



the Binnacle

Newsletter of the Lake Champlain Yacht Club, Inc.
Commodore: Doug Viehmann Vice Commodore: Steve Walkerman
April 2008
Binnacle Editor: Jim Turvey
<http://www.lcyc.info>



Upcoming Events... Opening Work Day 5/10... Practice Race 5/21... A1 5/28... Tea Kettle 5/31

The Mug Tradition Revived at the 2008 Change of Watch

Substituting for Past Commodore Dale Hyerstay, Past Commodore and current LCYC Historian Bern Collins presented LCYC tankards to the active past commodores attending the Change of Watch on January 26, 2008. She reported that Dale and his wife, Alice, were unable to attend the dinner as they were currently helping another couple take a 42-foot trawler down the Intracoastal to Florida—she said this was “an offer they couldn’t refuse.”

Prior to the presentations, Bern shared a brief history of the Mug Tradition that she and Dale had put together:

Some time during the late 1970’s, during Dale Hyerstay’s tenure as commodore, Frank O’Connor, a member of the Board of Governors, alerted him that he had found a pewter mug with a Herreshoff cleat handle. Frank suggested that it would be a great end-of-term appreciation gift for outgoing commodores. After he had priced it, the Board of Governors approved buying a large enough quantity to give one to all past commodores with a few extra to give to future commodores. The only difficulty was finding an enamel burgee that could be affixed to the mug.

Frank O’Connor, when asked recently about the history, said that he happened to find someone at a local craft fair who made such enamel emblems by hand. He told Frank, “Sure, I could make some for LCYC.” In order to get these, however, Frank, his wife, Julie, along with their dog, had to drive up to the Northeast Kingdom to the home of the artist who lived at the end of a dirt road. Unfortunately, these enamel burgees turned out to be, in Frank’s words, “a disaster,” so it is perhaps just as well that the supply of the original mugs ran out twenty years ago.

*A year ago, Dale Hyerstay decided to revive this tradition and he began looking for a new supplier of what he now calls the “LCYC tankards.” He discovered that PinSource in Williston could supply both
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Commodore's Corner

As the temperature drops to 10 degrees this first week of spring I am comforted by the memories of the week Ann and I spent on the Outer Banks in March. A week of sun and daytime temps in the high 60's jump-started the sailing bug in me. We stopped in the small town of Manteo (accent on the first syllable) and tasted the local brew before visiting the local Maritime Museum. The downtown museum shares docks with a lighthouse, provides public toilets and runs a family sailing program while restoring and constructing replicas in the shop which also serves as a clubhouse for the sailors. They sail in Shallowbag Bay off of Pamlico Sound, which has an average depth of about 5'. Their racing program is thriving among adults and kids alike in Optimist prams that can be rigged in any of three ways with mast and a sprit boom. The racers get to choose which rig they think is best for that day's conditions. Sailing is only part of the fun, with righting contests and rigging races, food and spectators. They were in the water Thursday March 20th!! I missed the fun by a week but enjoyed the videos and photos of their past year. All that family fun feels like it might be a source of life and enthusiasm at LCYC. Could we have an event where families get out in boats for a few hours and spar with spars?

Meanwhile your Board of Governors is busy getting ready for opening workday and club boat and equipment launchings. Our "new" lawnmower had a run-in with something that bent a blade and we just made it in under the wire to have it repaired under warranty. The Dinse is being upgraded with some safety improvements. A swim platform should appear on the waterfront later this summer. Other improvements might be more or less noticeable. The north dock cribbing has been replaced over the winter. The overhead doors in the clubhouse will be able to be opened without the aid of a kitchen knife. Our social calendar is filling up and the racing schedule will include the New England Regional Finn Regatta sponsored by our club. Cruisers will be glad to hear of the continued availability of Club moorings in other ports of call on the lake.

A summer of boating and swimming in our great lake is beckoning us all. But vigilance has been the word in the month of March for a few dedicated members who have been keeping tabs on possible zoning changes in the Town of Shelburne. Those changes have the potential to restrict future improvements to the buildings and waterfront at LCYC. Fritz Horton, Bill Aldrich, and John Dupee attended several Selectboard meetings to voice concern over changes to the setbacks along the lakefront that would have made it impossible to build new facilities any closer to the lake than our parking lots. For the moment those changes have been tabled, but our team of watchdogs is keeping their ears up and eyes open.

So mark your calendars for May 10th workday to lend a hand with the chores, meet and greet those summer friends, share a meal and your best tales of winter, and to welcome in the summer. Let's hope it is not as delayed as our spring! This is the first March that my motorcycle has not made it out of the garage.

Happy Boating! Doug Viehmann



Alternatives to Work Day

If you must miss workday, Alan Woodbury at 802-885-5284 will handle the waterproofing of the stairs, and maybe the playground equipment and ramp prior to workday, and you could help and get credit for the missed day. We are also planning to grind up some tree stumps, and for workday I'm looking for an operator for the stump grinder we are renting for that morning. You can reach me at holzinu@hotmail.com, or by phone at 802-758-2528 after April 25. Ulie Holzinger, grounds. For other alternatives, see "Calling All Dockmeisters!" below.

New Steward Needed

Andrew Boerman will be returning as Head Steward. Also returning will be Lauren Harris, Chris Paganelli and Alec Antell. We are still looking for a fifth person to fill 15 - 20 hours a week average. This person will need to get an USCG Launch Drivers License, required of all our stewards. Anyone interested, 17+, should contact Jill Burley at 496-3900.



Calling All Dockmeisters!

As in the past, we are planning a 'pre-workday workday' on the docks scheduled for Saturday May 3rd with a rain/snow date of the 4th. There may actually be enough work for both days. Proper docks are key to our club's well being and do require some extra attention at workdays.

We need some volunteers for carpentry, cleaning and sealing. Work starts at the club at 09:00. A 'build your own' luncheon buffet, along with appropriate beverages will be provided.

Please contact Bob DeSorbo at 802 496-4118 evenings or email fire4deck@aol.com if you can make it. This is also a chance to get workday credit if you are unable to attend this May 10th or missed your chance last year.

Mug Tradition / Change of Watch Continued From Page 1

the tankards and the enamel burgees. And, even better, PinSource is owned by LCYC members Lorrie and Rob Rothman.

At a recent meeting, the Board of Governors decided that in addition to active past commodores, these tankards will be presented to outgoing board members at the end of their terms in appreciation for their service.

Bern then asked Frank O'Connor to assist her in presenting the LCYC tankards to the outgoing board members and active past commodores who were in attendance:

Board Member **Dennis Bowen, 2005-2007**, served as LCYC's outstanding Social Chair at the beginning of his service and then as the board's Secretary, also in charge of Membership & Log.

Next, the tankards were presented to the past commodores: **Tony Lamb, 1986-1987; Bernadine Collins, 1988-1989; Charles Bowen, 1992-1993; Jeff Hill, 1994-1995; John Dupee, 1996-1997; Peter Collins, 1998-1999; Steve Unsworth, 2000-2001; John Harris, 2004-2005.**

Although not in attendance, tankards will also be given to **Charlie Lord, (outgoing) Commodore 2006-2007;** and Past Commodores **Dale Hyerstay 1978-1979** and **Fritz Horton, 2002-2003;** and to **Bob Turnau**, outgoing board member who served as House Chair for three years.

Bern then announced two more presentations: The first was a special one voted on by the Board of Governors to be given to **Steve Walkerman** (who was out of the country and unable to attend) in appreciation for almost ten years of service as LCYC Treasurer, since 1998. Although he will continue as treasurer, the board wanted to recognize him at this time. (Bern noted that it is unlikely that Steve wants to surpass Milo C. Reynolds' incomparable record of 50 years. As many members know, Milo served as secretary-treasurer from 1911-1961, and is credited with keeping LCYC going through the tough years of the Great Depression and World War II, up until the club was reactivated in 1961 under the leadership of John Dinse.)

The second special presentation was a real surprise to the recipient: **Frank O'Connor**. Frank began his service on the Board of Governors when Tom Sproston was commodore, in 1976. He was appointed after the untimely death of Ron Hagen. In 1977, Frank was elected to the board and during his term he served as Harbormaster, Social Chair, and then Membership & Log, as well as Rear Commodore in 1979, and Vice Commodore in 1980. Since he was the gentleman who started the "Mug Tradition" in the first place, it was a great pleasure to present him with one of his own, newly engraved with the LCYC burgee firmly affixed.



Newly Elected & Re-elected Board of Governors Members Assume Office at Change of Watch

After being elected to the Board of Governors at the Lake Champlain Yacht Club Annual Meeting held on Saturday, October 13, 2007, the following members assumed office at the Change of Watch on January 26, 2008: Bill Aldrich, Wes Daum, Jay Heaslip, Ulie Holzinger and Doug Viehmann.

Doug Viehmann also began his two-year term as Commodore. He has been a member of LCYC for eighteen years; from 1995-97, he served on the Board of Governors where his responsibilities included House & Grounds. In addition, he and his wife, Ann Vivian, both architects, were members of the Clubhouse Design Team and assisted in the design and construction of the new clubhouse which was completed and dedicated on May 30, 1998. Doug's other projects have included designing and building the children's playground and he was a member of the group responsible for the cart ramp which was completed in 2004.

Doug and Ann sail a Tanzer 22, *Dragonfly*, which has been moored at LCYC longer than any other boat in the anchorage—33 years! It was first owned for ten years by the Hyerstays, and then Tina McCaffrey owned it for another ten years, before selling it to Doug and Ann. Doug also shares ownership of a vintage 1926 Herreshoff 12 1/2 that sails out of Narragansett Bay, winning the 2006 fleet championship. He has enjoyed crewing on *Tumbleweed* for the past twenty-five years.

Wes Daum, a member since 2000, was elected to a three-year term. For the past eleven years, he has been a wireless network specialist with Fletcher Allen Hospital. In addition to sailing, Wes enjoys being a member of "The Vermont Geezers," motorcycle cruisers, which includes two other LCYC members—Peter Collins and Dick Moser. Wes and Beth recently replaced their Pearson 28, *Swan Song*, with a Beneteau 331, *Meridian*. In addition to sailing, Wes has owned powerboats and has restored several motorcycles—he is "a man of many talents."

Jay Heaslip raced at LCYC for three years before joining in 1999. He and his wife, Tina, own a J-29, *Demon in Disguise*. Their son, Ryan, was a club steward for four years. Jay is employed at IBM; he was elected to a three-year term.

Ulie Holzinger was re-elected to serve a remaining one year of a three-year term. Ulie joined LCYC in 1993, and has been chair of Grounds for the past three years. He missed this year's Change of Watch dinner as it came at the same time as a scheduled ski trip to Grindelwald, Switzerland. Ulie and his happy crew are regular Wednesday Night Race participants on his Hunter 37, *Edelweiss II*. He has one daughter and lives in Bridport with his wife, Jean.

Bill Aldrich was elected to another three-year term. A member since 2001, Bill moved to Vermont from Massachusetts thirty-five years ago. He met fellow LCYC members John Dupee and Bob Platt while working at Xerox. He has spent the past five years growing a used newspaper printing press business that is now worldwide, buying and selling used presses with offices in Vermont, Illinois and California. His daughter, Alexandra, attends UVM, and he notes that more biographical information may be found under "Boat Nazi" in the *Encyclopedia Britannica*. Yes, Bill

will continue to be in charge of boats, including the *J.Dinse*, keeping them looking as spiffy as his Chris Craft 32.

The other positions voted on at the Annual Meeting in October 2007 were treasurer and auditors for 2008. These are one-year terms which are voted on every year. **Steve Walkerman** was re-elected treasurer and **Scott Carpenter** joined veteran auditors **Don O'Brien** and **Peter Phillips**.

Scott Carpenter replaces Greg Doremus, who served as auditor for several years. Scott and his wife, Lisa, own *Firebolt*, a powerboat. He is president of the Vermont District at Key Bank, and serves on several community boards including the Champlain College Board of Trustees, ECHO, and the Lake Champlain Chamber of Commerce.

We thank Greg Doremus for his many years of service; he and his family have moved to lakeshore property in Milton, and resigned their membership. Greg's parents, Henry and Helen Doremus joined LCYC in 1979. As a teen-ager, Greg was one of LCYC's first stewards during Past Commodore Dale Hyerstay's tenure.



Calling All Mooring Balls!!!

Please bring mooring tackle to the Club for installation ASAP. Pierre Larocque will begin installing moorings the week of April 21st, weather permitting.

CLUB POLICIES

#1. All club members will receive an LCYC Burgee shaped sticker in their member packets this year. The sticker is to be applied to the Transom of your boat so that we can all know each other on the water. The Harbormaster notes that there have been instances where non club boats have picked up member moorings in the past. This new policy will assist stewards and Harbormaster in their duties of policing mooring field use. Also there will be 4 Club moorings in Kingsland Bay and Converse Bay; a boat without a sticker should not be on those moorings.

#2. All mooring balls are to be labeled with the owners name and mooring number per paragraph 5 of the Harbor Rules. Please be sure your float is labeled. Hardware store sticky numbers and letters are not as durable as the Marine variety available from marine supply stores.

#3. Dinghies that are left at the club must be clearly marked with owners name and/or mooring number per DOCK and DINGHY Rule #1.

Please help us keep track of who's boat is where this season. Many of these rules have been adopted for safety and security at the club and on the lake. If we all keep our equipment labeled and safe, then the season will be better for each of us.

The Board of Governors thanks you for all you do and for keeping to these rules.

In Memoriam—William Clay Brown

William Clay Brown, LTC, USAR (RET), past commodore of LCYC died peacefully on March 28, 2008. That he died peacefully is a surprise to those of us who knew him well. He was passionate in almost all he did and it is out of character that he passed peacefully to the other side. Bill, as he was known around the club, was born April third 1913. He missed his 95th birthday by just a few days. Some items most of us did not know was his having played varsity and semi-pro hockey. Knowing his grit it is certain he was a formidable foe on the ice. This, one must remember, was in the days prior to face masks and the fancy padding seen on the players today.

After graduation from the University of Massachusetts (Amherst) in 1935 he was commissioned in the U.S. Army as a second lieutenant of horse cavalry and stationed at Fort Ethan Allen. It was there that he met his soul mate, Priscilla Bartlett Brownell. They married in 1938. Pat as we know her, survives Bill. After Fort Ethan Allen, Bill was assigned to the First Armored Division for the duration of WWII where he saw heavy action in North African and Italian campaigns.

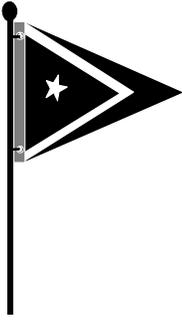
After the war Bill spent some time in upstate New York employed by B.F. Goodrich before ending up back in Burlington to work at General Electric. He retired in 1978. This gave Bill and Pat more time to pursue skiing and boating and to be closer to the mountains they moved to Underhill.

A long time power boater, Bill was enlisted to committee a large number of sailboat races for the club and for many conference races as well. We sailors are not always as appreciative of the race committee as we should be and many of us have strong opinions as to how races should be run. Bill, Pat and crew always did a great job but there was usually someone who had a difference of opinion and made sure that Bill was aware of their opinion. This caused Bill to declare frequently that someone else could be found to run the races. Inevitably he would relent and the Unicorn would be found anchored opposite the pin end of the line for another race. This included frequent overnights on station for the finishes of the Lake Champlain race and The Commodore McDonough.

Bill and Pat showed up for the spring and fall work days until just a few years ago, neither shirking their commitment to being active in the club. Bill was usually found in the power boat expertly shuttling the docks to their proper places depending on the time of the year. Their children, Bill, the third, and Christine and spouses were also long time active members of the club. Willy or Bill the third, also is a past commodore of the club.

We who were in the club during his years of participation were treated to a delightful, strong willed and able persona. He and Pat were a great team. His life was colorful and productive and he lived it to the fullest. Thank you Bill for showing the way.





the Binnacle
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Etchells Guest Night June 30th

The LCYC Etchells fleet will host a Guest night on June 30th for anyone and everyone (club member or not) that will include time on an Etchells going through boat handling, start sequences, mark roundings (informal mini races) with pizza and beer afterwards. Meeting time will be at 6:00 at the club house. Please plan to join us and get the word out to others who may be interested! Contact Rick Stevens with questions.

US Sailing Accident Insurance Program

Becoming a member of US Sailing has a benefit that you may not be aware of. A membership includes an Accident Insurance Program that one is automatically insured against the accidental loss of life, limb, sight, speech, hearing WHILE participating in a sailing activity recognized by the US Sailing Assoc. The coverage includes accidents occurring while participating in US Sailing Assoc. fund raisers, banquets or meetings as well as traveling to and from these events. Pretty amazing don't you think? All this info can be found at www.ussailing.org.



2008 Board of Governors

- Commodore..... Doug Viehmann
- Vice Commodore & TreasurerSteve Walkerman
- Rear Commodore.....Ted Lattrell
- Secretary, Membership & Log.....Jay Heaslip
- GroundsUlrie Holzinger
- BoatsBill Aldrich
- CommunicationsTina McCaffrey
- Docks Bob DeSorbo
- HarbormasterSteve Booth
- HouseWes Daum
- RegattaJohn O'Rourke
- Sailing ProgramsDorothy Hill
- Social CommitteeBob Manchester
- Stewards & PersonnelJill Burley
- Cruising /RendezvousTed Lattrell

Appointed Officers

- Fleet ChaplainChuck Bowen
- One-Design CoordinatorRick Stevens
- Club HistorianBern Collins
- Fleet SurgeonsDrs. Larry & Roberta Coffin
- Club LiaisonBruce Hill
- Auditors .. O'Brien, Carpenter & Phillips
- PHRF Handicappers Gene Cloutier

Stewards

Managing Steward: Andrew Boerman