



*"It isn't that life ashore is distasteful to me. But life at sea is better." - Sir Francis Drake*

The calendar says that spring is here, and I do see some boats in the harbor. However, as you'll agree, breaking free from the off-season has been difficult at best. Undaunted, we begin the 2011 social season at EYC.

**2011 Calendar** - This year's calendar is enclosed with this issue. Please hold onto it so that you're properly informed of all events through the summer.

**Opening Party** - The first party of the year will be held on Friday, June 3, at about 6:00 p.m. The party again coincides with the Fun Run car parade, so getting to the club before the roads get crowded is a good idea. Harkening back to past years, the Directors have decided that this will be a potluck affair, and all members are asked to consider bringing a snack or hors d'oeuvre. The club will provide ice, mixers, and some snack chips, so bring your drink of choice as well. This is always a fun, casual gathering, and a good way to see the parade from a great vantage point. Hope to see you all there.

**Club Condition** - Our resident inspector/fixer/all-around good guy, Chip Cipolla, reports that an inspection of the club shows everything in order and missing items being replaced. In addition, the Board has approved ten new deck chairs to replace the aging models which saw many a sunset from the deck in the past. The club will be sprayed for bugs in the near future, and Chip will again stain the deck and touch up any other necessities so that the club is ready to roll into summer 2011. Regular cleaning will again be performed by a crack crew from Lakestate Industries. Supporting that organization and the good work they've done over the last few years has been a win-win situation.

**Finances and Membership** - The Board of Directors reports that the Club's financial situation is satisfactory. Last year's social season brought in slightly less money than expenses incurred, but the overall picture is positive. Membership numbers are stable with many members paying their annual dues at the January banquet which was well attended.

**EYC Website** - Please remember that the yacht club has a website at [www.escanabayachtclub.com](http://www.escanabayachtclub.com), and we encourage members to visit to get updates on all current activities. Interestingly, we are regularly contacted by organizations, visiting boaters, and prospective members, so being online has worked well for the club. A recent addition to the website is the rental agreement. This document will answer many of the questions that commonly arise and give you direct access to all information you need to contact rental manager, Roxanne Branson should you or anyone you know, member or non-member alike, wish to privately rent the club.

**R/C Fleet** - Last year we mentioned the possibility of starting a radio-controlled sailboat fleet here in Escanaba. That idea is now a reality as several members of the club have purchased or are building one design radio-controlled boats. For more information, contact Terry Reynolds at 789-9485 or Don Pfothenauer at 786-9335.

**She will be remembered** - We mourn the recent passing of long-time EYC member, Barbara Growden, but will never forget the support she gave the club and the grace and laughter she brought to EYC events over the years. Our sympathies go out to Dick and the family.

**Personal Note** - Club member Bob Johnson and I will be leaving soon for another interesting boating adventure. We will be assisting Captain Mark Meyer in delivering his latest Oyster 62 assignment through the Panama Canal to the Pacific and up to southern Costa Rica where it will be picked up by a yacht transport ship to be taken to it's summer location of Vancouver, Canada. See you all at the harbor when we return.