



# THE BILGE PUMP

Keuka Yacht Club

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## RACING RESULTS

Yes, there is a great pumpkin! Well on Sunday, there was a large jack o'lantern looking windward mark for races. 2020 continues to surprise with a nice breeze greeting the Lightnings and E-scows on Sunday October 4th for the Great Pumpkin Race. After racing, the E sailors enjoyed some chili tasting while the Lightning sailors sipped Mimosas!

### MC SCOWS—LACK OF WIND=NO RACES

#### LIGHTNINGS

SAIL #	SKIPPER	R1
8004	Roger Slade	2
12885	Andy Hamilton	4
14240	John Brown	3
15465	Lana Grauer	1

#### E Scows

SAIL #	SKIPPER	R1	R2
KU-2	PENWARDEN	4	5
KU-9	COLE	1	1
KU-10	BENDER	5	3
KU-7	MEYER	6	6
KU-23	NEWMAN	3	4
KU-25	MEADE	2	2



E-Scow Great Pumpkin Race Trophy

### Looking for a few volunteers...

On Saturday October 17, we could use some volunteer help. There is not too much to do, but furniture needs to be moved to the apron, bubblers and their power lines positioned, and junior sailing boats secured to the racks.

## GAZING SKYWARD IN THE NIGHT

Mars is approaching "opposition," a position it reaches roughly every two years. On **October 13**, the planet will lie in a perfect orbital alignment, on the exact opposite side of Earth from the sun. On that date, look for bright-red Mars as it rises on the eastern horizon *at the very moment* that the sun is setting in the west and will stay in the sky until sunrise.

According to an [article by Jeremy Miller](#) in *Sierra*, when the planet reaches opposition, it will come within 38 million miles of the Earth. It won't be that bright again *for another 13 years*.

Also, this month has two full moons. On October 1, we saw the Harvest Moon, the moon that falls closest to the fall equinox. Looking forward, on October 31, the Hunter Moon (a so-called Blue Moon) will appear.

So what is a blue moon anyway? According to [NASA](#), "A Blue Moon' is the name given to the second full moon in a calendar month. Because there are roughly 29.5 days between full moons, it is unusual for two full moons to 'fit' into a 30 or 31 day month (and impossible to fit into a 28 or 29 day month, so February can never have a Blue Moon). On average there will be one Blue Moon every 2.5 years. Historically, there were twelve names for the full moons (one for each month), and Blue Moon was the name used in years which had 13 full moons. It referred to the third full moon of the four occurring between an equinox and solstice in that year (a season)." A misinterpretation led to the current usage.

Sources: <https://www.sierraclub.org/sierra/october-stargazing-mars-so-bright>  
[https://nssdc.gsfc.nasa.gov/planetary/lunar/blue\\_moon.html](https://nssdc.gsfc.nasa.gov/planetary/lunar/blue_moon.html)

## JACK O' LANTERN

The name for our carved pumpkins comes from the phenomenon of a strange light flickering over peat bogs—ignis fatuus “foolish fire”—and called will-o'-the-wisp or jack-o'-lantern in English folklore. The practice of carving of vegetables, particularly gourds such as turnips and pumpkins goes back thousands of years. In North America, carved pumpkins were first associated with the harvest season in general, and were first linked to Halloween in the mid 1800s.



While usually a face (cheerful, scary, or comical) is carved, more recently intricate carvings or paintings are becoming more common.



**FALL COLORS**

The weather forecast is for partly cloudy skies and highs in the mid 70s for Saturday and low 60s on Sunday—a fine weekend to enjoy the fall colors.

The Clubhouse is closed, but members can still enjoy the grounds. The handicap-accessible bathroom is open for use. Please be sure to tidy up when you are done and replace any chairs up next to the Clubhouse.

NB: [KYC weather station KNYHAMM024](#) link now in footer!

Please send submissions and email address updates to [kycbilgepump@gmail.com](mailto:kycbilgepump@gmail.com)

## SOLD!

The outside patio tables are sold! Proceeds will be put towards *four* new sets of tables and chairs for the concrete skirting. We are hoping to purchase something that is easier to spray down for cleaning/sanitizing.



Sails drying after races in late September.

## ROAD CLOSURES

There is some road work being done on Rt. 54A. Look for posted detours using County Routes 76 and 74. A new retaining wall is being installed near house #8662 (south of the Club closer to Hammondsport) which requires a detour for approximately 60 days.

