

O T Y C

OMENA, MICHIGAN

MAY, 1969

O T Y C

New Director Named For Youth Activities

The new Director for the 1969 OTYC Youth Program will be Miss Nanci Leo, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Willard Leo of Suttons Bay.

She has had two years of college training at Northwestern Michigan College and is presently completing her junior year at Central Michigan University where she made Physical Education Studies a part of her Elementary Training curriculum. She has served as counselor at 4-H Camps and spent one summer at Camp Dagget on Walloon Lake.

Nanci is qualified to teach tennis, swimming, boating, archery, folk-dancing and general youth activities. Her proposed program of lessons is printed in this issue. The schedule is flexible if need for changes arises.

Immediately upon the close of the school year at Central Michigan in June, Nanci is flying to Europe for a three-week sightseeing tour. She will return in time to be welcomed at our Club Opening on July 4th.

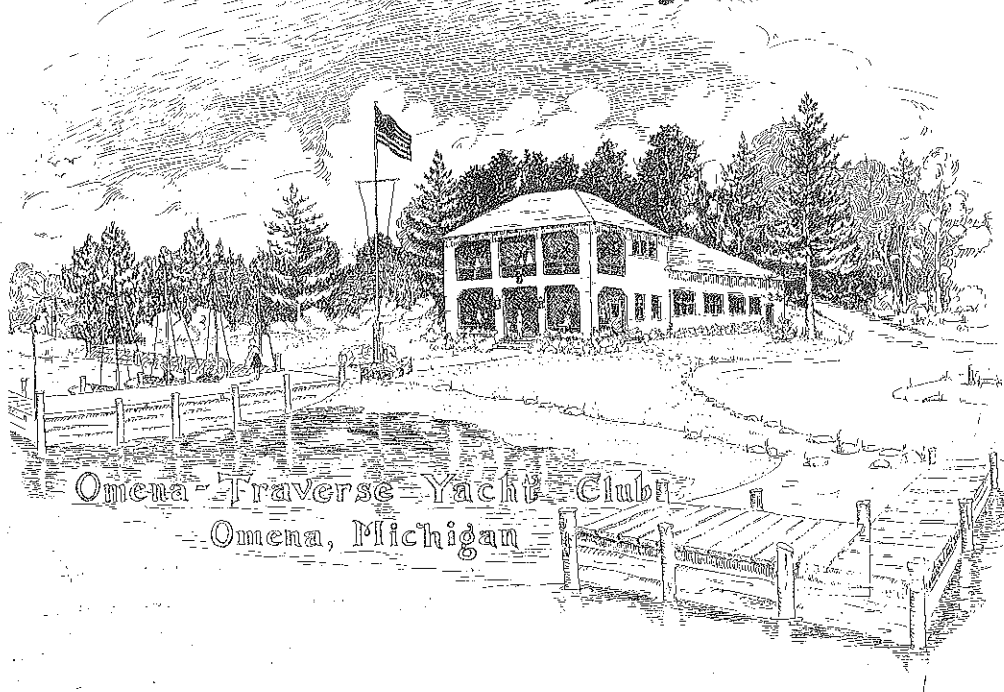
George Smith Regatta Scheduled August 2nd

An invitation was extended by OTYC to the Grand Traverse Yacht Club to again hold the George Smith Memorial Regatta at Omena. The Traverse City club has accepted and August 2 is the date set for this entertaining and colorful event.

Ken Lindsay of the Grand Traverse Yacht Club will be defending his title as last year's winner of the trophy.

The large fleet of Lightnings participating makes this one of the outstanding "yachting" projects by our club. It was this fine event which initiated and proved the worth of the new launching ramp, rushed to completion by the enthusiastic effort of a group of volunteer members.

Meetin' Time July 4th



Commodore's Message

Greetings:

After a winter of work and travel we again look forward to a delightful summer in Omena. It is my chief concern that the OTYC serves as a means of making these weeks as pleasant and interesting as possible. We are trying to have something of interest to all.

As I said in my December message that we were looking for a qualified person to direct the Youth Activities. Well, we have found such a person in Miss Nanci Leo of Suttons Bay. Not only will she direct the Youth Program but she will more or less supervise the club house during the day.

Martha Smith and Johnnie Hodgson are co-chairmen of the Social Committee.

Knowing their talents and originality, I am sure they will come up with something interesting after each Pot-luck supper.

It will be interesting to see what Mary Foltz has done with the redecorating of the Club House. Knowing Mary we can count on a good job well done.

The Calendar of Events will give you some idea of the program we have planned for the summer. It looks good and I hope we can execute it.

Mary Louise and I are looking forward to seeing you all at the opening dinner. Until then, best wishes to all.

Harold H. Root

Commodore

THE OMENA - TRAVERSE YACHT CLUB BREEZE

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Editor Preston Smith
Assistant Editor Lillian Taylor
Articles written by other members are signed by them.

OFFICERS 1968 — 1969

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Johnnie Hodgson, Margy Lyon
Membership Bob Morse,
Ken Hagemann, Don Patterson
Pot-Luck Supper Frances Lyon (July),
Kay Groll (August)
Finance Jim Smiley,
John Roth, John Ray

Your Attention, Please!

Attention of members, guests of members, renters from members and boaters is again called to the Marine Safety Act regarding the requirements for youth under 16 years of age to operate any power propelled boat of 6 Hp and over. This law became effective January 1, 1968.

The rule is as follows:

1. Those under 12 years of age can operate such a boat ONLY when accompanied by an adult 16 years of age or older.
2. Those between the ages of 12 and 16 can operate such a boat only
 - a. when accompanied by an adult 16 years or older, or
 - b. when in possession of a Boating Safety certificate after passing a course (5 hr) approved by the State. In Leelanau County this course is given by Sheriff Richard C. Steffens of Leland.

O.T.Y.C. Youth Program - 1969

Program starts Monday, July 7

Mon. - Tues. - Wed. - Fri.

Tennis	Swimming
9:00 Beginners	1:00 Beginners
10:00 Intermediates (Group A)	1:30 Advanced Beginners
11:00 Intermediates (Group B)	2:00 Intermediates
	2:30 Swimmers
	3:00-4:00 Safe Boating and/or Water Safety

MON. - TUES. - WED. FRI. "Rainy Day" - afternoon program 2-4:00 at the Club House - Games & Handicrafts

THURSDAY - Left free right now so that sailing may be worked in at this time. It will be announced later what will be planned for this day, after it is known whether a sailing program will go into effect.

SPECIAL EVENTS: To be announced

BASIC BOATING: If a rowboat and canoe are available, the use of these boats will be taught during the 3:00 - 4:00 hour

SQUARE DANCING and GROUP GAMES: will be a part of the rainy day activities. Volley ball, badminton, etc., will also be taught as requested

ARCHERY: Can be taught if some equipment is made available.

FEES

The counselor will keep a daily roll book for all classes.

The following payments will be due weekly at the beginning of each week. There will be a 50 cent penalty per family for payment not received by the end of each weekly class period.

The counselor will collect the fees and turn them over to the treasurer with a weekly record of the number of children participating in each class.

The bulletin board in the Club House entrance hall shall contain a weekly class schedule, special notices, etc.

The fees shall be \$3.00 for the first child in each household and \$2.00 for each child thereafter. This covers any and all classes which child is eligible for — Fee is payable for all or any portion of one week's participation.

Equipment: Tennis class students are asked to bring their own racquets and balls. Equipment for sailing, swimming, games, etc. will be provided by the Club. Sailboats for teaching will be made available

No Winter Damage

The Club property seems to have come through the winter very well. The backstops around the tennis court are all in place, which is better than your editor can say about his. There was ice in the bay this winter, but it didn't "move" as it has some years, so the catwalks are all right. There are several pilings around the outside of the main dock that are broken, but the Docks Committee will be looking into that later and making their recommendations. I don't know where the mice and rabbits went this winter, but they don't appear to have gotten into the hedge in front of the Clubhouse. Work is going ahead on re-doing the Snack-Bar and it should be finished for opening day.

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Scenes like this, taken last summer at the George Smith Memorial Regatta, will be repeated soon as the Omena-Traverse Yacht Club begins another season of activities for both younger and older members.

Heroic Action Told in Letters

Chris Verdery Wounded in Action

Hazel Taylor received word recently that her grandson, Chris Verdery, son of Patricia Taylor Kulick, was wounded in action in Vietnam on the 21st of April. He was wounded by shrapnel in the chest and abdomen and had a broken arm.

The middle of April, Chris' grandmother had a letter from him describing his experience on his tenth patrol when he had been "right next to the Viet Cong, without knowing it. The VCs were headed right toward us, though they couldn't see us in the dark. They had sneaked by everyone else and were carrying weapons that would have destroyed us." Fortunately the machine gunners in Chris' nest saw the VC first and fired first. Of course, the US gunners could not know how many VC had been killed until daylight. Chris ends his letter by saying not to worry, and, "as I am told, one very seldom makes contact with the Viet Cong in this, one of the quieter areas of the country."

Soon after receiving this letter, his mother received the Defense Dept. message that Chris had been wounded in combat. A letter to his mother, dictated to a Red Cross worker, said not to worry, he was sure that his wounds were not serious and, "I'm sending you my Purple Heart."

The Army doctors said it would take Chris six months to recover. The Adjutant General's office said "prognosis good". He was sent to Japan for surgery, and in bandages and cast was evacuated to the U.S. and able to phone his mother from San Francisco.

Gradually, the story of the VC ambush attack when he became a casualty, was disclosed. When Chris' unit was surprised one of Chris' comrades was hung up and torn in a VC net, and bleeding profusely. Chris went against the VC fire in order to rescue him. At ten feet, Chris received a machine gun burst. His arm was broken, the nerve shattered, bullets and fragments lodged in numerous places in his body, but miraculously, none inflicted a mortal wound.

Chris was able with his good arm to untangle his comrade and pull him back where the sergeant could help in carrying him to the helicopter. On the way the sergeant was hit and Chris a second time; two pilots were also hit.

It is a corpsman's military duty to protect and give aid to the wounded, but the comrade, still partly paralyzed, whom Chris rescued, considers Chris' action heroic "above and beyond the line of duty".

To his mother, Chris expressed great joy over being back in the U.S.A., and said that being wounded as he was, was the luckiest thing that ever happened to him! He hoped that in time he would be able to use his hand and fingers as well as his arm. If his wounds had been slight, he would have been back in the combat units, because he could not have left them in the lurch—they needed men so badly! He was happy for himself, he can tell funny stories about army life, but he grieves for those men who have to stay on in Vietnam, grieves more for those who will never come back from that war-torn land.

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News About Members

Blanche and Earl Moore will be up about the first part of June for the summer having spent the Christmas holidays and much of January in California and topped that off by going to Mexico for the spring vacation term.

Eloise and Dan Bradley spent a couple of weeks in Kansas City, Mo., with their daughter, Barbara, this spring, and are planning to have their son, Dan, and family up with them for the summer. "About" the 10th of June is their hoped-for arrival date. Several of us should be up here by then.

Leona and Bill Millroy were not believers as far as the earthquake stories were concerned, so they have stayed on in California and enjoyed themselves. Unless the State does sail off into the ocean, they will be coming back to Northport about the end of May. But there won't be any snow left then, Bill. (Maybe)

For those of you that subscribe to the "Leelanau Enterprise", you already know just about how many people come up in winter to visit and enjoy the weather and the peace and quiet. Ruth Craker is pretty good at finding out just who came and when—of course, the news may not get printed for several weeks, but no matter.

Flo and Ho Wheeler took several little trips this winter to St. Clair Shores here in Michigan and to Chicago. Right now they are having their view of Omena Bay expanded by having the dead or dying elms taken down along the bank by their house.

Mary and Ben Foltz spent much of the winter in Arizona. Mary hasn't written to me about just what they did because, I believe, she has got her hands into the re-doing of the Snack-Bar at the Club.

The Flemings, Ruth and Bill, are just about done having their house done over. The new living room should be quite a sight when it is open to viewing. Of course, says Bill, you re-do one part of the house and that leads to other parts, etc., etc.

I suppose the Fred Gorhams could have told him about this as their house has also had a going-over and is much expanded and changed. And didn't I read or hear something about a new Groll house? I'm sure I did.

Caroline and Ed Oberndorf left just recently, via Northwest Orient, for Anchorage, Tokyo and other points west and south, with a group from the Council on World Affairs. The Tobins (who have visited Omena too) were also part of the group. Dutch and "I" (that's Mary Louise Vail) just returned from exploring Mayan ruins in Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico. Short planes for short runways; little jeeps for rocky streambed roads; new travel experiences on the way to fascinating sights. David and family may not be able to come up from Chile for the summer, but the rest of the Vails will be here.

The big news from the Tom and Martha Smith family is that their son Rink is going to spend the summer in Europe with Steve McCord. The boys will be over there for about three months. Neither Rink nor his mother have said just what will be done and just where they will be, but, I trust, most of their adventures will be printable next Fall in this paper. June 11th is their "take-off" Day. Debbie is graduating this spring from Cincinnati, but, as yet, has no big plans for attacking the "cold world". She won't be down at the Omena Beach, officially, anyway, as her sister, Jo, will be the lifeguard this year. For what's left of this part of the Smith family that can tear themselves away from trips, school and jobs, they will be up here for as long as they can this summer.

The Renz family (Marj and Andy) plan to spend as much time as they can up at their cottage this year. It will be nice to have them up enjoying themselves rather than recuperating.

"Greetings" from Anne Wellington and Clemewell Lay, who will (darn it) regretfully not be at Ingalls Bay this summer. They will be near Boston and might skip over to Cape Cod or up into Maine. This year is Anne's Fiftieth at Vassar and Clemewell's at Wellesley. We hope that things will have quieted down at the eastern schools before they arrive—or is it just the eastern boy's schools that are in such a turmoil right now? Fred Schaefer can tell them something about going back to 50th reunions.

The Huff's, Mary and Bill, just arrived back from a two weeks trip to Florida, Atlanta and points about. Youngest child, Nancy, is out of the hospital and back on her feet, so the whole family is impatiently awaiting summer and Omena—the only thing is, they don't know just for sure

when they will arrive—but they will. Mary advises taking your OTYC jackets with you on all trips, south or west. Are you the jacket salesman this year, Mary?

At the moment, Margo Rule is down in North Carolina visiting two of her daughters, Alis Robinson and Jo Cromartie.

Peg and Bob Morse spent February and March at the Gulf & Bay Club, Siesta Key, Sarasota, Florida. Peg continued her oil painting at the Chase School, and Bob bowled-on-the-green every morning. They met Emily Nash Smith and were pleased to see one of her paintings in a show at the Sarasota Art Center:

They went to Florida by way of Waco, Texas, to visit daughter Jane and Dr. Bob Saxton and children. The Saxtons reciprocated by coming to Cleveland in April for a neuro-surgeons' meeting. On their way home the Morses stopped in Atlanta to visit son Tom who has just become Southeastern Regional Sales Manager for the H.F. Smith Co., Burlington, Ontario. His family remains in New Jersey for the time being.

The Morses are planning to go to Europe in August and take grandson, Clark Saxton, with them. They will be in Omena from the middle of June to August 1st.



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OMENA TRAVERSE YACHT CLUB

PROPOSAL FOR

DOCK IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

In the past, it has been the desire of the OTYC Members to provide the best facilities within their means for all of its Members. In following this program, the Club has maintained a Clubhouse, although it has not always been utilized by all members. Further, a tennis court and youth activity program was financed by the full membership, although they were not utilized by all. In years past the dock was provided for the club by the full membership, however its capacity was limited to only five storage slips.

Now, it is obvious that the dock may not weather another winter and portions of it are close to collapse and further use of this dock is likely hazardous to both people and boats alike. Anticipating that these dock facilities would shortly be useless, the Commodore appointed a Committee some time ago to study the situation. This committee is composed of Norman Johanning, Al Cherne and Sid Griffiths. They have made the following recommendations:

- 1). While the present dock facilities could be reconditioned, the cost is excessive and is heavily out of proportion when the reconditioning expense is weighed against the fact that only 5 slips are possible.
- 2). The Committee is in agreement that demand for more dockage space is inevitable and necessary and that there is need for safe mooring facilities as evidenced by the problems demonstrated to boat owners in the summer of 1969.
- 3). New facilities are desirable and needed to maintain the quality and facilities of the OTYC and that with these facilities, enlargement of the membership is inevitable. Further, these facilities will provide the basis for a sound boating program for young and old alike and will encourage boating activities by more members.

These recommendations were made known to the membership at the Annual Meeting of the OTYC on August 7, 1969. At that meeting Membership in attendance unanimously asked that committee to persue their discussions with potential contractors and to work towards finalizing plant for alternate dock facilities, and further that a Special Meeting be called to review this dock program.

Notice of the Meeting was sent to ALL Members and was held at the Clubhouse on August 22, 1969 with approximately 60 members represented in person or by proxy. Tentative dock plans were reviewed and following discussion a motion was made and unanimously approved to have the Dock Committee finalize their plans for a new dock and to have such plans meet the approval of the regulatory authorities, i.e. Michigan Conservation Commission, Coast Guard etc., as required.

It was obvious that any new dock facilities are contingent on the ability to finance them and while the O.T.Y.C. has around \$4,000 on hand, such amount is quite inadequate. The estimated cost of the new facilities is approximately \$30,000. There are about 100 families in the Club. The possibility of financing by voluntary contributions, bank loans, assessment and other means were discussed. The present O.T.Y.C. Constitution does not provide for assessment of members.

To assist you in arriving at a decision, a sketch of the new proposed dock facilities is attached which hopefully are self explanatory.

In the study of the Dock Program by the Board of Directors, more realistic dock rental fees are anticipated and with more slips available, the additional revenues will provide funds to meet plant upkeep, lessening the financial burden on the members as a whole.

PLEASE complete the enclosed voting sheet within ten days and return it in the enclosed stamped envelope as the committee would like to arrange for purchase of some of the materials and do some of the work this fall so as to lessen ultimate costs. As some members have evidenced and interest in making a voluntary contribution in addition to being in favor of an assessment, the enclosed voting sheet makes provision for recording such voluntary contributions. Any comments you care to make would be appreciated by the Board of Directors.

Yours for the finest Club of Grand Traverse Bay.

Sincerely,

Harold H. Root

Harold H. Root, Commodore

For the Officers and Board of Directors
of the Omena Traverse Yacht Club



Upon his graduation from East Grand Rapids High School next month, Jonathan Cain will again spend the summer sailing as paid crew on "Cygnus", a 50-foot ketch, on charter out of Charlevoix. Jon spent an interesting summer last year on the boat taking numerous chartered trips to the various islands in the North Channel as well as the harbors along northern Lake Michigan. Though he will not be able to defend his FJ title at OTYC he wonders if there will be sailing and contenders in that class this year.

Sheila and Mike Fleming managed to get away after the holiday season for a few days in New Orleans. They are back now living and both working in Traverse City.

Which brings to mind, "Shilroy", I missed getting your newsy little letter this time. We will expect a good one in the fall.

The Linns, Alice, John and children, took a long swing through the South on their spring vacation. Several days in Washington, D.C.—education; New Orleans—rain; Pompano Beach—fun and frolic. John will be up this summer for a real good spell, instead of "just weekends", but Jeff will be off in Minnesota at camp for the whole summer.

"Sis" and Wick Wickmeyer's son, Jim was married on April 12, 1969 in Millbrae, California to the former Synette Fairchild. Jim is stationed at Yuma, Arizona, with the Marines.

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In Memoriam

Mrs. David DeVore, Sr.

A valued friend and member has been lost to the Omena Traverse Yacht Club and community in the death in Cincinnati on May 4th of Ruth L. DeVore following a long illness. Funeral services were conducted on May 7th at Knox Presbyterian Church.

Dave and Ruth DeVore were among the early contributors and ardent supporters of the Club and gave of their time and counsel for over thirty years. David DeVore also served as Club Commodore several years prior to his death in 1964.

Ruth returned here for several summers after the death of her husband and said she always looked forward to "coming home" to her Omena cottage. Her warm and gracious friendliness will be missed by all who knew her.

Survivors are her daughter, Joanne Roth of Cincinnati, two sons, David, Jr. of Cincinnati and Leonard of California and eight grandchildren.

Hazel Taylor had a happy Christmas with the Dick Taylors in South Hamilton, Mass., where Chris joined them for one day before shipping over. On the way home, she stopped in Swarthmore, Pa., to see her sister, Helen, and Helen's family, the Bob Reeds. Arrived home (that's here in Omena) just in time to be snowed-OUT, plowed-out and then snowed-IN. Flu, pleurisy, etc., and several days in the hospital followed. (That wasn't a very nice welcome home.) Hazel wants to let her friends in OTYC know that she did appreciate all of the concerned notes that she got — whether she answered them or not.

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Irma and Ken Hagemann were on a 45 day cruise to the Orient from Nov. 24th until Jan 7th. Honolulu, Hong Kong, Bangkok, Tokyo and Yokohama — many miles, many days, a nice trip. At present they are in Laguna Beach, California, still looking at the Pacific Ocean, but planning to start back this way in early May via Kansas City and St. Louis. Arrival time in "The Spot" — about May 17th. (You owe me 2 cents, Ken, Air Mail rates went up while you were away.)

"After a non-winter in Cincinnati", writes Rat Renz, "the children and I spent a nice long weekend at Omena the end of February. Highlights included walking from Omena to the Yacht Club across the ice, a snowmobile ride and a visit to Sugar Loaf (non-skiing, that is) The ice walk was nice, until we came upon a hole big enough to drop a good-sized car through. Made it across, nevertheless—the ice, not the hole. Billy is serving on the petit jury for now and Rat has just completed a Girl Scout Training Course. Cynn timer is trying to rush things along so she can be a Junior High student, rather than just a grade-schooler, and Andy is sorting out his fingers so he can play something on the accordin. Yum is just plain looking forward to summer.

Pat Kulick will be up for a short time in June, mostly to deliver the two boys to their grandmother's place. She will be returning in August for her real vacation.

Emily and Thearl Smith will be home soon. Emily has been kept busy with a one-man (woman?) show and Thearl with painting—the house.

Marion and Crammy Finn spent the holidays in Maumee with their daughter and family and then made their way to Key Biscayne for the month of January. They missed about 12 feet of snow, while it was falling, that is, but on their return and on their snowmobile, they spent the next two months travelling over the top of it. Much nicer, or at least easier, than using snowshoes. They are looking forward to seeing all of you at OTYC later this year.

Ellie and Jack Stephenson, besides making many, many trips up here during the fall and winter, also got away to tour through parts of the Carribean. Along the way they met up with Ged Carrington and even sent along a picture of Ged displaying his OTYC burgee. Can't print the picture because it was a color print—wish we could, though. The Stephensons will be up for another weekend in May and then, for real, in late June.

Calendar of Events for 1969

Friday, July 4 Opening Dinner
 Friday, July 4 Fireworks
 Sunday, July 6 Sailboat Warm-up
 Wednesday, July 9 Pot-luck Supper
 Sunday, July 13 Sail Racing
 Wednesday, July 16 Pot-luck Supper
 Sunday, July 20 Sail Racing & Picnic
 Wednesday, July 23 Pot-luck Supper
 Sunday, July 27 Sail Racing
 Wednesday, July 30 Pot-luck Supper
 Saturday, August 2 George Smith Memorial Regatta
 Sunday, August 3 Sail Racing
 Wednesday, August 6 Pot-luck Supper
 Thursday, August 7 Annual Meeting of Club
 Sunday, August 10 Sail Racing, Picnic & Song Fest
 Wednesday, August 13 Pot-luck Supper
 Sunday, August 17 Sail Racing
 Wednesday, August 20 Pot-luck Supper
 Saturday, August 23 Commodore's Dinner
 Wednesday, August 27 Final Pot-luck Supper

The regular schedule of club events is not fully complete, since there are several additional attractions to be added to the program as soon as the Social Chairman, Martha Smith, arrives in Omena and can work out the most desirable dates. The complete programs will be given out at the opening dinner July 4th.

Included in the plans are games of bingo following two of the regular pot-luck suppers. A white-elephant auction is also considered for another after-supper event. A style show and another evening

of travel via color slides as well as an additional catered dinner are all a part of the fun and entertainment planned for a good season of Club activity and companionship.

All pot-luck suppers will begin at 6:30 P.M. All other events such as parties, receptions and annual meeting will begin at 8:00 o'clock.

The Sunday sail races will start at 2:00 P.M.

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Opening Dinner
 July 4th