



the Binnacle

Monthly Newsletter of the Lake Champlain Yacht Club, Inc.

Commodore: John Harris Vice Commodore: Steve Walkerman

May 2004

Binnacle Editor: Muddy Bilges

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



WorkdaySaturday May 15th, 2004

0800-1200 hrs at LCYC.....Come one come all to the first event of the boating season. Bring your rakes, shovels, work gloves, spirits and most importantyour smiles ! Breakfast and lunch will be served followed by general announcements and a brief introduction to this years racing and cruising programs.

Get Ready to Race!....Tris Coffin

Just a quick note to remind our racing fleet about a few things. **First**, please remember to register over the website for race participation and to serve as race committee. It's quick and easy. **Second**, be sure to review the race instructions available at workday. There are a few changes--- we will be using a new course notification board on Wednesday nights which will be unveiled and demonstrated at workday (and is also explained thoroughly in the race instructions). We also will begin using radio announcements of basic race information (such as the night's courses) over VHF channel 72.

-- our Wednesday night races will more frequently be using "drop mark" weather marks (the big, inflatable tetrahedrons) to set better windward marks the race committee boat will post the compass course heading to the windward mark.

-- class starts on Wednesday night are changed somewhat to better accommodate anticipated fleet numbers and maximize race time. The Etchells will be first, followed by a single JAM/Open start, followed by Spinnaker Class C and Spinnaker B starting together, followed by Spinnaker Class A. **Third**, upcoming races: The Wednesday night series starts May 19 with a practice race and the first race that counts on May 26. The Tea Kettle Race, first in the Billado/Cannon Series, is on for May 29. For PHRF racers interested in the lake wide championship series, remember to mark June 12 as the date for the Royal Savage Regatta at MBBC, the first race in the Lake Champlain PHRF championship. To get psyched for this race and provide a fun way to move boats, there will be an informal night race from LCYC to MBBC after the Wednesday night race on June 9.

Three more notes: The Etchells New England Championships are being hosted by our fine Etchells fleet at the Lake Champlain

ATTENTION MOORING MEMBERS

By Steve Landau

LCYC has paid members waiting for moorings as the season opens. If your mooring will be unoccupied for all or part of the season please let the Harbormaster know. We can move folks about on temporary assignment thus really helping a fellow member to enjoy the club. Pen-nants can be switched to prevent wear on owners gear. So please give me a call or E-mail if you know of potential space. 985-3742 slandau@adelphia.net.

Community Sailing Center on June 19 and 20. Kudos to the Etchells fleet! Anyone wishing to assist in pulling off this landmark sailing event should contact Dave Powlison. Please return your perpetual trophies to the club on workday, polished if you can, so they can be proudly displayed at the Club....Finally, look to see which LCYC boat has made the cover of this year's sailing instructions.

Good luck with the uncovering, painting, fairing, ssanding and waiting. It will all start soon!

New Course Board for 2004

Upper Row -Class

Middle Row—Type of course

Bottom Row- Number of legs to sail

E	S	J	O
T	W	W	W
WL	L	L	L
4	4	2	2

Article	Page
Get Ready to Race	1
Moorings	1
Commodore's Corner	2
New Members	2
Golden Dazy	2
2004 Cruising Calendar	3
Junior Sailors	4
Board & Officers	4
Boat for Sale	4



Commodore's Corner

Hooray!! The start of the Lake Champlain boating season is finally almost here (unless you are an ice boater like my neighbor Dave and some of our more intrepid club members and got started several months ago). Spring workday this year is on Saturday May 15th. Make sure you get there early to get first dibs on the Fresh doughnuts, bagels and coffee. Somewhat to our social chair's chagrin, I would have to say that spring workday is probably my favorite LCYC social event of the year. Part of it is just the excitement of the beginning of the season and seeing the club spring to life. A big part of it is the special camaraderie that comes from working side by side, children and octogenarians, power boaters and sailors, new members and old. Over the years, I think I have made more new acquaintances at workday than any other club event. And then there is the great lunch at the end!! At any rate, if you miss workday you are missing a lot more than seeing Mike Caldwell's ace forklift driving or the chance to spread some bark mulch, wash some windows or helping to get our various watercraft ready for the season. Of course, workday is just the beginning of a great season. Throughout our long Vermont winter the Board has been working hard getting everything ready to go. We have a great set of social events planned, a very active regatta schedule with a focus on continuing to improve our race management and revitalizing lake-wide PHRF racing, numerous formal and informal rendezvous events including the world famous Champagne race and a very vital and exciting Junior Sailing program. Now all we have to do is hope that Mother Nature does her part and brings us plenty of fair skies and fresh breezes (my sailing bias is showing).

.....See you on Workday!!!

LCYC New Members 2004

Paul & Jean Brana, South Burlington VT, Pearson 26
 Fran Burstein, Randolph VT, C&C 26
 Thomas Cavin, South Burlington VT, Sail 21
 Scott & Lisa Carpenter, Shelburne VT, Four Winns 20
 Jonathan Couture & Katherine Snead, Charlotte VT, J 80
 Charles & Elisabeth DesLauriers, Charlotte VT, Power 24
 Luis & Jennifer Gonzalez, Enosburg Falls VT, J 120
 Chris Hathaway, Shelburne VT, Soverel 36
 Joe & Kim Kropf, Shelburne VT, Cobalt 24
 Richard & Candace Kruger, Gill MA' Catalina 30
 George & Linda Langdon, Shelburne VT, Hunter 28.5
 Jeff & Laura Lynner, Old Greenwich CT, Sabreline 36
 Sherman & Patricia White, Jeffersonville VT, Power 17
 Bill Wight & Sharon Riordan Wight, S.Hero VT, Etchells
 Todd & Maureen Wulfson, South Burlington VT, Looking!

Look for these new faces at workday and be sure to introduce yourself.

Golden Dazy.....the Early years Part 2

The 1980 Bermuda Race featured a lot of wind, rather rough conditions, with little need to fly a spinnaker. Bruce recalls that they "averaged 7.2 knots—a reach," and thought they might win it. At the finish, however, an older boat, *Holger Danske*, won. For everyone, though, the highlight was meeting the wives and girlfriends in Bermuda after the race was over and sailing back.

Jeff's future wife, Dorothy, was among those who flew to Bermuda. They had known each other since high school days at Champlain Valley Union, and had started dating at UVM. Dorothy had just started her summer job at Bostwick Estate as a gardener and after working only a week, asked for a month off so she could go to Bermuda and sail back. Fortunately, they granted her request. Dorothy has been part of *Golden Dazy's* history from the beginning. A fierce competitor, she also skippered *Dazy* to several first place finishes on Lake Champlain.

Dazy's Winning Ways

Once Dazy was back in Vermont, she immediately started winning races. At Bruce and Carol's home on the shores of Lake Champlain, one wall is covered with framed awards, a cabinet is filled with trophies, and the record books are filled with *Dazy* wins in races in which she participated from 1980 on.

In 1980, she won the first of four Ladies Cup Regattas. For Bruce, "the Lake Champlain Race [which started at Malletts Bay on a course that usually took at least two days] was the most rigorous." Again, these were the days before GPS, when skippers used to have to "deal with dead reckonings and unlighted marks."

Since Steele had *Mame*, he sold his partnership to Michael Caine; but, before long, Bruce became the sole owner. He credits much of *Dazy's* success to a very loyal crew who remained with him through the years. Bruce disliked the task of getting crew together, so he usually left that to Jeff.

For most of the races, the minimum crew number was five or six; often, there would be eight. On Wednesday Night Races at the Lake Champlain Yacht Club, "the word was that the first seventeen could crew." There were over twenty life jackets onboard, and *Dazy* was always popular with young, energetic types who liked to be on a winning boat. One of the teen-agers who came aboard as crew was Gene Clouthier (his father had won a ride on *Dazy* in a raffle), who Bruce says "became a great sailor." Two other young crew members who became regulars were Kere Baker, from Just Sports in Malletts Bay, and Sam Cutting, from Dakin Farm. They were among the core crew who would come to the Shipyard on Wednesdays and Sundays a month before the boat was launched to get it ready for the season. Jeff recalls how everyone would work religiously year after year to get this beautiful wooden boat in shape: sanding the bottom, varnishing, and cleaning.

Dazy's winning ways included more than coming in first and collecting trophies. [Continued Page 4](#)

**2004 Lake Champlain Yacht Club Cruise Calendar....
from the Lattrell's**

Valcour Wildflower Cruise 6/19/2004- 6/20/2004 Ted & Joanne Lattrell LCYC, Doug Hall MBBC

This year we are starting our rendezvous season with a joint cruise with the **Malletts Bay Boat Club (MBBC)**. We will join Richard Villamil and others from MBBC as they investigate the natural history of Valcour Island including the spring wildflowers. This year's itinerary includes investigation of the glacier's legacy in the Champlain Valley as well as selected wild orchids in bloom. In the past they have found the yellow ladies slipper, ram's head orchid, jack-in-the-pulpit, moccasin flower and other rare and unusual flowers. This year, we may



even find some new additions to our growing list of wildflowers. Harbor start at your convenience. We will plan on monitoring channel nine. Hike to start at 1400 (2:00 PM for the rest of us) and cocktail/hors d'ouvers at 1730 (5:30PM). (Bring your favorite snacks to share). Plan on stargazing after evening cocktails. Individual departures on Sunday after breakfast - or a second morning walk on the island. Bring your dinghy, field guides to the stars, wildflowers and mushrooms, insect repellent, walking shoes, cameras, and binoculars and a snack to share at our social hour/party after the Saturday walk. See you there.

Fireworks Rendezvous 7/3/2004 Ted & Joanne Lattrell
On July 3rd we plan to anchor outside the breakwater (weather permitting)

Please join us for an LCYC raft-up!

Converse Bay 7/17/2004 Ted & Joanne Lattrell

Harbor start at your convenience. We will plan on monitoring channel 9 and will be anchoring TBD. Cocktail / hors d'ouvers at 1700.

Champagne Race to Willsboro Bay 8/14/2004

Ted & Joanne Lattrell, Dave Kelton

We will again have the Champagne Race to Willsboro Bay where the winner will receive Champagne, to share with the rest of us! Other prizes will also be awarded. We will have an award ceremony on shore followed by a Cookout hosted by Dave & Pat Kelton. Last year we had a great time thanks to Dave & Pat! Cookout about 1730, bring hors d'ouvers to share as usual. We will anchor near the boat ramp same as last year. Race instructions will be handed out the morning of the race.

Battle of Plattsburgh Weekend 9/11/2004

Ted & Joanne Lattrell LCYC, Doug Hall MBBC

Each year on the second weekend of September, Plattsburgh and the surrounding area echo to the sound of musket and cannon fire as re-enactors in period costume

from the United States and Canada lock horns in a re-enactment of the 1814 Battle of Plattsburgh. This festival celebrates the American victory over the English Navy in this famous battle of September 11, 1814. American and Canadian re-enactors do battle again as this dramatic re-creation of the Battle of Plattsburgh unfolds before your very eyes. There is a parade, concerts, tavern, exhibits, lectures and much more. See: <http://www.battleofplattsburgh.com/> for more information about the weekend activities. This is a joint rendezvous with MBBC. I suggest renting dock space so you can visit the activities on shore. Somebody bring the club cannon just in case we have to help fight the British fleet, again!

Impromptu rendezvous All Summer Ted & Joanne

The above scheduled rendezvous are always a good time! As many cruisers also race I have done my best to avoid most of the races so all can participate in the rendezvous. However, because of weather and other factors they don't always happen. It has also been my experience that some of the impromptu rendezvous have been the best. Mostly due to ideal weather conditions everyone's out for the weekend. So, I will post a destination on the board at the club when I know we have two or three boats headed to the same anchorage. Please join us! As always I will be monitoring channel 9.



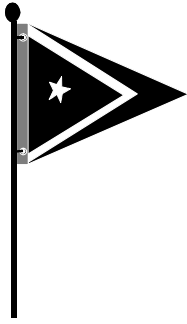
Dazy...from page 2

There are fond memories of the hard work, the camaraderie, good food, good drink, and great company in good weather and bad. Among those memories is the

"beer ball," a round sphere mini-keg, that "resided" for a while in the Y-shaped cockpit. During a lull on one of the long Lake Champlain Races, after a long spell at the helm, Bruce went below to get some rest. It was a light air night, rather cold, and the rest of the crew remained on deck. When Bruce came back on deck, saying, "I'm ready for my breakfast beer," the ball was empty. He says, "they were wearing Cheshire Cat grins." There is good-natured contention over how the ball lost its beer—Jeff and Dorothy insist there was a certain amount of "leakage that even soaked some of the sheets, giving the boat an 'eau d'beer ball' flavor. Spilled beer just seemed to add to the boat's patina."

Kere finally made a varnished drinks holder that could hold eight. Jeff says it was beautifully made, and saved crew members from having to wear leather cups around their necks—Bruce's suggestion for solving the spilled beer problem that seemed to occur every time he said, "Ready about." (The skipper got his own holder.)

Continued next month



the Binnacle

Lake Champlain Yacht Club, Inc.

P.O. Box 411

Shelburne, VT 05482

fold here

LCYC Classifieds

2002 Ladies Cup and Billado Trophy Winner For Sale.

Questions call Mark and Suzanne Grosby.

Offers call Bruce Hill Yacht Sales .

2004 Board of Governors

Commodore.....	John Harris
Vice Commodore & Treasurer	Steve Walkerman
Rear Commodore.....	Steve Landau
Secretary, Membership & Log.....	Beth Thorpe
Grounds	Charlie Van Winkle
Boats	Bill Aldrich
Communications	Ernie Reuter
Docks	Mike Barker
Harbormaster	Steve Landau
House	Bob Platt
Regatta	Tris Coffin
Sailing Programs	Barbara Robitaille
Social Committee	Steve Adams
Stewards & Personnel	Kate Heath
Cruising /Rendezvous	Ted/Joanne Lattrell

Appointed Officers

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

Stewards

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



Junior Sailors hard at work