



# the Binnacle

Monthly Newsletter of the Lake Champlain Yacht Club, Inc.

Commodore: Fritz Horton Vice Commodore: Steve Walkerman

December, 2003—January, 2004

Binnacle Editor: Muddy Bilges

<http://www.lcyc-vt.org/>



## 2004 Capital Budget Approved

The Board of Governors has completed the budget for the Club's capital expenses for 2004 and updated the Long Range Plan with prioritized projects for 2005 and 2006. The Board wishes to thank the eight members who responded to the call for input to the planning and budgeting process. While Board members wished they had had more input, the lack of a larger response indicates a vote of confidence in the Board's efforts to plan future projects meeting the needs of most of the members.

Projects scheduled for 2004 are as follows:

- ◆ Repair the "Milo" with the same attention to detail as given to the powerboats repaired in 2003.
- ◆ Install the additional moorings to bring the total to the maximum allowed under LCYC's agreement with the Town of Shelburne.
- ◆ Fabricate and install a ramped access to the main dock.
- ◆ New replacement race marks and anchor lines.
- ◆ New waterless urinals to replace existing urinals to reduce pump-out costs.
- ◆ New chairs for the clubhouse to replace plastic pipe chairs.
- ◆ Additional side chairs for house tables.
- ◆ New FJ to continue policy of maintaining and upgrading the instructional boat fleet.

Projects delayed for consideration in future years are listed below without regard for their prioritizations:

- ◆ Replacement of the "Butler" building.
- ◆ Race Committee boat.
- ◆ Additional four ramped docks with cradles for Junior dock.
- ◆ Drainage swales re-excavated.
- ◆ Driveway paving in phases.
- ◆ Replace riding lawnmower.
- ◆ Replace retaining walls south of Junior dock.
- ◆ Replace mooring puller.
- ◆ New PA system serving house and patios.
- ◆ Warming oven for kitchen.
- ◆ Four new Optimist Dinghies for Junior program.

If you wish to get involved in the process, make your own list and submit it to the Board between now and September to be considered for the 2005-and-beyond planning.

## Announcements

### New Honorary & Senior Associate Members

The Board of Governors, in recognition of their many contributions to LCYC and to the sailing community over a period of many years, approved Steele and Terry Griswold as Honorary Members in the club.

In addition, the Board approved the following for Senior Associate Memberships: Bruce and Carol Hill, Ernie & Daphne Pringle and Fred and Karen Allen.

### Dues are Overdue

The deadline for late payment of membership dues for 2004 is January 31. A \$50 late fee applies to payments made until January 31. Membership is terminated automatically if dues are not paid by that date.

### Cheer Committee

A new committee has been appointed to keep track of happenings in our members' lives that should be recognized by the club with cards, letters, flowers, donations etc. Nancy Boldt has offered to get this program off the ground, and she would appreciate everyone's help to be aware of events calling for such recognition. Please call or E-mail Nancy (see Log for address/phones) if you know of an event that you feel should be acknowledged by the club.

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## Commodore's Corner

by Fritz Horton

In the next issue of the "Binnacle", the "Corner" will be occupied by John Harris, our Commodore for 2004-2005. We are fortunate to have him accept the challenge the position brings in terms of the time and energy it takes to keep all the balls bouncing. John is an active member of the Etchells fleet and has children in the Junior Program. He should have an easy time of it, though, because he has a terrific group of volunteers manning the Board who make everything happen at the club.

### Outgoing Board Members:

- Linda Livingston quietly hired and managed our staff for three years with a sense of confidence and resolve that we knew we could rely upon. She also achieved some success in determining the need for the various licenses and certificates for launch operators—a "moving target" that often eluded us in earlier years.
- In his one-year tenure, Dave Kelton helped expand this position to include responsibility for all the club's formal communications — the "Binnacle", "Log" and website.

### New Board Members:

- Mike Barker will take John Harris' place on the Docks Committee. Given his interest and skill in writing, I suspect he will also be a periodic contributor to the "Binnacle" as well. I suspect, too, he will be responsive to the needs of the cruising and racing sailors with equanimity and compassion.
- Kate Heath helped Linda Livingstone with the stewards in 2003, and she is eager to take on the responsibility this year.
- Ernie Reuter has taken on heading up the Communications Committee ("Binnacle", "Log", website, public relations). Ernie has worked tirelessly to upgrade the club's website into a service that serves the club's membership and Board.

### Remaining Board Members:

- John Harris moves into the Commodore's seat from overseeing the Docks Committee.
- Vice Commodore and Treasurer Steve Walkerman has offered to serve another term, and his commitment to the club and to his office is more than just commendable. Behind the scenes, year round, Steve pays the bills and taxes, handles the negotiations for insurance and banking, prepares monthly summaries for review by the Board, and serves in place of the Commodore when called upon to do so.
- Rear Commodore and Harbormaster Steve Landau has also stepped up for a second full term on the Board. He can be relied upon to make firm but fair judgments in this potentially controversial position, and he is comfortable in doing so.
- Bob Platt is the perfect person to have charge of the House. In "retirement", he has his own properties he manages and is on top of all the clubhouse maintenance issues every day.
- Charlie Van Winkle is a real "can-do" guy who, indeed, can do it all. I expect he will achieve the goals he has set for improving and caring for LCYC's grounds.
- Bill Aldrich is legendary at this point. His first act was to replace our fuel tanks and establishing clear rules for refueling boats. He has overseen restoration of two LCYC powerboats, quite literally transforming the old Whaler into what amounts to a "new" boat. This year, he has his eye on the "Milo"...
- Barb Robitaille had a remarkable first year, as mentioned in the last issue of the "Binnacle". This year you can look forward to new enthusiasm and expanded programs for kids and adults.
- Tris Coffin has reinvigorated the racing program and has worked hard at providing broader appeal to the series as well as continuing the "Race Management" overseen by a "professional race manager" hired for that purpose for all club races.
- Steve Adams has already set up much of the entertainment for 2004 (that jazz group will be at the Ladies Cup Dinner again!) and is working on the arrangements for food and other events as well.

I have been privileged to have worked with all these wonderful people who have done and will continue to do so much for the Club and its members!



## The 2004 Change of Watch

January 24, 2004, 1800 Hours

Wyndham ("Radisson") Hotel  
Burlington, Vermont

Join us in thanking outgoing Board Members, welcoming incoming Board Members and the presentations of the William B. Archey Trophy (Yachtsmen of the Year) and The Commodore's Cup (Cruiser of the Year).

**The Change of Watch is a wonderful opportunity for Members to share experiences about sailing and winter activities. New Members are encouraged to attend and participate in this century-old tradition.**

\*\*\*\* **Special Program** \*\*\*\*

*The Vendée Globe is a non-stop race around the globe for solo sailors. That's single-handed, with no stopping, and no assistance. The Vendée is widely considered the most difficult solo event in the world, but no American has yet officially finished. Meet Bruce Schwab, skipper of "Ocean Planet", and learn why that's about to change forever... (More on Page 3)*

### Bill of Fare

*Hors D'Oeuvres with Cash Bar  
Tossed Garden Salad  
Salad of Shrimp and Pasta Shells  
Sliced Sirloin of Beef with Roast Garlic Sauce  
Chicken Baton Rouge with Horseradish Scallion Cream  
Roast Red Bliss Potatoes  
Fresh Seasonal Vegetables  
Freshly Baked Rolls  
Assorted Pies and Cakes  
Coffee, Decaffeinated Coffee and assorted Teas*

\*\*\*\* **Cost - \$26.00 per person** \*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\* **Make Your Reservations Now** \*\*\*\*

(Deadline: Wednesday January 21, 2004)

Call Marie and Glen Findholt at 802-899-2961

or

Steven and Charlotte Adams at 518-371-2275

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**RESERVATIONS MADE BUT NOT KEPT  
WILL BE INVOICED**

## Ramp to Main Dock

By Mike Lynch

We are proceeding with planning for construction in 2004 of a ramp to the main dock that will allow use of the cart to move gear to and from the docks and to make dock access easier for those who have trouble with the long stairs.

Charlie Van Winkle, Doug Viehmann and I are developing several options during this phase, and we will be presenting them to the Board as well as checking with the Town and neighbors to make sure their concerns are taken into consideration.

One option is to follow a previously-considered path to the north of the walk to the main dock and transitioning to an elevated structure that returns to the concrete platform where the aluminum gangway to the dock is attached. The cost of the revised structure should be significantly lower than previously proposed because it will be made of wood instead of aluminum and will be built by members instead of by a contractor. If this option is selected, our plan is to build the timber portion with volunteer club labor and have a small contractor (maybe a member) do the upper paved part. The work will be done in April and May.

Another alternative under consideration is to create a lower, almost level walkway to the main dock extending along the bank from two new parking spaces at the foot of the Club's boat launch ramp, joining the Jr. Sailing dock and the Main dock in the process. This would be an almost "level" paved path that could be built either as a cut into the bank or as a wooden structure with adjustable legs. The parking spaces would be facilitated with construction of a new retaining wall with guardrail would replace the two deteriorating timber retaining walls now in place. A side benefit would be leveling off what has been an unusable and difficult-to-maintain sloping lawn above the old retaining walls for more picnic space as well as a space for outdoor classes.

Several volunteers have already signed up but we can use more to reduce the amount of effort needed by each volunteer.

This would be an ideal way for anyone who cannot attend Spring Workday to meet that commitment. If you have the interest and a bit of time when the weather breaks early this Spring, please contact Mike Lynch at 985-2461.



Bruce Schwab aboard *Ocean Planet*

## Bruce Schwab at Change of Watch

Veteran ocean sailor Bruce Schwab will provide the program at the 2004 Change of Watch on Saturday, January 24.

Bruce grew up living on a sailboat on the waters of Washington State, the Caribbean, Mexico, and California. He has raced and lived in the San Francisco Bay Area for the past 20 years.

As a member of the SF Bay's Single-handed Sailing Society (SSS), he's won nearly every West Coast single-handed race, including the 1996 Single-handed Transpac race aboard "Rumbleseat," his famous highly modified 1930 "30 Square Meter."

Bruce took the aging 60-year old boat and completely re-made her. Modifications included a high-tech rigging system designed to blend power and handling ease for long distance single-handed sailing. His efforts bore fruit when in 1996, "Rumbleseat" completed the single-handed Transpac race *with a day and a half margin of victory*.

**He is only American racing an American boat in the Open 60 circuit, and has logged over 60,000 ocean miles during his meticulously planned campaign towards the start line of the upcoming Vendée Globe.**

Other racing results:

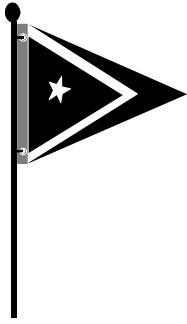
- In 1997, Bruce completely re-designed the rigging for **Azzura**, a custom 30 foot sport boat. He went on to skipper her to victory in the 1998 double-handed class of the Pacific Cup race to Hawaii.
- In 2000 he co-skipped **Rage**, a Wylie/Schooner Creek 70ft Turbosled, to first in division in the Pacific Cup race to Hawaii.
- In his own home waters, the often dangerous area from San Francisco to the Farallone Islands, he has taken division first places in the double-handed Farallones for five years running from 1984 through 1989 then again in 1995, 1998, and 2001.

But winning isn't everything... In 1999, Bruce and crew member Joakim Jonsson were awarded the Arthur B. Hansen medals by US Sailing for the rescue of fellow sailor Gary Helms after Helms capsized his boat off the California coast during the rough 1999 Doublehanded Farallones Race.

In Bruce's words:

*"You have to be pretty nuts to do what we do as single-handed, around the world sailors. But I'm pretty amazed that I'm still the only American with an American boat competing on the Open 60 international circuit. I've got to believe that's going to change some time real soon. I love the X Games, and I'm looking forward to watching a whole new generation of young American sailors getting the support to be doing this on the next generation of Extreme Sports. That would be awesome indeed."*

To e-mail Bruce - either on dry land or at sea - send a note to [bruce@bruceschwab.com](mailto:bruce@bruceschwab.com)



***the Binnacle***

*Lake Champlain Yacht Club, Inc.*

*P.O. Box 411*

*Shelburne, VT 05482*

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**LCYC Classifieds**

**Wanted for Junior Program & Clubhouse:**

Sailing Books & Magazines, Old sailing tapes and DVD's!

Contact Barb Robitaille, Instructional Programs Chair.



December, 2003

**2003 Board of Governors**

- Commodore..... Fritz Horton
- Vice Commodore & Treasurer .....Steve Walkerman
- Rear Commodore.....Steve Landau
- Secretary, Membership & Log..... Beth Thorpe
- Grounds .....Charlie Van Winkle
- Boats ..... Bill Aldrich
- Communications ..... Dave Kelton
- Docks .....John Harris
- Harbormaster .....Steve Landau
- House .....Bob Platt
- Regatta .....Tris Coffin
- Sailing Programs .....Beth Robitaille
- Social Committee .....Steve Adams
- Stewards & Personnel .....Linda Livingstone
- Communications, Cruising /Rendezvous .....Dave Kelton

**Appointed Officers**

- Fleet Chaplain .....Chuck Bowen
- One-Design Coordinator .....Rick Stevens
- Club Historian .....Berne Collins
- Fleet Surgeons .....Drs. Larry & Roberta Coffin
- Club Liaison .....Bruce Hill
- Auditors .. O'Brien, Doremus & Phillips
- PHRF Handicappers .....Barbara Francis, Gene Cloutier

**Stewards**

- Managing Steward: .....Chris Leopold
- Stewards: Ryan Heaslip, David Loepold, Alec Antell,  
Kate Rabideau, Patrick Haley, Andy Dunn