

Ahoy! Sailors Work Hard On RYC Clubhouse

By PAUL TANNER and CLIFF CARPENTER

ROCHESTER Yacht Clubbers will unveil their "new" clubhouse Friday, Memorial Day. And from a preview we had of it yesterday—and considering the flooded basin where the boats are tied up—we wouldn't blame them if most of the members decided to become armchair sailors this season.

Because the RYC now definitely will be a club "with a view." You'll be able to lounge in the ground floor (raised several feet out of the flood zone) clubrooms and just watch the Genesee River and Lake Ontario out the series of picture windows that now make up the north and west walls.

The clubrooms themselves have a tile floor over concrete and stone, the walls are a rich grained gray, and all in all when the drapes are up and the furniture in it should be a pretty luxurious looking sailors' rendezvous. Brand new men's and women's locker and shower rooms complete the downstairs layout. Main entrance has been shifted to the center of the east side of the building.

The upstairs dining room looks pretty much as it did before except that it's bigger, what with the stairway having been taken out of the northwest corner. But it's all been given a new coat or two of green paint. There's a practically new kitchen also.



THE WHOLE remodeling job has been quite an accomplishment under the general leadership of Commodore F. Ritter Shumway, because there were a lot of people who said it couldn't be done.

But there'll be a lot of individual members of the club who will be able to take a bow at the opening for their part in actually helping to do the job. Sailors generally are pretty handy with scrapers and sandpaper and paint through the annual practice they get fixing up their boats. A lot of them have transferred their energies and abilities this season to inside work on the clubhouse.

Yesterday, for instance, the place was buzzing with members—men and women alike—painting, hooking up fixtures, and doing other work under the general direction of Howard Paterson, complete in his yachting cap, as chairman of the Planning Committee, and Joe Ingerson, chairman of the House Committee.

And everyone will be just as busy all day today (and Joe says any member who doesn't know what to do with himself today will be welcomed as a member of the "team"), tomorrow evening and Tuesday evening. Wednesday night they expect to have the place just about done and pretty shipshape, so there'll be a Workers' Party especially for all those who have pitched in and helped.

Later, when the sun comes out for at least two or three days in a row, there'll be a paint brush bee to doll up the outside of the clubhouse.

A 7 P. M. DINNER will feature the Memorial Day opening, with dancing on the new tile floor as part of the evening entertainment. But before that, if the members can get to their boats, there'll be the first class racing of the season Friday morning, followed by a fleet review at 3 p. m., and the annual Canada's Cup tea at 4 p. m.

The weekend will continue with racing Saturday afternoon and dinner and dancing again that evening.

A new built-up, smooth, high and dry blacktop road now leads in to the RYC, and of course the parking lot also is far above the water now also, so you won't get your feet wet this year (remember last season when boots were needed when you got out of your car)?

HONOR OF BEING the first organization, officially, to try out the refitted RYC clubhouse will be the Rochester Power Squadron, which will have its annual Commander's Dinner there Thursday evening.

New squadron commander, Bill Woodbury, will ceremonially take over from retiring Commander Ken Castle, although the shift actually already has taken place, with Woodbury having presided at his first executive committee meeting only a few days ago. Other new officers are: Lieutenant commander, Herb Wahl; first lieutenant, Al Hartsig; flag lieutenant, Dr. John Remington; fleet surgeon, Dr. David S. Parker. Past Commander Harold Field continues as secretary and treasurer, which has become sort of a permanent office for him.

The Note Crackers, title holders for the Seneca Land District of the SPEBSQSA (barber shop quartets) will sing and Cliff Carpenter, squadron member as well as Ahoy! co-skipper, will speak on his recent trip to the Near East. Reservations for the dinner, incidentally, are limited to 125, so if you haven't sent in your order you'd better hurry.

THE OLD SAILOR won't stay beached. He refuses to sit out another Freeman Cup or Rochester Race while all his friends have fun knocking themselves out against Lake Ontario's wind and waves.

In other words, Eric (Pete) Moore, who was sailing his Seneca I to a championship as far back as 1907 (and that's 45 years ago, folks), after a whole year without a ship (his last was the cutter Seneca III) has bought himself a new boat. It's a 46 foot 8 inch cutter, White Squall, and Moore and a crew of four already are at Gibson Island on Chesapeake Bay preparing to bring her home. They flew down Friday.

Moore was as excited as a kid getting his first dinghy as he described the new craft which secretly he probably thinks is just the boat to take the measure of George Ford's champion yawl, Venture III, which beat about everything around here last year. White Squall is Rhodes-designed, built of Honduras mahogany, has Ratsy sails, a beam of 11 feet 2 inches and a draft of 6 feet 6 inches. She accommodates six and has a Gray auxiliary motor.

She's the same length on the waterline as the 52-foot-long Venture III and the latter has about 200 square feet more sail area, but that won't make any difference to Moore.

Aboard her with Moore when she starts the trip north will be Randy Beachner, Walt Brown, Bun Farley and Frank Unbehaun. They'll pass through the Chesapeake-Delaware Canal ("at your own risk" wired authorities, because of engineering work going on following the recent tanker explosion there), down Delaware Bay, through Cape May Canal to the Atlantic. There'll be about 130 miles of open sea to sail before they hit the Hudson and the Barge Canal to Oswego and Lake Ontario.

IT WILL BE either Goose or Llanoria representing the United States in the Six-Metre sailing class at the Olympics in Finland the middle of July. Word comes that those are the only two boats entered in the trials in Long Island Sound off Oyster Bay starting next Saturday.

Goose, carrying Number 81 on her sail, was built in 1938 at the same time as Djinn, whose Number 80 topped the Six-Metre fleet at Rochester Yacht Club in 1943-44 with Earl Snyder as skipper. If Goose goes to the Olympics she probably will sail against Djinn, now owned by the Argentine government.

Goose won the Scandinavian Six-Metre Gold Cup in 1939 and 1947 and was a member of the U. S. team which won the British-American Cup in 1938, 1949 and 1951. Llanoria, built in 1948, won the Olympic title that year and in 1949 and 1951 helped successfully defend the British-American Cup. Both boats are sailed out of the Seawanhaka Corinthian Yacht Club at Oyster Bay. Eric Ridder will skipper Goose with Herman F. Whiton at Llanoria's tiller.

HALF-HITCHES—Former RYC Commodore Bill Nevins has been in town this past week, the guest of Phelps Langworthy. He flies home to Los Angeles today. . . . Rochester Racing Club met at Bay View Hotel last night to see movies of last year's Gold Cup Race and also the Indianapolis Automobile Race as well as to hear a report of its race committee.

The Sunday, May 4 issue of the San Diego (Calif.) Union carried a 4-column picture of Barbara and Kathleen Sinnhoffer, daughters of the Herb Sinnhoffers, formerly of these sailing parts, in their Penguin class Touche at the San Diego Yacht Club. . . . The Bagpipe for April has an interesting account of the cruise of three Thistles in the Bay of Quinte, the boats being Erwin and Helen McGuire's Heather from Canandaigua, Harry and Betsy Essley's Nimble from Conesus Lake and Don and Esther Lyon's Pixie, also from Canandaigua. They put up at Watercombe Camp, operated by Rochesterian Herb Collins at Napanee, Ont. on the bay.

Al Jones has been reelected fleet captain of the RYC's Dinghy Division, with Charlie Speidel as secretary and treasurer. Latest addition to the fleet of nine or 10 boats is one owned by Bob Gianniny and Jack Koerner. The racing schedule will open Memorial Day weekend with a tune-up series and a feature again will be the Eastwood Series with team racing between Rochester and the Royal St. Lawrence YC.

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