the events, both sailing and social that have happened and I come up with one important recurring theme: The Rochester Canoe Club is all about having a second family. I consider RCC members as some of my best friends and outside of my own family, the sailing community as a whole serves as my social network. I have a suspicion that I am not the only one who feels this way. All the events that I planned over the last 2 years would not have happened without the tireless efforts and commitment of all RCC members. Thanks to all of you for making my job as VC a pleasure and a success by volunteering your time. Thanks for all the helpful advice from previous VC's as well as other long standing members. Your wisdom has certainly helped me through the last 2 years. Finally, as I look forward to

assuming the role of Commodore, please remember that the Board Of Governors is an elected body that oversees the general operations of our club. We will act in the best interest of the club as a whole and if you ever have any questions, comments, or concerns, please contact me directly or any other member of the BOG. Have a very Happy Holiday Season!

Respectfully submitted,
Doug

FROM THE REAR COMMODORE

Jere Willsey



A few things have been happening since we closed up the Clubhouse for the winter. We had Rochester Concrete Solutions attempt to raise the concrete hoist pad deck up to its original level. While this attempt was not as successful as we would like, they managed to pump an amazing amount of fly ash and cement into all the voids under the 12" slab. Hopefully this will stabilize the slab and stop the descent. They also filled the crack around the pad to prevent more water from penetrating the structure and causing more freeze/thaw damage. If this does stabilize the pad, we can repave the top next summer to finish the project.

Expert Tree Service was contracted to remove the dead limbs overhanging the road to the Clubhouse. Their instructions were to remove limbs 2" and larger over the road that could cause damage or injury. They also removed trees or limbs overhanging or endangering the Clubhouse. They have one additional tree to trim or remove near the club gate. This will be completed in the next few weeks.

We also have been removing the dirt that has been de-watering in the back of the parking lot, and using this material to fill in the washed out areas along the road and above the Clubhouse, as well as stabilizing the embankment. This involved many trips up and down the driveway; in some ways it was like filling a bathtub with a tablespoon, but the task was completed in a week. Sorry for the dirt on the road, but we will have to clean that up in the spring.

"PLEASE DO NOT CLIMB OR DRIVE ON THE FILLED AREAS"

We also started to clean out dirt and old drainage system on the South side of the Clubhouse. This will be a muddy mess until we complete the drain, so please bear with me and keep off the hillside.

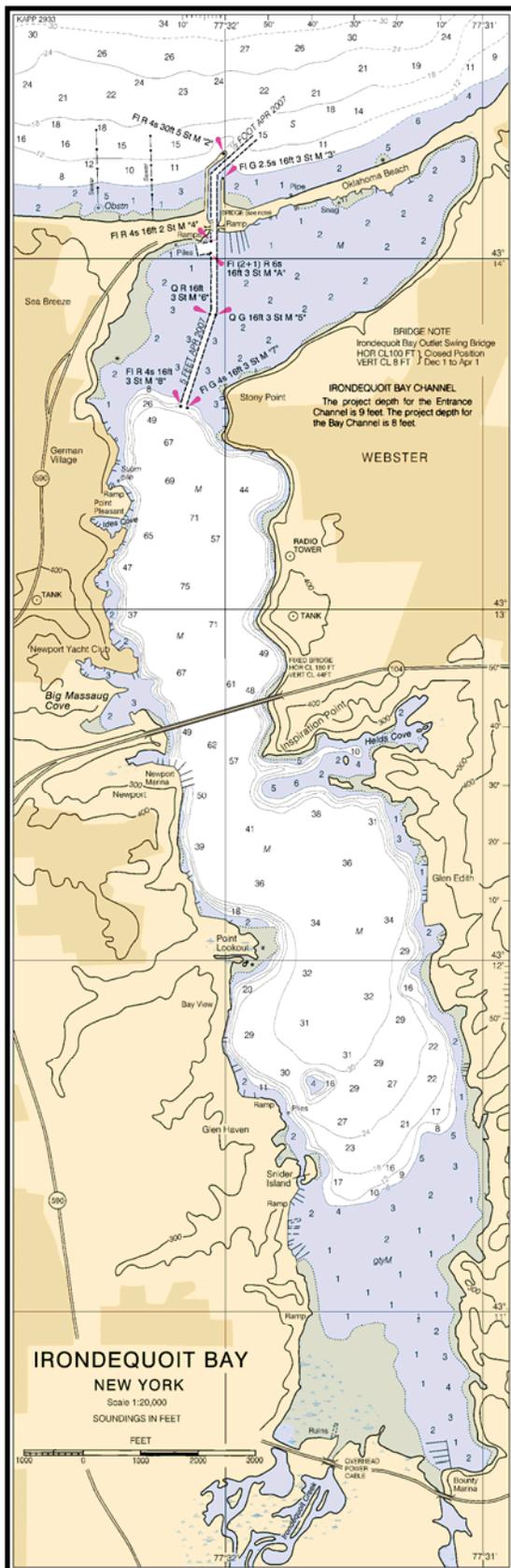
Over the winter if you think of something that needs to be fixed, improved or whatever at the Club, please send me an email. That's not to say that everything will be done, but it helps me to schedule work parties and make my proposals to the Board.

Thanks!

- Jere



History continued from Page 1:



The glacier recedes; Lake Ontario fills with water and eventually finds its drainage out the St. Lawrence. As the ice leaves, the land actually rises. Believe me, you would be depressed if a mile of ice were on top of you. In fact since the ice left Canada last, the Canadian side of Lake Ontario is still rising. Up around the St. Lawrence it has been rising about 12 inches each century. This slowly sloshes the water to the southern shore of the lake and has flooded places like Irondequoit (creek) Bay, Sodus Bay, Braddock Bay, and Cranberry Pond.

So, without our Canadian friends slowly rising over the last 12,000 years or so, we would have a club house way up on the side of a valley with a little creek flowing in the valley bottom. We would probably never have got out of the canoe thing!

Recipe Box:

Whipped Shortbread Cookies

Enjoy these delicate cookies with mild flavor.

Ingredients:

- 1 c. butter, softened
- 1 1/2 c. flour, sifted
- 1/2 c. confectioners sugar, sifted
- 1/4 c. red maraschino cherries, quartered
- 1/4 c. green maraschino cherries, quartered
- 1 T. almond extract

Preheat oven to 350°F. In a large bowl, combine butter, flour, sugar, and extract. With an electric mixer, beat for 10 minutes until light and fluffy. Spoon onto cookie sheet lined with parchment, spacing 2 inches apart. Place a piece of maraschino cherry into the middle of each cookie, alternating colors. Bake for 10-14 minutes, until the bottoms of the cookies are lightly browned. Rotate cookie sheet (front to back) halfway through cooking time. Remove from oven and cool slightly on sheet, then transfer to wire rack to cool completely. Store in airtight container with wax paper between layers.

JY15 FLEET 77 WRAP UP

By Rick Gammons



FLEET AWARDS



Fleet awards were handed out by Fleet Captain Rick Gammons at the November RCC awards banquet. In keeping with the “big spending” nature of JY 15 sailors, all recipients received a specially customized bottle of Regatta brand Ginger Beer. The special awards were presented first:

- The **Junior Sailor** of the year was Ryan Dens. Ryan had little competitive experience when he started the year but raced a lot with his dad. He raced in the challenging conditions at the JY15 regatta – capsizing before the first race – but hung in there and finished all the races.
- The **Most Improved** sailor was Serena Lofftus. She didn't sail enough races to qualify but when she did sail she had become a serious competitor.
- Rick decided to give a special award for “**Super Crew**” to Mike Horan. Mike was an enthusiastic participant almost every weekend crewing with a number of different sailors.
- The coveted **Flossie** (the “Flossie” is the JY fleet's tip over trophy – so named because she just looks like she should be named “Flossie”) was awarded to Steve Rozella. Steve had a number of capsizes during the year and earned a reputation among his crews. He also had an incident when he fell out of the boat that turned into a capsize.
- The **Sportsmanship Award** went to Ralph Simpson. We all appreciated Ralph's creation of the “Rules with Ralph” sessions. Ralph also did a great job keeping the loaner boats full with guests and matching crews with skippers. Ralph never sailed with the same crew twice and spent many of his race days with crews that had never even sailed previously.



Congratulations to Gary Fritz and Kathy Bonsignore who won the overall first place award for the year. Second place went to Kevin Lofftus with crews Erin and Estella. The rest of the results are shown below:

	Overall	Spring	Summer	Fall
1	Gary Fritz	Gary Fritz	Gary Fritz	Kevin Lofftus
2	Kevin Lofftus	Ralph Simpson	Kevin Lofftus	Gary Fritz
3	Rick Gammons	Rick Gammons	Ralph Simpson	Rick Gammons
4	Ralph Simpson	Kevin Lofftus	Rick Gammons	Ralph Simpson
5	Steve Rozella	Steve Rozella	Serena Lofftus	Jeff Scott
6	Jeff Scott		Jeff Scott	

BROWN JUG

Estella Lofftus collected a boat load of hardware for the second consecutive year at the Brown Jug regatta. She again earned 1st place overall, 1st place in the JY class, and 1st place Junior sailor.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Rochester Canoe Club's 2009 JY15 Regatta took place on July 11th and 12th on Irondequoit Bay. The weather, though not ideal, was sufficient enough for five races on Saturday morning before racing was cancelled because of a storm. Four races were held on Sunday. All races were held in challenging wind shifts and velocity changes that produced five different individual race winners in the five races on Saturday. 10 boats competed and half of them were family pairs with the top three spots going to father/daughter or father/son pairs. One out of town participant, Nick Southard, joined us from Lockport, NY.

JY15 continued on Page 7

JY15 continued from Page 6:

Ralph Simpson and daughter Rachel, winners in 2007, won the regatta. In second place was last year's winner, Kevin Lofftus with son Alex. In third was Rick Gammons with daughter, Brianna. The top under 30 skipper was Simon Stampe with Emily Adams.

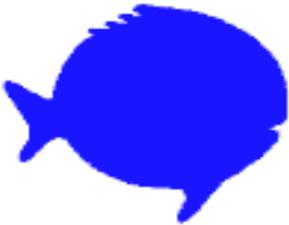
A delicious lasagna dinner was held Saturday night. Thanks to everyone who made this weekend possible and we'll hope to see many people for next year's regatta.

MEMBERSHIP

The JY 15 Fleet started the year with 14 boats including the two club-owned boats:

- During the year Olivia Graham left the club and sold JY341 to Bob Fuss who then joined the club. Bob later sold the boat to John Fortunato.
- Robb Brown left the fleet and sold his boat to Jeff Scott. Jeff spent most of the year sailing in the club boats so the fleet is thrilled that Jeff bought JY1960 and joined the club.

The list of guest sailors and crew is too lengthy to name. We attracted a good number of people interested in sailing through the club's Open House and other contacts. Ralph Simpson did a great job putting guests into boats on Sundays all season long.



SUNFISH FLEET 120 NEWS

By Steve Powers

The sunfish fleet had a good year this year as we normally do. We had 73 races with 39 different people racing, 6 of whom qualified. The competition was as stiff as ever before with Judy and Doug getting into the mix quite a bit.

Season Qualifiers

Name	Score
Fortner, Mike	884
Stampe, Per	868
Powers, Steve	725
Powers, John	489
Orr, Allen	365
Orr, Lynne	317



After the conclusion of the regular season Sunfish frostbiting ensued. That went off very well: Warm weather, nice winds, and the most competition that I can remember in the years that I've participated. We even had a nice sea breeze one week! I would like to thank Joe for organizing it and Jim, Phyllis, Patty, and Trish for risking their lives in the leaky boat to run races for us. Even after having three or four general recalls, in a row, they still were willing to be out there. In the six weeks that we were out, we sailed 51 races (Jim wastes no time between races). Thanks guys!



FINAL FROSTBITING RESULTS

By Joe Kaukeinen



The weather was warm, the winds were favorable, and the race committee, in a leaky rowboat, was outstanding for the 2009 frostbite racing. With that mix, this year's frostbite season of 51 races over six Sundays was exceptional.

Special thanks go to Jim, Patty, Trish, and Phyllis for running the races and Jere for leaving the water on.

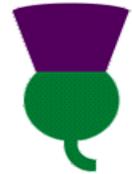
Congratulations to Judy for winning the series. She was trailing Ralph midway through the series, but managed to pull ahead with her consistent sailing during the latter part of the season.

FINAL RESULTS FOR QUALIFIERS		
Sailor	# Races	Score Ratio
Judy Gesner	51	0.8091
Doug Kaukeinen	29	0.7829
Mark Weider	39	0.7327
Ralph Simpson	51	0.6900
Per Stampe	22	0.6807
Mike Fortner	32	0.6685
Steven Powers	51	0.5992
John Walsh	28	0.5776
Joe Kaukeinen	31	0.4847
Lynda Bryant	36	0.4109
Rich Connelly	38	0.3684
John Powers	40	0.3356
Deirdre Santos	31	0.2869

RESULTS FOR NON-QUALIFIERS		
Sailor	# Races	Score Ratio
Chris Connelly	12	0.3571
Corey Kaukeinen	9	0.2985
Al Orr	9	0.2703
Lynn Orr	11	0.2065
Britt Kaukeinen	9	0.1567

THISTLE FLEET 46 NEWS

By Chris Connelly



Hello all and welcome to the holiday season. I will keep this brief as I just received notice from the editor-in-chief that my article is due ASAP (I should check my email way more often). I am writing this from my sister's HUGE apartment in NYC (imagine a Thistle house boat) where we are enjoying a nice little family vacation.

Well, with our three seasons of sailing fun behind us we wrapped up in great fashion at our year end banquet. It was here that I got to reveal all the results (thanks Don Stehle) from our many Sundays of fun on the bay, and to supply the qualifiers with a great fleet gift (thank you so much Sara Connelly) of a pin-up calendar with many juicy pictures of Thistlers in sailing action. We had a great season with an increase in the number of races, boats, and skippers over the past few years. We like increases as they show nice fleet strength and promise future years of solid participation. We hosted two excellent and well attended regattas (thanks Mark Weider and Dan Fein and all other volunteers). You can find all results posted on the Club web site.

Now it is time to look forward to next year. We will have a fleet party (meeting) soon after the holiday rush at a location yet to be decided. This is a good chance to catch up with friends, pay national dues, sign up for safety boat and to get the ball rolling on 2010 sailing.

I hope everyone has a great holiday and winter season and I look forward to seeing you all on the water in the spring. For now I am going to make the bed on the port seat tank, get a cup of coffee from the kitchen in the front turtle bag and then hit the head which is located near the starboard rear tank! I will then cast off with the family for the American Museum of Natural History.

Cheers! -Chris 3834

Op Ed

The Great Debate: Our Clubhouse

By Mark Weider

2009 – The year of the clubhouse debate. I apologize for not speaking up on the Club Forum about this but I've been struggling with what to say. First of all, we should recognize and thank all those who put a lot of time and energy into this issue. However, there was a feeling around this issue that I certainly did not enjoy. It seems that the mood was divisive and moving towards unfriendly. As a famous club member said to me, "This is not who we are!"

People have opinions on the place. They should not be vilified. Wanting some improvements is not a sign of instability. It got to the point where I think people were afraid to give their opinion. Extremism was entering the discussion. It sounded like Republicans and Democrats for crying out loud. Another famous club member told me "I wouldn't take a new building even if it was free". Now come on.

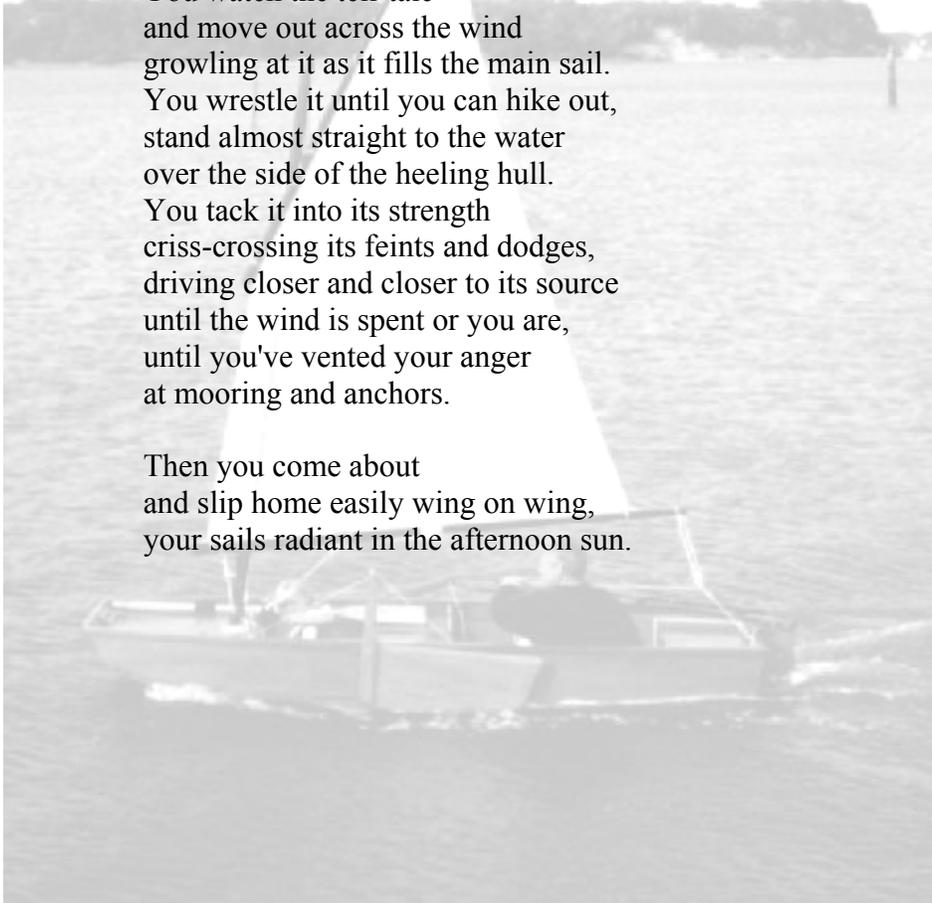
In my mind, the place is tired. I've been there since 1991 and we've only put band-aids on a few places. Improvement is not a dirty word. Some may call it maintenance. But if we don't fix the place up we are moving backwards. The kitchen windows may blow in this year. There are lots of small, medium and large things that can and should be done. It will require effort from a lot of people working with the Board to prioritize things and figure out what and how things can be financed.

Let's get all the paddles pulling together.

Of all the words on sailing, these have always captured for me the personal adventure of single-handed sailing in a small sailboat:

~Leo Balandis

“Scow” by Ann Githler

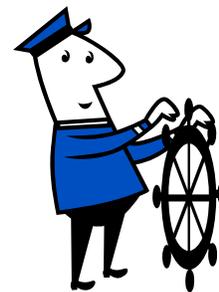
A small sailboat with a white sail is shown on a body of water. The boat is moving towards the right, leaving a wake. The background shows a distant shoreline with trees and a building. The overall scene is a serene depiction of a single-handed sailboat on the water.

You unclamp the scow from the buoy,
with the jib cleated down.
You watch the tell-tale
and move out across the wind
growling at it as it fills the main sail.
You wrestle it until you can hike out,
stand almost straight to the water
over the side of the heeling hull.
You tack it into its strength
criss-crossing its feints and dodges,
driving closer and closer to its source
until the wind is spent or you are,
until you've vented your anger
at mooring and anchors.

Then you come about
and slip home easily wing on wing,
your sails radiant in the afternoon sun.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

By Pat Tompkins



RCC has completed the 2009 season with some more new members joining our group. Our sincerest welcome goes to the following:

John Fortunato: John was an enthusiastic student in the adult sailing school in July and also spent a Sunday helping on the race committee boat. After some time off (recovering from back issues), he returned often to practice sailing on RCC Sunfish, and volunteered to cook turkeys for the Fall Frontier Thistle Regatta --- his cooking skills have been much appreciated at late season happy hours. He has also bought a JY-15, so we anticipate seeing him more often on the water next year.

Jim Hauck & Margaret Webster: This experienced sailing couple has crewed for some time on J-24's at RYC and both now sail their own Sunfish on the Bay --- they live close by at the south end. Jim sailed onto our beach Sunday morning of the Fall Frontier Regatta, announced he would like to join and soon submitted an application sponsored by friends, Lynda Bryant and Barb Harmer. Since then Jim and Margaret have attended and contributed to happy hour and the final season Bash. We look forward to their active participation next season.

Over the off-season (at least for us non-skiers who don't Frostbite or ice boat), don't forget to mention your favorite summer activity to friends and acquaintances. The best easy access to club information is definitely our web site (rochestercc.org), but I am also happy to take calls from any interested prospective members with additional questions, and see that they are invited to winter fleet meetings or the social. Meanwhile, happy holidays to all of you!

**NEWSLETTER OF THE
ROCHESTER CANOE CLUB**

2050 Bayshore Blvd.
Rochester, NY 14622

Phone: 288-2380



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We're on the Web!
www.rochestercc.org



**Merry Christmas to all and
to all a good night!**

**Editor's Note
Deirdre Santos**

The Jib Sheet is published three times a year in the months of April, August, and December.

Submissions for the **April Jib Sheet** should be emailed as a Microsoft Word Attachment to:

d13santos@yahoo.com by April 1st.

Wishing everyone a happy and safe holiday season. Rest up this winter... see everyone in the spring (if not before then)! Feel free to submit your photos and tales of winter happenings to share with the membership.

Thanks.

Deirdre