



THE MASTHEAD

SAGINAW BAY YACHT CLUB

From the Helm

~ Pam Hurchison, Commodore

What does February have to recommend it? Cold, ice shanties on the river (I hope they don't fall in), an early Valentine's Day celebration with light jazz on February 12, birthdays for Lincoln and Washington (remember when these used to be the occasion for two days of school vacation?), leap day and the promise of March and spring coming next.

Your Board of Directors had an informal meeting in January and spent time



looking at the strengths and weaknesses of SBYC. It gave each committee a starting point for this year's work. At the regular meeting, the House Committee reported it had already started work on menus and days to be open. Fridays will continue through March. Mary Ann Cole was chosen to fill a Board vacancy. Mary Ann brings many years of SBYC membership and, most recently, experience on the Personnel Committee to enhance our Board.

So, as has been my habit, I will suggest a couple of good books to enjoy by the fireside. **Boys in the Boat** describes

how 11 blue collar teens from the Seattle area met at the University of Washington and became the crew team who took on the World at the 1936 Berlin Olympics. They practiced in the foulest of conditions to build the skills that allowed them to defeat the California teams and then ventured east to take on Cornell and the Ivy League and win the right to compete in Berlin and the shadow of Hitler.

Between August 1997 and August 1999, author Ann Vanderhoff and her husband abandoned their work clothes and schedules in Toronto and sailed their Boat Receta from Toronto to Port of Spain Trinidad and back. An **Embarrassment of Mangoes** is a warm read for a cold night. The people they met, the food they ate, and the cultures they experienced are interspersed with big waves and the challenges of boat repair where Bay Harbor and Andersons' are not just across the way. Filled with beautiful descriptions of sand and surf and recipes for island delicacies, this book, might tempt you (in a weak moment) to follow their path.

Happy reading!

FEBRUARY 2016

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Skeg Night
Thursday, March 17

Children's Easter Egg Hunt & Easter Brunch
Sunday, March 27

SBYC Annual Meeting
Friday, April 1

Spring Work Party
Saturday, April 23

Kentucky Derby Party
Saturday, May 7

Mother's Day Brunch
Sunday, May 8

Flower Planting Day
Saturday, May 21

Spring Wine Tasting
Saturday, May 21

Action Auction
Friday, May 27

Mother's Day Brunch
Sunday, May 8

WINTER HOURS:

Open every
Friday in February
and March

Bar: 1700 - 2200
Dinner: 1800 - 2100

From the Vice Commodore

~ Steve Goodnow, Vice Commodore

Good Morning Saginaw Bay Yacht Club members. It is a bright, beautiful day on the Bay, perfect for boating, were it not 19 degrees. It is, after all, January in Michigan. Late January, though, so for many of us, it is ninety to one hundred days roughly until launch. I have a significant list of repairs and updates on the BAYHAWK I want to work on, so before we know



it, the boating season will be here again. Club Committee work continues in earnest this time of year and Club events will kick off in mid-March.

The House Committee has met three times working on hours of operation, menu, staffing levels, for example. We want to streamline our menu so that we can align our staffing as close as possible with typical membership use of the club on a given day. We are thinking that Wednesday and Thursday will be limited menus prepared and served by a limited staff. Wednesday could be Pizza and burgers. Thursday could be Tapas. Friday will be full operation with the return of a slimmed down salad bar along with our favorite soups. Even our full Friday menu will be slimmed. Saturday could be a variety of menus including the soup and salad bar with 1 -2 Saturdays a month featuring Chef Harry's Italian dishes. Sunday could feature Alice's Breakfast extended until 1:00 pm. At 4:00 pm the kitchen would reopen with a Cookout lasting until 8:00 pm.

We will soon be working on our Banquet menu so House Manager Kimmie has up-to-date pricing at hand for event prospects. Jason Reese has made wonderful progress working with our POS (point of sale) program to streamline our food and drink ordering system. This system also now functions as our staff time clock. Our Committee, Flag, and Board want to identify and eliminate any obstacles or bottlenecks we can that make it more difficult for

our staff to better serve our members. We want and need the best service delivered efficiently.

Start your St. Patrick's celebration at the Club with our traditional Skeg Night on March 17th. As I understand it, this was the time of year, back in the day, when it was usually safe to stand on the ice under the old clubhouse and make repairs. Medicinal doses of liquor served out of a crock (moonshine, corn liquor?) were provided to warm the men after the work was completed. Thus the origins of Skeg Night at Saginaw Bay Yacht Club. We no longer work on the "Skeg" of the Clubhouse, but we have continued with the party after including the traditional warming toast and, of course, other libations. There is always an interesting program, a wonderful dinner from Chef Harry, and a good time as the SBYC men meet to celebrate Skeg Night. This tradition is well over one hundred years old so please save the date and join us.

Later in March (the 27th), are the Children's Easter Egg Hunt and Easter Brunch. The Club is a wonderful place to bring your family for Easter.

A quick note on the Tawas Rendezvous, I would advise getting reservations now for the July 8 thru 10th Rendezvous. Slips have been very hard to get there for the last several years.

See you at the Club.

**Try
SBYC**

Encourage your friends, family and colleagues to join Saginaw Bay Yacht Club!

**For the 2016 season,
new member incentives include:**

NO Initiation Fee for new members.

For new Dockholders:

**50% off dockage for first year
25% off dockage for second year**

From the Rear Commodore

~ Michael Holland, Rear Commodore

Good Day. The snow has finally come and the river is partially frozen over, but one needs to be very careful and remember that between Channel Island



and Consumers Energy's power plant shoreline there is a warm water discharge that keeps the river open. We all know the area is a very good fishing spot but do not throw caution to the wind!

The good news this year is that the freezing weather stayed away until mid-January.

The bubblers/aerators in

the North and South channels are working well and, hopefully, we will have limited damage this year.

The Club is open every Friday during the month of February with the winter menu and nightly specials available, so come on out and join us for cocktails and dinner. Remember, the Club is also available for special events and for office meetings and seminars.

As a reminder, those who have not turned in their dock application, now is the time to do so as there is only 70 days until launch!!!

See you at the Club Friday night.

Social Committee Update

~ Julie Humbert, Social Committee Co-Chair

Hello from the Social Committee Chairperson. The 2016 social calendar is filling up fast and the plan is to get all the scheduled activities out to you and on your calendars ASAP.



We have music in the Lounge scheduled for Friday, February 12 at 7:00 pm. Easy listening music with 'Standard Session' Jazz, perfect start to your Valentine's weekend!

I am looking for members interested in joining the social committee. There are many activities planned and looking for individual gifts and talents from multiple people. If you would like to be on the social committee, please contact me, Julie Humbert. I love our club and need your help, whether it is on one project or multiple projects. See you at the club!

SAVE THE DATE!
Skeg NIGHT



Thursday, March 17th

The traditional First Gathering of Men to toast the upcoming boating season!

Mark your Calendar for Action Auction 2016!

Friday, May 27!

Live auction, silent auction, raffles, great food, fun and friend!!! More details to come in next month's issue of The Masthead!



SBYC

Story Ideas, Suggestions and Submissions Welcome!

If you are interested in sharing your boating or other travel adventures, please consider submitting an article and/or photos to THE MASTHEAD. Story ideas are welcome too!

Send your stories and/or photos to THE MASTHEAD Editor Lynn Weaver at Lynn9117@gmail.com. If you have questions, call Lynn at 989-737-9117.