

The 1990's

1991 -1992

Judy Graves Groulx (formerly Lambiotte) becomes our first lady Commodore. Norman Olsen is Vice Commodore; Jerry Lambiotte, Secretary; Susan Walter, Treasurer and Bill Walter, Fleet Captain. The Sailing Masters are John Bald and Chris Mitchell. Thanks to Grant Brown and Bob Hughes the old tennis court has been renovated. The ladies tennis round robin is on the calendar again as are the tennis clinics. Jan McMillan and Susan Walter put the Telltale together. Unfortunately, the Club was saddened again with the passing of long time members Bertie Hamann, Eva Moore, Helen Culver and Bob Hancock. Doris Howe continues as our ever dependable scorer. Ed Schindler, Dave Hagen and Suzy Voltz have gone that extra mile in maintaining the house and grounds. Terry Lang and Cathy Sykora served as chairmen of the Western Michigan Regatta which turned out to have a record member of boats and a fun-filled schedule of events. Norm Olsen agreed to oversee the Junior Fleet sailing program and Jim McMillan agreed to assist.

In March of 1993 Judy wrote the following:

It was a privilege being your Commodore. The unique combination of the CLYC's family atmosphere, life-long friendships, and our common love of sailing has made a lasting difference in my whole life from childhood on, not just in the two years I was honored to be Commodore. This Club is blessed with many, many supportive officers and directors, a hard working staff, and dozens of active members who volunteer again and again, in the galley, on the beach, in the parking lot, at the launch, on the docks, and on the water.

Due to the good stewardship of my predecessors, I felt we enjoyed a time of both stability and progress in '91-'92. Facilities were upgraded and well cared for, including the refurbishing and resurfacing of the old tennis court, in memory of Nancy Hughes; a freshly painted club-house; an up-to-date septic drain field; a regulation volley-ball court; eight new dock sections; bathroom improvements and a shower in the ladies' locker room; electrical wiring for the parking area; better radio communications; galley supply organization; new chairs for the deck; a life guard stand, and dock and hoist fenders.

We also had our occasions when the dock blew down/floated in (characteristically when the water was coldest and least inviting), when the safety boats broke down, when we were becalmed, when the poison ivy threatened to overrun the grounds, when the hoist balked, when we tipped over, turtled or ran into one another on the race course. But good humor and sportsmanship prevailed.

Sailing events both years were highly successful, with great participation. We welcomed our new MC fleet and watched it grow and managed to accommodate three scow fleet racing schedules on the weekends. We continued the fun of the Friday Open Handicap races for all sailors, and the Junior Butterfly fleet races on Tuesdays and Thursdays. We also hosted the C & E Invitational Regatta in 1991 with over 40 boats racing (remember the huge rain on the night of the dance, that threatened to electrocute the band and all of us dancing under the tent?) and the Western Michigan Regatta in 1992, for hundreds of guest boats and sailors. Unfortunately, with Jay in the hospital, we missed it, but from all I heard it was a perfect example of teamwork and esprit de corps. And, we put in a bid for the E Nationals in the near future, and were accepted.

Our membership remained stable and grew some. We printed an attractive brochure for prospective members to find out about us. We kept our books in good order and kept up our good relationship with Crystal Downs. We brought our By-Laws up to date. We lost some dear friends. We joyfully threw new first-place winners off the dock. We danced and partied and celebrated special events. Mostly we enjoyed our beautiful Crystal Lake. Thank you, CLYC, for letting me be a part of you.

1993 -1994

Norman O. Olsen becomes the Commodore; James McMillan, Vice Commodore; Doris Howe, Secretary; Jan McMillan, Treasurer and Michael Terry, Fleet Captain. Sailing Masters were Jon Bald and Jonathan Buntain with Jason Cotsworth as assistant.

This year finds that Mary Chick has passed away. She was one of the early members whose devotion to the club never ceased. Also, later on in the year we all said good-bye to Doris Howe. Doris' stalwart service for many years as scorer and a current officer will always be remembered. Ed Schindler is congratulated for winning the Master Trophy at the National E regatta.

George Lindner is chairman of the Club's C and E Invitational Regatta. The sailing season sees a marked reduction in the C-Fleet, but a remarkable increase in the MC's.

CLYC will host the National E Regatta in 1994 with Rick Morris as chairman. A total of 60 young people have shown up for the sailing clinics handled by Jim McMillan. Mike and Mary Anne Terry prepare the Telltale.

Norman and Gail Olsen write and published a Club brochure out-lining the many benefits to club memberships. This proves valuable in securing new members. Norm's past sailing and past Commodore's experience adds much to the enjoyment and management of the Club, and he was instrumental in advocating the writing of this history.

Conclusion

With our history now brought up to date, what are our thoughts?

Although sailboats play a part, it is the family that makes the Club's history, sailors and non-sailors, who, for the joy of being close to beautiful Crystal Lake, join together to make summer memories the most cherished memories of all.