

Teams set to hoist sails for hospice

STAFF REPORT

Twenty-one sailing teams, some from as far away as California and Florida, will race this weekend out of the Rochester Yacht Club to raise money and awareness for hospice care.

The 2009 Hospice Regattas National Championships are Friday through Sunday off the mouth of the Genesee River, bringing together the winners of regattas held across the country last year. Since the first hospice regatta in 1982 in Annapolis, Md., more than 20,000 sailors, sponsors and volunteers have raised more than \$12 million nationally for terminally ill patients and their families. Now in its 11th year, Rochester's local Hospice Regatta has raised almost \$500,000 to benefit services provided

by **Lifetime Care.**

RYC, host of numerous national and international sailing competitions, was named national Hospice Regatta host for 2009, 2010 and 2011. This year's event is being chaired by Hank and Mary Stuart and John and Lauren Doyle.

"The Rochester area offers great sailing conditions, especially for such a competitive one-design boat," said Hank Stuart, referring to the new 23-foot Sonar sailboats skippers and three-person crews will use this weekend in a round-robin series format. "We're looking forward to welcoming these winning teams to Rochester and offering them great racing for a great cause."

Five New York teams will be represented. RYC's Brook Richardson, skipper of Arrow, will lead

Rochester's entry for a second time. Other skippers are William Wilson (Canandaigua Hospice Regatta), John Enwright (Jefferson County), Charlie Krylo (Oswego) and Gary Tisdale (Niagara County). Former RYC and Genesee Yacht Club member Chris Koch returns as a crew member aboard Ron Schults' entry from St. Joseph's, Mich.

Registration and practice sailing starts at 10 this morning. Racing on Lake Ontario takes place from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday and Saturday with award presentations at 6 each night. Sunday's racing is from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. with final awards presented at 4 p.m. For more information, call (585) 342-5511 or go to www.rochesteryc.com. □

