

Crescent History

1958

The club started what was to be one of the most eventful years in its history with Flag Officers Donald Fairchild, Commodore: E. G. Poxon, Jr., Vice commodore and Frank Taylor as Rear Commodore.

New members of the Board of Directors chosen at the December election were Charles Grant and Herb Mainwaring: Clark Taylor was chosen as Secretary.

As usual Crescent's New Year's Party started the social season and members Chet Reynaud and Charles Grant, Assisted by their wives, fashioned a gala event that over one hundred members attended.

Extensive foundation repairs on the Clubhouse went on most of the winter. Headed by Rear Commodore, Frank Taylor, some knowing, ambitious members strongly reinforced sagging beams and piles and replaced others - this all accomplished in cold, snow and ice.

A parasite group of cruising sailors was formed during the winter, known as the "Wailers, Sailors and Bailers". The group has no particular aims or objectives, unless it be a common bond of lonesomeness because they sail among a large majority of racing sailors.

The club marked with deep regret the passing of Helen B. Joy on March 13, 1958. She was our long-time benefactor who generously donated the use of her property to our interests. She was a devoted spectator to the sport of sailing and an ardent supporter and fan of Crescent Sail Yacht Club. For almost twenty-five years, she and the late Henry B. Joy Sr., donated the use of their property for the enjoyment of Crescent people. Just prior to her death in 1958, Mrs. Joy and her son, Henry B. Joy jr., agreed in a final act of generosity to deed their interest in the property to the club.

One of the first departures from Crescent tradition this year was the purchase of an Interlake Sloop by the club for use by the Juniors. This is the first time the club has provided a boat for any class of membership. Rules for its use were established and adjusted on the basis of experience. The Junior sailing program was given new impetus by the Interlake Sloop. The winner of the Thursday night race in Lightning's was designated to sail the Interlake in the D.R.Y.A. Regatta on the following Saturday.

April 19th and the Whitter Hotel were the date and place of the Commodore's Ball this year. About one hundred and fifty members and guests turned out to honor our most recent Past Commodore, Harry Mac Farlane.

In April the club broke with tradition and, for the first time, admitted the fairer sex as members. The break was a minor one in every sense of the word. Junior membership was granted to girls up to age eighteen.

The present Board of Directors well could be termed Liberals; they also relaxed the rule that only members can sail boats in and out of the harbor. Under the new relaxation of rules, a member can appear before the Board, vouch for the ability of his spouse or children and get an O.K. for them to skipper boats in and out of the harbors.

Crescent Day, with its games, watermelon race and picnic was observed on Sunday, July 13th.

Regatta Day was August 23rd, and we returned to our traditional good weather - lots of sunshine and enough air to make for fine sailing, and the turnout was above 160 craft. An added feature this year was a supper on the lawn at \$1.50 per person and an accordionist who entertained at the evening song fest.

Crescent members continued their winning ways locally, regionally and nationally during the season. In June, Jerry Jenkins won his second straight Penguin class championship. Hank Cawthra won his second straight Michigan District Lightning championship and Alex Allardyce placed fifth. Charles Haug and his Privateer won the North Channel Cruise in August. In the same month, in the Michigan Thistle event, Howard Boston took first Doug Wake second and Herb Mainwaring third. Also in the month of August, John Baude, Nan Millies and Jerry Grenzke came in second in the event that determined the D.R.Y.A. crew for Put-In-Bay.

Customs and traditions grow among people - and Crescent people are finding their 'One-Of-A-Kind' Race, held on a September Sunday, is attracting more and more entries each year. This year, about twenty classes participated, although the number in each class was limited.

Past Commodore Art Rautenberg is serving as Rear Commodore in the Detroit River Yachting Association and Past Commodore Ted Barbier has a like post with the Interlakes Yachting Association.

Past Commodores C.R. Sutton and R.E. Harris undertook extensive revisions in the club Constitution which was submitted to the membership, and its revision was approved.

Autumn events of importance were a Clambake on October 11th and Workday October 18th... and most important of all Past Commodore, Henry Cawthra, won the Lightning Internationals for the second time.

To replace its long-time faithful Bosun William Andrews, the club retained Jim Bruce and part-time Bosun K. Kastler.

Work was commenced on the Galley to make it more modern and attractive and to permit serving a wider choice of menus and confections.