

The Ottawa New Edinburgh Club, 1957-1975

Alan McCullough

The end of paddling forced a re-orientation of ONECC's program. Tennis continued to support the club while it searched for water based activities which would take advantage of the clubhouse's location and replace paddling. A declining membership and an aging clubhouse posed challenges which brought the club close to bankruptcy. In 1965 the club was re-organized as the Ottawa New Edinburgh Club and began a process of rebuilding both its program and facilities.

The history of ONECC before 1960 is mostly contained in the columns of the Ottawa newspapers, the *Citizen* and the *Journal*. As a result it is focussed on club activities which were reported in the sports sections of the newspapers - competitive paddling and, after 1925, tennis. From the 1950s on the newspapers devoted progressively less space to amateur sports. The club itself has preserved only a few records of its early years; however, from the mid-1960s onwards, there is a substantial base of club records - minutes of board meetings, accounts and annual reports - which form the raw material for an administrative history of the club. Consequently, the post-1960 history contains much more on the administrative history of the club and comparatively less on sporting activities than the earlier sections did.

In May of 1957 the Village of Rockcliffe announced that it would end its policy of making a grant in lieu of taxes to all clubs within its limits; ONECC protested that this would force it out of business. In September a *Journal* headline announced "Canoe Club Broke Can't Pay Bill." The club apparently didn't have the money to pay the \$220 tax bill; it was struggling to pay a \$1500 loan from the Bank of Montreal. Henri St. Jacques pointed out that the club received no services from Rockcliffe; both the road and the streetlights serving the club were provided by the Federal District Commission. The village did provide water but this was on a fee for service basis. The club also argued that it provided a public service and that its 275 members, most of whom were young, could not afford more than the \$28 per year membership they were already paying.¹ The club appealed the assessment to the Ontario Municipal Board in 1959 and, having lost the appeal, took the case to the Supreme Court of Ontario. Henri St. Jacques argued the case. Justice A. Aylen accepted St. Jacques' argument that the nominal rent of \$1.00 a year which the club paid was not, in law a valuable consideration and hence there were no grounds for taxes being levied. Justice Aylen also found that the clubhouse and the water lot on which it stood were not in the Village of Rockcliffe. The clubhouse was actually in Gloucester but, for reasons which are not known, Gloucester did not levy taxes on it.²

At the annual general meeting in September the reports from various activities indicated that 1957 had been a generally favourable year. Henri St. Jacques and Luc Legault were re-elected commodore and vice-commodore. Micheline Sincennes replaced Margueritte Pineau as secretary. (Sincennes was apparently replaced by Florence Guibert by the time the club opened in the spring of 1958.) Seven new board members were elected to the 1958 board: Ronald Dagenais, George Dallaire, Denis Delisle, Jean Laplaine, Jean-Marie

Leduc, Jacques Ranger, and Marcel Ouellette. A proposal by the outgoing board that the club be renamed the New Edinburgh Tennis Club was turned down by the membership.³ The rejection of the name change may have been a vote in favour of tradition; it may also have been an indication that there was still hope of continuing the club's water based activities.



1 Advertisement, *Ottawa Journal*, 25 April 1958.

An April 1958 advertisement for the club identified "new boat slips" as one of its attractions along with 11 tennis courts, seven of them all-weather, and four with lights. The club also had a canteen through the summer; apparently the canteen was operated under contract.⁴

Several paddling oldtimers died in 1957, 58 and 59. W.H. Blakely, a former ONECC paddler, hockey, football and tennis player, died in January 1957. Major A.A. Pinard, a life member of the club and captain of the 1904 war canoe, died in May. Pinard was also one of the founders of the Boy Scout movement in Ottawa, an officer in the Duke of Cornwall's Own Rifles, a former alderman and a long serving civil servant. Jack 'Baldy' Welsh of the Carleton Place Canoe Club died in May. He had placed second in the CCA double blade singles competition in 1900, had been a delegate at the CCA founding convention, and had only missed one CCA championship regatta.⁵ Roland Graham, a paddler and a hockey player, died in March of 1958. Mary Margaret Drummond who "kept a canoe at the Ottawa New Edinburgh Canoe Club" in her younger years and skied at Kingsmere and Ironside also died in March. William O'Halloran, an ONECC tennis player, skier, and father of Edith and Earl O'Halloran, died in September. Horace Merrill, the Canadian senior singles paddling champion in 1904, 1908, and 1909, and member of the Stanley Cup winning Ottawa Senators in 1920, died in December. Ivan Roy died in March of 1959. With his brother Eric he formed a successful paddling duo in the 1920s. Dave Gill, who had been commodore of the club in the 1920s, also died in March. In May John Munroe died; he had played centre for the ONECC team in the Ottawa Senior Hockey league. In November, 1959, Ray Tubman and William Anderson died. With Ernie Dunn, Tubman had won the CCA intermediate championship in 1915 and had been a member of ONECC's champion war canoe; he also had a post-war career with the Ottawa Rough Riders. Anderson had been on the ONECC board in the 1920s, had played on the club's rugby team, and had played with the Ottawa Rough Riders.⁶

In the late-1950s the club remained a popular social destination with dances a regular feature. One wit suggested that the club launched more beer bottles than it did canoes. During the spring tennis tournament in 1958 the club held a Friday night dance featuring Cammie Howard and his orchestra.⁷ In 1959 and 1960 the club hired an orchestra for two

or three nights a week for the summer months.⁸ Some of the dances were themed; the “Night of Fame” dance in 1960 featured numbers from the Pajama Game; in 1961 the club held a beatnik dance, a hard times dance, and a Jamaican dance. It also held an ‘annual’ weiner roast on Kettle Island.⁹ On at least one occasion the young Paul Anka and his band played the club:

Ah, the good old canoe club. I spent a large part of my childhood there as my parents were avid tennis players. My mother started there as a child. The clubhouse was known for its great dance floor. My parents saw a very young Paul Anka and his band play one of the dances at the club. My mother said how funny it was to see this very young kid ordering around the much older and bigger band members. He was clearly in charge and knew exactly what he wanted even then.¹⁰

Despite the dances and tennis activity, there are indications that the club was in difficulty. It was having trouble paying the orchestra, it needed a new piano, and, in a bid to raise funds, it was renting the tennis courts to the army for one day a week. In February of 1960 the executive sent out 80 letters to members for non-payment of dues; at the time it owed over \$1000 and had only \$21 in the bank. The club had about 210 paying members, down from over 400 in the early 1950s. In addition there were 82 unpaid members (probably shareholders in the clubhouse company) and a dozen honorary members. Tennis players made up about two-thirds of the club membership; most of the rest were classified as social.¹¹

In 1960 the club replaced the high level bridge which brought members to the clubhouse at the ballroom level with the current bridge which brings visitors into the clubhouse at the boat deck level. A surplus steel truss bridge from the Manotick area was purchased and moved to the club by Hurdman Bros. Ltd. in May of 1960. The bridge cost about \$1000 and the cost of moving it was about \$560.00. Apparently the club was unable to pay the complete cost of moving and installing the bridge and in 1964 Hurdman Brothers successfully sued the former president of ONECC for payment of the debt.¹²

The 1960-61 executive was: Pierre Guibert, Commodore; James P. Malone, Vice Commodore, Betty Wright, Secretary, Andre St. Jacques, Treasurer; Edward Malone, Publicity; Marcel Carriere and Barbara Malone, Entertainment; Pierrette Dagenais and Sylvia McDougall, Membership; Gil Langlois, House Committee; Darcy Chauvin, Waterfront; Louis Charlebois and Camille Levesque, Tennis. The club continued to hold dances and money was allocated to rebuild the swimming raft and a new wharf. In July there were 192 tennis members and five slips for boats; there is little reference to water activities at the club except for a water skiing club. By the end of July the club had spent \$6475.73 and had taken in \$7899.15 and by the end of the year total membership had climbed to 313, of whom 202 were tennis members and 56 were social.¹³

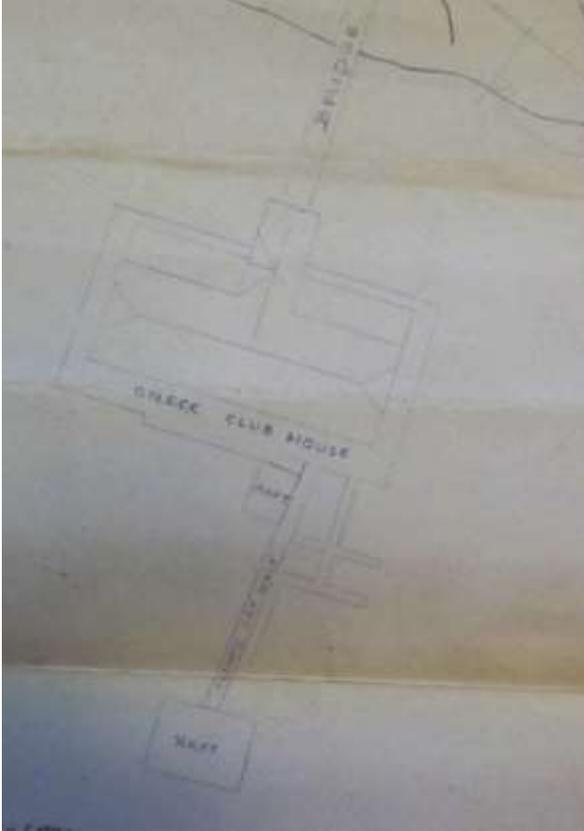


2 The new bridge. Source: LAC, RG34, Acc. 1981-82/147, M-29

In November 1961 the fire department answered an alarm at the boathouse and found a door frame and decking on fire; fortunately only minor damage resulted.¹⁴ Given the structure of the boathouse and its location it is remarkable that it survived.

In 1962 the Ottawa-New Edinburgh Club House Company negotiated a five year renewal of its lease to the water lot. The rental remained at \$1 annually and the terms remained much the same as they had been in the 1956 lease. The only significant change was the addition of a clause specifying that if the Supreme Court of Ontario were to find the clubhouse company liable for taxes for the years 1957-61, the club would immediately pay them.¹⁵ As the club won its appeal, this clause did not come into force.

Frank Amyot, Ottawa's Olympic paddling gold medalist died in November of 1962. In May of 1963 E.S. Sherwood, a prominent Ottawa realtor and a member of the 1904 Ottawa Canoe Club war canoe, died.¹⁶



3 ONECC Club House, prior to 1965. ONEC Records

From 1937 to 1964 Laurentian Airways operated a floatplane base from ONECC. Laurentian Airways was organized in 1936 to serve lumber companies working in remote locations and quickly expanded to include flying hunters and fishermen into northern Quebec. Its main base was at the air field operated by the Ottawa Flying Club at Uplands but as many of its flights involved float planes it needed a water base and in 1936 or 1937 it received permission to moor and refuel its seaplanes at ONECC. Initially ONECC provided mooring buoys and docks on a rental basis but, when boating dropped off during the war, this arrangement ended. Laurentian's civilian flying operations were curtailed by the war but in 1945 it resumed flying out of Uplands and ONECC and in 1946 it

asked permission of the Federal District Commission to install a second gas tank at the site, about 200 feet downstream from the clubhouse but within ONECC's lease. It built a long dock at the site.¹⁷

In 1963 Laurentian asked that its occupation be formalized with a lease to the water lot. The National Capital Commission (NCC) suggested severing the eastern third of the water lot and letting it to Laurentian. ONECC wouldn't agree to the change because it felt that it might need the area to expand its docking facilities. The NCC then gave notice that it was cancelling ONECC's lease and offered the eastern third of the lease to Laurentian. However, it refused Laurentian permission to use a temporary road which had been built to give access to the Eastview storm sewer. Laurentian abandoned its application for a lease and in 1964 moved to a new location at Rockcliffe marina.¹⁸



4 ONECC, 1960. Note the float planes and the dock for Laurentian Airways. Compare the position of the tennis courts with the aerial photo from 1956. Source: NAPL, A17261-14

Incorporation - The Ottawa New Edinburgh Club

In September 1964 the board met to discuss the future of the club which was badly in debt. General J.V. Allard was appointed to head a special committee to consider the club's future. The club records contain a memorandum, probably prepared by Allard, setting out a proposal for the club's future. According to the memo, the club was a family recreational facility with concern for preserving the character and beauty of the driveway. It operated under serious financial limitations, notably the need to bring the club house up to modern standards. It was proposed that the top floor (the attic) of the clubhouse would remain unoccupied and the sanitary facility on the top floor would be removed. The washrooms on the ground floor would be brought up to modern standards. The electrical system would have to be renewed; a sprinkler system was not possible. A secondary means of egress from the ball room was necessary; this would probably involve extending the float system to shore. Abandoned gasoline tanks on shore (presumably left over from the days of Laurentian Airways) were not the club's responsibility. On the waterfront no boats over 24 feet in length would be accepted and living aboard one's boat would not be permitted. A five year lease would be sought from the NCC; during the period of the lease the clubhouse would be maintained but a plan would be developed for rebuilding the clubhouse at less overall height. A small building would be built for the tennis area when feasible.¹⁹

The memorandum probably formed a discussion paper for a special general meeting to discuss the future of the club which General Allard chaired on 21 September 1964. At the time the club had 125 senior tennis members, 23 senior boating members, four senior

social members, 133 junior members and 47 youths who were involved in paddling. The club's debt had risen from \$3400 in 1963 to \$10,900 in 1964 and most of the executive had resigned. The meeting approved a special levy for all members to reduce the debt and elected a special management committee consisting of Lt.-Col. M.M. Hunter, Mrs. H.W. (Eileen) Thomas, Mr. West, Duff Cooper, Mrs. Valerie Parker, Mr. F. McLaren, Mr. J. Flanders, Mr. De Grace, Mr. Howell, Mr. Poray, and Col. P.D. Smith to run the club; Eileen Thomas chaired the committee. General Allard was a member of an advisory committee but was not on the Board.²⁰ On 1 October a notice of the special assessment was sent out to all members – Senior and Boating members were assessed \$10; Intermediate, \$5; Junior, \$2.50; Family members and married couples, \$15.00; Life members, \$10.00.²¹

The *Ottawa Citizen* reported “With bankruptcy threatening the Ottawa New Edinburgh Canoe Club members rallied behind suggestions of an emergency committee in a desperate bid to save it.” The club's books had not been audited for about eight years and were “in terrible shape” as were “the minutes of general meetings held over the past several years.” The first item on the management committee's agenda was to raise the membership from 300 to 500, with recruitment focussing on Manor Park and Rockcliffe.²²

The minutes of executive committee's meetings over the winter of 1964-65 provide a running account of the club's problems. Eileen Thomas chaired the committee with Robert DeGrace acting a treasurer. Between closing on 17 October and 22 November the club suffered five break-ins; the problem of security was compounded by the fact that it was unclear whether the RCMP, the City of Ottawa, or the Village of Rockcliffe was responsible for policing the clubhouse area. Some club staff members were still owed salaries and the turn-out of members for the closing had been disappointing. Re-roofing of the club was urgent but would cost \$4000; painting would be in excess of \$2600. Negotiations with creditors continued through the winter. The special assessments were slow to come in, and on 1 February the club sent a notice to all members that the club could not reopen without funds on hand to repay bills. The club had no assets against which it could borrow and asked the membership to guarantee a loan in \$50 units to enable it to negotiate a bank loan. This last appeal brought in enough pledges to guarantee a loan of \$3000 and the executive proceeded with plans to open the club in mid-May with the traditional opening dance on 24 May 1965.²³

The club applied for incorporation. The old Ottawa New Edinburgh Clubhouse Company agreed to discontinue operations and to transfer the lease to the new company. The Ottawa New Edinburgh Canoe Club, which had never been incorporated, ceased to exist, and on 18 May 1965 Ontario granted articles of incorporation to the Ottawa New Edinburgh Club. The club was to be a non-profit organization providing facilities for tennis, aquatic sports and social activities. The directors were:

Eileen Mitchell Thomas, QC;
Paul Dorion Smith, army officer;
Robert Forest DeGrace, Civil Engineer;
Valerie Parker, married woman;

Mathew Woodrow Poray-Swinarski, architect;
 John Frederick Flanders, architect;
 William Alfred West, technical writer;
 Gerald Edward Howell, electronic technician;
 Frederick White Maclaren, investment dealer;
 George Arthur Addy, QC.²⁴

The club executive, in its early years, was drawn from Manor Park with some representation from Rockcliffe Park. In March of 1965 the club printed 2000 flyers as part of a membership drive; 1600 of these were distributed in the Manor Park newsletter and 400 were distributed by hand in Rockcliffe Park.²⁵

On 19 May 1965 the club adopted Bylaw No. 1 which set out the powers of directors, the necessary quorum for meetings of the Board, voting procedures, the duties of the officers (president, vice-president, treasurer and secretary), the operation of annual general meetings and the categories and privileges of members. Only senior members, 21 years of age or more, were entitled to vote and hold office; intermediate members were 15 to 20 years of age and junior members were under 15. The board could establish annual membership fees and dues.²⁶

In 1966 the following fee structure was established:

	Club Membership*	Tennis Membership (additional to club membership)
Seniors (21 yrs & over)	\$22	\$20
Intermediates (15-20 yrs)	\$14	\$8
Junior (below 15 yrs)	\$10	\$5
Married Couples	\$33	\$27
Family	\$43	\$32
Boat Moorage	24 feet and under, \$25.	

* Included swimming, paddling, social.

There was no initiation fee. Social membership became the base membership fee with tennis being an additional charge. The size of boats accepted at the club was limited to 24 feet in length.²⁷

In the April 1965 newsletter the management committee announced that it had collected a special assessment, had the accounts audited, had contacted creditors and had prepared realistic budgets. It had hired two Carleton students (Michael Shay and Jeff McLean) to look after the tennis courts and act as caretakers of the clubhouse so that someone would be there 24 hours per day. Tennis would open 17 April and professional instruction would be available. Paddling was starting again in a big way, boating facilities were available and swimming would be available to all members in the “now purified Ottawa River.” Mrs. Homer G. (Eileen) Thomas was chairman, Robert DeGrace, was treasurer, Bill West and Gerry Howell were responsible for tennis and Mike Mainville was organizing paddling.²⁸ A June newsletter gave a schedule of upcoming events including

the ONEC paddling regatta and several other regattas in the northern division, club and NCLTA tennis events, and at least five dances and parties. New slips were being built for members' boats, the kitchen and snack bar had been renovated and the ironwork on the bridge had been painted.²⁹

The club held a special general meeting on 16 July 1965 with about 70 members present. In general, the news was encouraging. Short term debt had been reduced from \$8284 to \$899 although there were two bank loans from the old club outstanding. Membership had increased 50% over 1964. There were 417 individual members: 170 seniors, 129 intermediates, and 118 juniors. There was some concern over the mix of memberships; of 417 members, 273 were new. If the high turnover continued, an initiation fee might be necessary. Only one-quarter of the junior and intermediate members had parents who were members; they were straining the capacity of the tennis facilities and there was concern about the behaviour of some.³⁰

The yearend reports confirmed this story. Reporting on the waterfront, Peter Harker stated that the swimming float had been put out and swimming had become almost too popular. The paddling season had been successful. Twenty-two boats had been docked at the club and 8 new slips had been built. Eight of the private boats docked at the club were sailboats and the club held an invitational GP14 regatta. Membership had climbed to 450 compared to 270 in 1964. The club's short term debt had been eliminated although there was still a long term debt of \$5000. Total revenue for the year was \$13,062 with expenses of \$9980.³¹

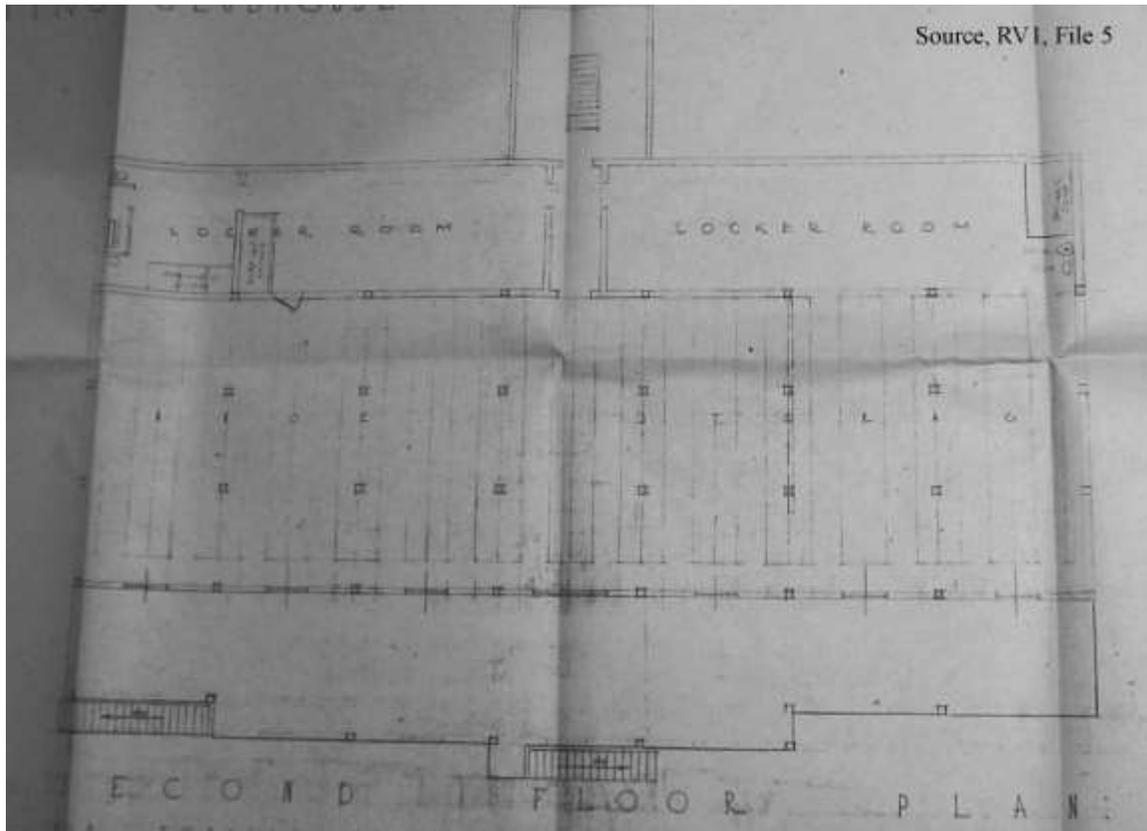
At the annual general meeting on 15 October 1965 Eileen M. Thomas, Valerie Parker, Robert DeGrace, Don Holman, Capt. Phil Hurcomb, Fred McLaren, Herb Poyntz, Bill West, Henry Wright, and Lt. Col. Ted Reeves were elected to the executive. Initially Mrs. Thomas served as President but she resigned in December because the negotiation of a new lease with the NCC put her in a conflict of interest position. She continued to act as the club's honorary legal counsel for many years.³²

Administration, the Clubhouse, and the NCC

The condition of the clubhouse and the club's relationship with its landlord, the NCC, were continuing concerns. At the special general meeting on 16 July 1965 D.M. Holman presented a preliminary report on the building. He had reviewed a report by John Flanders (a club member who was also an architect) and another by Robert Halsall & Associates Ltd (structural engineers) which concluded "Although the building has been neglected and is in need of maintenance work, it is our opinion that the structure of the building is basically sound."³³

Although the building was structurally sound, its condition was a matter of concern to the club's landlord, the NCC. In May of 1965 Paul Dorion had approached the NCC with a request for assistance in replacing the roof of the clubhouse, a job which he estimated would cost between \$7000 and \$10,000. He noted that in 1964 the NCC had spent \$3500 on the Rideau Canoe Club buildings at Mooney's Bay and had raised the Rideau Canoe

Club's rent from \$1.00 to \$450 per annum for a ten year period. Dorion suggested a similar arrangement for ONEC with the provision that the rent increase not begin for five years. In return "The club would be prepared to deed the building to the Commission." The NCC inspected the building and described it as a 'veritable fire trap.' D.E. MacDonald, Director of Planning and Property at the NCC, was of the opinion that, if NCC were to apply for a building permit for the clubhouse, the city would find the building so far gone that it should be rebuilt. MacDonald suggested two alternatives: 1. tear the building down and build a one story building on the foundation; 2. completely remove the clubhouse and build a small building on the tennis club grounds. The boating activities could be moved to a proposed marina in Hull.³⁴



5 Boatdeck, 1964. Both locker rooms are men's. There are no stairs on the north balconies linking the ballroom and the boat deck.

In August of 1965 the club applied to the NCC to have its lease renewed; the NCC expressed concerns about fire and health issues related to the building. It requested a report on the building and W.H. Perrin of the Dominion Fire Marshall's Office inspected it in September. He noted that the building was basically a wood structure on steel columns in the Ottawa River. It included a lounge, refreshment booth, locker and shower rooms, and boat storage areas. It did not meet national building code standards for an "Assembly Occupancy."

That is, the construction of the building is inadequate for its height and area, the inadequacy of exits between floors and between the building and shore, the lack of fire separation between floors and between the stairwell and the remainder of

the building. Other deficiencies from a fire protection viewpoint are the inaccessibility of the building to fire department apparatus, the lack of fire hydrants and water mains near the property, the lack of fire protection equipment and alarm systems and the poor state of repair.³⁵

He was critical of the exit facilities and noted that there was only a single un-protected stairwell between floors and that the exit from the rafts consisted of a poorly installed, narrow, steel fire escape. The electrical system was mainly knob and tube wiring with connections not according to code. There was frayed wiring. Fire protection was provided by the City of Ottawa; however, if a fire was beyond the “incipient stage, firefighting operations would be useless” due to poor access and combustible nature of the building. Perrin recommended the installation of an automatic dry pipe sprinkler system with more fire extinguishers. The stairwell should be isolated with flame retardant material and that secondary exits from the building linked to a secondary means of egress, possibly a solid causeway between the shore and building. The interior should be refinished with flame retardant material. He also recommended that the bridge be repaired and that the gasoline tanks on the eastern boundary of the property be removed.

The club also commissioned a survey by the Canadian Wood Building Council. The survey noted that the second floor (boat deck) had a mainly open finish, while the third floor (ballroom) was part pulpboard, part hardwood, and part wood frame. The ceiling was open. The fourth floor (attic) had private quarters and an office with a wood frame and pulp board finish. The report listed “Prominent Undesirable Features” as unprotected combustible construction, unprotected vertical openings, poor means of egress, deteriorated and non-standard electrical installations, poor housekeeping, poorly guarded special hazards, non-standard fire protection, and no lightning protection. The report concluded with a long list of recommendations including rewiring, the isolation of the stairwell, and the construction of a secondary means of egress. It also suggested consideration of an automatic dry pipe sprinkler system but noted that the cost of such a system might be prohibitive due to the lack of an adequate public water supply.³⁶

Both of these reports were submitted to the NCC which then “...decided that prior to renewing the lease, steps should be taken to satisfy the minimum requirements of the Fire Marshal and Health Authorities.”³⁷ This letter was considered at a meeting of the new board which elected R. DeGrace president. Before accepting the position Mr. DeGrace stated that “He felt that the Club should become a family type club and that the present clubhouse had outlived its usefulness and that the ultimate objective for future plans should be dismantling the present structure and building a new clubhouse, perhaps in the side of the bank on dry ground.” The meeting agreed that the club could not afford to carry out all of the repairs recommended by Perrin but that the executive should negotiate a minimum level of repairs which the NCC would accept in order to renew the lease.³⁸

The NCC had made renewal of the lease contingent on the building meeting both the minimum standards set by the fire marshal and the health authorities. In January 1966 Dr. L.H. Douglas, the director of the Carleton County Health Unit, reported on his inspection of the building. He found the kitchen facilities below acceptable standards, the male

shower rooms in a poor state of repair, and the sleeping accommodations lacking private sanitary facilities. The most serious defect was that the two sewage waste discharges emptied directly into the river without any treatment of the waste matter. This was a violation of the Public Health Act. He ordered that the building not be reopened until the defects had been corrected to his satisfaction.³⁹

In response to the reports from Perrin and Douglas, the club met with the NCC and proposed that the clubhouse be torn down to the bridge floor level and that basic locker, sanitary and lounge facilities be built at the tennis courts. It also suggested that it might combine with the Ottawa Squash Club and add squash courts to the new facility. The NCC responded that, since the club owned the building, it had no objection to its being reduced in height or rehabilitated but it was unlikely that the NCC would approve of two buildings, the clubhouse for summer use and a building at the tennis courts for year round use. Furthermore, if the club intended to operate squash courts on a commercial basis it would become subject to city taxes. Finally, the discussion drew attention to the fact that there was no formal lease to the land occupied by the tennis courts. The NCC asked for a written proposal on repairs to the clubhouse.⁴⁰

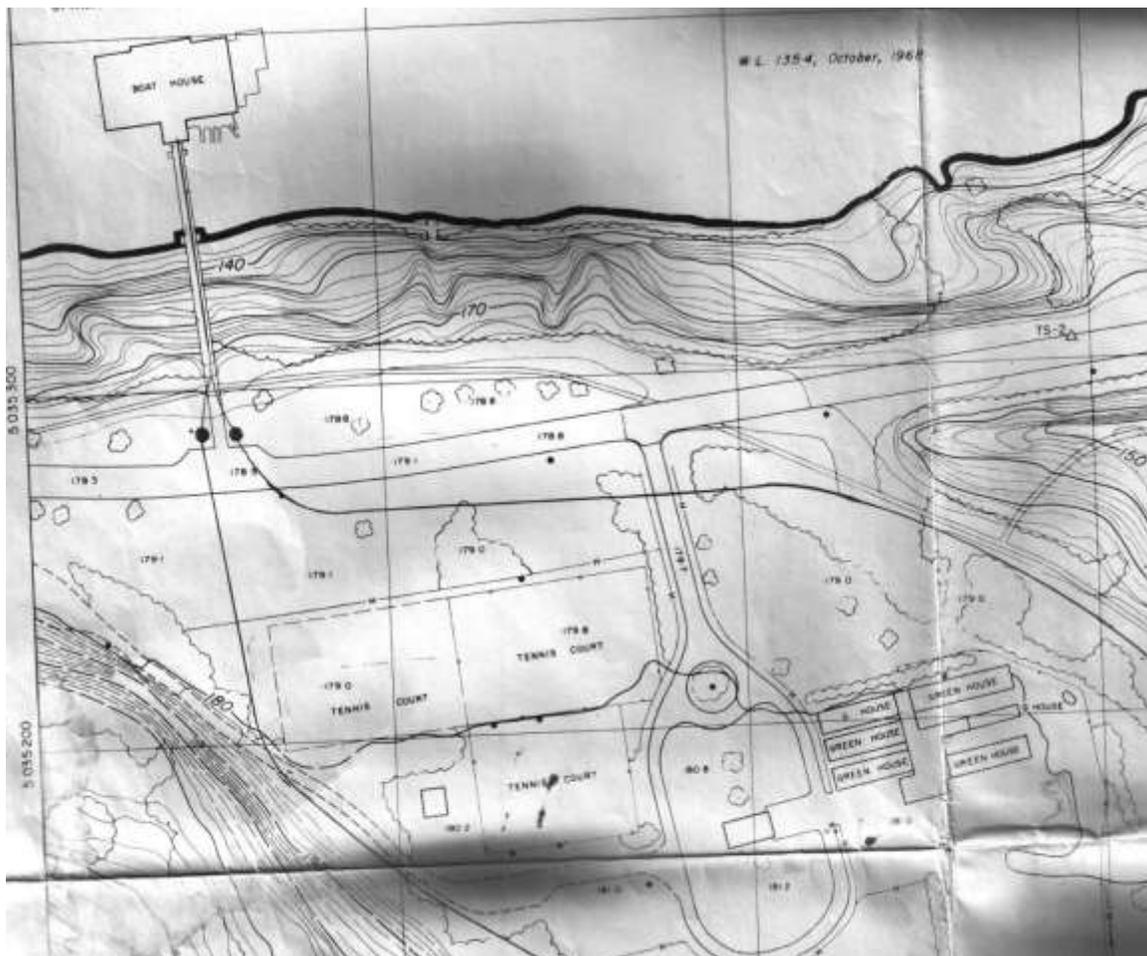
The club requested an inspection by the Ontario Water Resources Commission. The OWRC's report considered several approaches to dealing with the waste water and sewage. All were based on an assumption that the building would likely be torn down within four years and expense should be kept to a minimum. The nearest municipal sewer was 2000 feet from the club and connection with it would be expensive. A septic tank, under the building was a possibility but because of the distance from the Rockcliffe Parkway, pumping it out would be difficult. A complete oxidation type of unit was a third possibility. The OWRC issued an order to the club to stop depositing primary effluent in the river.⁴¹

In May the club submitted a proposal to Dr. Douglas of the Carleton County Health Unit which was intended to answer his concerns. It would have closed off the top floor of the building, including showers and plumbing and caretaker's quarters. The showers, toilet and washroom facilities would be rebuilt on the first floor and all plumbing except that in the two washrooms and the canteen would be removed. The canteen would be brought up to standard and there would be a general clean up. In June the club informed Douglas that it would install a "Converto" unit which, using a combination of aeration and chlorination, would process sewage so that it could be discharged directly into the river. This proposal appears to have satisfied both Dr. Douglas and the OWRC, at least on a conditional basis, and the club was able to operate through the summer of 1966.⁴²

The plans were ambitious, the accomplishments were more modest. Led by H.H. Poyntz, and then by J.H. Reeves, volunteers replaced the worst boards in the deck structure, did some painting and removed some non-functioning wiring. A new asphalt roof was installed using contract labour at a cost of \$1200.⁴³ Additional fire extinguishers were installed in the building. In November 1966 J. Neil Lewis wrote to the NCC with a request that the lease be renewed. He recounted the repairs which had been made to the building and the arrangements which had been made with the Ontario Water Resources

Commission. He also reported on the club's improved financial condition (long term debts reduced from \$11,000 to \$3,000) and on the revival of canoeing.⁴⁴

In a yearend report to the board for 1966 Lewis focussed on the problems which still faced the club. The club had a debt of \$5,500. There had been behaviour problems in the summer and more supervision of younger members would be required. The public was aware of problems experienced in 1966 and Lewis expected that it would affect revenue in 1967. (In fact, revenue increased by over 10% in 1967.) The statutory issues, mostly relating to sewage and fire protection, had to be dealt with. Tennis facilities had to be maintained to protect the club's main source of revenue. He believed that much of the work had to be done by hired labour "In the long run...the contribution of voluntary labour is illusory." Already the "...unremitting demand for voluntary manual labour had eroded the number of male volunteers..." and had lost the club the services of several members. He felt that the greatest restraint would be required and that some club services and facilities would have to be abandoned.⁴⁵



6 Potential Sewage Lines, 1968. There is a small building on the site of the current tennis pavilion.

Lewis's report made it clear that plans for the clubhouse (whether or not to abandon the third floor) were still in flux. Whatever plans had been made were swept away in the spring of 1967 when the ice carried away the docks. For a number of years they had been

installed in the spring by a Mr. Duval who stored them at Gatineau Point during the winter. Club members built 64 feet of replacement docks and four 14 foot finger jetties at a cost of about \$1200. As well the club had to replace most of the fencing around the tennis courts. Together these projects cost \$3800 out of a revenue of \$9500. Some progress had been made on the clubhouse – five glass doors had been replaced with more secure doors to deter vandals, old lockers had been removed, the iron stairs had been repaired, and weak joists and flooring had been replaced. Six new fire extinguishers had been installed and large quantities of combustible materials had been removed from the building. No progress had been made on the matter of sewage disposal although the 1968 budget included funds for preparation for the installation of a Convento unit in 1969.⁴⁶

In his report to the annual general meeting for 1967 Lewis reiterated the concerns of the previous year. Sewage disposal, fire protection and debt retirement were continuing concerns. The club could not survive without the volunteer work of a small group of people but it was desirable to reduce the reliance on volunteers. There was an obvious demand for the services the club provided including the rental of facilities for private functions. Fees might be raised by 10 to 15%. Lewis argued for the hiring of a full-time manager and remarked on the peace and good order which had resulted from the engagement of Mrs. West as a manager and canteen concessionaire in 1967.⁴⁷ In a letter to the NCC on 18 November Lewis set out the problems which had been faced, the progress which had been made in 1967, and outlined a program of proposed improvements dealing with waste disposal, fire protection, exits, electrical and waterfront. He asked that the lease be renewed to 1968 and enclosed a cheque for \$1 covering the rent.⁴⁸ The NCC cashed the cheque and the board took this as an indication that it approved of their plans. The club continued to occupy the lot on the basis of extensions of the 1962 lease until at least 1989.⁴⁹

The situation of the club remained precarious and it continued to present a bedraggled appearance. A pre-war member who lived in Manor Park wrote that he had no wish to rejoin the club as “It’s shabby looking and looks like it should be torn down.” The board itself noted that the club’s derelict appearance led people to class it with the Ottawa Rowing Club which had just been taken over by the city. In January 1968 Mrs. Thomas wrote that she was concerned that the Carleton County Medical officer might close it down due to the sewage problems. She noted that if the clubhouse went, the tennis courts would also go or the NCC might turn them into public courts. She wrote that the club had to deal with the plumbing, improve appearances by painting, keep up the tennis courts and encourage membership.⁵⁰

A report by the club’s engineering committee recommended that installation of the Convento sewage disposal system should be the first priority and in July of 1968 ONEC submitted an application to the OWRC for approval of the installation of a Convento unit. It was estimated that the unit would cost \$2000 out of the club’s expected revenue of \$9000. In August the board agreed to order the Convento unit for installation in May of 1969, provided it was approved by the OWRC.⁵¹ The club appeared to have solved the sewage problem but at the beginning of the 1969 season it learned that the Convento Company had not provided all of the documentation required by the OWRC and

consequently the OWRC had not approved the installation.⁵² In mid-summer 1969 the club began to search for an alternate means of sewage disposal.

There were other discouraging developments. The club had invited a troop of Sea Scouts to use its facilities but they had created disciplinary problems with few of the anticipated benefits. Support for competitive paddling was disappointing and, after a considerable investment of time and money, the club decided to abandon the program. The best news of the 1968 season was that the club had paid off its bank loan of \$3000 and was debt free. In his report to the AGM, President Lewis said that although the physical plant was approaching the point where it did not require apology, he would save his hosannas for the day when the sanitary facilities were a matter of pride, the tennis lights all worked, no roofs leaked and there were no cases of ‘people trouble’.⁵³

No progress was made on the sewage problem in 1969. When it was learned that the Converto system had not been approved the club began to investigate the installation of other on-site treatment systems.⁵⁴ In February of 1969, the club approached the City of Ottawa with a request for support but was told that the city could not provide any active assistance as it was committed to developing the Ottawa Rowing Club as a marina.⁵⁵ The club did begin a project to improve the change rooms – the sub-flooring was replaced, new showers, toilets and wash basins were installed and 75% of the pipes in the building were eliminated. The project was to be completed with the installation of lockers in 1970. The club also replaced stop netting on courts 1, 2, and 3, and experimented with the installation of foam flotation on some docks.⁵⁶



7 ONECC Courts with pavilion.
Source: Ottawa Journal, 22 August 1964.

The accounts for 1969 showed an income of \$12,580.12. Major expenditures were: wages, \$4058; tennis \$2893.35; and clubhouse repairs, \$1154. For the first time in years the club ended with a positive balance of \$2160.09. The surplus was primarily due to the fact that some expenditures for sewage treatment, plumbing and painting had not been completed. Although the December newsletter stated that 1969 had been a very successful year, there were still obvious problems, most notably the disposal of sewage. At the December 1969 meeting of the board, the discussion of plans for 1970 raised another issue. The secretary asked if tennis members,

who rarely went to the clubhouse, might consider that too much emphasis was being place on clubhouse maintenance. R.G. DeGrace responded that the clubhouse was a focal point for all members. There was no further record of this discussion but the differing

interests of tennis players, many of whom seldom used the clubhouse, and boaters, who depended on it, would arise again. The board also decided that it would not to approach the NCC for a longer term lease and sent the usual fee of \$1 to renew the lease for one year.⁵⁷

Early in the 1970 season the tennis pavilion was nearly lost to fire set by vandals. The pavilion was subsequently insured for \$1000. Very little is known of this pavilion. It had been approved by the NCC and built in 1963. The same year the NCC complained that it was being used as a refreshment stand but H. St. Jacques explained that it was merely used as a shelter for members who sometimes ate lunches which they had brought from the boathouse. The pavilion appears on a plan located pretty much where the current pavilion is. It was torn down when the current pavilion was built.⁵⁸

In May of 1970 the club asked the NCC for assistance in rebuilding the stairs which led down to the bridge. It also asked if a launching ramp could be built at or near the clubhouse. The absence of a ramp was inconvenient for club members and for visitors from other clubs who had to launch at the Rockcliffe Boathouse or at the public ramp in Hull. In submitting this request the club also supplied a list of capital expenditures on the clubhouse since 1965:

New roof	\$1200
New wharves and docks	1500
Sewage disposal, site	700
Interior decoration	1500
Exterior painting	750
New tennis stop-netting	2500
Tennis pavilion renovation	300

The NCC took the view that ONEC was a private club which leased the property for a nominal sum and refused to provide any financial support in making the repairs.⁵⁹

This refusal came at about the same time as it became clear that membership and revenue would be down in 1970. Neil Lewis blamed the drop of about 15% in membership on public attention to reports of pollution in the river (swimming was down drastically), to stricter supervision of the clubhouse (less permissiveness for teenagers) and to the economic situation.⁶⁰ In August Lewis prepared a paper on the club's future. The drop in revenue had forced the curtailment of expenditures on repairs to the clubhouse. Even if revenues increased in the next few years it was unlikely that they would be sufficient to deal with the major issues facing the club – fire protection, sewage treatment, water (swimming) quality, a failing lighting system on the tennis courts, and the stairs to the clubhouse. There was demand for the services provided by the club but 90% of its members viewed it as a commercial institution from which they bought leisure services. They were subsidized by the volunteer work of a dozen or so members. "A purely commercial assessment... would indicate that the Club should be abandoned." Lewis outlined an approach which would see the club catering only to tennis and boating within limited hours. Staff would be reduced and the second and third floors of the clubhouse would be closed off except for events authorized by the directors. There would be no

toilet facilities, except for wash basins, in the clubhouse. This could be seen as a temporary measure until the NCC's plans for the area were known and the quality of water in the river improved. The changes might reduce operating costs to \$2000 per year.⁶¹

At the 1970 AGM the board made a proposal based on this analysis. Essentially it was that the club would focus on provision of the basic requirements of tennis and sailing at the expense of "social amenities," that is the canteen and the clubhouse. The clubhouse would be closed from the boat deck up. "There would be a minimum maintenance, no improvements in the clubhouse itself, no power, light, and minimum supervision (possibly by the groundsman only)." Toilet facilities would be provided at the tennis courts with the cooperation of the NCC.⁶² At the AGM the membership "emphatically" rejected this proposal; tennis members in particular "...were dissatisfied with the facilities offered, in comparison with other clubs". The meeting approved going ahead with the installation of showers and toilets at the clubhouse even if this involved an increase in membership dues. In the face of this rejection the board agreed to a capital expenditure program which envisioned the provision of toilets at the tennis courts, toilets showers, and lockers at the clubhouse, upgrading of the clay tennis courts, replacement of fencing at the tennis courts, and additional docks and moorings. The plan included the introduction of fire escapes, from the clubhouse to the shore and from one level of the clubhouse to the other and the repair of the stairs and bridge leading to the clubhouse. Finally, it included the replacement of the tennis shack.⁶³

Prior to the AGM the club had met with the NCC to explore the possibilities of help from the commission. The NCC took the somewhat confusing position that while it did not normally help private clubs, it did have a policy of assisting sporting clubs rather than setting up such facilities on its own. It also indicated that if lavatory facilities were available to the public, then it might be able to assist in their construction. During the discussion it emerged that the NCC did not actually own the land on which the tennis courts sat; it was leased from the City of Ottawa. The NCC was in the process of gaining ownership of the land (by means of a land swap) and until this transfer was complete, the NCC would be unable to assist ONEC. The NCC did, however, state that it had no plans for building additional parkways and the rumour that the tennis courts might be lost to road construction was unfounded.⁶⁴ In November, after the membership had rejected the plan for a reduction of services at the club, R.M. Bennett, the club president talked with the secretary of the NCC who "left the impression" that clubs like ONEC had a place in the NCC's long term plans for the area. On the other hand the secretary advised the club against pressing for a long term lease as this might call in question the "sweetheart relationship" between the NCC and ONEC with rent at \$1 per year. There was no question of the NCC "lowering the boom" on ONEC unless it ran afoul of the Ontario Water Resources Commission with gross pollutions or some similar issue.⁶⁵

The drop in revenue in 1970 curtailed plans for repairs to the clubhouse. Nevertheless, before work was stopped, a fireproof wall was built between the men's and women's change rooms, some lockers were probably installed, some rewiring was done and the south front was painted.⁶⁶

In October of 1970 the board approved an ambitious development plan which would have brought the clubhouse up to standard. The board was unwilling to borrow the money to carry out this plan and in January and February it approved a fee schedule which it hoped would fund the plan. Family memberships were set at \$90; married couples at \$75; seniors at \$50; intermediates at \$30; and juniors at \$20. In addition family members, married couples and seniors would be required to purchase one \$20 club share; this share (equivalent to an initiation fee) would be redeemable when members left the club. In informing the membership of this decision, the board indicated that it hoped that to raise \$3,200 from the sale of shares and that this amount would be put towards the estimated cost of \$4,300 for the installation of showers and toilets at the clubhouse.⁶⁷ The response was not as strong as the board had hoped; \$2640 was raised from shares in 1971 and overall revenue remained almost stable at \$14,866.

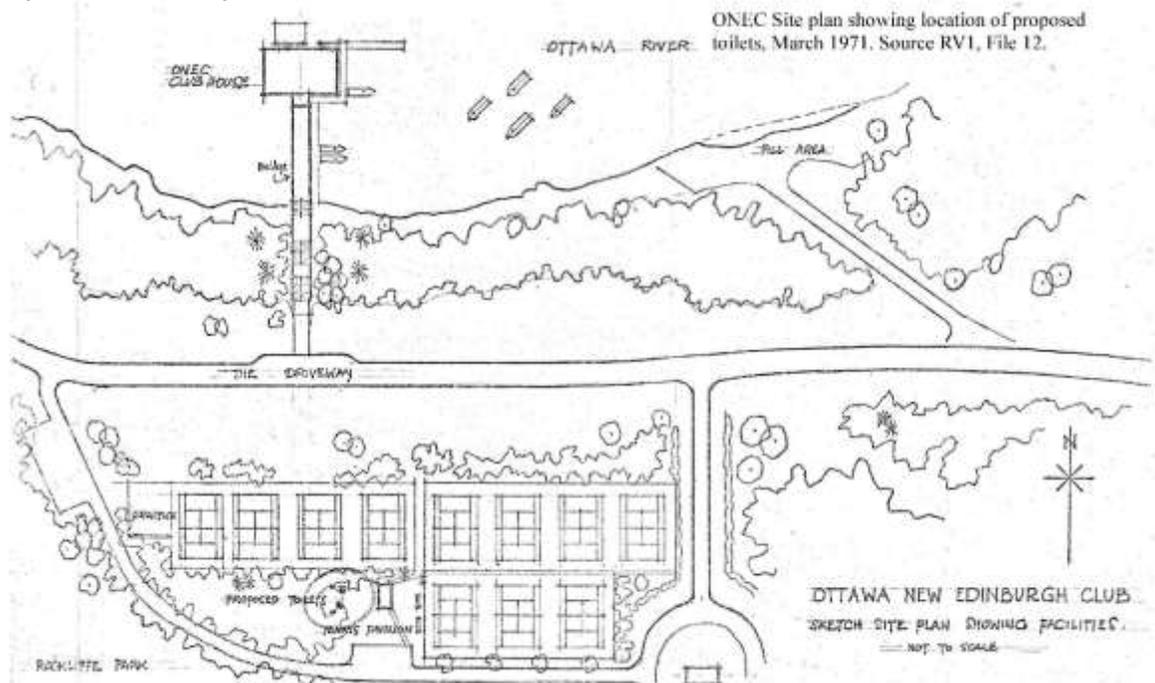
In spite of the shortfall in revenue the club signed a contract for \$3675 with R.A. Patterson to supply labour and materials for the proposed washrooms and to install waterlines; he was also to remove some old structures and plumbing. The washrooms and showers were completed by August; toilets were not included in the contract because no agreement had been reached on waste disposal.⁶⁸ However, over the summer progress was made in discussions with the NCC and the OWRC.



8 National Air Photo Library, Roll A22226, Exposure 75, Spring 1970.

In February, 1971, R.M. Bennett and J.N. Lewis met with the NCC. They were assured that the NCC saw a role for self-supporting clubs and it was willing to continue the status quo with a lease on the water lot and informal use of the tennis club area. However, if the

club expected the "...services which tenants normally receive from landlords..." then a lease based on market value would be required. The NCC had no plans to provide lavatory service anywhere in the Mile Circle area but was concerned that the club deal with the sewage issue.⁶⁹ As a short term solution the NCC agreed to the installation of two portable toilets near the tennis courts.⁷⁰ Although the club continued to favour on-site treatment of sewage, neither the NCC nor the OWRC would accept this solution. However, in May the OWRC indicated that it would accept a holding tank system if the local health officers would agree.⁷¹ Holding tanks had not been seriously considered before because of the difficulty of pumping them out from the driveway which is about 40 feet above the clubhouse. In 1971 the NCC, as part of its shoreline protection project, was putting fill along the river bank which could provide vehicular access to the foot of the bridge. Late in 1971 the NCC agreed to allow the use of this berm by sewage trucks. In March of 1972 the regional health officer agreed to the use of holding tanks provided that all waste water from hand sinks, shower stalls, etc., was discharged into the tanks and two 1,750 gallon tanks were installed.⁷² At some point this was changed to three tanks; they were purchased from Structural Glass Ltd. and were installed and in operation by the end of July 1972.⁷³



9 ONEC site plan showing location of proposed toilets, March 1971. Source: RV1, File 12.

The winter of 1970-71 was a year of record snowfall in Ottawa and in mid-March the entire 120 by 16 foot roof over the north deck collapsed. At the same time about 30 feet of the south end of the bridge failed. The bridge was replaced by Zagerman's Construction at a cost of \$772. The collapsed roof was cleaned up by the sailing members of the club and never replaced.⁷⁴ During the summer a storage hut was purchased for the tennis courts which allowed the pavilion to be cleaned up.⁷⁵ At the year end the club accounts showed revenues of \$14,866.46 and expenditures of \$15,211.54. \$8,129.83 had

been spent on the clubhouse, a far higher proportion than was usual. The closing balance, \$1,555.46, was earmarked for completing the sewage disposal system on 1972.⁷⁶

The expenditures in 1971 and 1972 were all financed out of current revenue. 1972 also saw a major improvement in the club's financial situation. From 1969 to 1971 the club took in an average of \$14,000 annually. In 1972 revenue climbed to \$21,224.24 an increase of 42%. Membership climbed by about 25% and accounted for 61% of total revenues; initiation fees brought in \$2620, about 12% of revenue.⁷⁷ Over the next decade revenue continued to climb

The installation of the holding tanks was a major accomplishment and attention shifted to the tennis courts which had been neglected. In 1972 15 tons of red crushed tile (Barco) was put on the courts and in 1973 about \$5000 was spent on stop fencing, court equipment and supplies. Membership was up and there was some pressure on the tennis courts. In part the pressure was the result of a wet season which made some of the courts unusable much of the time. There was talk of renovating courts 8 to 11 but the estimated cost was in excess of \$20,000; replacing the lighting system would cost \$12,000.⁷⁸

In June of 1973 the NCC informed ONEC that it was planning to build a bike path along the shoreline beside the river. Although the sewage truck and emergency vehicles would be allowed to use the path, the NCC would not allow the club to build a boat launch at the clubhouse and members would have to continue to launch at Rockcliffe or in Hull. The club would be responsible for rebuilding the steps down to the bridge. In addition, the NCC had plans to add 16 parking spaces to the 12 existing spaces to the north-west of the club. It also intended to remove the spaces to the south of the courts. The new spaces would be built on the western courts, numbers 10 and 11 which, the NCC said, had "obviously been abandoned for many years." The club responded that the courts in question had not been abandoned but, because of poor drainage and wet seasons, they had frequently been unusable. The club could not afford the approximately \$20,000 expenditure to improve them. In part this was because of the necessary expenditure on the sanitary facilities at the clubhouse; as well, the club president added, the possibility of obtaining a bank loan to fund improvements "...has seemed to be inhibited by the uncertain intentions of the NCC toward the Club." Representatives of the club met with the NCC chairman and made a case for the retaining the tennis courts based both on the considerable investment the club had made in renewing the clubhouse and club since 1964 and on the growing interest in tennis in Ottawa. Fortunately for the club, the NCC accepted its arguments and agreed to designate an area south of the tennis courts for a small parking area. In addition, weekend overflow parking could be accommodated in the maintenance yard. This arrangement was to be temporary while the NCC developed a plan for the area.⁷⁹

The discussions around the question of parking reveal that the four western courts, numbers 8 to 11, were clay courts. The others, referred to as "red courts," were porous clay courts; they were sometimes referred to as en-tout-cas courts. At the end of the season the club discussed means of upgrading courts 8 to 11, either making them red clay courts or rebuilding them as asphalt courts with a plastic covering as had been done at the

be bilingual.⁸³ Although there is some French language material in the club archives, there is little evidence that this decision was carried out systematically.

In 1975 an incident occurred which throws light on the profile (or lack of profile) which ONEC had and on the NCC's understanding of ONEC's tenancy. Mr. A. Mazet, representing the Association Canadien-Français de l'Ontario, wrote to the NCC stating that ONEC appeared to have only about 40 members and seemed to be on the way to extinction. He asked that the buildings and sports facilities be made available for a francophone community centre. In response to this request, F.S. Marshall, the NCC's Director of Property set out his understanding of the commission's relationship to ONEC. "The New Edinburgh Club house is owned by the club and, while the land under the club house is owned by the NCC, the Commission could not turn over this building to anyone else." If the association wished to acquire the property, it should approach ONEC directly. "It is my understanding that the improvements were paid for by private resources."⁸⁴

Staff

Although the club benefited from the volunteer work of its members, it also relied on staff hired during the summer season. Typically the staff included one or two individuals to care for the tennis courts, one or two individuals to care for the clubhouse, the waterfront, and to operate the canteen, a secretary and a club tennis coach. The secretary and tennis coach were part-time positions. Generally salaries made up 35% of the budget. When the club began to operate a junior sailing school two instructors were hired; they were paid out of the proceeds of the school which usually showed a small profit.

The canoe club had employed a resident caretaker in the boating season and ONEC continued the practice in 1965, hiring two Carleton University students, Michael Shea and Jeff Maclean, to carry out maintenance and take care of the tennis courts. They were to provide a 24 hour presence at the clubhouse.⁸⁵ In 1966 the club operated a canteen, letting it to a member as a concession. It was not a success – wages were paid from the cash register, no accounts were kept, the premises were broken into on several occasions and before the season ended, the concessionaire resigned.⁸⁶ In 1967 Mrs. Elsie West was hired to supervise the clubhouse facilities and to operate the canteen as a concession. She may also have lived in the clubhouse. She supervised the work of two young men. In the fall the President noted that her presence had contributed to the peace and good order enjoyed in 1967. He also suggested that the club could not continue to rely so heavily on volunteer labour and recommended that it hire a manager, a "housekeeper", and a strong boy for court, club and dock maintenance. He estimated the cost at \$3500. Salaries and wages (including \$450 for a tennis coach) in 1966 totalled \$3337.00, about 35% of the total budget.⁸⁷

Nothing is known of the staff in 1968 but in 1969 the club employed a groundsman (Mike West), an assistant, two supervisors of premises and a wharfinger as well as a tennis coach. The canteen concessionaire continued to act as a supervisor and filled the roles of watch dog, keeper of valuables, plumber, electrician and source of food, drink,

change, tennis balls and esoteric information. Wages and salaries amounted to about 39% of all expenditures. Secretarial business was done on an honorarium basis by Vivian “Bea” Lewis, the wife of J. Neil Lewis, club president, 1969-70.⁸⁸ In 1970 Larry Neilson was hired as groundsman with his younger brother as his assistant/stand-in, and two young men were hired as supervisors. A young woman was to be hired to operate the canteen.⁸⁹

There had been some friction between the groundsman and the clubhouse supervisor because of their uneven workload so in 1971 it was decided to hire two supervisors and no groundsman. Supervisors were to open the clubhouse from noon until 10 PM from late June until early September on week days; on weekends the clubhouse was to open at 10AM. One supervisor was to be at the clubhouse at all times when it was open – they were to maintain “peace and good order” and to carry out renovations and repairs as directed. They were also to prepare and maintain the tennis courts and grounds and order and receive supplies. Two individuals took the canteen (operated at both the clubhouse and the tennis courts) as a concession. The club received one half of one percent of gross sales. Evelyn Hustwit, 5 time Ottawa women’s single champion, was hired as the club coach.⁹⁰

In 1972 the club returned to the practice of hiring a tennis groundsman and a clubhouse supervisor with a third man as a general hand to assist the others. Both the supervisor and the groundsman were to be paid \$1500 for the season; they were also to receive 25% of the net profits of the canteen and bar. The general hand was to be paid \$1000 plus 20% of the net profits of the canteen and bar. In addition to supervising and maintaining the clubhouse, docks, and waterfront, the supervisor appears to have had primary responsibility for the canteen and bar. The bar was only operated on Saturdays. Mrs. Hustwit returned as club coach. In addition Henry Copestake organized and ran a junior sail training program; the program was self-financing.⁹¹

In 1970 the board approved guidelines for the use of the clubhouse by members’ groups. The guidelines covered the rental of the clubhouse to parties or groups who were sponsored by members. How common such rentals were is not known although there are occasional mentions of rentals in the board minutes. The club itself usually sponsored several dances during the summer – there was usually a dance associated with the club’s open regatta and one at the end of the season. During July and August of 1972 the Ottawa Summer Orchestra school (which eventually became the Nepean Symphony Orchestra) used the clubhouse to practice. It finished with a concert on 24 August. Because the school began at 9 AM the club agreed to hire additional staff for the period it was at the clubhouse.⁹²

In 1973 Henry Copestake was hired as club manager with responsibility for the clubhouse, the waterfront, and the canteen. He was also the junior sailing camp instructor and, after the senior instructor left in mid-summer, he took over the advanced classes and a second instructor was hired. A head groundsman (maintaining the tennis courts and grounds), an assistant groundsman (to work on tennis courts), and a tag board attendant were hired to care for the tennis courts. Geoff Burrige was hired as the club tennis

coach. The NCLTA also provided a tennis coach who came to ONEC for three weeks on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Mrs. Lewis continued to provide secretarial support. Total cost of salaries in 1973 was about \$5800, 30% of total expenditure for the year. This was an increase from 23% in 1972. Although the club staff was expanding, members continued to provide volunteer support; Alf Hanson and the Preston-Thomas family were largely responsible for replacing the docks which were carried away in the spring of 1973.⁹³

Staffing appears to have changed little in 1974 and 1975. In 1974 Peter Copestake continued as chief sailing instructor with Peter Gaskill as junior instructor, Ian de Bie was maintenance supervisor, Phil Hurcomb was chief groundsman and Sylvie Noel was canteen supervisor. Jim Hurcomb, a director, took on the job of tennis coach. Bea Lewis continued as secretary and Robin Souchen, Neil Ahmed, and Phillipe Noel carried out various tasks. Excluding Mrs. Lewis and Jim Hurcomb, the average age of the employees was 18. Of ten employees, eight were club members. In 1975 Walter Brown was hired as club manager; Phil Hurcomb and Robin Souchen were employed at the tennis courts and Peter Copestake and Peter Gaskill continued to run the junior sailing program. A "membership control person" was hired to take court bookings and guest fees.⁹⁴

Sports

In spite of the distractions of restoring the old building and negotiating with the NCC, ONEC maintained an active sports program during the 1960s and 1970s. Paddling came to an end in 1968 and swimming declined dramatically while sailing developed as a sport and tennis remained the club's mainstay. Unfortunately, the records for both sailing and tennis are very incomplete; there are, for example, no complete records of winners of various events for the period.

Paddling and Swimming

ONEC abandoned competitive paddling after the 1956 season but there was an attempt to re-introduce it in the in the 1960s. A report on the club's prospects produced in September of 1964 indicated that 47 youths enthusiastically supported paddling and that it was generally self-supporting.⁹⁵ In 1965 ONEC acquired a fibre glass K1 and reconditioned an old 4 four man racing canoe. It also made plans to fibreglass an old war canoe as a training boat. ONEC paddlers attended several regattas including the CCA championship at Mooney's Bay but there is no record of them placing in any races.⁹⁶ The 1966 season began with a strong show of enthusiasm but this waned through the season. K. Murdie blamed the declining interest on the lack of canoes with which to practice (there were only two) and on lack of adult supervision during the day.⁹⁷ ONEC did host its own regatta but failed to win any points; Carleton Place came first with Rideau second.⁹⁸ Near the end of 1966 ONEC negotiated a \$2000 loan to purchase a new war canoe, a fibre glass C-1, two C-2's, and a C-4. The January 1967 newsletter outlined an ambitious program with the opening regatta on Dow's Lake as part of the Tulip Festival and the club regatta on 16 July. Coaching for boys would take place on Tuesday nights and for girls on Wednesdays with both boys and girls training on Thursdays. Women's K-1 and K-2 had become official events at the CCA in 1965. Unfortunately, two of the

new boats still hadn't been delivered in July; the Rideau Canoe Club had loaned ONEC a C-4. The girls were reported to be enthusiastic; the boys less so and the club was unable to man its own war canoe.⁹⁹ ONEC paddlers attended regattas at Kingston, Gananoque, and Carleton Place but Neil Lewis's yearend report described the season as "not too successful." 1968 was the last year for paddling at ONEC. Paddling membership dropped from 50 in 1967 to 17 in 1968 and of these, Ken Murdie reported in July, only about six paddlers showed up for practice. At the end of the year the club decided to end the racing program and in 1969 the racing canoes were transferred to other clubs.¹⁰⁰

Recreational swimming had been an important part of activity at ONECC; photographs from the 1930s, 1940s and 1950s all show a swimming raft anchored off the clubhouse. The raft was reached by a floating walkway and had a diving tower. An ONEC bulletin in 1965 noted that there were lots of swimmers using the club but that there were concerns about the behaviour of some swimmers. By mid-summer the secretary reported that with 417 individual members, the club had almost reached its capacity. Swimming had become "almost too popular." There was also an age imbalance in the club with 170 seniors, 129 intermediates and 118 junior members. Only about one-quarter of the intermediate and junior members had parents who were members. The secretary suggested capping membership at 450 individuals with at least 200 of them being senior members.¹⁰¹ In 1966 the club experienced more discipline problems (although these were never spelled out in detail, there are references to dangerous kinds of horse play) and there was concern about water safety. The club could not afford to employ a lifeguard and lack of supervision was a concern both from a safety and a behaviour perspective.¹⁰² The discipline problems were ameliorated, if not entirely solved in 1967 when Mrs. West was hired as the club manager. She also took the canteen concession. In his yearend report, J.N. Lewis commented on the "peace and good order" which she had brought to the operation of the club.¹⁰³

Water quality was a problem beyond the control of the club. Pollution in the Ottawa River had been a concern since the nineteenth century when the Ottawa Canoe Club moved from its location below Parliament Hill to escape the floating sawdust coming from the sawmills at the Chaudiere Falls. By the 1960s the principal sources of pollution were the pulp and paper mills which dumped bark, fibre and sulphite liquor into the river and sewage from communities along the river. By the mid-1960s attempts were being made to reduce pollution - Ottawa's Green Creek sewage treatment plant began operation in 1963 - but investigations into the condition of the river highlighted the water quality and discouraged swimming in the river. In a letter to the membership in 1965, the management committee of ONEC referred, optimistically, to the "now purified Ottawa River."¹⁰⁴ At this time the club was still dumping its own sewage and wastewater into river; its solution was to put the swimming float on the upstream side of the clubhouse and well out into the river. It also reassured the membership that the City of Ottawa was making regular checks on water quality.¹⁰⁵ These measures were not a success and by 1970 swimming was down to a few junior members. At the same time membership dropped sharply; J. N. Lewis attributed the decline to public attention to pollution in the river, to the economic situation, and to the stricter supervision at the clubhouse (which was probably directed at teenagers who had made up the majority of the swimmers).¹⁰⁶ In

March of 1973 the ice took out the docks and the swimming rafts; although some docks were recovered, the swimming raft was not. It was written off and was not replaced.¹⁰⁷

Club records include several references to water skiing in the early 1960s but it is not clear how common it was.



11 Water skier, float plane and diving tower in background.

Sailing

While paddling and swimming were winding down, the club developed a modest sailing program. Although we know little about them, privately owned motor boats had formed a part of ONEC since at least 1910. Aerial photographs from 1931 and 1933 show at least a half dozen boats, larger than canoes, moored at the boathouse. After paddling was dropped from the club program, a number of slips were built at the clubhouse for powerboats and sailboats. A few boats were kept at the club in 1961 and when the club was reorganized, boating developed gradually.¹⁰⁸ In 1963 the waterfront co-ordinator, H.A. Johnson wrote that the club was developing as a mooring spot for high speed outboards for cruising, for inboard cruisers, and for class type sailboats. In July of 1965 the ONEC Bulletin reported that 22 boats were berthed at the clubhouse; they included eight sailing dinghies – Snipe, Albacore and GP14's - and four larger motor boats with sleeping accommodation.¹⁰⁹ Because of the limitations of the docks, the larger boats were a matter of some concern. George Addy, a founding member of ONEC and a former board member, wrote that the owners of larger boats felt they were not welcome. He complained that the short hours which the clubhouse was open made it difficult for him to access his boat. In June of 1966 the club decided that it would no longer accept boats over 24 feet in length and in 1972 it decided that power boats should be phased out in favour of a sailing fleet.¹¹⁰



10 Docks and boats about 1963. Source: LAC, RG34, Acc. 1981-82/147, M-29

Out of 18 slips for boats, only six survived the winter of 1965-66. Four new slips were built and 8 moorings were set out for the larger boats. A small skiff was acquired for the use of members with boats on moorings. Both the moorings and the boat slips were on the downstream side of the clubhouse to reduce the risk of pollution; the swimming float was on the north side of the clubhouse. (This is not the arrangement shown in the photo above.) Eighteen boats were berthed at the club in 1966. Ten were sailboats and at least two sailing regattas were held during the season; these were said to be the first organized races at the club since 1962.¹¹¹

The 1967 season began with a setback when the docks were carried away by the ice in the spring. Club members built 64 feet of replacement docks, four 14 foot finger jetties, as well as a new swimming platform. Despite the loss of the docks, the club advertised regular weekend sailing races; apparently these did not come off but the club hosted an invitational regatta on 12 August. Three Albacore sailors, Phil Thompson, Conn Wood, and Pat Evans, from the Gatineau River Yacht Club, finished first, second and fourth in what was described as a drifter.¹¹² The club also hosted several canoe flotillas which were en route to Expo'67 at Montreal.

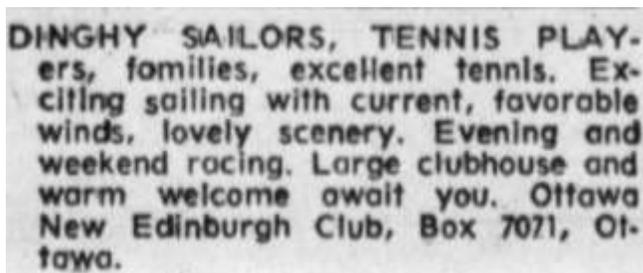
In 1966 a troop of Sea Scouts were invited to make use of the club facilities and in 1967 they were permanently based at the clubhouse. The troop brought three whale boats and five 12 foot dinghies to the club. In return for the use of club facilities it was expected that the scouts would provide some sailing instruction and would contribute labour to some club projects. The introduction of the Sea Scouts came at the same time as the club was trying to re-vitalize paddling and the pressure of the two programs strained the club's limited docking facilities. In a letter to R.S. Ferguson, the scout master, J.N. Lewis, ONEC president, defined the area in which the sea scouts were to occupy and made it clear that they were only to have access to the club in the presence of a troop leader. The

sea scouts returned in 1968 but there were continuing difficulties some of which involved scouts bringing guests, girl and boy friends, to the club. At the AGM the complaints about the Sea Scouts were summed up; they had been occupying, free of charge, parts of the clubhouse; they had not provided the assistance (ferrying, cleaning, etc.) expected and the maintenance of their docks had been deplorable. The scouts did not return in 1969.¹¹³

In 1971 ONEC had discussions with the Club de Voile Poisson Blanc (an Ottawa University based sailing club) about the having the Club de Voile use ONEC as its base in July and August; in the end the club did not come to ONEC.¹¹⁴

1968 was a more successful sailing season. The fleet consisted of 6 or 7 Albacores, GP14's, Enterprise, International 14s, Lightnings, Blue Jays, and Beavers. Weekend races started 15 June and continued every Saturday and Sunday; 150 boats crossed the start line during the season. There is no report as to how many crossed the finish line. The club set up a regular buoyed course but was unable to maintain it as fishermen stole the mooring lines.¹¹⁵ In 1969, 46 boats were registered at the club and the mooring space downstream from the club was completely occupied. The racing program continued and an invitational regatta was scheduled for July. Mrs. Thomas donated a trophy for the most improved sailing skipper; it was won by Stanley Lee. According to Dennis Northcote, the standard of racing had improved markedly. Northcote, who had taken responsibility for organizing sailing since 1966 and who introduced the Albacore to the club in 1967, was leaving the club to live in England. His place as sailing director was taken by G. Aldous.¹¹⁶

The Albacore class grew rapidly in the Ottawa area in the 1970s, possibly because a local firm, Skene Boats, acquired the right to build Albacores in 1968.¹¹⁷



11 *Ottawa Journal*, 14 April 1971.

(CYA) in 1970; it had joined the St. Lawrence Valley Yacht Racing Association in 1967; and had an active racing season. In the early part of the season George Logan, George Aldous, and Tom Stewart were successful in club racing while Jim Kentell and Cliff Parker participated in outside regattas. Denis Robinson was giving theory lessons on Thursday night with practical sail training on Saturday mornings. At the club's invitational regatta Phil Thompson of the Gatineau River Yacht Club won in the Albacore class with George Aldous in third place. Brian Conway of the RA Yacht Club won in the Flying Junior class with John Hope of ONEC second. Gerry Copestake of

About 40 boats were kept at the club in 1970. At the time the club only had 65 feet of docks and only 13 boats were kept in slips, with 23 on moorings, and four canoes.¹¹⁸ Total membership in the club was down 17% but all of the loss was in tennis with boating membership holding firm.¹¹⁹ The club joined the Canadian Yachting Association

ONEC won the handicap class. The regatta was rounded off with a dance with the DeLabio Band.¹²⁰

Late in 1970 a sailing committee was organized; it concerned itself with the operation of races, docks and mooring, and the possibility of operating a junior training program. The old system of mooring using finger docks for slips was considered too expensive and the committee decided to adopt the Mediterranean style of mooring. A notice to boating members in June of 1971 made reference to the new docking arrangements (stern mooring).¹²¹

The presence of a Flying Junior Class at the 1970 regatta suggests that the RA Yacht Club may have brought a part of its new Flying Junior fleet to ONEC for the regatta. During the 1970s the RA often brought most of its boats to ONEC for the week of its regatta and on at least one occasion, in 1979, the RA held its open regatta, the Don Rantz, at ONEC.

The visits by sailors from the GRYC, the RA, and the Britannia Yacht Club for the invitational regatta highlighted the fact that the club did not have a launch ramp or even road access. Visitors, and club members, had to launch their boats at Rockcliffe or at public ramps in Hull. The club had attempted to use a rough road built as a construction road when the Eastview storm sewer was installed in the 1960s but the road proved to be too rough and the NCC was not agreeable to improving it or to allowing the club to improvise a launch ramp at it. The problem of access was not to be solved until the NCC's shoreline stabilization program allowed vehicular access to the foot of the bridge in 1972. Even this did not allow for the construction of a proper launch ramp.¹²²

In 1971 sailing races began on the weekend of 5-6 June with 10 boats participating. During the season 32 sailboats and four power boats were kept at the club. Thanks to the construction of two new docks (organized by Cliff Parker), and to the introduction of Mediterranean mooring, all boats could be moored at the docks in sheltered water. The sailboats included 10 Albacores, three Lightnings, and one Flying Junior. The club organized races for every weekend during the season and held an invitational regatta on 3-4 July. The regatta drew record numbers of entries from Gatineau, Britannia, the RA, and Rockcliffe. The visitors took most of the prizes:

Albacore Class – Connla Wood, GRYC, 1st; Colin Ramplee-Smith, GRYC. 2nd;
Ian Parker, RBC, 3rd.

Handicap Class – John Hansen, ONEC, Lightning, 1st; Janet Lehman, RAYC,
Flying Junior. 2nd; Brian Conway, RAYC, Flying Junior, 3rd.¹²³

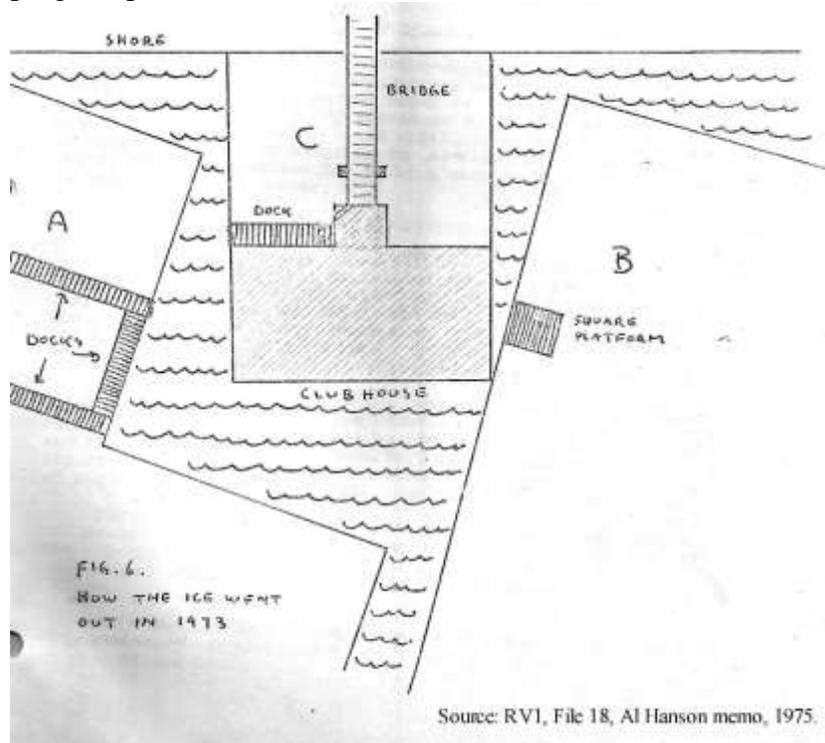
The club's closing regatta on 9 October was won by Doug Livingston sailing a Moth; he was the first recipient of the Neil Lewis trophy for the winner of club regatta. Barbara Durnford won the Thomas Trophy for the most improved sailor while Tom Stewart won the Granny Trophy for the lubber of the year; he had capsized his boat while it was moored at the dock.¹²⁴

Sailing continued to expand in 1972 with racing at 2:15 on Saturday and Sunday as well as 6:00 PM races on Wednesdays. Docks and moorings were expanded under the

direction of Alf Hanson and his son. Thirty-two boats from ONEC, Stormont, Hudson, Calabogie, Britannia, Lac Deschenes, Gatineau River and the RA participated in the open regatta. The 1972 regatta was the first in several years in which Tony Nichols did not act as starter. Tony was an Enterprise sailor who used a wheelchair and getting around the clubhouse had become too difficult for him.¹²⁵

A Super 8 movie was made of the 1972 regatta; where is it now?¹²⁶

The major development in 1972 was the introduction of a junior sail training program. Early in January 1972 Jim Kentell, the sailing director suggested a junior training program with a CYA instructor to train 16 boys and girls a week. The club would buy four Flipper scows to use as training boats; two thirds of the cost of the scows could be borrowed, interest free, from the CYA. A canvas of sailing members showed little support for the proposal as well as concern about insurance issues and the proposal was abandoned.¹²⁷ In May, Henry Copestake, offered to build five Optimist prams and operate a junior sailing program if the club would advance \$1000.00 to build the prams. He would repay the advance from the proceeds of the program. The club accepted his proposal and about 60 juniors, from age 8 to 15, were trained to CYA level 1 in July and August. The program paid for itself.¹²⁸



12 Loss of the docks, 1973.

The 1973 sailing season began with a crisis on 18 March when the river rose 5 feet, lifting the ice and carrying away the docks. Alf Hanson gave an account of the loss of the docks:

An impression of the events of the disastrous spring of 1973 is given in Fig. 6. First, pan A moved off, taking with it all fixtures downstream of the foundation.

Rather surprisingly pan B then pivoted about the corner of the foundation, eventually taking with it a large and irreplaceable platform which had been secured upstream of the clubhouse. The latter event took place over a period of many hours, during which two members laboured mightily but unsuccessfully to cut the platform free with a chain saw. In the end, they simply had to watch it go. Area C, however, was quite undisturbed by these events. The extensions of the foundation walls are natural fracture lines, and since there is little or no current in this area, the small pan between these lines does not move.¹²⁹

The newer docks were recovered at CFB Rockcliffe and towed back by the Gatineau Boom Company; the swimming raft and the older docks were written off. Eighty feet of new docks were built in the spring and a section of Laurentian Airways dock was utilized as a walkway on the lower side of the clubhouse. In the winter of 1973-74 the docks were stored between the clubhouse and the shore.¹³⁰ After the loss of the docks, the season went well. Sailing members participated in an Ontario Sailing Association clinic held at Ottawa University and six new members were recruited at the Ottawa boat show. Club races were planned for Wednesday evenings and Saturday and Sunday afternoons; the weekend races were a success but there was little racing on Wednesday nights in comparison to 1972 when 10 boats raced regularly. The annual regatta was run in light winds and a downpour; the club regatta in September was a great success. Of the 70 centre board dinghies moored at ONEC in 1973, 19 were Albacores. Two ONEC sailors, Burt and Donna Parsons, came third in the Lac Deschenes Albacore regatta.¹³¹ The sailing committee in 1973 consisted of Jim Kentell, Fleet Captain; Burt Parsons, Albacore Association representative; Charles Baker, Junior Program Coordinator; Alf Hanson, dock master; Bob Gill assistant dock master; and Bob Armstrong, deck officer.¹³²

The junior sailing program was run again in 1973. Basic training was done in the Optimist prams with advanced training done in three Albacores loaned by members. There were to be four, two week sessions, three hours per day, which could accommodate a total of 128 children at \$35 per child and a net profit of \$1800 was anticipated.¹³³

In 1974 the Britannia Yacht Club initiated a study of recreational boating in the national capital area in order to provide input into a study of recreational boating planned by the NCC; it invited other clubs to join it in the study. Eight area clubs responded and formed the Federation of Boating Clubs of the National Capital Area (FBCNCA). As part of the study Jim Kentell provided statistics on the growth of sailing at ONEC:

Year	C/B dinghy	Cruising Sailboat	Members
1969	22	nil	22
1970	26	nil	30
1971	35	1	75
1972	50	2	100
1973	70	5	120
1974*	95	7	150

*estimated.

He estimated that 150 individuals, or one-third of the total club membership, could be categorized as sailing members. Kentell also reported that ONEC's long term planning was hampered by the refusal of the NCC to commit itself to long term leases. He also noted that the NCC's planners did "not care to discuss recreation and sports with the Club's Directors." ONEC would support any venture which would cause the NCC to involve area clubs in its planning. He also noted the lack of policing on the lower Ottawa River as a problem. Representatives of the federation met with the NCC in May of 1975. They emphasized the increasing popularity of sailing in the area, the shortage of facilities and the financial problems which the NCC's policy of short term leases caused. In addition the number of federal, provincial and municipal agencies which had some responsibility for aquatic activities made life difficult for recreational clubs. Whether the clubs' submissions had any useful result is not known but it did bring together the area's sailing fraternity.¹³⁴

The 1974 sailing season apparently was much like the 1973 season. The first series of club races were won by Jim Kentell with John Gaskill in second place and Tom Stewart in third. The Canadian Albacore district 10 regatta was held at ONEC on 7-8 September and the ONEC club regatta was held 14-15 September. In May the club bought four Flying Juniors for \$2400 for the junior training program. (It is possible that ONEC bought used FJ's from the RA Yacht Club which sold its FJ's over the winter of 1973-74.) Later in the season it also bought a 13 foot, 3 inch, Boston Whaler with a 25 HP Evinrude engine for use as a rescue boat.¹³⁵

Although the club built six new docks in 1975, sailing membership declined by about 25%. Club races were divided into two categories, Series I and Series II (for faster and slower boats or experienced and less experienced skippers). There were two closed regattas and an open Albacore regatta with 28 boats competing. The open regatta was swept by sailors from Britannia; Dave Durnford, Ian Mellor and Dave West placed 1st, 2nd and 3rd. Dave Smith of Stormont came 1st in the B fleet. There was also a long distance race and an organized cruise day. Gordon Dewhirst organized the junior sailing program with Peter Copestake and Peter Gaskill assisting. The Eileen Thomas Trophy for the most improved sailor during the year was awarded to Ian Dewhirst and David Patrick and the junior sailing award was given to Jasper Donker Van Heel.¹³⁶

Tennis

Tennis enjoyed a boom in the late-1950s and early 60s after a decline in post-war years. By 1955 a number of clubs which had been active in the pre-war years including Stewarton, Sunnyside, Tel Aviv, and Victoria were no longer in operation. The Ottawa District Lawn Tennis Association reported that there had been 438 participants in league play - 62 in Section A in 1954-55, 125 in Section B and 224 in Section C. By 1960 there were 1350 active members in the city leagues and by 1965 the NCLTA reported a new high in membership, 1680 active senior members.¹³⁷ ONEC benefited from this boom and tennis sustained the club. In addition to round robins, the club championships, and the Mortureux tournament, ONEC members participated in the ODLTA (after 1960

National Capital Lawn Tennis Association or NCLTA) inter-club play and the club hosted some of the association's tournaments.



13 Opening dance. Carmen Maissonneuve, Elaine Olson, Murielle Dagenais, Pierre Guibert, Bill Cunningham, Jacques Ranger. Ottawa Journal, 27 April 1957.

The ODLTA announced its program in May 1957. The senior and junior opens were to be at the Rideau Club, 6 to 13 July and 13 to 20 July. The intermediate tourney was scheduled for 27 July to 4 August with the men's play at ONECC and the women's at

Ottawa. There would be four city leagues for inter-club play. The Senior A league would include four teams, two from Rideau, one from Ottawa and one from ONECC. Some of the ONECC players in A were - Jeannette Buchanan, Don Hambling, Gerry Lafortune, Arlette Pelletier, Margueritte Pineau, Ella Ritchie, Gene Robillard, and Dr. Gaetan Valois. The Senior B league would include two teams from ONECC and one from each of Rideau, Ottawa, Elmdale, and St. Josephs. The ONECC Blues players in B Section included Janette Buchanan, Denis Delisle, Georges Dobrodzicki, Denyse Gravelle, Joan Hives, Carmen Maissonneuve, Oliver Murphy, and Matt Poray; the ONECC Reds included Mary Armitage, Ian Dagg, Elaine Frick, Connie Lachaine, Pierrette Leblanc, Marcel Ouellette, Leopold Priem, and Keith Thebarga. ONECC would also have two teams in the C league which was divided into an eastern and a western division.¹³⁸ Rideau won both the A and B sections; Ottawa won C Section.¹³⁹

ONECC club play began the third week in April with 75 members taking to ONECC's seven all-weather courts. The club's opening dance was held 17 May and Gene Robillard took charge of the club's tennis clinics which began 20 May.¹⁴⁰ Nothing is known of play during the season but Michel Sauve and Joe Byrnes won the men's doubles championship, Ella Ritchie won the women's singles, and Ritchie and Margueritte Pineau won the women's doubles.¹⁴¹

Four major Ottawa clubs opened for play the weekend of 26 April 1958. At ONECC 150 people turned out to play on its all-weather courts.¹⁴² During the season Marcel Ouellette gave instruction on Tuesday and Thursday evenings and once a week a tennis pro, Emile Rose, was on hand. Early in June the club held its spring tournament – the winners in the spring tournament would meet the winners of the fall tournament to decide the club championships. The players in the first round of the men's matches included M. Carriere, I. Dagg, D. Hambling, G. Archambault, M. Ouellette, J. Hambling, P. Boivan, F. Perrier, M. Paray, E. Morin, T. Gagnon, J. Ranger, E. Emard, B. Carriere, K. Thebarga, H. St. Jacques, T. Straszak, J.P. Gauthier, O. Murphy, J.M. Cadorette, D. Delisle, J. Falconer,

J.P. Van Bergen, M. Lalonde, R. Daigle L. Bereza, G. Harrison, and J.M. Leduc. The women playing in the tournament included A. Pelletier, G. Landreville, T. Ouellette, R. Blats, D. Gravelle, C. Landreville, M. Poray, A. Dagg, and M. Ranger. George Dobrodzicki defeated Jureck Straszack to win the men's singles and, with Matt Poray, Dobrodzicki won the men's doubles. Ann Dagg defeated Denyse Gravelle to win the women's singles.¹⁴³ No record of the fall tournament or of the 1958 ONECC tennis champions has been found.

ONECC did not enter its own team in the A Section of the ODLTA competition in 1958 although several ONECC players –Janette Buchanan, Ruby Carr, Anne Dagg, and Arlette Pelletier – played on a composite ODLTA Section A team. ONECC did have two teams in B Section and two in C Section.¹⁴⁴ Ottawa won Section A and Aylmer won Section C; the winner of Section B is not known. ONECC hosted the men's intermediate ODLTA competition in August; the women's competition was at St. Joseph's. A number of ONECC players were in competition and Jeanette Buchanan, playing with Jean Southworth of Rideau, emerged as a winner.¹⁴⁵

The ODLTA met in February of 1959 to review the 1958 season and elect a new board Dave Seymour was re-elected president and Ian Dagg, an ONECC member, was elected to the board. During the 1958 season 15 clubs and 1144 active senior members had been affiliated with the league. The league also issued its rankings for the 1959 season; none of the top players are recognizable as ONECC players. In June the ODLTA announced the dates for its tournaments – senior championships, 10-18 July, at Ottawa Tennis; junior championships, 2-11 July, at Rideau; and intermediate beginning 24 July with men playing at ONECC and women at Ottawa. The mixed doubles would be at ONECC, 4-8 August.¹⁴⁶ Although a number of ONECC players entered the intermediate competition, none of them emerged as winners.

ONECC met on 30 April to plan its 1959 season. Roland Morin was tennis chair. The first tennis event was a competition from 15 to 28 May to select its teams for the ODLTA league matches. The club championship was scheduled for the first week in August. The club announced a new event, the Mortureux Memorial tournament. It was an invitational open event with men's and women's singles matches in June and the doubles events in late August. Entries were limited to 64 players in each of the singles and 32 in the doubles.¹⁴⁷

ONECC held a 'pre-season' tourney at the beginning of June. Jacques Ranger won the men's singles and Marie-Paule Perrier won the women's singles.¹⁴⁸ The Mortureux tournament opened 5 June with a number of well-known players from other clubs - Maritte Laframboise, Henri Rochon, Jacques Tomaro, J.J. Sarra-Bournett as well as some of ONECC's top players – Anne Dagg, Ian Dagg, George Dobrodzicki, Denyse Gravelle, Carmen Guibert, Pierre Guibert, Don Hambling, Arlette Pelletier, M.P. Perrier, Jacques Ranger, Micheline Sincennes, and K. Thebargo. Roland Godin and Maritte Laframboise emerged as the singles winners. Carol Stevenson (Ottawa) and Frank Korpas (Ottawa) won the mixed doubles.¹⁴⁹ Korpas was a newcomer to Ottawa, an

immigrant from Hungary, but he was already the top-seeded player in Ottawa.¹⁵⁰ No record has been found of ONECC's own championship matches for 1959.

In the first two weeks of June 1960, ONECC ran its spring tournament. Players in the men's singles included J. Cadorette, M. Carrier, R. Charron, G. Dobrodszicki, E. Emard, J. Frenette, P. Gauthier, P. Guibert, D. Hambling, M. Ferget, L. Joly, H. Kanderment, Dick Lafontaine, M. Lalonde, J. Legault, M. Lesage, C. Levesque, C. Marleau, M. McNally, D. Miller, R. Morin, J. Ranger, J. Strazak, K. Thebarga, Jacques Tomaro, J. Waddell, and W. Wehrer. Less is known about the women's singles but M. Gavard, P. Parent, M. Thibault, and B. Wright were playing.¹⁵¹ The results of the spring tournament have not been found. In September the club held its championship tournament:

Don Hambling defeated Denis Delisle in the men's singles;
Marie Paul Perrier defeated Margo Gavard in the women's singles;
Joe Byres and Michel Sauve defeated Louis Charlebois and Denis Delisle in the men's doubles;
Rejeanne Legault and Pierrette Leblanc defeated Denise and Margo Gavard in the women's doubles;
M.P. Perrier and Moe Coucke defeated M. Gavard and D. Delisle in the mixed doubles.¹⁵²

In the Mortureux tournament, held at the end of July Maurice Landry won the men's singles, Ken Martindale and Gene Robillard won the men's doubles, Lorna Rice won the women's singles, Laragh Neelin and Carol Steers won the women's doubles and Rice and Martidale won the mixed doubles. The tournament ended with a dance.¹⁵³

In June of 1960 ONECC and Rockcliffe hosted the Ottawa District Junior Tennis championships.¹⁵⁴ The intermediate men's competition was held at the Ottawa tennis club in August; Jacques Tomaro (playing for ONECC) won the ODLTA intermediate doubles with Gene Robillard. Earlier in the year Tomaro had won the Masson Cup handicap.¹⁵⁵ Robillard had been a member of ONECC but he may have been playing for Rideau in the Masson Cup event. Ottawa won the B Section of the ODLTA inter-club team competition; St. Joseph's won the C Division.¹⁵⁶

The ODLTA revised its player classification in June of 1960; these lists provide an indication of the city's best players but this particular listing may have been incomplete. A number of players who won ONECC club titles in 1960 and in 1961 were listed in the B classification but none were listed in the A section. D. Hambling, ONECC singles champ, 1960; D. Delisle, singles champ, 1961, and M. Sauve and J. Byrnes, men's doubles champs, 1960, were in the B classification. Ann Budreo and Arlette Pelletier were on the women's B list but some of ONECC's best female players – M.-P. Perrier, M. Wagner, and C. Guibert – were not.¹⁵⁷

Informal play began at ONECC in mid-April 1961 with over 50 members playing on the seven all-weather courts. The formal opening was marked by a dinner and dance on 13 May and a round-robin tournament a week later. The round robin was disappointing with only 7 of 150 members showing up for the first round robin which was cancelled; another

round robin drew only six players. Apparently things picked up later in the season and the club hosted parts of the NCLTA junior championships in June-July and the Canadian Junior open championships August.¹⁵⁸ The club also held its annual Mortureux tournament and the club tournament. In the 1961 Mortureux tournament Jean Jacques Sarra-Bournet won the men's singles while Howie Simpson and Ross King won the men's doubles. In the club tournament held in June the winners were:

Men's Singles	Denis Delisle
Women's Singles	Marie-Paul Perrier
Men's Doubles	Denis DeLisle and Don Hambling
Women's Doubles	Marie-Paul Perrier & Carmen Guibert
Mixed Doubles	Susan Lund & Joe Byrnes

The same individuals and teams won the club championship in 1961 with the exception that the men's doubles was won by Denis Delisle and Jack Hambling. The tennis committee report for 1961 noted that the club tournament cups had not been engraved since 1957 and the trophies for the Mortureux tournament had not been engraved since 1959; this can probably be taken as an indication of some disorganization at the club.¹⁵⁹ The surviving club tennis trophies – Major Steel for men's doubles, Caldwell Brothers for women's singles, and A.H.M. Caldwell for women's doubles – have not been engraved for 1958 and 1959 and after 1962 winners names were only engraved on a sporadic basis. The last time any of the trophies were used was in 1989 when A. Mantsch and M. McNamara won the women's doubles championship.

Rockcliffe and ONECC hosted the National Capital Lawn Tennis Association junior championships, 30 June to 2 July. Andre Tielmans of Montreal won the boy's under 18 matches; Rosemarie Fletcher won the girl's title.¹⁶⁰ Poor weather slowed play and the competition was not finished until August. ONECC players did not win any titles in the NCLTA championships in 1961 although Jacques Ranger, a former ONECC player, won the men's intermediate title for Rideau.¹⁶¹

In July of 1962 the men's singles and some of the mixed doubles events in the NCLTA championships were played at ONECC. Usually the senior championships were played at Rideau and ONECC hosted part of the intermediate events. Janette Buchanan, Don and Jack Hambling, Pierre and Carmen Guibert, and Magueritte Wagner, all ONECC members, were in competition but did not make it to the finals.¹⁶² ONECC had teams in Sections B and C of the city league competitions but failed to take any championships. With some matches yet to be played on 28 August, the *Journal* reported on standings in B and C Sections:

Section B - West Ottawa Y, 31; Rideau Reds, 25; Rideau Blues, 21; Ottawa, 19; Elmdale, 10; ONECC, 10.

Section C, Eastern Division – Aylmer, 34; Rideau Whites, 24; Elmdale, 21; West Ottawa Y, 22; DARA, 19; Britannia, 10.

Section C, Western Division – Rideau Greens, 21; ONECC, 19, Ottawa, 14; St. Joseph's 11; St. James, 5.¹⁶³ The Y won Section B and Alymer won Section C.

ONECC held the Mortureux tournament in September. Maurice Landry defeated Howard Simpson to win the men's singles, Landry and Jacques Tomaro won the men's doubles, Margueritte Wagner won the women's singles, Shirley Watson and Janette Buchanan won the women's doubles and Howard Simpson and Joanne Schneider won the mixed doubles.¹⁶⁴ Although no newspaper account of the club championships in 1962 has been located, the club trophies show that Denis Delisle and M. LaJeunesse won the men's doubles, Margueritte Wagner won the women's singles, and she and Carmen Guibert won the women's doubles. Denis Delisle was the 1962 club singles champion.¹⁶⁵

The record of tennis activity at ONECC in 1963 is thin. The club completed four events in its spring tennis tournament by the end of May with the following results:

Men's singles - Jean Emeniere defeated G. Dancause;

Women's singles – Marg Wager defeated M.P. Perrier;

Men's doubles K. Barron and K Theberge defeated M. Lajeunesse and G.

Dancause.

Women's doubles – Wagner and Perrier defeated E. Baron and J. Guenault.



14. Jean Emeniere, men's singles champion, and Margueritte Wagner, women's singles champion, spring tournament, 1963. Source: Ottawa Citizen, 27 May 1963.

running.¹⁷⁰

ONECC's championship tournament was played in August:

Denis Delisle defeated Ernie Emard to win the men's singles championship;

Wagner and Dancause were to play J. and P. Guenault in the mixed doubles but the result is not known.¹⁶⁶ No record has been found of the club championship tournament which usually was held in August or September. The club did hold the Mortureux Tournament in September. Margueritte Wagner won the women's singles; she was the only ONECC member to win.¹⁶⁷ At the city level M. Wagner and Joan Guenault won the NCLTA women's intermediate doubles championship.¹⁶⁸

The 1964 NCLTA intermediate championships were held at ONECC in July. Carmen Guibert, Tony and Joan Guenault, Don Hambling, and M. Wagner. Rick Marshall, Rideau, won the men's singles and Paul Henry (Rideau) and Dave Ryan won the men's doubles. Marg Wagner, ONECC, won the women's singles and, with Joan Guenault, won the women's doubles.¹⁶⁹

In NCLTA league play, ONECC had one team in B division and two teams in the eastern division of C Section but finished out of the

Marguerite Wagner defeated Joan Guenault in the women's singles;
Delisle and Jean Rivard defeated Jack Hambling and Brian Larkin in the men's doubles;

Joan and Tony Guenault defeated M. Wagner and Gene Robillard in the mixed doubles.

M. Wagner and J. Guenault were to play Marie Paul Perrier and Carmen Guibert in the finals of the women's doubles but the result is not known.¹⁷¹

The 1964 Mortureux tournament was played in September; ONECC members failed to place in the competition.¹⁷²

Tennis was the mainstay of the old canoe club – in 1964 the club had 125 senior tennis members, 23 senior boating members, and 133 junior members – and it continued to be the mainstay of the new club.¹⁷³ Membership was up sharply in 1965 with 350 tennis members by mid-season and, in addition to club play, ONEC hosted some matches of the NCLTA junior tournament and hosted the finals of the NCLTA intermediate tournament.¹⁷⁴ At the NCLTA intermediate championships in July, Mrs. Joan Guenault, a former Montrealer playing for ONEC, won the women's intermediate singles, and playing with Carol Steers of Rideau, won the women's doubles. A few weeks later Mrs. Margueritte (Pineau) Wagner came second to Patricia Marks in the NCLTA open championships, ladies singles which were played on ONEC courts.¹⁷⁵

Margueritte Wagner and Denis Delisle dominated the club championships in August; each took three titles. For the first time there is also a record of a boy's intermediate doubles competition which was won by R. Geoffrion and D. Wallis.¹⁷⁶ Mrs. Wagner was the only ONEC player to advance to the finals in the Mortureux tournament but Rosemarie Fletcher defeated her in the singles final and Rosemarie and Rose Fletcher defeated Wagner and Shirley Watson in the women's doubles finals. Howard Simpson won the singles, Maurice Landry and Ben Pozitsky won the men's doubles, Rosemarie Fletcher won the women's singles, and with her mother, Rose Fletcher, won the women's doubles. Carol Stevenson and Ben Pozitsky won the mixed doubles. All of the winners were from Rideau.¹⁷⁷

In 1966 Captain P.R. Hurcomb (father of Frances, Phil, and Jim) was the tennis director and Bill West, Gerry Howell, and Armand Ducharme were on the tennis committee. Lew Leach was hired to provide lessons to club members. Four courts were in operation by early May with the expectation that the clay courts would be open by the end of May. The club held a spring tournament in June: David Riddell and Dorothea O'Brien won the singles, Mrs. Gwen Taschereau and Mrs. Valerie Parker won the women's doubles, and Arlette Pelletier and Murray Hunter won the mixed doubles. There was also a club intermediate tournament in August in which R. Geoffrion and Frances Hurcomb won the singles, Hurcomb and P. Murton won the women's doubles, and Hurcomb and R. Harbord won the mixed doubles.¹⁷⁸ Frances Hurcomb also did very well in the club senior championships in August -

ONEC Club Championships, 1966

Men's Singles	Ernie Emard
Men's Doubles	Ernie Emard & Denis Delisle
Ladies Singles	Frances Hurcomb
Ladies Doubles	Mrs. Gwen Tachereau & Dorothea O'Brien.
Mixed Doubles	Frances Hurcomb & David Riddell
Intermediate- Junior Tennis Winners	
Boys Singles	Robert Geoffrion
Girls Singles	Frances Hurcomb
Boys Doubles	Peter Castonguay & George Hunter
Girl's Doubles	Frances Hurcomb & Patricia Murton
Mixed doubles	Frances Hurcomb & Roger Harbord. ¹⁷⁹

The Mortureux tournament, the club's open tournament, was held in September and was described as reasonably successful. Terry Leach and Rosemarie Fletcher won the singles; Ray Greenhall and Howard Simpson, Evelyn Hustwit and Fran Going, and Rosemarie Fletcher and Ray Greenall won the doubles.¹⁸⁰

In 1966 the NCLTA moved from a three section to a four division structure for its inter-club competition. The *Journal* reported on club standings at the end of the season: Division 1 – West Ottawa Y, 31; Ottawa, 25; ONEC, 12; Rideau, 12; Elmdale, 10. Division 2 – Rideau, 29; Rockcliffe, 27; ONEC, 15; Ottawa, 15; Britannia, 14. Division 3 – West Ottawa Y, 29; DARA, 20; St. James, 17; ONEC, 7. Division 4 - Rideau, 35; Hull, 21; City View, 19; Ottawa, 15; Elmdale, 10.

The winning clubs in divisions 2, 3, and 4 were to move up a division; the losing clubs in divisions 1, 2, and 3 were to move down. Players who had been classified as A under the old system were not eligible to compete in league competition.¹⁸¹

A number of ONEC juniors played in the NCLTA Junior Championships in 1966; Frances Hurcomb, came second in the under 18 singles, and, with Robin-Lee Munro of the Ottawa Tennis Club, she won the under 18 doubles.¹⁸²

The ONEC flyer for 1967 advertised 11 tennis courts, four of them clay, and lighting for night play. The brochure did not mention the quality of the lighting which was judged to be not very good and in need of replacement. It also mentioned free coaching and Paul Henry was hired to provide tennis lessons - nine hours per week over a period of 13 weeks – he may also have provided private lessons. Junior coaching was scheduled for Thursday and Friday afternoons, intermediate on Saturday and Sunday mornings, and senior coaching on Saturday and Sunday afternoons. Ladies mornings were Tuesdays and Thursdays and a whites only dress code was enforced. The season opened with two round robins followed by spring and summer club tournaments. By mid-summer tennis membership reached 300, the largest it had been for several years. Frances Hurcomb won the ladies spring tournament; she went on to win club championship and the under 18 girls' NCLTA title. Dave Riddell won the men's spring tournament. Valerie Parker and E. West won the women's doubles. Two teams played through the season in inter-city

tournaments and club members made a good showing in ONEC's Mortureux tournament; M. Wagner advanced to the finals in three events and, with Dick Lafontaine, won the mixed doubles.¹⁸³

In 1968 Dorothea O'Brien took responsibility for tennis; the season followed the same pattern as 1967. It opened with a round robin on 25 May, a singles event in June and a handicap tournament, an intermediate tournament and a junior tournament. The club championships were held in August and the season closed with the Mortureux tournament in September. Jack Hambling and Doris Turner won the club singles championships; Turner also won, with Sue Lund, the women's doubles and, with Gerry Howell, the mixed doubles. Hambling and Turner also won the NCTA intermediate mixed doubles title in 1968. At the Mortureux tournament the winners were: Tony O'Donnell, men's singles; Rosemary Fletcher, women's singles; Terry Leach and Uwe Nahnsen, men's doubles; Rosemary Fletcher and Nancy Burrows, women's doubles; and Rosemary Jull and Uwe Nahnsen, mixed doubles. None of the winners were ONEC members. Late in the season the club considered replacing the court lighting system, but the cost, \$5000, was prohibitive.¹⁸⁴

In 1968 Jacques Ranger's Rideau Blues won division 1 of the NCLTA league with 26 points, defeating Rideau Reds, 25; West Ottawa Greens, 23; Ottawa, 16; and West Ottawa Whites, 10. Fred McLennan's Rideau team won division 2 with 31 points, defeating ONEC, 27; Elmdale, 16; Rockcliffe, 13; and Ottawa, 13. DARA (Experimental Farm) won Division 3 with 24 points defeating ONEC, 22; City View, 22; West Ottawa, 19; and Britannia, 13. In Division 4 Hull had 31 points, Ottawa, 23; Elmdale, 19; City View, 15; and St. James, 12. The bottom teams moved down one division and the winning teams moved up one.¹⁸⁵

In 1969 Bill West and Phil Middleton were in charge of tennis. Dave Smith was hired to provide tennis lessons; when he left in mid-season Murray Hunter, a junior member, took over lessons. The yearend newsletter described the tennis season as "very successful" although club minutes only described tennis as being in a break even position. ONEC had teams in Division 1, 3, and 4 of the NCLTA league.¹⁸⁶ An *Ottawa Journal* article gave the league standings as of 18 August when play was almost complete:

Division 1 – Rideau Whites, 31; Rideau Blues, 23; Ottawa, 23; West Ottawa, 22; Rideau Reds, 18; ONEC, 13.

Division 2 – City View, 35; Ottawa, 31; West Ottawa, 31; DARA, 26; Elmdale, 19; Rockcliffe, 8.

Division 3 – ONEC, 35; Hull, 31; Ottawa, 25; West Ottawa, 24; Elmdale, 22; Britannia Yacht Club, 13.

Division 4 – ONEC, 34; St. James, 34; City View, 21; West Ottawa, 21.5; Hillcrest, 20.5; Hull, 19.¹⁸⁷

Rideau won Division 1, City View won Division 2, and ONEC won Divisions 3 and 4. ONEC's teams in Divisions 3 and 4 included Karen Birnbaum, Geoff Burrige, Dave Campbell, Christa Engel, Rosemary Forbes, Joe Grimwood, Bev. Higginson, Dave

Higginson, Fran Hurcomb, Joy Kelly, Brian Larkin, Sue Larock, Ursula McKay, Paul McLaughlin, Henry Mantsch, Paul Misklel, P. Murton, Dorothea O'Brien, G. Patterson, Arlette Pelletier, George Simard, Pam Simard, Gwen Taschereau, Gaetan Valois, Paul Vincent, P. U. Pam McMormick, M. von Mirback, Bruce Weir, Bill West, Elsie West, and Mike West. The Mortureux tournament had the largest entry for several years.¹⁸⁸

Amy Mantsch was the Burgh's most successful player in 1969. A recent immigrant from Rumania, she won three titles at the intermediate levels in the NCLTA – the women's singles, and, with Catherine Sidebottom and Don Hambling, the women's and mixed doubles. Playing alone and with the same partners she won the same titles in the ONEC club championship. She won the three club titles again in 1970 and 1971 and continued to win various club championships until 1990.¹⁸⁹

The 1970 season was marked by a sharp drop in membership from 519 to 462; most of the drop was in social and tennis memberships and some expenditures had to be curtailed. In spite of the difficulties, all 7 en-tout-cas courts were open by mid-May and the practice court had a new asphalt surface. During May students from Ashbury rented two of the courts. Michael Carroll was hired to provide tennis instruction for the season. The club tournament was held in July and the Mortureux in August.¹⁹⁰ The winners in the Mortureux were:

- Gerry Filion defeated Stewart, men's singles;
- Evelyn Hustwit defeated Amy Mantsch, ladies' singles;
- John McManus (Rideau pro) and Don Hambling defeated Filion and Mike Carrol, men's doubles;
- M. Carrol and Mrs Hustwit, mixed doubles by default;
- Marg Wagner and Pat Marks, ladies doubles by default.¹⁹¹

The default wins were due to Rosemary Jull pulling a leg muscle. ONEC had teams in Divisions 1, 2, and 3 of the NCLTA inter-club league in 1970.¹⁹²

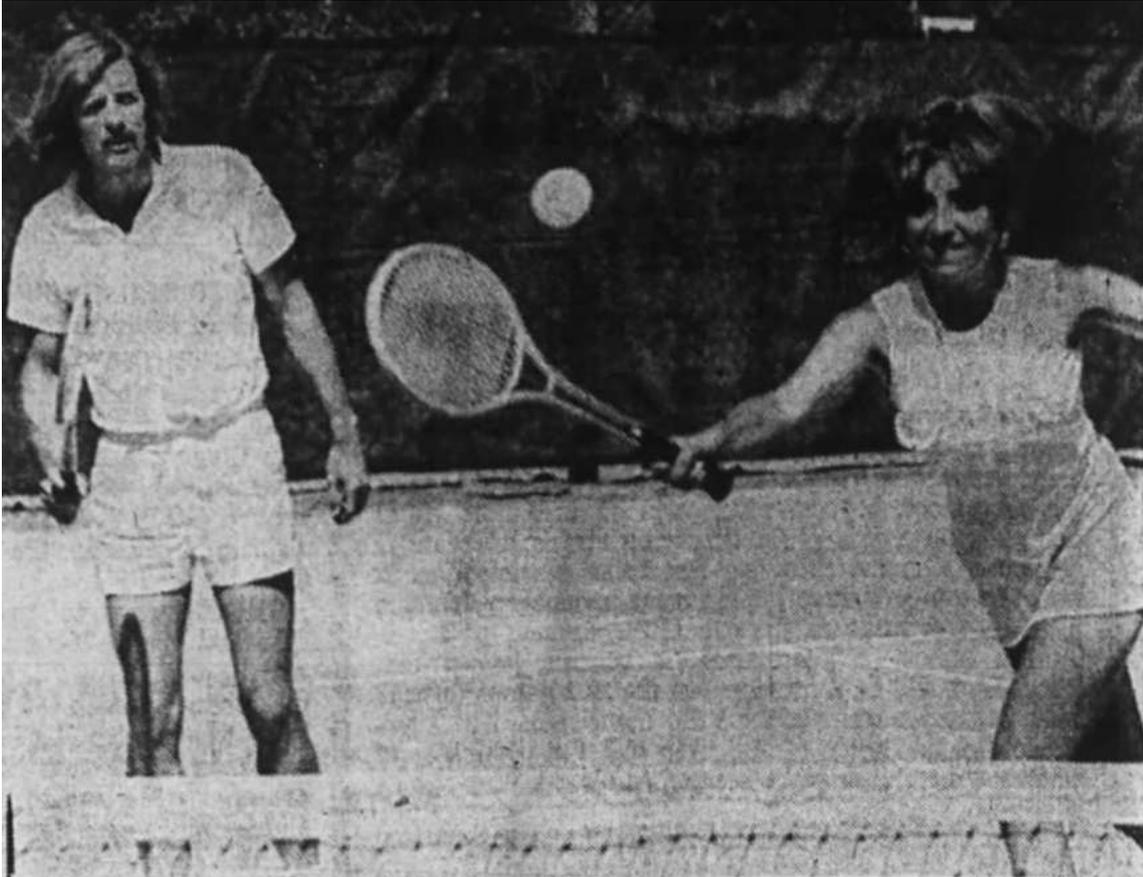
In 1971 Mrs. Joy Kelly took charge of tennis; she was also in charge of professional instruction for the NCLTA. . The season started (as was usual) with a round robin tournament on 15 May which was won by Henry and Amy Mantsch. Terry Leach, the NCLTA coach, coached the juniors while Mrs. Evelyn Hustwit, the City of Ottawa Ladies champion, was hired as the club coach and provided lessons to all club members. On 5 June the club organized a tournament for 48 juniors aged 8 to 18; Ann Mendel and Peter Budreo emerged as the winners. The club also organized an under 20 Boys and Girls Ladder. ONEC entered two teams for NCLTA play and won Division 2; the team included Henry Mantsch, captain, Paul Audette, Warren Gellie, Alfred Hanson, Jim Hurcomb, Phil Hurcomb, jr., Brian Larkin, Keith Loken, Tony Miskiel, Dr. Gaetan Valois, P. Vanichee, Janet De Verteuil, Sue Gellie, Marjorie Hanson, Barry Higginson, Eileen Johnson, Joy Kelly, Sue Larock, Amy Mantsch, and Doris Turner. Claude Mongeon was captain of the team entered in Division III; it placed fourth. From June 28 to 2 July the club hosted some of the Ottawa Junior Championships; a club member, Martin Wolstenholme (8 years of age) won the consolation singles event. From 8 to 13 July ONEC hosted the City Intermediate Championship; ONEC member Janet de

Verteuil won the Ladies Singles title. She went on to play in Vancouver in the Canadian Junior championships. Joy Kelly and Monika Scholz were runners up in the Ladies Doubles. In order to make room for the intermediate championships, the club did not hold the Mortureux tournament. The City Intermediate Championships took up most of the best courts and were the cause of complaints from members who could not get playing time. The problem was made worse by the fact that a wet season combined with poor drainage kept two out of four clay courts out of use in 1971; in 1972 all four courts were out of use for much of the season.¹⁹³ Portable toilets were installed at the tennis courts in May and remained in place until October.¹⁹⁴

1971 marked the appearance of the club's most successful sibling team, Jim and Phil Hurcomb. They won the men's doubles and, by 2004 had won another 18 doubles titles. Jim won at least four singles titles in the 1970s. In 1974 the Hurcombs, Jim, Phil, and Frances won four of the five tennis championships in the club. Gary and Louise Maffett won the mixed doubles. At the city level Jim and Phil won the intermediate men's doubles in 1976, 1983, and 1986.

Gary and Louise Maffett would become one of the club's most successful tennis couples, winning the mixed double championship 20 times between 1974 and 1999. Gary won the men's singles championship 12 times between 1982 and 1996 and both Gary and Louise won several doubles championships.

In 1972 Joy Kelly and Warren Gellie served as joint tennis directors and Evelyn Hustwit returned as club coach; Barbara Lyon was assistant coach. Although the season was unusually wet, it was successful with a record 430 members. Presumably because of the wetness, the season didn't open until 4 June with a round-robin followed by a junior round-robin. ONEC had one team in Division II (finished 2nd) and one in Division III (finished 7th) inter-city leagues. The club juniors, captained by Peter Budreo played with the eastern Ottawa team in the NCLTA Junior League and ended the season as overall winners. Joy Kelly won the Ladies Doubles in the Ottawa Intermediate championship and was runner up in the singles; Mike Devine won the Under 16 Boys Singles Title and Martin Wolstenholme won the Under 16 Boys Singles Consolation Singles in the Ottawa Junior Championships. Devine went on to represent Ottawa in the Canadian Junior Championships in Vancouver. Probably in response to members' complaints in 1971, the club did not stage any lengthy tournaments in 1972 although it did host the Ottawa regional playdowns for the Rothman's Inter-provincial Championships on 1-2 July. It also reinstated the Mortureux tournament (but only the singles), inviting 32 top area players for 18 to 20 August; Rideau players Paul Henry and Sylva Rysanek won the men's and ladies' singles.¹⁹⁵ There had been some dissatisfaction with the condition of the red clay courts in 1971 and they were resurfaced with 15 tons of Barco clay during the summer. There were problems with the resurfacing which took some time to work out but in the end it was a worthwhile project.¹⁹⁶



15 Paul Henry and Sylva Rysanek, winners of the Mortureux tournament. Source: *Ottawa Journal*, 22 August 1972.

Brian Larkin was tennis director in 1973; Geoff Burr ridge was hired as the club coach. The season was drier than in previous years and a record number of tennis players joined, so many in fact that there was a discussion of closing the membership. Throughout the season there was concern that the NCC might take two of the courts (10 and 11) for parking spaces; in the end the NCC relented although it was clear that the club would have to improve courts 9 to 11 and increase their use, if it was to keep the NCC at bay. Over the summer the board discussed alternatives for improving the courts – providing better drainage for the courts, converting them to en-tout-cas surfaces, or installing asphalt surfaces. All of the alternatives were more expensive than the club could easily afford especially as there was pressure from the membership to improve the lighting on the other courts.¹⁹⁷

The club champions in 1973 were:

Men's Singles	Ray Dyck
Ladies' Singles	Joy Kelly
Men's Doubles	Ray Dyck and Mike Devine
Ladies' Doubles	Joy Kelly and Denise Mongeon
Mixed Doubles	Rosemary Forbes and Jim Hurcomb
Junior Girls' Singles	Carole Ethier
Junior Boy's Singles	Mike Devine ¹⁹⁸

The Mortureux tournament was cancelled in 1973 due to a poor response and was not revived.¹⁹⁹

Arlette Pelletier, the last Secretary-Treasurer of the old clubhouse company, a life member of ONECC and a long-time member of the club's tennis team died in 1973. In 1974, Tom Bates, who has been with the club since the 1920s and was one of only two surviving life members died in 1974. Col. S.H. Hill, who had been commodore in 1925 was then the only surviving life member; he visited the club in 1977 when he was 98 years old.²⁰⁰

Very little is known of the 1974 and 1975 tennis seasons. One of the directors, Jim Hurcomb, took on the role of tennis coach; he also won the men's singles club championship. In 1974 the club fielded teams in both Division 2 and 4 of the NCLTA competitions but failed to place in either division. The club hosted some of the Canadian Junior Tennis Championships during the summer and, it was reported that the players preferred the ONEC courts to those at Rideau. The club ended the year with \$10,000 on hand which was earmarked for improving the tennis courts. In the fall Chactaw Construction began work on paving some of the courts but found the ground too soft for their equipment and the project was not completed until the summer of 1975.²⁰¹

In 1975 total membership climbed from 554 to 693; all of the increase was in tennis and even with the addition of two all-weather courts there was overcrowding. A family membership was \$100 plus half-rate for each child; senior members paid \$65; intermediates, \$40; and juniors, \$20. At the end of the season Garry Maffett, the tennis director, suggested that membership should be cut by from 15% to 29% and that membership fees should be increased. The results of the club championships were: –

Boys under 14 singles	Rob James
Boys under 18 singles	Robin Souchen
Boys under 18 doubles	Rob James and Carl Seboek
Ladies' Singles	Michele Cyr
Men's Singles	Ray Dyck
Ladies' Doubles	Minsie Rodrique and Louise Maffett
Men's Doubles	Jim and Phil Hurcomb
Mixed Doubles	Gary and Louise Maffett. ²⁰²

At the end of August the club hosted the 12 to 14 year old group of the National Junior tennis championships; the finals were played at Rideau. The Ottawa and Rockcliffe Park clubs also hosted matches in the championships.²⁰³

By 1975 the club had recovered from the crisis of 1964. Bankruptcy had been avoided. The relationship with the NCC was workable if not entirely smooth. Revenues and membership were up. Tennis and sailing were well established both as club sports and as inter-club sports in the Ottawa area. The most serious problem with the clubhouse, the disposal of sewage, had been solved and a good start had been made on bringing the tennis courts up to standard. The club would face more problems with the clubhouse, the

tennis courts, and the NCC, but for the moment the members could be pleased with the progress which had been made.

Ottawa New Edinburgh Canoe Club Executive, 1958 -1975				
	1958	1959	1960	1961
Commodore	H St. Jacques	P Guibert		P Guibert
Vice Commodore	L Legault	L Legault		JP Malone
2 nd V-Commodore				
Secretary	M Sincennes/F Guibert	Florence Guibert		Betty Wright
Treasurer		Andre St. Jacques	Keith Thebarge	A St. Jacques
Executive	Ronald Dagenais	Marcel Lalonde, E	Florence Guibert, M	E Malone, Pu
	George Dallaire	Roland Morin, T	Marcel Carrier	M Carriere, E
	Denis Delisle		Joe Byrnes, T	Barbara Malone, E
	Jean Laplaine			Pierette Dagenais, M
	Jean-Marie Leduc			Sylvia McDougall, M
	Oliver Murphy			G Langlois, H
	Jacques Ranger			D Chauvin, W
	Marcel Ouellette			L Charlebois, T
	John Leduc			C Levesque, T
Sources	OJ19570926 OJ19580424	OJ19590501	OJ19600730	OC19600927
	1961	1962	1963	1964
Commodore	P Guibert			
Vice-Comm.	JP Malone			
Secretary	Betty Wright			
Treasurer	A St. Jacques			
Executive	E Malone, Pu			
	M Carriere, So			
	Barbara Malone, So			
	Pierette Dagenais, M			
	Sylvia McDougall, M			
	G Langlois, CL			
	D Chauvin, W			
	L Charlebois, T			
	C Levesque, T			
Source	OC19600927			
	1965	31 March 1966	31 March 1967	31 March 1968
President	Eileen Thomas	RF Degrace	J Neil Lewis	J Neil Lewis
V-President	FW Maclaren	FW Maclaren S	FW Maclaren	Dorothea O'Brien T
Secretary	Valerie Parker	V Parker	V Parker	Serge Stucken
Treasurer	RF Degrace	Henry P Wright	HD McCormick	SE Acres
Executive	John F Flanders	Eileen M Thomas L	Eileen M Thomas L	V Parker
	MW Poray	Donald Holman S	Ken G Murdie P	Ken G Murdie P
	William A West T	WA West	WA West	GR Logan

	Paul D Smith S	JH Reeves CL	JH McGuire	DW Northcote S
	GE Howell T	HH Poytnz CL	Keith Grimwood	FW Maclaren
	George Addy	Philip Hurcomb T	JR Burrows W	Paul D Smith
	Corporate Report	Corporate Report	Corporate Report	Corporate Report
	31 March 1969	31 March 1970	31 March 1971	18 May 1972
President	J Neil Lewis	J Neil Lewis	Robert M Bennett	F Higginson
Vice President	D O'Brien	Robert M Bennett	Fred Higginson	
Secretary	Serge Stucken	Serge Stucken	Serge Stucken	Carl Wolstenholme
Treasurer	Leonard E Turner	John A Kentell	JA Kentell	DH Robinson
Executive	George R Logan	Frank L Buck So	Joy MG Kelly	Joy Kelly
	DW Northcote S	Fred Higginson	Dr. KH Lokan	KH Lokan
	P Smith	RF Degrace	Dr. THM Stewart	JA Kentell
	George Aldous	G Aldous S	G Aldous S	Otto Van Deurs
	V Parker	PJ Middleton T	René J Simard	R Warren Gellie
	William A West	DH Robinson	DH Robinson	JR Burrows
				Alfred W Hanson
	Corporate Report	Corporate Report	Corporate Report	Corporate Report
	18 May 1973	18 May 1974	18 May 1975	
President	JR Burrows	JR Burrows	Gary Maffett	
Vice President	KH Lokan			
Secretary	RW Gellie	Charles E Baker	John W Johns	
Treasurer	DH Robinson	DH Robinson	JR Burrows	
Executive	JA Kentell S	Gary Maffett T	W Brian Hewatt	
	Joy Kelly	Francois Chevalier	C Robert Gill	
	AW Hanson	Jim Hurcomb	John Gaskill	
	O Van Deurs	John Gaskill	Robert Ouellette	
	FG Higginson	Bruce Silver S	John Laidlaw	
	C Wolstenholme	Mrs. A Archambault	Mrs. A Archambault	
		John A Laidlaw	Robert M Bennett	
Source	Corporate Report	Corporate Report	Corporate Report	
CL-clubhouse; L-Legal; M-Membership; P-Paddling; Pu-Publicity; S Sailing; So-Social; T-Tennis; W-Waterfront				

ONEC Revenues and Expenses, 1965-1975

	Revenue (\$)				Expenses (\$)					Excess
	On Hand	Membership	Initiation	Total	Admin	Clubhouse	Sailing	Tennis	Total	
1965			0	\$13062		\$5544	\$600	\$3197	\$9880	
1966										
1967				9800					9540	260
1968										
1969	315			12580						2160
1970	2154	10739		14629		1759	577	4005	13189	1439
1971		10826		14866	1384	8129	909	4787	15211	1555
1972	1555	12995	2620	22779	1586	11158	1466	4785	22622	157
1973		15900		25793	1383	3052	2179	8381	19090	
1974	5516	20584	3655	33406					27945	10977
1975	10977	29133	5130	39873	6007	6473	3407	17776	37580	

Mortureux Tournament Results						
	Men's Singles	Men's Doubles	Ladies' Singles	Ladies' Doubles	Mixed Doubles	Source
1959	Rolland Godin		Maritte Laframboise		Carol Stevenson/Frank Korpas	OJ19590608 OJ19590921
1960	Maurice Landry	Ken Martindale/Gene Robillard	Lorna Rice	Laragh Neelin/Carol Steers	Lorna Rice/Ken Martindale	OJ19600727 OJ19600728 OJ19600730
1961	JJ Sarra Bournet	Howe Simpson /Ross King				OJ19610913
1962	Maurice Landry	Maurice Landry/Jacques Tomaro	Margueritte Wagner	Shirley Watson/ Janette Buchanan	Joanne Schneider/ Howard Simpson	OJ19620919
1963	Ralph Oliver	Jean Paquette/ Don Douglas	Margueritte Wagner	Barbara Cotton/ Carol Steers	Lorna Rice/ Ken Martindale	OJ19630918
1964	Maurice Landry	Maurice Landry/ Ben Pozitsky	Rosemarie Fletcher	Rose Fletcher/ Rosemarie Fletcher	Carol Steers/ Howard Simpson	OJ19640919 OJ19640921
1965	Howard Simpson	Maurice Landry/ Ben Pozitsky	Rosemarie Fletcher	Rose Fletcher/ Rosemarie Fletcher	Carol Stevenson/Ben Pozitsky	OJ19650920 OJ19650925
1966	Terry Leach	Ray Greenhall/ Howard Simpson	Rosemarie Fletcher	Evelyn Hustwit/ Fran Going	Rosemarie Fletcher/ Ray Greenhall	OJ19660920
1967	Tony O'Donnell	Tony O'Donnell/ Dick Lafontaine	Evelyn Hustwit	Evelyn Hustwit/ Fran Going	Margueritte Wagner/ Dick Lafontaine	OJ19670912
1968	Tony O'Donnell	Terry Leach/ Uwe Nansen	Rosemarie Fletcher	Rosemarie Fletcher/ Margaret Burrows	Rosemary Jull/ Uwe Nansen	OJ19680916
1969	Tony O'Donnell	Mike Carroll/ Marinus Wins	Rosemary Jull	Rosemary Jull/ Evely Hustwit	EvelynHustwit/ Mike Cowpland	OJ19690826
1970	Gerry Filion	JohnMcManus/ Don Hambling	Evelyn Hustwit	Margueritte Wagner /Patricia Marks	EvelynHustwit/ Mike Cowpland	OJ19700824
1971	Not held					
1972	Paul Henry	Not Played	Sylva Rysanek	Not Played	Not Played	OJ19720828; OJ19720822
1973	Cancelled	Cancelled	Cancelled	Cancelled	Cancelled	

Documents identified as “ONEC Records” are now in the Ottawa City Archives.

- ¹ *Ottawa Journal (OJ)*, 8 May 1957. “Canoe Club Kicks about Killing Tax;” *OJ*, 11 September 1957. “Canoe Club Broke Can’t Pay Bill;” *Ottawa Citizen, (OC)*, 28 July 1959, p.35. “Canoe Club Plea Denied.”
- ² City of Ottawa Archives (hereafter AO), A2010-0014, MG29-4-33, Judgement by Justice A. Aylen in the case of ONEC House Co v. Village of Rockcliffe, 17 May 1962; ONEC Records, RV1, File 9, EMT to Neil Lewis, nd. 1967.
- ³ *OJ*, 26 September 1957. “Burgh Club Rejects Change;” *OC*, 24 April 1958. “Burgh Club Will Hold Season Opener Sunday.”
- ⁴ *OC*, 26 April 1958, p.13. Adv.; *OJ*, 10 May 1958. Adv.
- ⁵ *OC*, 5 January 1957. “Former Burgh Athlete Dies at North Bay;” *OJ*, 7 May 1957. Major AA Pinard, 84, Former Alderman Dies;” *OC*, 1 June 1957.” Jack ‘Baldy’ Welsh. Paddler of Earlier Year Dies at Carleton Place.”
- ⁶ *OJ*, 4 March 1958. “Roland M. Graham, Hockey, Paddling Veteran Dies;” *OJ*, 3 March 1958. “Mrs. M. Drummond, Active in Church Circles Dies.” *OJ*, 16 September 1958. “William O’Hallorhan Longtime POD employee Dies, 72;” *OC*, 26 December 1958. “Former Pro Hockey Star Horace Merrill Dies, 74;” *OC*, 20 March 1959, p.15. “Ivan Roy of Pembroke Dies at 62;” *OJ*, 30 March 1959. “David Gill Former OTC GM;” *OJ*, 27 May 1959. “John Munroe Dies Suddenly;” *OJ*, 5 November 1959. “Ray Tubman Dies at 63 Suddenly;” *OJ*, 30 November 1959 “William Anderson Ex-Rough Rider Found Shot.”
- ⁷ *OC*, 5 June 1958. “Burgh Dance.”
- ⁸ AO, A2010-0014, MG29-1-4, 7 December 1959, Board Minutes; *ibid.*, 17 January 1960.
- ⁹ *OC*, 26 Aug. 1960, p.27. “Night of Fame;” *OJ*, 29 May 1961; *OC*, 19 June 1961, p.28; *OJ*, 19 July 1961. “Canoe Club Plans Dance;” *OJ*, 30 June 1961. Wiener Roast.”
- ¹⁰ Comment on website “Lost Ottawa.”
- ¹¹ AO, A2010-0014, MG29-1-9, Board Minutes, 28 February 1960; AO, A2010-0014, MG29-1-2-14., 14 June 1960; *ibid.*, Board Minutes, 29 June 1960; AO, A2010-0015, Box 2, MG29-5-85, 1960, Membership Report.
- ¹² AO, A2010-0014, MG29-1-7, Board Minutes, 31 January 1960; ONEC Records, RV1, File 8, 24 August 1964; RV1, File 8, Thompson to ONECC, 27 November 1964.
- ¹³ AO, A2010-0014, MG29-1-21, 12 June 1961, Minutes; *ibid.*, MG29-1-22, 4 July 1961, Minutes; *ibid.*, MG29-1-23, 24 July 1961, Minutes; *OC*, 27 September 1960, “Burgh Names New Slate;” AO, A2010-0014, MG29-2-2, 1961 membership.
- ¹⁴ *OJ*, 23 November 1961. “Fire Calls.”
- ¹⁵ AO, A2010-0014, MG29-4-29 and 30.
- ¹⁶ *OC*, 21 November 1962. “Well Known Paddler Dies;” *OJ*, 22 May 1963. “City Realtor, E.S. Sherwood, Dies at 79.”
- ¹⁷ Danielle Metcalf-Chenali, *For the Love of Flying: the Story of Laurentian Air Services*. Robin Brass Studio Inc., 2009. LAC, RG34, Vol. 148, File M-29, 31 May 1963. Laurentian Airways to NCC; OA, MG29- 1-32, Minutes of Management Committee, 11 January 1965; LAC, RG34, Vol. 148, File M-29, Laurentian Airways to NCC, 31 May 1963.
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