

FALL 2014

THE BINNACLE

**Cruising Around
Croatia**

**Leukemia Cup Raises
Record \$421,000**

**Area III and
Beer Can Awards**



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ESTABLISHED 1892

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ON THE COVER: Making lemonade stingers out of lemons, racers compete to "hit the mark" in this year's rained out Leukemia Cup Regatta.
Photo credit: Bill Hanyzewski

Columbia Yacht Club ESTABLISHED 1892

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Calendar

November

- 21 CRUISING FLEET
POWER FLEET
- 26 CLUB CLOSURES AT 3:00 PM
- 27 HAPPY THANKSGIVING!
CLUB CLOSED
- 28 CLUB OPENS AT 3:00 PM
- 29 DECORATE THE ABBY

December

- 2 STEWARDS MTG
BAR & GRILL CMTE MTG
RACE CMTE MTG
- 3 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP
MEETING
- 4 ACTIVITIES CMTE MTG
ASSOCIATES CMTE MTG
- 6 JINGLE BELL ROCK

- 10 TRIVIA NIGHT
- 11 MEMBERSHIP CMTE MTG
BOOK CLUB
- 12 MYSTERY SAILING THEATER 3000
- 13 GINGERBREAD HOUSE
BUILDING
BOATS CMTE MTG
- 14 CHILDREN'S
HOLIDAY PARTY
- 16 FINANCE CMTE MTG
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MTG
- 18 DOCK CMTE MTG
PUBLICITY MTG
- 20 HOLIDAY JAZZ NIGHT
- 21 EMPLOYEE HOLIDAY PARTY
- 24 CHRISTMAS EVE- CLUB
CLOSURES AT 3:00 PM
- 25 CHRISTMAS- CLUB CLOSED
- 26 CLUB OPENS AT 4:00 PM
- 31 NEW YEAR'S EVE

January

THERE ARE STANDING MEETINGS HELD IN JANUARY, ALTHOUGH THE CLUB IS CLOSED FOR THE MONTH. CONFIRM MEETING TIMES/LOCATION WITH YOUR COMMITTEE CHAIR.

- 3-4 JANUARY ABBY PROJECTS
- 6 STEWARDS MTG
BAR & GRILL CMTE MTG
- 10-11 JANUARY ABBY PROJECTS
- 15 PUBLICITY CMTE MTG
- 17-18 JANUARY ABBY PROJECTS
- 20 FINANCE CMTE MTG
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MTG
- 24-25 JANUARY ABBY PROJECTS
- 29 CLUB REOPENS
WINE CLUB
- 30-31 OPENING WEEKEND

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ColumbiasChesterKuttnerFoundation.org or call (312)208-1365

From our Commodore



JOE MCGINNIS

*“...you may find out
how much fun it is
to ‘mess about in
boats.’”*

Dear Fellow Members,

The fall temperatures signal the end of our too few, late arriving summer days. Time to plan for winter projects and prepare the boats for winter storage. In spite of the short, cool summer, the Club remains in good fiscal shape (knock on wood) and the planned activities have occurred in spite of weather-driven challenges.

Several grand events remain on the schedule before January, when the Club is turned over to the House Committee for the major re-fitting projects. If you have some time on a weekend or a weekday, plan a day or two (or more) to learn about the physical structure of the *Abby*, and meet other members for some work and fun. “There is nothing—absolutely nothing—half so much worth doing as simply messing about in boats,” as Ratty says to Mole in *The Wind in the Willows*. It is true.

This fall is a good time to come to a committee meeting. The real organizing and planning for next year is taking place now. Columbia is blessed with members willing to volunteer and share their skills and talents, improving Club services to its membership. Joining a committee is a painless process—come to a scheduled meeting and see if it matches your interests. I continue to be astounded by the depth of knowledge from our committees as they assist and guide our staff. Thank you to all committee members for your contributions, which make this the best yacht club in Chicago.

Special kudos to Stu Friedman for organizing our sleepy J/22 fleet into match racing this fall. Besides giving members another chance to be on the water, this program illustrates the untapped resources and facilities at our Club that are just waiting to be put to good use. Next year we have plans to advance our base of on-water activities in sailing education, power, racing, and cruising fleets. If you’re interested in boat management or race committee, this is your chance to get involved.

Give some thought to what can make Columbia a club that better fits your likes. Come to a meeting—any meeting—especially one in an area of your interest or just to see what goes on. But be careful, you may find out how much fun it is to “mess about in boats.”

Joseph J. McGinnis
Commodore

From The Racing Corner

BY LARRY KWIAT
RACE COMMITTEE CHAIR
race@colyc.org

The end of October closes the books on another great racing season. The Race Committee was kept busy this year, running and managing 10 regular races plus 13 Beer Can races. This year's race chairman Olof Anderson and co-chair Linda Hukill did a great job and we thank them for a wonderful season.

Each of the 10 races Columbia ran was a unique day on the lake with common themes – safety, win and fun, not always in that order!

SEASON HIGHLIGHTS

Chicago to St. Joseph was a huge success – participation continued to be strong in a season when we saw attendance across all races sponsored by various organizations lower than previous years.

On the day of the **Leukemia Cup Regatta**, Mother Nature was less than cooperative for



the Chicago racing community's signature charity event. Heavy fog, followed by a major thunderstorm, turned a delay into a cancellation. Back on the *Abegweit*, our creative Regatta volunteers leveled the field with heated competition for race standings. It was any boat's win to take, with a hat toss contest proving, once again, we love competition, even when land-bound. Special thanks to Tracy Howard, Mary Alyce Blum, Lynne Crowley and Pam Gaffigan for keeping the fun alive!

The newest race, **Three Crib Fiasco**, was a great addition at the end of the season, and another fundraising opportunity – this time for the Chicago Area Council's Sea Scout Program. Overcast skies and gusts to 24 knots gave participating boats an exciting 13.5 mile race around the water cribs.



In addition to the regular races, Wednesday night **Beer Can races** continue to offer associates and guests a chance experience the thrill of racing, the fun of post-race parties and the opportunity to connect with boat owners. Beer Can races are an especially great way for our Skipjacks to meet different racers and test their skills at a (hopefully!) faster pace. Again, we thank the Beer Can Race Committee for managing 13 races this season.

COLUMBIA YACHT CLUB SUMMARY OF RACES - 2014

RACE NAME	DATE	NUMBER OF BOATS
Dash to the Docks	5/10	15
Colors Regatta Long Distance	5/31	81
Chicago to Michigan City	6/27	47
Fran Byrne	8/02	32
Chester Kuttner	8/03	19
Mayor Daley	8/16	13
Leukemia Cup Regatta	8/23	50
Chicago to St. Joseph	8/29	115
Goose Island Race Night	9/17	57
Three Crib Fiasco	9/20	47

Thanks to Skyway Yacht Works for sponsoring the Dash for the Docks and Three Crib Fiasco this year.



2014 BEER CAN RACE RESULTS - FINAL

SAIL #	NAME		POINTS BEST 8 OF 12
JAM1			
1 USA 60474	<i>Cookie Monster</i>	Peter Golman	11
2 USA 50499	<i>Nautilus</i>	Sea Scouts/M. Bernstein	12
3 USA 50638	<i>Esprit d'Écosse</i>	Judith Mclean	31
JAM2			
1 USA 4402	<i>La Tigre Rinata</i>	Yaman Battikhi	19
2 USA 26142	<i>Accord</i>	Woody Hansman	27
3 USA h28.5	<i>Tail's Dragon</i>	Boyd Jarrell	30
NEWBIE			
1 USA T	<i>Genuine Draft</i>	Alan McCarter	14
2 USA 1250	<i>Kraken</i>	John Coakley	22
3 USA 323	<i>KALI</i>	Doug Sibery	23
T-10			
1 USA 263000	<i>Winnebago</i>	Tim Rathbun	15
2 USA 40900	<i>Skidmarks</i>	Lou Jacobs	16
3 USA 402	<i>Lightning</i>	S. Karstrand/B. Warnecke	25
Spin1			
1 USA 235	<i>Renegade</i>	Tom Papoutsis	13
2 USA 52039	<i>Jahazi</i>	Frank Giampoli	18
3 USA 361	<i>Momentus</i>	Kevin Saedi	25
Spin2			
1 USA 235	<i>Tequila Mockingbird</i>	Chris Duhon	11
2 USA 25659	<i>Liberty2</i>	Thomas & Virginia Blasco	15
3 USA 52293	<i>Sorcerer</i>	Don Draper	18
Spin3			
1 USA 42934	<i>Whisper</i>	Thomas Barnes	11
2 USA 53026	<i>Measure For Measure</i>	Brian Tobin	14
3 USA 54951	<i>Tenacity</i>	Peter Cooper	22

The prizes were awarded at the 5th annual Boaters Bash on November 8th. Congratulations to everyone who participated!

We also want to thank Chuck Sherfey, principal race officer, who has decided to retire after 15 years of committee service to the Beer Can Races. He's been down here every race to make sure all the boats are looked after for racing. Thank you, Chuck, for your dedication to growing our program!

continued on following page



GET INVOLVED

The Beer Can Race Committee is looking for additional members to be a part of this fun and important committee. Ideally, we're hoping for 10 more to join our ranks. Race Committee members do not need to belong to Columbia nor do they need to know how to sail – just a love of the water and ability to come out and have fun are enough.

At the end of the season, we show our appreciation with a Race Committee Appreciation party. It's a chance to celebrate the season and recognize the important role this committee plays in one of the key missions of our Club. Each committee member also receives a special commemorative gift, to show our gratitude for your help this summer and all the planning throughout the year.

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2015

Once the boats start leaving the harbors, we immediately focus our attention to the time they will start to return!

The Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions have been written for 2015. Going forward, all boats from all Clubs will be required to enter through yachtscoring.com. In addition, new instructions will include a minimum of one to maximum of



THANKS TO ALL THE CAPTAINS

who volunteer their boats and provided the crew for our Race Committee this summer.

<i>Mystify</i>	Michael Argylean
<i>Perico</i>	Ryan Johnson
<i>Mission</i>	Chris Froeter
<i>Jahazi</i>	Frank Giampoli
<i>Striking</i>	Vanessa Gates
<i>Corsair</i>	Bill Bartz
<i>Nautilus</i>	Seas Scouts
<i>No Reverse</i>	Bob Horenkamp
<i>Chaika</i>	George Kovalsky

two cancellations. Look for more information in the coming months and be sure to check out our page on Columbia's new website for updates.

If you'd like more information about Race Committee and how to get involved, please do not hesitate to contact Larry Kwiat at captfolie@aol.com. 

Special acknowledgement goes out to the dedicated members of the **BEER CAN RACE COMMITTEE**, who give so generously of their time to keep this fun part of the Columbia race scene going strong.

- Chuck Sherfey
- Linda Hukill
- Susan Tonan
- Patti Cora
- Linda Zager
- Jim Guibault
- Mary Ellen Johnston

BY BILL GRANT
POWER FLEET CHAIRMAN
powerfleet@colyc.org

Notes From The Power Side

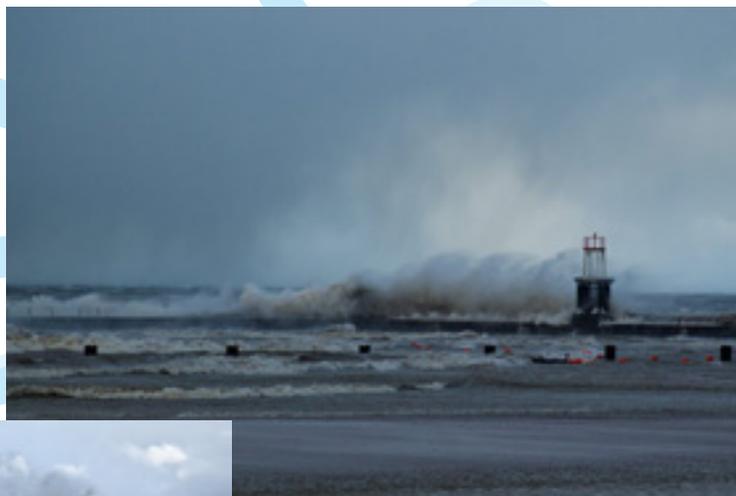
After another all-too-quick but glorious season, the days are getting shorter. It's that time of year when we all start counting the days until we splash next spring – there's even an app for that! So fall is here...the time for reflection; the time to look back at what a tremendous season we had at Columbia.

It was rewarding to see more power boaters on the dock this summer, all taking advantage of our downtown dock space and friendly White Cap service. Whether you were coming down from Montrose for lunch, up from 31st Street for Saturday night fireworks, or just motoring around the corner from your Du Sable slip to enjoy our friendly camaraderie, Columbia's docks were there for you. Hopefully you made some new friends, exchanged ideas, and felt part of the Columbia dock culture. If you didn't make it to our docks, don't miss out next year.

Potluck on the Dock, our annual kick-off party in support of the Poker Run, had a fantastic turn-out! For those of you who weren't there, we had dancing on the dock, a delicious variety of potluck contributions, and everyone was smiling. Mark your calendar for next year: when the racers sail the Mac, we are partying on the dock! Whether you plan to sign up and participate in the Poker Run benefitting the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, or just want to meet other boaters, we promise you a good time.

Speaking of the Poker Run, congratulations to everyone who participated! Columbia power boaters increased their participation over last year, helping the Poker Run raise \$100,000 and growing 20% over last year. It was truly gratifying to have such a strong showing of Columbia power boaters in the mix this year. Thank you to everyone who participated and for all your amazing fundraising efforts!

Once again, Columbia served as one of the "pit stops" on the Poker Run. Besides collecting a card, participants were welcomed aboard the Club Ship for drinks and snacks—a pre-party before the festivities at Corinthian.



Thanks to the Columbia dock hands for their service, as well as the dock committee for dedicating dock space for this fundraising event. Most of all, a special thanks to Columbia and Corinthian member Dominic Irpino, and his Corinthian

Yacht Club Poker Run committee for their commitment, hard work, and organization, which made the event such a huge success. Everyone had a great day on the water capped off with a wonderful evening at Corinthian wining, dining, and dancing while raising money for the Leukemia Society. Be there next year!

Remember last year's End-of-Year Wrap party? It was so warm we were sitting outside. This year, Mother Nature decided we weren't paying enough attention to her. So she whipped up what has been dubbed "Halloween Howler," or (if you prefer) "Frankenflurries," brining gusts up to 57kts and sustained winds that, to use a technical term, were blowing like stink. Our November 1 party was cancelled, rescheduled as a joint party now with the Cruising Fleet's end of year party on November 21. The party is always a tad bittersweet, but an enjoyable way to close up the season together.

Interested in joining the Power Fleet? It's not a big time commitment: we plan a few parties and brainstorm how Columbia power boaters can get better acquainted and have more fun – on and off the water. As I always say, every boat has a motor, so everyone is welcome on the Power Fleet committee! 

Columbia Kids Brave Cold Summer

WIN HOT RACES!



1 2



It seems like summers go by faster each year, and 2014 was no exception. The warm weather arrived about three weeks ago and lasted for maybe a week! But summer wasn't the only thing that flew by – our racing teams made great strides in their competitiveness, becoming some of the best teams in the Midwest in their fleets. We are incredibly proud of not only the kids, but also our coaches, for helping them make a great leap forward. So, don your drysuits and get your hot chocolate ready for this recap of our season.

JUNIOR RACE TEAMS EARN PODIUM FINISHES IN REGIONAL REGATTAS

This was a terrific summer for our growing fleet of young racers. Kids as young as six up to eighteen years old, competing primarily in Optis and 420s, represented the Club well this summer, winning multiple medals in both classes. Racing continues in the Fall and Winter, and we aim to help them continue this momentum.

Our High School students are in the midst of a breakthrough season. In July, 420 skipper (she's a University of Chicago Lab School student in her spare time) Colleen Baumann won the North Shore Cup with crew James Korzenik. Not to be out done, classmates Phoebe Lincoln (skipper) and Maya Stephani (crew) went on to win Columbia's own Skyline Regatta in



3



4



5

August. In the greatly anticipated October grudge match at Macatawa Bay, MI, Colleen, sailing with Emily Gildea, went on to finish first with Phoebe and Maya second at the Junior Olympics.

Congratulations to these teams who have become some of the most formidable in the Midwest. And kudos to our coaches who helped build this team from the ground up. This is a major step forward for our High School programs, and one we hope continues to gain momentum over the winter.

Some of our best young sailors are in our fast-growing (and fast!) Opti Team. In White Fleet

1 OFFICER DAVE JOHNSEN SHOWS OUR SAILORS AROUND THE MARINE UNIT STATION 2 MICHAEL AND LILLIAN PRACTICE TRAPPING WITH A SPINNAKER 3 PHOEBE AND LILLIAN ON STARBOARD LAYLINE APPROACHING THE WINDWARD MARK 4 COLLEEN SEES A SQUIRREL 5 TEAMMATES HELPING TEAMMATES, DELANEY HELPS MAYA, WHILE MAYA HELPS PHOEBE WORK THROUGH SOME STRESS 6 ELIJAH PRACTICING IN GUST ABOVE 20 KNOTS, FULL HIKE WORKING HARD 7 EMILY AND CHRIS ROUNDING A WINDWARD MARK AS EMILY KEEPS AN EYE OUT FOR OTHER BOATS AND THE MARK

BY KURT THOMSEN
SAILING MASTER
kurt@colyc.org



(age 10 and younger), Sam Childers won both the North Shore Cup and Skyline Regatta, scored a third at Junior Olympics, and a first and third at the USODA Midwest Championships and USODA Great Lakes Champs. In the Opti Blue Fleet, 11-year-old Elijah Goldman finished third at North Shore Cup and second at Kaszube Cup in Milwaukee.

8 ELIJAH AND SAM MEET AND RACE (OPTI'S) AGAINST AMERICA'S CUP WINNING SKIPPER JIMMY SPITHILL! **9** OFFICER DAVE JOHNSEN EXPLAINS HOW THE HELICOPTER PAD WORKS OVER AT THE MARINE UNIT STATION, THAT TURNED INTO A LOT OF LANDINGS **10** GRACE DRESSES UP IN RIOT GEAR AT THE MARINE STATION **11** MAYA AND DEIGO LEAD A WINDWARD ROUNDING AT PRACTICE **12** EMILY PRE-START SEQUENCE HAS HER GAME FACE ON **13** COLLEEN IS ALL SMILES ON HER WAY IN FROM ANOTHER GORGEOUS DAY ON THE WATER

DAY CAMPS WELCOME MORE THAN 200 KIDS

We had a great summer with a fun, safe, and successful day camp that counted approximately 215 participants in its ranks. Kids from all over the Chicago area joined us for lessons in Prams, Optis, 420s, and Lasers. We even snuck in some J/22s when the opportunity presented itself. Our beginner camps emphasized everything from on-the-water safety and seamanship to basic sailing theory, preparing our campers to continue to safely expand their on the water experience. Our Intermediate classes helped more experienced sailors with boat speed and handling, sail trim and racing tactics. Day camps ran from 9am-3:30pm and our new aftercare program allowed families to extend camp until 6pm.

continued on following page

SAVE THE DATES FOR 2015

Yes that time already! Here are the dates for juniors at the sailing school. Registration will open January 1, 2015, for members to get first pick of camp classes.

Spring Sailing:	3/21-5/30 (weather permitting)
Regular Summer starts:	6/15
Regular Summer ends:	8/21
Shark week:	8/24-8/28
Fall Sailing:	9/12-11/14

Important Dates:

Parent Orientation:	6/12
Junior Banquet:	8/14
Skyline Regatta:	8/6-7
Shepherd Champs:	11/14-15

ADULT J/22 LESSONS EXPAND, INCLUDING RACING

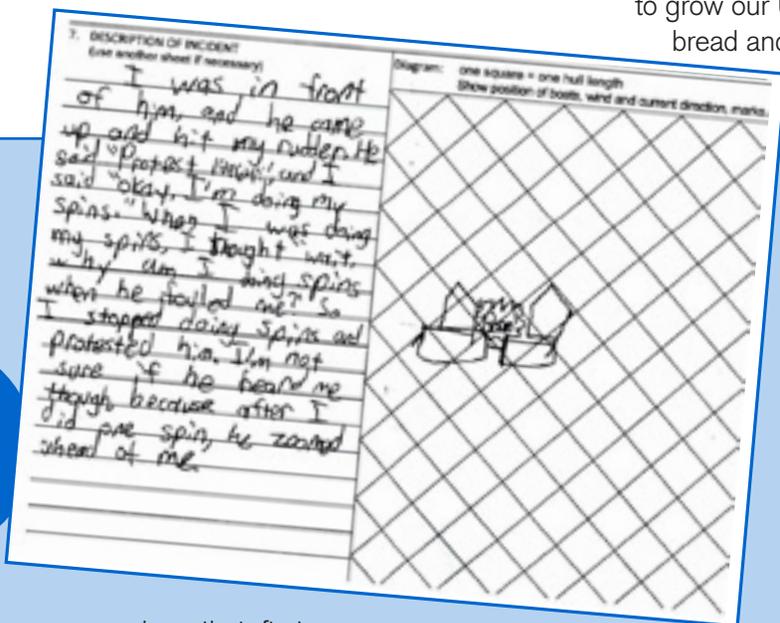
You've seen the old couple, *Otto* and *Carolyn*, hanging loyally onto their mooring balls near the Columbia dock. You've probably also seen Tom Taylor and Paul Rieger leading groups of adults out to teach lessons. But have you seen these boats race?

With the continued growth of associate members at the Club, we started the summer with a humble goal to grow our adult lessons. The effort started with improvements to the J/22s – it's incredible what a bit of cleaner, a scotch bright pad, some sealant, spare hardware and some marine canvas can do to spiff up a 25-year-old keelboat. We also recruited new instructors from our membership and our junior sailing staff. With capacity expanded, we then sought out more students.

Improved marketing by Kurt Thomsen allowed us to grow our U.S. Sailing Basic Keelboat Class – the bread and butter of the program. Then we introduced

Skipjacks Advanced – an accelerated Keelboat Class for graduates of our social sailing program. On the last day, these Skipjacks PhDs raced, and had a blast. J/22 match racing was born! With the help of a slew of volunteers, we had six sailors on *Otto* and *Carolyn* every Tuesday and Thursday night in mid-August through September. The starts were exciting, these former cruising students were calling rules violations and rhumb lines, and we only swapped paint two or three times. Thanks to all who participated and the volunteers who made this happen: Stu Friedman, Mike Lane, Dave Brown, Walter and Holly Kawula, Bart Korbel, and Ryan Johnson.

Looking to next summer, expect continued expansion, including intermediate racing, spinnaker and speed class, and bareboat and inshore cruising classes. And, yes, good ole *Otto* and *Carolyn* are getting a makeover that will match anything you've seen on the Bravo Channel. 🚩



MY FIRST PROTEST

Everyone remembers their first:

day of school, car, boat, marriage. But what about their first protest?

Columbia Opti Team racer Wyatt Harley will remember his. And anyone reading this Binnacle will remember the greatest protest form diagram ever authored, complete with Batman-style sound effects!

While the form made the rounds on social media and got some great laughs, let's not forget there are lessons young Wyatt can teach us.

Know your rules. Use them to your advantage.

Don't let yourself get bullied by more experienced crews.

A good story is the key to a successful protest.

Use sound bubbles!! BOOM!

Honing Skills into Habits

BY PHOEBE LINCOLN
COLUMBIA SAILING
SCHOOL STUDENT

Once again, Columbia Sailing School student Phoebe Lincoln gives us a look into what the experience at our Club means for her. Last year we heard about her adventures at the Orange Bowl Regatta. This year, she decided to stay closer to home...

into habits and trying to work together as a team. Our goal was to use the summer as a practice for next year when we plan on doing many clinics and traveling to the east coast to do that circuit.

At the end of the summer I definitely felt like we had improved and are ready for next year. There were a few windy days where Maya and I had some one-on-one coaching. Even though we ended up in the water many times I feel like everything clicked. I cannot wait to see the results next summer! 

It's always sad to see summer go. I don't think I've quite accepted the fact that it's fall yet, even though it's freezing outside and I'm wearing a jacket. I keep hoping that the cold weather is just a phase, and in a few days it will be 80 degrees again, but that hasn't happened yet.

I know I've said this before, but this past summer was the best one yet. I sailed with someone new, Maya Stephani, and I think we worked really well together. We kept it local this year and traveled to a few places around the Midwest to compete. While I would have liked to go to more regattas, Maya and I were mainly focusing on turning good techniques

Fall is Boats Committee Season

BY FRANK POKORNY
BOATS COMMITTEE CHAIR
boats@colyc.org

While most of us are thinking about the end of a great Season and getting ready for the long winter, the Boats Committee is preparing for next year. This behind-the-scenes committee oversees the use and maintenance of the Club boats with motors – primarily the two Boston Whalers and six Rigid Hull Inflatables. These boats are used constantly during the season, which begins in mid-March and ends in mid-November.

Fall is when we assess each boat's condition – preparing lists (and checking them twice...) of needed off-season maintenance. Are you interested in meeting other Club members, sharing your skills, and learning new ones?

Join the Boats Committee. Experience not required – but welcome. Travel to exotic locations where the boats are stored. Enjoy cuisine not available at the Club. Get dirty. Have fun.

The committee's next meeting is on Saturday, December 13, at 1000 hours. We meet on the Club Ship, somewhere between the bridge and the bilge.

In addition to off-season work planning, we will also be making arrangements for a special event next year. Mark your calendars for the Nautical Flea Market on February 21, 2015 – a fundraising event for the Club, and everyone's opportunity to sell all their "boating stuff" that is no longer needed. 

Sea Scout Ship Challenge #5111

MAC RETURN

The return delivery of our Sea Scout Training Vessel *Nautilus* is always a great opportunity, not only for long cruise adventures, but also for exposure of these young people and Sea Scouting to the greater sailing community on Lake Michigan. They act as ambassadors, demonstrating their seamanship, citizenship, sportsmanship and leadership. This year's delivery saw stops in Charlevoix, Frankfort and Pentwater, hosting a total of 10 Sea Scouts and adult leaders, including adults and youth from our sister Ship 5886 on the north side of Chicago.

LONG CRUISE

A short two weeks later, it was off across the lake again on the Long Cruise: destination Ludington for service and living in the Big Sable Point Lighthouse. Our adult leader, Chicago Fire Department Rescue Swimmer Wally Gorzen, has a talent for sniffing out and setting up exciting and fulfilling service projects at destinations all over the lake. We were to design, construct and paint a wooden enclosure fence on the dunes to hide a propane tank and satellite dish array. But first, we had to get there. A beautiful sunny day of sailing and motor sailing across the lake turned into a white knuckle, batten down the hatches slog in strengthening wind and waves, one that finally forced us to turn and run for safe harbor. (The full story will be published in the Winter issue of the *Binnacle*.)

LEUKEMIA CUP

With no let up in sight, the next adventure was a stormy day that washed out the race for the Leukemia Cup. Undaunted, the intrepid LCR organizers hosted a rocking party under the tent at the Club Ship, and held an impromptu substitute regatta – in the wind and rain outside the tent; each team still present tossed a hat toward a cone mark – closest to the mark won. And who took first place in our Section? – TEAM NAUTILUS – with nearly \$4,000 in donations raised as well!

BEER CAN RACING

Racing is a great way to develop young sailors, as crew members, helmsmen, team players, leaders and mentors. It also is a great way to demonstrate

sportsmanship. No wonder they have taken so avidly to the Wednesday evening racing in JAM1. We missed the first race waiting for repairs to our fuel tank, and missed another in mid-season because of the Long Cruise. Our competition did not miss any races, yet with throw outs, we led them by a mere one point going into the final race of the series. What happened? Read on...

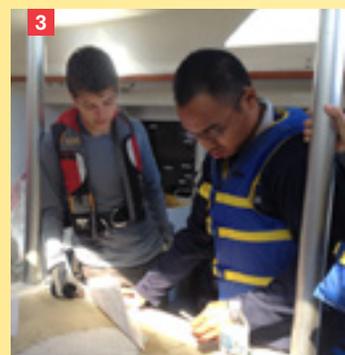
THE SEA PROMISE – TO BE PREPARED TO RENDER AID TO THOSE IN NEED...

In the final Beer Can Race of the season, and leading the first upwind leg in very heavy conditions, our former Boatswain Mike Crenna noticed a vessel ahead to leeward suddenly lose their rig. He hailed the cockpit, we dropped our jib and sailed to their assistance. We then retired from the race and stood by them all the way into the harbor until they could safely approach their docks.

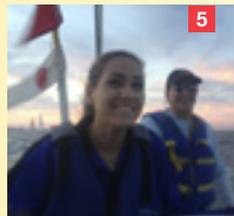
The vessel was *Sirrocco VI*, which had invited Mike on his very first Mac Race. An appeal to the Race Committee for redress gained us a third place in the race, and thus second for the season, but a first place in the hearts of our comrades Viviana & Bill Fanizzo and their crew. And, a very important lesson for our young people – that sportsmanship and keeping our promise is always more important than winning.

THREE CRIB FIASCO

Another race and another rescue mission... we'd just left the dock on our way out to the race course. As we passed Rear Commodore Scott Johnson and wife Marybeth aboard *Au Revoir*, they suddenly hailed us, "We have no power! We just lost our engine!" Without a moment's hesitation, we quickly spun the boat and prepared to toss a tow-line - in 20 to 25 knots and



1 TEAM NAUTILUS TOOK 1ST IN THE LEUKEMIA CUP HAT TOSS RACE: SEA SCOUT CHRISTINE VO'S FRIEND SUPPLIED THE WINNING HAT, MATE BRUNO LAGO, THE WINNING TOSS 2 SHIP 5111 CREW BUILDING THE ENCLOSURE FENCE AT BIG SABLE POINT LIGHTHOUSE 3 NAVIGATOR KEATON MARTIN MENTORS MARC CAUINIEN FOR HIS ORDINARY ADVANCEMENT REQUIREMENTS 4 SUNSET AT THE TOP OF BIG SABLE LIGHT: CHRISTINE VO, ELIZABETH JOHNSON, NINA FLEISCHMAN, LIAM GORZEN, TIANA SHERWOOD, JARED GORZEN, ROBBY SOLER, KEATON MARTIN & MARTY BERNSTEIN

BY MARTY BERNSTEIN
SKIPPER

gusting from the SW, no easy proposition as it turned out. The first two tosses could not be secured, and now the 34 foot *Au Revoir* was adrift amongst the 20-something footers at the north end of the harbor, with the 47-

foot *Nautilus* in hot pursuit, backing, turning, powering forward and fending off cans and boats as we went. The third toss could not be secured; we maneuvered for another try, now half-way through the moorings. Finally, the fourth toss was secured, we took her in tow astern, rounded to bring her along side the crowded dock, where she tossed off the tow and was hauled in to safety. We motored off toward the race course to cheers and thanks. It's always satisfying to effect a successful rescue, especially when it's a flag officer of your sponsor! And the race was as exhilarating as the rescue, with heavy winds and waves, and 38 boats in a pursuit race, 22 of which *had never raced before!* A huge accomplishment, and what will be an annual event, thanks to Steve Kindra of Skyway Yacht Works and Lou Sandavol of Karma Yacht Sales. Appropriately, the proceeds from the entry fees went to benefit the Sea Scouts.

EDWARD B. STEIN RENDEZVOUS

As a Sea Scout Commodore for over 40 years, and now Commodore Emeritus, it was only fitting that we honor Mr. Stein with an event in his name. Designed to bring all Chicago-area vessels and crews together for a

three-day weekend flotilla to Michigan City, the event was amended due to heavy winds and seas. Instead, fourteen Sea Scouts and leaders from three Ships piled aboard *Nautilus* for a wild ride in winds up to 30 knots on the quarter, and seas up to eight feet. With reefed main, and training Genoa hauled outboard, she reeled off regular 9 to 10 knots of boat speed, making the 32-mile trip in just four hours. The lumpy seas made for a few "sick puppies" aboard, including experienced hands who'd never been seasick before. All was well when we pulled into the Michigan City Marina, greeted by event organizer and adult leader David G. Brown. His cheerful demeanor and persuasive nature gained us complimentary dockage and a free tour of the Michigan City Lighthouse Museum. After a hearty meal cooked at the Marina grills, we piled into David's van (three trips worth) to his cabin in the woods. A magnificent, relaxing evening around the fireplace ensued, with warm comfortable beds and hot showers. After a hearty breakfast of pancakes and bacon the next morning, we enjoyed a very easy beam reach back to Chicago with winds out of the southwest. This will also become a regular event.

DECOMMISSIONING, LOOKING AHEAD

And now the boat is put away for the off-season. A great showing of volunteer service made for a thorough cleaning, drying and winterizing of the water systems, removal of all gear, instruments and running rigging, and a secure cover against the harsh winds, ice and snows of winter. Now, it's time to start planning for CPR training, advancement and service. The annual Christmas Ship Sleepover helps raise funds to keep the Ship afloat, and the tree unloading service keeps our youth qualified to advance in rank. Service is also planned to our sponsor at the Children's and Employee holiday parties, and house committee work in January. As always, we express our deep appreciation to Columbia's members, staff, board of directors and flag officers for their continued support and encouragement. Thank you. 

5 AS COACH BRUNO LAGO LOOKS ON, AGATHA OTERO DRIVES HER FIRST BEER CAN RACE, TO A 1ST PLACE **6** SEA SCOUT COMMODORE EMERITUS ED B. STEIN **7** CREWS AND LEADER FROM THREE SEA SCOUT SHIPS AT THE ED STEIN MICHIGAN CITY RENDEZVOUS **8** CREW ON THE RAIL OF NAUTILUS FOR A WILD RIDE DURING THE THREE CRIB FIASCO: R>L MICHAEL CRENNNA, CHRISTINE VO, KEATON MARTIN, AGATHA OTERO AND HER TWO FIRST-TIME SAILOR FRIENDS

Race Report: 2014 Tri-State

LEG 1 - CHICAGO TO ST. JOSEPH, MI

The promised thunderstorms loomed to the south for most of the night without a single drop spilling on us. The light show stayed on shore, but provided us with a steady 14-16kts with slight gusts. The steady southerly meant a swift race, especially for the Andrews 77 *Ocean* - crossing in just 4hr 14m. The ride over was fairly monotonous, with a tack at the start and a single reef when we became overpowered on the Shock 35 *Free Agent*. Of course, with St. Joe being an active port, a freighter was coming out of the channel just as a bulk of the fleet was finishing. Based on the three different spotlights and blaring horn, I don't think the freighter was expecting us.

The interesting, wet ride was probably on the new gem *Rambler* - the J/88 owned by Ben Wilson, which took the lead ahead of a lot of local St. Joe talent. The second, newly delivered J/88, *Slot Machine* owned by Boyd Jarrell, wasn't quite dialed in yet coming in 11th. We'll look forward to the two jousting on the lines after they both get some more time out on their new toys.

Almost the entire fleet was rafted in St. Joe by 2am. Boats were on either side of the river, with the only remaining battle being for the coveted spots on the wall at the St. Joseph River Yacht Club. We ended up with the big boys on the south side of the river by town. This actually wasn't a bad deal since SJRYC runs a shuttle continuously until midnight, which is about when we headed over to Czar's for some good townie music.

SATURDAY IN ST. JOSEPH

For once, it was perfect weather for the Annual Volleyball Tournament. Sixteen teams competed in the round-robin tournament coordinated by Columbia member Paula Bersie. It all came down to Columbia team *Tequila Skye* and Chicago Yacht Club Team *Eagle* with *Eagle* taking first place.

Saturday night the SJRYC packed their tent with

townies and racers alike. The SJRYC party is 100% volunteer run (including the bartenders) and they could not have been more gracious. They know what to expect, so the rum drinks were strong and the beer lines went quickly.

LEG 2 - ST. JOSEPH TO MICHIGAN CITY, IN

This morning was a haze of hurry up and wait. About 90% of the fleet picked up and prepared to high-tail it back to Chicago. Conditions being what they were, however, I'm not sure "hightailing" would be an accurate phrase.

The forecast called for a dying breeze to clock around the southern Lake Michigan shore. When the wind was blowing 12kts, we were pleasantly surprised and ready to be in Indiana in a few hours. We headed offshore for an hour then tacked back in to bang the shoreline. The shoreline was proving decent until the breeze died and we drifted for a good 45 minutes trying every trick in the book to get going again. Luckily the angles were right to pop a light chute and we flew that the 1.5 miles. The finish was spread from a JV-66 *Defiance* with 3hr 58m to a handful of DNFs and a few that we were still waiting on 8hrs after the start.



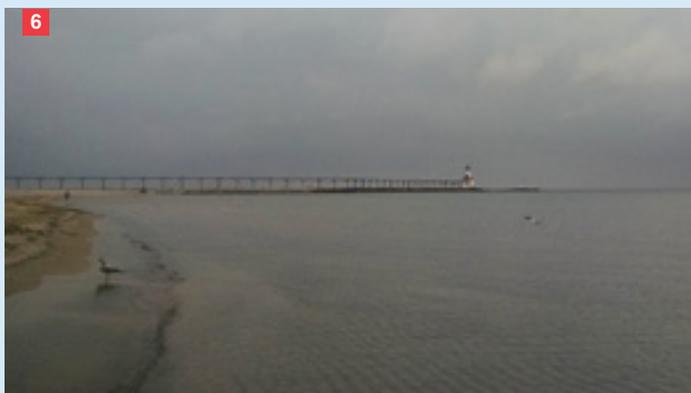
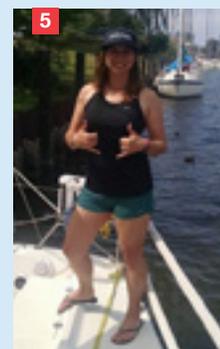
SUNDAY NIGHT IN MICHIGAN CITY

MCYC is really trying to provide a great race experience, and it shows. The commodore greets incoming racers at the dock with drink tickets for the whole crew, there's a decent live band, hot food and cheap drinks.

As many racers will remember, not too long ago, the Michigan City channel had a serious issue with water depth and boats couldn't make it to the club without bottoming out. This was at a time when the lakes were at an all-time low. Also, it seemed that the rafts were being plagued by officers just looking to write tickets. Some racers have not forgotten these things.

MCYC is doing everything they can to put together a terrific experience for all racers. I would love to see this leg, and the post-race party, see a resurgence next year.

BY MORGAN KINNEY
MEMBERSHIP AND
MARKETING MANAGER
morgan@colyc.org



LEG 3 - MICHIGAN CITY TO CHICAGO

On Monday morning, we set out on the last leg, 32 miles back to Chicago. The entries dropped to 20 as the Michigan boats went home, while the breeze picked up to gusts of 25. We reefed the main and popped the #3. It was a straight shot and *Free Agent* was a mere 3 minutes short of a personal record at 4hr 2m - only an hour longer than it took *Defiance*.

Three states, three days, three very different race parties and just about every race condition...where else but on Lake Michigan could you get this kind of experience? Will I race the tri-state again? Look for me on the beach at St. Joe next year, for sure. 🚩

1 BEACH VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT 2 FREE AGENT'S MARGARITA BUCKET 3 MICHIGAN CITY DOLDRUMS 4 SUNSET IN ST. JOE 5 MORGAN ON DECK 6 MONDAY MORNING IN MICHIGAN CITY

Cruising through CROATIA

THE GUYS WERE TALKING ENTHUSIAS-
TICALLY ABOUT THE 53-FOOT-LONG
SLOOP THAT PETER HAD CHARTERED.
IT HAD EVERYTHING—FOUR ROOMS
EACH WITH ITS OWN HEAD, DUAL
HELMS, AND ELECTRIC WINCHES. “IT
EVEN HAS BOW THRUSTERS,” PETER
SHOUTED OVER THE TRAFFIC NOISE.
“BOWEL THRUSTERS! WHAT’S THAT?”
ASKED JILL FROM THE FURTHEST SEAT
BACK. IMMEDIATELY, EVERYONE BROKE
INTO WILD LAUGHTER AND DID AGAIN
SEVERAL TIMES PER DAY FOR THE NEXT
WEEK AS WE IMAGINED WHAT “BOWEL
THRUSTERS” MIGHT BE.

*Thus began our magical week sailing along
the coast and islands of the Dalmatian
Coast of Croatia.*



In early September 2014, a group of three couples sailed a Jeanneau 53 named *Trinity* to the islands of the Dalmatian Coast of Croatia. We flew to Split and sailed out of Marina Kremic. One of the crew, Peter, had sailed the Dalmatian Coast previously and chartered our sloop for us, which made the trip very easy. Beth and I flew from Chicago to Geneva through Zurich to meet the rest of the crew before flying to Split. Our sailing itinerary took us from Kremik to Primosten, Maslinica, Vis City, Budakovac (also off of Vis), Palmizana, and Necujem. We also toured via taxi the UNESCO Heritage Sites of Trogir and Diocletian's Palace in Split.

SATURDAY Our group flew from Geneva to Split and took a taxi to Marina Kremik where we met our Jeanneau 53 sloop, which we sailed a short distance to Primosten to spend the night swinging on a mooring ball and enjoying the ancient city.

SUNDAY From Primosten, we had a leisurely day in light wind to the beautiful harbor of Maslinica on the island of Solta. We arrived at rush hour in the late afternoon. Boats were lined up for three hours backing into the quay. Only one of our crew had every moored in this manner before and it showed. Other crews made it look so easy.

MONDAY From Maslinica, we sailed to the large and ancient port of Vis where we picked up a mooring ball near a popular restaurant. We didn't realize the wonderful antiquities we would see in Vis Grad.

TUESDAY From Vis harbor, we sailed around the island to the Blue Caves and then further to Budakovac where we picked up another mooring ball. We took the dinghy into the cave to see the amazing blue light reflecting up from beneath the surface. Budakovac was both beautiful and rustic and became a favorite spot.

WEDNESDAY We sailed north to the island of St. Klement off the big island of Hvar to Palmazana harbor. St. Klement has many small inlets surrounding the island where boats may anchor alone, but the larger Palmazana harbor features restaurants and resorts, which we didn't want to miss.

THURSDAY We left Palmazana in unstable weather and had to duck into the large anchorage of Necujem at the end of the day. We waited out a squall and scouted good anchor ground before putting down our anchor in a picturesque spot. The weather cleared just before sunset. Two of us rowed the dinghy to a taverna for their special risotto and brought it back to the hungry crew. We never tasted such good risotto. In the morning, we saw a Dalmatian riding in the bow of a dinghy. A good omen, we thought.

FRIDAY From Necujem, we motor-sailed to our home port of Kremik where we got fuel and prepared to check in the next morning. In the late afternoon, we took a taxi to Trogir, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

SATURDAY We checked Trinity into the charter company and took a taxi to Split to see Diocletian's Palace, which is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Later that afternoon, we left Split for Geneva and our flight home to Chicago. 



1 SUNSET AT BUDAKOVAC 2 PRIMOSTEN 3 BETH URECH AT THE HELM 4 THE WALLS OF TROGIR 5 INTRO TO MED MOORING 6 VIS LUKA HARBOR

Amateur Night at the Races

BY MORGAN KINNEY
MEMBERSHIP AND
MARKETING MANAGER
morgan@colyc.org

It all started with a text, "So, I have an idea for a race." Russell Woelfel, a National Brand Ambassador from Goose Island Beer Company, has been educating racers about beer at sailing events at Columbia Yacht Club for two years.

Russell envisioned a fun night of racing as a way to introduce Goose Island employees to a sport that's become synonymous with their company. It would be a free race with complimentary post-race beer, and 12-packs for all registered boats and guest crew members.

A Wednesday night race the week after the Beer Can Series ended seemed the optimal date. Initially, Russell and Jack Blake, Goose Island's Field Activation Coordinator, hoped at least 15 boats would sign up. Another Goose and local racer, Jason Gilbert, and I tag-teamed hassling boats to be a part of the fun. By 5PM on race day, we had 54 boats on the line.

There weren't even enough Goose Island employees (or Geese) to go around, and several boats were mildly insulted that they didn't have a guest crew member—anyone from a sales rep to a head brewer. Herding the Geese to their boats was a bit of a challenge, but they all made their boat call, sailing on everything from an Andrews 77 to one-designs like J/105s and T-10s.

For once in Chicago racing history, the weather was perfect - a steady 10 knots in cool, fall breeze. I paced aboard the Club Ship hoping the breeze wouldn't die, praying that the Geese were having a good time and swearing up and down that boats would mind their manners. At a few miles offshore all I could see were tiny twinklings of lights on the horizon. At 8:30 P.M., "\$&*#", it's dark. I should've started the race an hour earlier. Wait; it's a night race - darkness is fine." But finally those twinkling lights got brighter and the boats started packing onto the dock.

If the Geese wanted to be put to work, they were put to work. "I was doing it! Down there squirreling the kite and pulling it up," said Jack of his time on the course. Another couple of women were awestruck after sailing on a Beneteau 36.7, with one of them saying, "This was the best time I've had all year!"

More than 350 people from 54 boats returned to the Club where, true to sailor party form, they descended with ravaging thirst on three kegs and made quick work of 1,200 tacos. For a Wednesday night at the end of the season, it was a terrific way to start a tradition. 🚩



BY NICK PHILP
GENERAL MANAGER
nick@colyc.org

From our General Manager



NICK PHILP

Days are becoming shorter, the harbors are emptied out and Columbia Yacht Club is phasing into “off-season” activities and operations. After the busiest summer in Club history, some people assume that winter is time for the staff to relax and the Club to be quiet. The staff and committees could not disagree more with this notion. The boats are away, but the Club members should still play!

The Activities Committee is as busy as ever with our traditional fall, holiday and family events. Annual events like the Children’s

Halloween party, the Children’s Christmas Party, Jingle Bell Rock and Decorate the Abby are all on the calendar once again. Keep an eye out for some additional events like the Columbia’s Holiday Jazz Night and other events to stimulate mind, body and taste buds.

Cooler months also mean it’s time for improvements around the Club Ship. Even before the House Committee gets into their January projects, there is much to be done. On the list for this year are finishing the wood work in the dining room, repairing paint issues and improving plumbing around the *Abby*. It’s not all glamorous, but it is all important. Another big change is the new, much more professional and user-friendly website. If you haven’t yet logged on, visit www.ColumbiaYachtClub.org and do some exploring on the site.

This is the time of year I always write about getting involved with committees. Columbia is unique among clubs of our stature in that we benefit from volunteer members who give their time and talents to make this Club better for all members. All committees can use help, but some are very ambitious and need many hands and minds. If you want to get involved but are not sure about the right fit, please email me or call for more information. 

STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

ANY COLUMBIA STAFF MEMBER CAN BE REACHED BY CALLING THE CLUB AT **312-938-3625 (312-WET-DOCK)** OR VIA EMAIL AT THE ADDRESSES BELOW:

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Leukemia Cup Series Raises a Record **\$421,000**

Four amazing events, one rained-out regatta and record fundraising made 2014 a banner year for the Chicago boating community and the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS).

The Leukemia Cup Regatta weekend, once again hosted by Columbia, began with Red Sky Night on Friday, August 22. More than 250 guests enjoyed amazing food, generous complimentary pours and a beautiful evening on the lakefront. The skies were clear, the atmosphere inspired, and everyone reveled in the opportunity to party with a purpose.

If Friday night was perfect for a party, Saturday has to go down as one of the best race days on record. Who cares if gale-force winds and torrential rain forced

the Race Committee to abandon the race? After a quick meeting, Leukemia Cup organizers and CoLYC staff turned lemons into lemonade and threw a spectacular race-day party under the tent. In lieu of rounding the marks, each section competed for top honors and brag flags by throwing their hat at the mark, literally, with those coming closest to the mark taking first place.

Even though the boats weren't rafted three-deep, the party under the tent at Columbia rivaled any of the past year's dock parties...and then some. It was the perfect cap to a phenomenal summer of philanthropy.

Congratulations and THANK YOU to all who participated in 2014 Leukemia Cup events. Every effort, large or small, gets us closer to a world free of cancer. 



2014 LEUKEMIA CUP REGATTA TOP FUNDRAISING TEAMS

- 1st** *Jahazi* Frank & Lori Giampoli \$44,662
- 2nd** *Allegro* Matt & Tracy Howard \$40,585
- 3rd** *Sail Travis* Travis Wilhite & Honore Woodside \$38,225
- 4th** *Trident* Jeff Janicek \$15,325
- 5th** *Liberty* Pam Gaffigan \$13,913





SO, HOW DID WE END UP? The \$421,000 raised by Chicago area yachtsmen is a stellar effort and enough for us to retain second place in national Leukemia Cup fundraising. Third-place Savannah, Georgia, raised \$393,280. San Francisco remains the top national fundraising city, this year turning in \$470,077.

**2014 LEUKEMIA CUP REGATTA
"HIT THE MARK" FIRST PLACE FINISHERS**

- JAM 1** – Scout William Bishop
- JAM 2** – Club Lunasea Thomas Dickinson
- JAM 3** – Striking Vanessa Gates
- CATALINA FLEET** – Moonshadow Teresa Viebach
- MULTI HULL** – Phenix Kevin Smith
- CRUISING SPINNAKER** – Restless Mike Lane
- CLASSIC YACHTS** – Mystic John Leach
- J-109** – Full Tilt Pete Priede
- T-10** – Slapshot Scott Sims
- 36.7** – Agitator Manuel Cordera
- PERF** – Ocean Jim Banovitz
- PERF 2** – Archimedes II Joe Hummel
- PERF 3** – Measure for Measure Brian Tobin



If this is the Off Season, We'll Take It.

Everyone is talking about the off season. About things winding down. About how we will miss our time on the water. At Columbia, the off season just means that we are off to even more fun!

As we move to shorter days and cooler nights, parties still abound. The Wine Club once again headed out on the late for their traditional end-of-season Wine Cruise, mixing reds, whites and nibbles during an evening aboard Ken Green and Jim Poppas' *Collective Aspiration*.

In October, the Lobster Boil once again served the delectable crustaceans to a capacity crowd, with enough drawn butter to float the Club Ship. The month drew to a close with the rail deck overrun by ghosts and goblins at the annual Kids' Halloween Party. The fall also saw the introduction of the Bear-down Brunch. And if the monsters of the midway don't deliver, the delicious food and specialty tailgating drinks will help ease the pain. 

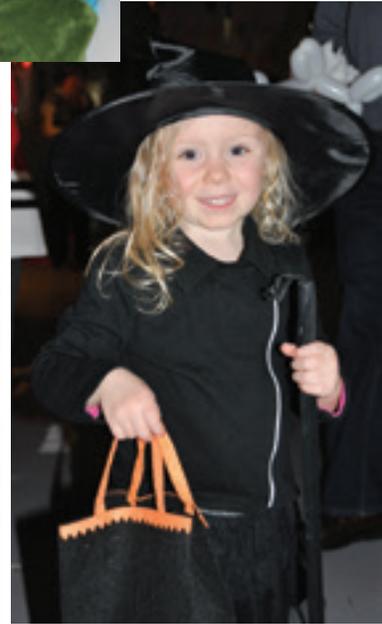
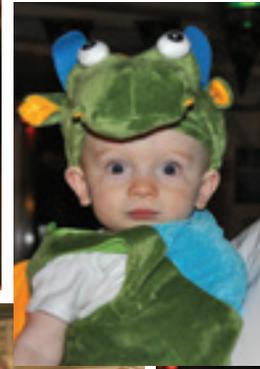
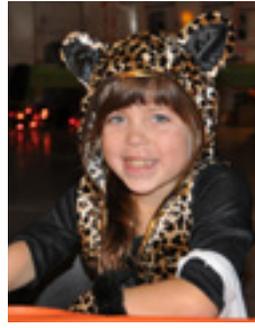
LOBSTER BOIL



BEAR DOWN BRUNCH



KIDS' HALLOWEEN PARTY



PHOTOS BY MARY ELLEN JOHNSTON

Something for Every Associate at Columbia

BY JEFF VANDER MEADE
ASSOCIATES REPRESENTATIVE
associates@colyc.org

Part of our mission is to improve the Club experience for all members.

Autumn is a time of change: leaves turn and fall, boats come out of the water, and food becomes colorful with hints of pumpkin spice. Seasons of change remind us of all the great times we had and allow us to reflect on our accomplishments. The Associates Committee does no less.

The Associates Committee has grown from a group of members looking for a sounding board to a full-fledged committee of advisors and action-seekers. Part of our mission is to improve the Club experience for all members. This year has seen huge participation, and we couldn't be more thankful.

Associate members of Columbia have access to the tools to become a more active yachts(wo)men. Whether

you join Skipjacks to learn the basics of sailing, or continue on to an adult program through our sailing school, or graduate to earning your basic keelboat certification, education at Columbia is available for all experience levels at affordable rates. Just pick the program you're most comfortable with, and you'll be an old salt before you know it.

To gain more sailing experience, Columbia provides access to J/22 vessels. Hone your skills on the water by renting one for a few hours, or the whole day! Not ready for going solo? No worries, the 2015 Skipjacks program is slated to include small-boat racing.

The new year is rapidly approaching, and the committee is constantly working to bring everyone at Columbia even more value for your membership dollar. We're putting together new ideas to make it even easier for all our members to meet new folks, get out on the water, race faster, and enjoy themselves.

All of these improvements have been thanks to your feedback and encouragement through our

Committee channels. It matters not where you start, just seek out a committee chair and plant a seed. Together, we grow your ideas into benefits for the Club as a whole.

Do you have great ideas? Come join the Associates Committee on the first Thursday of every month (except January) at 7:30pm. We generally gather in the bar and, from there, find a space to meet where we can all share ideas and gather feedback to improve your Columbia experience.

Can't make the meetings? Fear not! Just email Associates@ColYC.org and we'll add you to the committee announcement list. As a part of the mailing list, you'll get meeting minutes, updates, and requests for feedback if you're not able to attend in person.

As we close out a record 2014, let me thank each and every one of you for making Columbia Yacht Club the most enjoyable experience on Lake Michigan.

Only together can we continue our long history as a world-class institution. 



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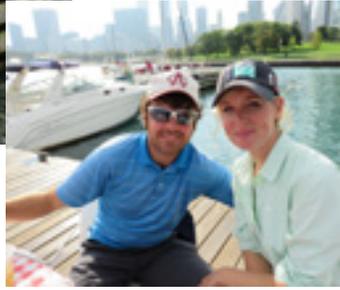
BY JEFF VANDER MEADE
ACTIVITIES CHAIR
activities@colyc.org

The Law of Activities



According to the Columbia Yacht Club by-laws, each year the Activities Committee, "shall arrange for and manage dinners, dances, and other social functions as in its judgment will be conducive to the welfare of the Club and the pleasure of the members."

So, remember, activities at Columbia must be pleasure for the membership. It's the law!



We've had great success in the past with many activities that have become beloved traditions, but we don't like to let things get stale at Columbia. That's where you come in!

Let's get together and think up new things. You'd be surprised at how many Columbia classic events started as a simple suggestion that popped up in committee. Fear not, though, we don't have to reinvent the wheel every year. Our best work comes from simply freshening up our current plans and bringing ideas for new

fun to the table.

The Activities Committee gathers every month (including January!) on the first Thursday at 6:00pm. This is where we party plan for the coming months. You don't need any special gifts or talents to participate, you just need to love a good party! And with more hands on deck, it's really just a small commitment from each of us to bring a year's worth of fun to everyone.

And if you can't make the regular meeting, just email activities@colyc.org and we'll add you to our mailing list. We send out meeting minutes and committee announcements so you'll never miss out on any of the committee news.

Come join the fun and 2015 will be an incredible year! 



Team McMurray

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Winter Specials are Sizzling in the Bar and Grill

The harbor is now empty but the *Abby* is not going anywhere. There is still plenty of good food and drink to enjoy at Columbia to help us forget the weather outside and pretend it is still boating season!

The menu has been updated with some seasonal fall dishes like seared Moulard duck breast complimented by a lentil and bacon salad with a burgundy reduction. Also try the delicious braised beef short rib with mushroom risotto, wilted arugula, and a balsamic reduction. Anyone who likes chicken thighs will love our lemon and oregano boneless chicken thighs with rutabaga puree, demi zucchini and patty pan squash. Our healthiest entrée this fall is a Scottish salmon with quinoa

rotini, lemon, spinach, parmesan, and a tomato fennel ragout. New appetizers include fried pickles, jalapeno bacon wrapped shrimp with fire roasted tomato vinaigrette and cilantro lime mayo, and sweet potato wedges with a pomegranate mayo.

For those looking for something a bit lighter, the fall frisee salad with roasted beets, pistachio nuts, goat cheese, and apple honey vinaigrette is sure to please. As is the fall panzanella salad with spinach, cornbread croutons, roasted brussels sprouts, sweet potatoes, red onion, and maple mustard vinaigrette. Everyone has to try the vegan butternut squash posole served with fresh tortilla chips, guaranteed to warm you up on that cool fall day.

If you haven't yet, the flatbreads are worth trying— we are now preparing the dough for these from scratch in house and they come out light, crispy and loaded with

toppings! (Not for Chicago deep dish lovers but we cannot compete there!)

The membership spoke and we listened: the new menu features multiple vegetarian, vegan and gluten-free options, all of which are clearly marked. We look forward to your feedback on these new choices.

The \$30 Prix Fixe menu has made its return – what better way to end the week than meeting friends and enjoying a three-course meal? To really start the weekend right, add on a three-wine tasting flight for only \$12. These wines are also being offered by the glass for \$12 – a chance to try something different than the regular Colby Red or Chardonnay.

In the bar, check out some winter warming drinks like a classic Irish coffee, hot toddy, or a Rumchata hot cocoa. Always ask for the nightly drink special and check



BY SARAH TROMANS
BAR & GRILL CHAIR
barandgrill@colyc.org

out the chalkboard for further special deals.

In addition to the regular food and drink offerings, winter means more time to get involved with special events. Here are some highlights:

WINE DINNERS – six times each winter we spotlight different wine regions. Watch the website, monthly billing statement or the weekly update for details of these events as they come up.

BINGO BRUNCH – a great way to win prizes while enjoying a brunch on a winter Sunday morning. Take advantage of the Mimosas and Bloody Mary offers and then move into the bar to take in the football game.

Speaking of football, also join us for our brand new Bear Down Brunch every Sunday during football season. Grab a Ditka Scramble, Grid-Waffle Iron, Man-mosa or Bear's Bloody along with featured

specials based on the teams playing.

TRIVIA NIGHT – now back on the

second Wednesday of each month, keep the racing crew together for a different kind of competition. There are prizes (maybe even the chance to get another red hat to add to the collection) and food and drink specials.

A big thank you to Nick, Ryan, Alberto and the bar & grill team for their great work keeping our energy up over the busy summer months! They do a fantastic job, juggling high-end events, a packed out bar, busy deck and dining room plus late night food for hungry racers. 

BAR & GRILL FALL SPECIALS

TUES	\$2 off Mixed Drinks, Wines by the Glass and Tacos
WEDS	\$4 Select Craft Beers
THURS	Half-Price Draft Beer and Sangria, \$6 Burger Night
SAT	\$23-\$35 Prime Rib
SAT/SUN	\$3 Bubbly, \$5 Bloodies

Other specials are regularly posted on Facebook so “like” the Club and keep up-to-date with the latest prix fixe menu offering or drinks specials. The new website calendar and Weekly Updates also include announcements of special events or changes in hours of operation in the Bar or Dining Room.

We pride ourselves on flexibility, so please make sure the Chef or wait staff are aware of any food allergies, dietary restrictions or special requests. Also, as always, if there is anything you don't see on the menu, please ask.



Rum and sailors go hand in hand,

but how many sailors know the history of the Columbia favorite, the Dark and Stormy? Back in 1863, the Gosling brothers started off by selling their rum out of the barrel. Later they switched to champagne bottles, securing the corks with black sealing wax. This led people to start asking for the, “black seal rum.” Over time the

barrel-juggling baby black seal was born. An easy drink to make either at home or on the boat, fill your glass three quarters of the way with ginger beer and top off with Gosling's rum, a squeeze of lime and you're done. For a twist on the Dark and Stormy, substitute vodka for rum, serve in a copper mug and you have a Moscow Mule.



5



4

1 FALL FRISEE ROASTED BEETS, PISTACHIO, GOAT CHEESE & APPLE HONEY VINAIGRETTE 2 LEMON & OREGANO CHICKEN THIGHS RUTABAGA PUREE, DEMI ZUCCHINI & PATTY PAN SQUASH 3 SALMON ROTINI QUINOA ROTINI, LEMON, SPINACH, PARMESAN & TOMATO FENNEL RAGOUT 4 SEARED SCALLOPS PESTO SPAGHETTI SQUASH, PARMIGIANO REGGIANO & TOMATO FENNEL RAGOUT 5 BUTTERNUT SQUASH POSOLE WITH FRESH TORTILLA CHIPS

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BY RICH ALLEN
DOCK COMMITTEE CHAIR
dock@colyc.org

A Treasure for Everyone

As Summer 2014 fades into memory, things are winding down on the dock. Members have their boats in winter storage. The junior sailing school has pretty much wrapped up for the year and the big boat races have all been won or lost.

It was quite a successful summer of parties and events, proving once again that there's something for everyone on the Columbia Dock.

The Skipjacks wrapped up their season with a record number of participants and the Wednesday night races were all extremely well attended.

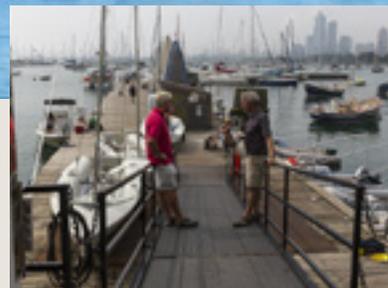
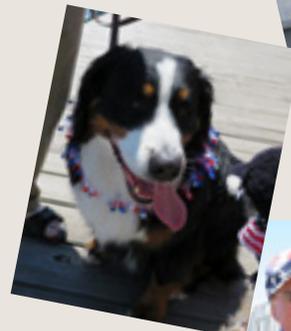
Once again our kick-off to the Independence Day celebrations was an All-American hit. Dog Days on the Dock was a perfect summer afternoon's diversion for our four legged friends and their owners.

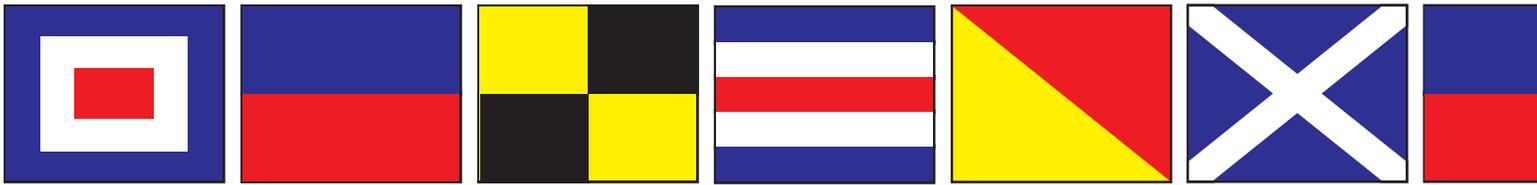
On the fundraising side, The Leukemia Cup Regatta, although cancelled due to weather, was one of the most successful fund raising events in the country and one innovative after-party. The Power fleet's pot luck dinner was a huge success and will be repeated in coming years. The Poker Run and Stand Up Against Blood Cancers SUP races were extremely popular and brought many members, guests and other fundraising supporters to the docks.

As we go into fall and winter months, look for improvements on the dock. We will be replacing the eastern dock boards on A Dock as well as rebuilding the floating dock so it will sit lower in the water. With the lake up 21 inches over last year, it has been a challenge for our newest sailors to launch boats with the added dock height.

Plans are in the works for reconfiguring the gazebo and adding a more permanent shaded area on C Dock. Keep your eyes and ears open for a volunteer call to help with construction of the new enclosure this spring.

All and all, a pretty successful season has come to a close but we can all look forward to 2015 and even more great times on one of the Club's most valuable assets. 





Abby's Allure Keeps Bringing 'Em In . . .

Elizabeth Auer and **Chase Keane** are excited to join the ranks of Columbia members. Having attended Club events with friends, they certainly know their way around the ship. Both look forward to spending time with old friends and meeting new friends on the *Abby*. Our wine club and possibly learning to sail are on their list, as well.

Monica Brent and **Steve Call** enrolled in Skipjacks this year at the recommendation of their friends, Columbia members Cynthia and Wayne Ringer. Suffice to say, their experience was great! With some learning under their belts, they hope to spend more time on the water, both cruising and racing.

Michele Carney is no stranger to Columbia Yacht Club. Between racing in the beer cans and winning trivia night, Michelle is already plugged into the Columbia culture. Need a Trivia Night ringer? She's your gal.

Martin Cooney graduated from our Skipjack program and plans to continue his sailing education through the new Advanced Skipjacks program. Living a couple blocks from the *Abby*, it'll be easy for him to come over for last-minute crew opportunities. He hopes to get on the water with other members as often as possible. Any captains looking for crew?

Matt Freund learned about Columbia at Strictly Sail then decided to give us a trial run as a Skipjack. He was hooked and wants to continue his sailing education. Perhaps Advanced Skipjacks is in his future?

Tara Fumerton and **David Porter** moved her 11 years ago from Iowa. Sailing weekly through Skipjacks, Tamara absolutely loves being on the water and wonders why it took her so long to join Columbia. They're not waiting so long to introduce their children to sailing; last summer they enrolled them in "Shark Bait."

Melissa Harman and **Daniel Zeman** have been beer can crew for the last three seasons. This engaged couple is considering holding their wedding at the Club. House Committee take note: working on house projects in January is something he's considering as well.

Janice and **Boyd Jarrell** are pleased to join other family members at Columbia. Their son, Boyd Jarrell (BJ) is a member as is their nephew Robert Davis. Look for Boyd's new J/88, *Slot Machine* whenever the boats are racing. Family, location and services drew them to the Club, but Boyd makes the point that "the more you commit, the more fun you have."

Conor Joyce plans to buy a boat with friends and joined Skipjacks to get a good sailing foundation. What will he bring to Columbia? Energy, time, and a desire to share sailing knowledge with new members. Skippers: please look up Conor in the directory and invite him sailing. After this year's Skipjacks sessions, we're sure he would like to see what it's like to sail when it's NOT raining.

Jennifer and **Kyle Kovacs** are jumping right in at Columbia, spending time socializing, dining, and sailing with new friends—so we're certain they won't be bored this winter. Skipjack Jennifer can show Kyle the ropes next year when he signs up for the program.

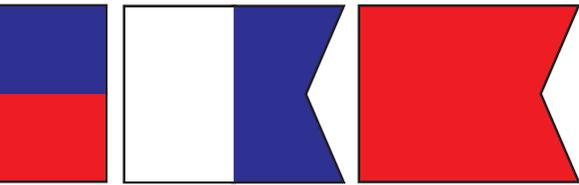
Corissa Landphair enjoyed the Skipjack experience so much she couldn't imagine not joining the Club. Corissa grew up on powerboats in Ohio, where her parents are members of Sandusky Yacht Club. Corissa has a lot of energy and is hoping to show off her Skipjack skills on some boats next summer! With her newfound sailing knowledge, she'll be great crew.

Brian Lovetere lives in the suburbs and works in the city, so he plans to use the *Abby* as his downtown "home away from home" for business and family socializing and dining. Loving the water, Brian is pleased to be enjoying the lakefront again. As a child Brian spent time at Navy Pier fishing. House committee notice: Brian considers himself handy.

Greg Ochab, a Chicago resident and Skipjack, enjoys cruising but plans to give racing a try as well, so Skippers take note. Greg loves boating of any kind and is eager to learn. Off the water, the social aspects of Columbia appeal to him.

Michael Pietrzak (aka MP) is a lifelong Chicagoan who enjoys power boating. Mike is sure that his friends and business clients will enjoy the Club as much as he does. What does he plan to bring to the Club? We are assured that he brings his "bubbling personality."

Wendy Rand, who sailed with a yacht club back east, joined Skipjacks to "get her feet wet" and become involved with Columbia. Wendy plans to help out on race committee. Look for her taking a spin on her paddle board in the harbor – another opportunity for her to get out on the water.



Marie Regan may live in Schaumburg but feels that Columbia gives her a “reason to be downtown.” She is looking forward to making new friends, contributing to the Club and finding a reason to spend time onboard *Abby*. She likes “fixing things.” We will keep her busy in January!

Dylan Rogers is a neighbor of the *Abby* and has been interested in joining the Club since enjoying time aboard with friends who are already members. Dylan grew up in the area, and has a wide variety of interests.

Ashley Spataro and **Chas Allworth** have been around Chicago sailing with Columbia members and friends for years. They plan to tie the knot with a big fete at Columbia next July. These new members are very involved in charitable organizations and look forward to continuing that involvement at the Club.

Oliver Whybrow is a very social guy with a passion for sailing and all water activities. He loves to wine, dine, be active, meet new people and have fun. So we’d say Oliver has definitely found his niche at Columbia! Look for him racing on *Wave Dancer*.

Erika Williams grew up in Indianapolis racing Lasers. This summer she became a neighbor of the Club Ship *Abby* and she made her mark during the “Stand UP Against Blood Cancers” Paddle Board Regatta near the Columbia dock. She is interested in racing or being crew on a local cruise.



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Buffet- 11:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.

Santa- 12:00 P.M.

Please RSVP online or (312) 938-3625

CANCELLATION POLICY IN EFFECT. PLEASE NOTE THE NAME, AGE AND SEX OF CHILDREN ATTENDING FOR CRAFTS AND GIFTS