

ROCHESTER YACHT CLUB

Brief History of the New Club House

Erected in 1922

The year 1922 was a busy and active year in the history of the Rochester Yacht Club. Many new members were added to the Club, a very fine club house was erected, and during the year a very full and active programme of events both on land and water was worked out. However, the building of the new club house was the big event.

Previous to this time the Yacht Club consisted of about two hundred and fifteen (215) members. The Club had absolutely nothing to offer to its "Rocking Chair Fleet" (non boat owning members). It owned a fine and valuable piece of property at Summerville which was an ideal spot for a club house. For a long, long time the old members had dreamed of a fine club house but these dreams had never materialized.

However, the ball started rolling when H. C. Stevenson was elected Commodore for the year 1922. He was a real live wire member and saw the necessity for some action if Rochester was to again take its place on the map as a yachting center. He was determined that the Yacht Club should start a new and active life. This was a big undertaking but the Commodore immediately set to work on plans which would assure its success. A committee of good workers was selected and through their untiring efforts the plans were carried out successfully.

The first step was to increase the membership to about five hundred, and in so doing to select the real live wire business and professional men of Rochester. The second step was to raise necessary funds to erect a club house, in amount about \$25,000 - \$15,000 of which had to be raised by June first of that year. This meant good hard work for the committee and the hearty and generous cooperation of everyone. These funds were to be raised by subscription and the subscription campaign was to be carried on as a stock proposition. Stock in the Yacht Club Company was sold at \$10.00 per share. Any non members subscribing to three shares or more became members of the Club with dues paid for the year.

The campaign opened with a bang early in March. The committee worked faithfully and hard. Rochesterians responded most generously to the call and by the first of April \$11,000 had been raised. The Club house was in sight but in order to reach the desired goal by June meant plenty of further hard work.

The Club house was started the latter part of April. Contracts for building, wiring, plumbing, heating, furnishing, etc. were let with the most reliable Rochester firms. The work progressed rapidly during the warm summer months and by September 15th the dream of the older members had materialized, for there stood a fine club house, one that they might all be proud of and one which was a credit to the city of Rochester.

The building was not elaborate in plan but most suitable. Its location was ideal, overlooking the Harbor and being showered with the refreshing and cool breezes of Lake Ontario. The first floor was given over to locker rooms, shower baths and steward's quarters. The second floor consisted of the combination club and dining room and the kitchen. The spacious club room was most inviting in appearance, being attractively finished and furnished. A large fireplace and mantel added the final touches to its beauty. The furniture was mostly Windsor and Colonial design, finished in black lacquer with blue and gold trimmings. The kitchen was modernly and efficiently equipped. Across the front of the upper floor was a wide veranda which furnished a fine view of the entrance to the Harbor.

In addition to the building itself, the property of the Club was repaired where necessary and a new 250 ft. dock was built in front of the club house. This was sure to add much to boating facilities.

The official opening of the club house took place on Saturday, October 7th. It had rained all day and was most disagreeable but this did not in the least discourage the members who were so anxious to get into their new home. About seventy-five were present for the naval parade and review which took place in the afternoon and by night more than two hundred happy members were enjoying a buffet luncheon and social program in the new building.

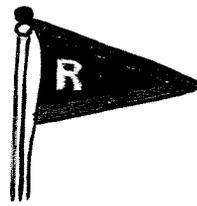
During the winter months the club house was the scene of many social activities such as dances, smokers, and dinners. These functions were all well attended and proved to be very popular. The Saturday and Sunday dinners which were served by Steward Harris were also well attended and greatly enjoyed.

While all this was going on the subscription committee and all members in general were still campaigning for new members. By the close of the year the results were very gratifying. The total subscriptions pledged amounted to \$25,043.50 of which \$17,488.00 had been paid. The membership had been swelled to three hundred seventy-seven resident members (377), thirty-six non-resident members (36), five junior members (5), and three Honorary members (3),

making a total of four hundred twenty-one (421). During the following year this number was increased somewhat as new members were added from time to time. More than two hundred new members had been added.

Thus it might well be said that the year 1922 was indeed an eventful year for the Rochester Yacht Club - the year in which the Club took on a new lease of life and a very active life it proved to be. The membership was practically doubled, sufficient funds were raised to erect a fine club house where the "Rocking Chair Fleet" as well as the boat owners could be assured of a good time, and the Club became active and once more took a prominent place among the yachting centers of the Country. However, we must not forget that all this was possible only through the planning and scheming and hard work of the Commodore, the untiring efforts of his working committee, the hearty cooperation of all the old members, and the most generous contributions of all those now listed among the present members. Their efforts have been well worth while and the new club house and the name of the Rochester Yacht Club will always be a tribute to their memory.

"B.L. Steininger."



ROCHESTER YACHT CLUB

Subscription Campaign

1922

Committee

Ames, Charles F.	Eastman Kodak Co.
Barons, Charles	Corporation Counsel's Office
Bickford, Fred	Curtice Bros. Co.
Block, Leslie	Summerville
Clapp, Howard	Wilder Building
Clark, George	Clark Paint Co.
Cross, Wilson	Cross Bros.
Erdle, William J.	Erdle Perforating Co.
William P. Farley	Imperial Floor Co.
Fleckenstein, George V.	Powers Building
Glen, Harry L.	Hart & Vick
Heye, K. Werner	Wilson & Heye
Lacy, Volney E.	North East Electric Co.
Love, William F.	Court House
Meier, Herbert	Meier Furniture Co.
Noxon, Clute	Sutro Bros. Co., 111 Broadway
Stevenson, Harry C.	Rochester Folding Box Co.
Taylor, John	Taylor Bros. - Front Street
Todd, Walter L.	Todd Protectograph Co.
Vosberg, Albert	Kee Lox Manufacturing Co.
Williams, Dr. Henry T.	274 Alexander Street
Wilson, W. Slayton	Wilson & Pritchard

Plan

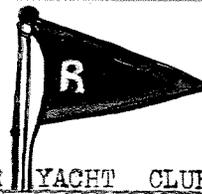
Subscription taken up in order to get necessary funds to erect a new club house on the Yacht Club's property at Summerville.

Non-members subscribing to three or more shares of Yacht Club stock at \$10.00 per share, became members of the Club and dues considered as paid for the year.

More than two hundred new members were added to the Club during this campaign.

Amount Subscribed

\$25,043.50 of which \$17,438.00 had been paid by February, 1923.
7,555.50 total unpaid pledges



ROCHESTER YACHT CLUB

New Club House Erected at Summerville in 1922

Architectural Work - Gordon & Kaelber

Building - John B. Pike & Son

Electrical Supplies & Wiring - Wheeler-Green Electrical Supply Co.

Plumbing & Supplies - Martin W. Utz

Furnace & Heaters - Sill Stove Works

Ventilating System - Blower Systems Corporation

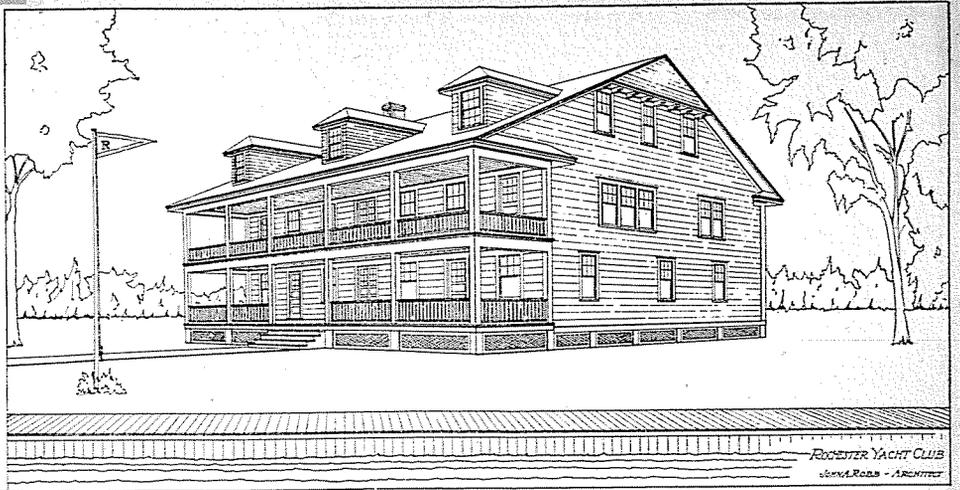
Painting & Decorating - Waltjins

Furniture - Meier Furniture Co.

China & Silver - Geo. W. Davis & Co.

Insurance - Mc Kay & Kondolf

Steward - W. E. Harris



PROPOSED NEW CLUB HOUSE
ROCHESTER YACHT CLUB

THESE WERE THE ORIGINAL PLANS SUBMITTED BUT NOT ACCEPTED AS IT WAS NECESSARY TO ALTER SOMEWHAT.—NEW PLANS BY GORDON AND KAELBER.

I HEREBY subscribe for..... shares of the capital stock of the Rochester Yacht Club Company of the par value of ten (10) dollars per share, for the purpose of building a club house and general improvement of the Company's property, the same to be contingent on fifteen thousand (15,000) dollars being subscribed on or before June 1st, 1922, and the amount of my subscription is due and payable on June 1st, 1922, or in four equal quarterly installments beginning June 1st, 1922, at my option.

Rochester, N. Y.,..... 1

To the Membership Committee,
Rochester Yacht Club:

I hereby make application for Membership in the ROCHESTER YACHT CLUB, and if elected, agree to conform to the Constitution and By-Laws of the Club.

Name.....

Address.....

Proposed by.....

Seconded by.....

WILLIAM BINDER BING CO SYRACUSE, N. Y. RAIL SEPT. 10, 1922