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GAM: To call upon, chat with, and otherwise communicate with, as the officers and
(from the Twentieth Century Dictionary).

A.J. Rae,
 3 Nottawa Ave.,
 Algonquin Island,
 Toronto, Ont.

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"YACHTSMAN of the YEAR"

AL RAE, SR.

It was not easy to pick a "Yachtsman of the Year" There is no dearth of prominent sailors on Lake Ontario. We've more than our share of keen competitors who bring home international trophies and enthusiastic workers who hold down demanding positions in the various committees and associations.

It was not easy. Not until we realized that the person chosen should symbolize the spirit and reflect the enjoyment which comes from all aspects of yachting but that he should not be obsessed by the sport.

The choice became more clear. Odd comments and stray bits of conversation at various yacht clubs and gatherings seemed to point ever more strongly at Al Rae of Queen City Yacht Club.

Only a few of the many comments on which our decision was based are listed below:

A member of his crew: "His seamanship is fantastic. I've sailed with him since the war and only known him to misjudge and have to turn back once."

An executive of his club: "He won't run for executive position — there are always people who will. He's busy doing the thankless jobs no one else has time for."

A fellow club member: "Al and his son, Al, Jr., were instrumental in starting the Junior Club here — and in keeping it going."

A skipper from an American club: "Al, whom I'd never seen before, stayed up all night making a tiller to replace the one I broke. If he hadn't popped up from nowhere my boat would have been stuck in Toronto for at least a week."

An employee: "There's a steady stream of hopeful young artists coming in here. Al always makes time to help them with their problems and suggest how they might best use their talents."

A business competitor: "I'm no competitor of Al's. He's top man in our field."

His wife: "Sometimes I almost wish Al wouldn't cut up quite as much as he does at social functions. People don't get a chance to see what a sterling person he is underneath."

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