



the Binnacle

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



Upcoming Events ... Wildflower Cruise 6/14 ... Lady Skippers Race 6/28... Etchells Guest Night 6/30

LCYC 2008 Full Trottle—We Work, We Play, We Race, We Cruise

The 2008 LCYC boating and social season is well underway. We laid a good foundation at the opening work day— with the impressive amphibious dock construction activity as well as many other improvements to the house and grounds.



It was a glorious day, and who could help noticing Dick Walters proudly displaying his latest creation—the dinghy “Ginger”. He’s right to be very proud—it’s a fabulous piece of woodworking (see photo on left). In fact, when the boat was christened at Wake Robin, the event was celebrated by the Onion River Band playing ‘Anchors Aweigh’. Another interesting tidbit from opening work day—did you know that club member Jim Spencer played football for Coach Tom Coughlin back in the day (yes, the Tom Coughlin who now coaches the NY Giants!). You never know what information you might pick up about your fellow club members on work day.

When all the work was done, we moved on to the important business of the opening cocktail party. Several photos from the cocktail party are shown on page 3, and more will be posted to the web site soon.

We’ve also gotten our racing going—with the Wednesday night and some weekend racing already started and much

more to follow. The first race of the year was a 5 legged race, with the finish at the shipyard—so all of us who hadn’t gotten a sailing fix in 8 months went home satisfied that night. The cruising calendar is also gearing up—see the details on page 4. And then again there is the Fourth of July right around the corner. Whether its observed on the 3rd or the 4th, it is always the biggest celebration of the summer boating season.

Editor’s Note: The article “In Memoriam—William Clay Brown” that appeared in the April Binnacle was authored by Chuck Bowen. The author had not previously been noted.



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Commodore's Corner

Summer is officially on us! The opening cocktail party was certainly well attended and I am caught up with the news of many of your lives. Most club boats are now in the water, ours is scheduled for later this week, and the racing season is off to a great start. Cruisers be aware that your time is coming soon. Ted Lattrell has put together a great series of rendezvous' and cruises. I urge you all to check out the list and try to attend at least one event this summer. We are a great community of people and these are wonderful events at which to get to know a few new folk.

I mentioned the Champlain Quadricentennial at the opening party. I encourage any of you with an idea for a way the club could celebrate to contact me. We are looking for a club activity in 2009 that will help the club members participate in celebrating the "400th anniversary of French explorer and cartographer Samuel de Champlain's travels by sail, oar and paddle to the lake that now bears his name. All year long special opportunities are planned for young and old alike to celebrate and commemorate the anniversary of this historic occasion, the spectacular natural resources of the region, and the many peoples who have worked, battled and made their homes in the Lake Champlain Valley." (quote from Champlain Quadricentennial Commission website) Your board of governors will be brainstorming on this one too, but all helpful hints are encouraged.

Another task I have set before the Board is to come up with a facilities plan for improvements to the club out-buildings. We were faced with possible town zoning changes this spring that would have greatly limited construction of any further facilities on the site. The pressure to make those zoning changes may not go away, so I think it is prudent to determine what improvements or facilities we may need to continue to attract new members and to serve our current needs. If these needs include construction, then the sooner they are built the more likely we are to be able to put them near the lake. Fritz Horton will be conducting the Planning process, acting as sounding board and coordinator as we develop a list of needs and wants from each of the committee chairs.

So back on the water... We were honored to have the new Coast Guard Chief for the Burlington Station at our opening party. Chief Coleman had only been in town one week when he accepted our invitation. This was a great opportunity for former "Coasties" and the rest of us to get to know more about the operations of the Burlington station and how they interact with other safety and enforcement agencies. There are very few postings in the Coast Guard that involve fresh water, ice rescues, and border issues and time to enjoy an evening at a local yacht club while on duty! We wish him good sailing and safe and courteous boaters.

Safe and courteous boating to all of you too!

Doug Viehmann

Social Chair Corner

The Opening Party held on May 31 was well-attended and a success. Many commented on the beer which was a red ale made by Trout River. This season we will select a variety of beers, and will welcome suggestions.

This season we will have a total of 7 Burger Burns. The first is set for June 18. All Burger Burn dates stated in the 2008 Log are correct except for the following: The Old-Fashioned Burger Burn will be held on July 23.

We will mail each month a REMINDER CARD which lists upcoming events and hope thereby to assist members in keeping track of club functions they wish to attend.

There will be a Ladies Cup Dinner held this year on Friday August 1. The meal will be catered and the Club will supply beer, wine, soda and bottled water. Reservations will be required. This year will mark the 75th Ladies Cup Race, an historic event. We will mail a special REMINDER CARD to announce this function. If enough members are interested, we will provide music (perhaps Atlantic Crossing or a similar group). Black tie for this function will be optional.

Other special events for the Club will be the Pig Roast (Friday September 12), the Lobster Festival (Saturday September 27) and the Awards Banquet (Friday October 10). Reservations for the Lobster Festival will be required.

SPECIAL REQUEST FOR VOLUNTEERS: The Social Functions listed above work well only if Members agree to volunteer. I therefore would very much appreciate members contacting me by phone or email to agree to help at one Burger Burn and one Special Event. With 2 – 3 persons to help setup and cleanup after each Burger Burn and Special Event, the work is easy to manage and fun.

My contact information for VOLUNTEER SIGNUPS is: 802-658-7444 (phone) or bmanchester@manchesterlaw.com (email). I would like to get enough VOLUNTEERS by June 15 so that I can post a list on the Club's bulletin board. If VOLUNTEERS are still needed as of that date, then some form of DRAFT OR CONSTABLE'S SUMMONS will follow.

From The House

There are several things that are yet to be done for the Club House. For example painting the kitchen cabinets, painting the great room and putting up the burgee molding. Anyone willing to help in whatever way, no matter how much or how little please contact me. Also I have been informed the Love seat that belongs in the Great Room is missing. Does anyone know where it might be?

The club house is for all members use. Please feel free to use it but leave it as you found it. This means not only washing the dishes but drying and putting them away. The Stewarts are not there to pick up after us.

If you wish to use the club house/ grounds, please email me the details so I may bring it to the Board of Governors for approval. The rules for use may be found in the log under House.



Junior Sailing News

The LCYC Jr sailing program is about to begin with the first 2 week session starting on June 23; there is still room available in this class, both in the morning or afternoon. Scores of sailors have already signed up and some classes are at capacity, but please do not hesitate to contact me if you have someone in mind between the ages of 8-17 that would enjoy learning about safety on the water, boat handling and sailing. As you know, our Club is a great place to spend time in the summer, and our Jr Sailors and instructors are gearing up for a fun season on the water. You may contact Dorothy Hill Program Director at work: 985-3336 home: 425-4140 or by email: cyuins@aol.com



What's In A Name? We'd Like to Know



Vs.



Did you know that the original name for one of the most famous love songs of all time was "Scrambled Eggs"? Thank goodness that sanity and John Lennon and George Martin prevailed, or Paul McCartney would have misnamed his classic ballad, which we know today as "Yesterday".

So why bring this up here? Because there's a lot to a name, and just about every club member has a boat with a name on it—and a story behind it to boot. We'd love to hear the stories behind your boat names—inquiring minds want to know. If you've got a story, send it to Jim Turvey for publication in a future Binnacle.

Opening Cocktail Party Photos



Race Management Seminar Held

On March 22nd, eleven members of LCYC attended the USSailing Race Management seminar, sponsored by MBBC. The day's events were held at Mann Hall, right here at UVM so people did not have to travel too far. Those in attendance were taken through the "how to's" of running races from development of NOR's to posting of results by instructors Stephen Jeffries and Mark Gardner from USSailing. Covered topics included contents of racing instructions, setting the starting line and course, changing and shortening course, finish line and scoring. We extend a big thank you to those who gave up a weekend day for the benefit of all those at LCYC and the racing program.

Ernie Reuter

2008 Cruising Calendar

PLEASE NOTE that the first cruise with MBBC (Valcour wildflower Cruise) has moved from 6/21 to 6/14.

Valcour Wildflower Cruise (Joint Rendezvous with MBBC)

6/14/2008

We will attempt again to line up with MBBC who have invited us to join them for the 1st Rendezvous of the season. We will join Richard Villamil and others from MBBC as they investigate the natural history of Valcour Island including investigation of the glacier's legacy in the Champlain Valley and the spring wildflowers. Richard has a wealth of knowledge and once you tour the island with him, you'll walk the paths at Valcour with a new perspective.

I will be monitoring channel nine. Hike to start at 2PM and cocktail/hors d'oeuvres at 5:00PM. 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

7/3/2008

POT LUCK dinner at the club and then a cruise to the breakwater for an LCYC raft-up to enjoy the fireworks! We plan to anchor outside the breakwater (weather permitting)

Champagne Race to Willsboro Bay (Catered dinner on shore provided by BayView Inn)

7/12/2008

We will again have the Champagne Race to Willsboro Bay where the winner will receive Champagne. Other prizes will also be awarded. We will have an award ceremony on shore. This year the on shore festivities will be followed by a catered dinner which will be held on the lawn just off the Bayview docks. They have a great set of dinghy docks to tie up too. We will not have launch service after the race so bring your dinghy.

Sign up for the dinner reservations by July 5th. We could not replace Dave Kelton, so we hired Bayview! See you there!

Moon Light Cruise

7/18/2008

The full moon for July is Friday the 18th. So we will do Moonlight Cruise to Converse Bay. Rendezvous/dinner at the club, then an evening departure. If you leave with us on Friday evening you get to sleep in Saturday Morning. Saturday evening we will raft-up around the club moorings and swap stories. Bring your favorite appetizer for Saturday evening.

Kingsland Bay Rendezvous

8/09/2008

Kingsland Bay a great spot (as long as the wind is not from the northwest). We have one club mooring located there and we hope to add an additional one this year. The Kingsland Bay State Park is a great place to go ashore and walk around. We will plan cocktail/hors d'oeuvres at on shore at 5:00PM. **If you don't want to bring your boat you could drive down to the park.**

Not Quite Full Moon Cruise

8/15/2008

The full moon for August is the 16th. Close enough! We'll do Moonlight Cruise to Willsboro Bay on Friday and howl at the moon on Saturday! Rendezvous / dinner at the club, then an evening departure. Raft-up cocktail/hors d'oeuvres Saturday evening.

Converse Bay Rendezvous

8/23/2008

Last year we took advantage of our new LCYC moorings in Converse and had a great time! This is a popular spot with plenty of protection from both the north and south wind. We will again be anchoring on the south side and see how many boats we can raft on our club moorings. Cocktail's and hors d'oeuvres are at 5pm. We have two moorings at converse. Do to the popularity of this location we plan to add two additional moorings this season.

Labor Day Weekend Cruise to Deep Bay

8/30, 8/31, 09/01 2008

Cruise to Deep Bay. Many of us will probably sail to Valcour on the 30th and move on to Deepbay on the 31st. Return to LCYC on Monday. Plan on bringing your hiking boots. They have a great trail system.

Fall Cruise to Converse Bay

9/20/2008

One more time at our favorite spot. Raft-up cocktail/hors d'oeuvres.

Impromptu rendezvous

All Summer

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.



LCYC Cruise to Inland Sea, July 2007

Cruising Into History Penn and Shell Reiley

In mid-July last summer the Rieleys and the Rosners headed north on the Rieley's trawler Friendship- destination Quebec City. Other than our destination, we had no plans along the way. Little did we know that we would return from the trip knowing more about events of the Revolutionary War and War of 1812 than we'd dreamed possible!

What made this possible were our stops at forts in Chambly and Ile au Noix as well as the bastion in Quebec City. We had made reservations at the boat basin in Quebec City for three days. For those not familiar with the area, the tidal change up the St. Lawrence River from the Atlantic Ocean reaches nearly to Montreal. At Quebec City the difference from high to low tide is about 14' so there is a lock one must enter to get into the basin. We also had to time our passages from anchorage to anchorage to take advantage of favorable tidal currents.

Quebec City is preparing for its 400th anniversary this coming summer so there was much renovating and sprucing up going on, especially in the area near the Chateau Frontenac where the foundations of some of the oldest parts of the city's original fortifications are located. Excavations have revealed many long-hidden "rooms" in the old walls. Next summer tourists will be able to descend and walk in the ruins, but last summer we had the good fortune to come across a guide who just happened to be in the area. She kindly took the time to answer our questions and tell us briefly what archeologists have been finding. We could only look over the edge of barriers to the depths below as she tried to point out a few details.

Did you know that archeologists love to find old latrine areas? It turns out that the latrines were used for all sorts of disposal, not just the human body kind. When items were broken or otherwise deemed unusable, often they were tossed into the latrines. In those "safe" locations, the items survived without further destruction until modern times. The QC excavations have revealed a latrine and its booty.

We were very interested to learn that archeologists are not able to say definitely when different areas of the fortifications were built. It seems that building started and stopped as funding was available or not and as defense of the area was active or not. There seems to have been a continuum of starting stopping until modern times. If history is up your alley, we urge you to head to QC next summer and tour the fortifications as, after the centennial, they are going to be filled with sand and sealed off until a future generation has the interest and money to continue excavations.

We also toured QC's Citadel on the Plains of Abraham, soaking in all the history including the historic siege in which General Wolfe died.

On our return trip we docked in Chambly after waiting out powerful, threatening thunderstorms that caused the lock master to close the Chambly Locks for over an hour before the storms skirted but missed us. (These were the storms that wreaked havoc in the Deep Bay area and Colchester in late July- remember?) The tour of Fort Chambly plus lectures by docents gave us insight into life in Revolutionary times and why waterways were so important and coveted. The fort dates from 1711 and was built to protect New France from British attacks. After being abandoned and vandalized (many houses in the area boast stones from the fort in their walls), in 1983 restoration began.

Our next historic tour was at Ft. Lennox on Ile aux Noix on the Richelieu River. We arrived too late in the afternoon to tour the fort, so anchored nearby and had a quiet night. The next morning we wandered around the fortifications and then took a tour (offered in English or French). At noon there was an enactment of what life for the troops stationed at the fort might have been like.

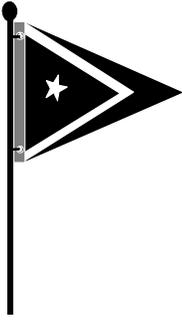
The French built the initial fort during the French and Indian War to slow the British advance to Montreal but were forced to surrender in 1760. The British named it Ft. Lennox. In 1775 the Americans overtook the island and used it as a base for attacks on Montreal and Quebec City. The Richelieu River was an important transportation route at that time. The fort was abandoned in 1776 and the British then used it as a supply depot for operations against the American fleet on Lake Champlain during the War of 1812. The British warship Confiance was built there. The present Ft. Lennox dates from the 1820's when old fortifications were repaired and additions made. It was a military post until 1870. Today it is a museum and tourist attraction.

We returned to LCYC a few days later, having thought our brush with history was done. However, several weeks later, at the LCYC rendezvous in Plattsburgh for the annual reenactment of the War of 1812 Battle of Valcour (we and the Rosner's were the only 2 boats to show up!), we got our final lessons in history. We watched the reenactment of the naval battle, toured the historic Dutton House and a replica of campsite of that historic period (there are whole families that go around the country living as folks did 200 years ago- interesting!).

We strongly encourage all of you to visit these various historic places. You sailors may not be able to go by boat, but these places are not far by car. Even Ile aux Noix is accessible by ferry from the small town of St. Paul (north of Lacolle). Quebec City will probably be a madhouse for its 400th centennial, but there will be more opportunities to see the city's history than ever before. We are lucky to live in such a beautiful as well as historic area!!



Marina at the Port of Quebec City



the Binnacle
 Lake Champlain Yacht Club, Inc.
 P.O. Box 411
 Shelburne, VT 05482

fold here

***Be Our Guest! Be Our Guest!
 Put Our Service to the Test!***



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.

2008 Board of Governors

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