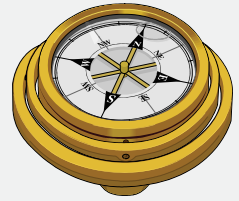




# the Binnacle

*Newsletter of the Lake Champlain Yacht Club, Inc.*  
Commodore: Christopher Leopold Vice Commodore: Doug White  
June 2012  
Binnacle Editor: Tony Lamb  
<http://www.lcyc.info>



## UPCOMING AT LCYC....

7/3 Pot luck dinner and fireworks-Commodore's column for details.  
7/13 Boat Tour  
7/12 Junior Sailing BBQ and Sailalong.

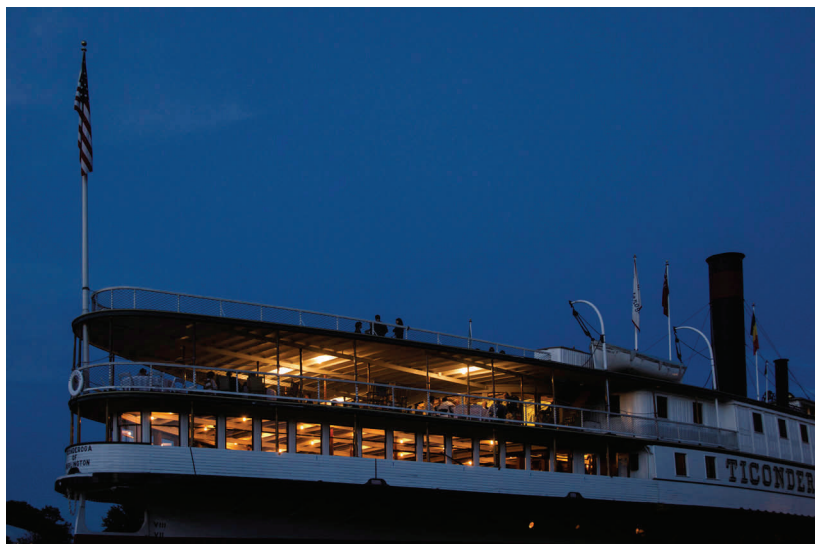
## LCYC 125th ANNIVERSARY ON THE "TI" A SUCCESS

See the Commodores Corner

**PREPARE FOR FAMILY DAY ON JULY 22nd.**



Past Commodores on the Bridge





## Commodores Corner

“What a memorable evening!” “Incredible!” “The best LCYC event I’ve attended”! These comments from members about the June 9<sup>th</sup> 125<sup>th</sup> Gala on the steamboat *Ticonderoga* are evoking the excitement of that wonderful event. With the beautiful red, white and blue LCYC burgee flying from the bow of the *Ti* and the sound of *Pine Street Jazz* echoing throughout the boat, our LCYC family boarded the steamboat to begin an evening of celebration.

Our historic LCYC cannon signaled the beginning of the evening’s brief official festivities, including the recognition of fifteen past commodores, the Board of Governors, and the introduction of new members who were presented with their LCYC burgee. It was a genuine pleasure to introduce and see the members of the 125<sup>th</sup> Committee recognized by a loud round of applause from the more than 225 LCYC family members crowding the bow of the *Ticonderoga*. Through the hard work, creativity and careful planning of Bern Collins, Scott Bowen, Jill Burley, Tris Coffin, Jean Henshaw, Carol Hill, Marselis Parsons, Katherine Watts and Persis Worrall our LCYC family was given an incredible event and a special gift of memories we will treasure for years to come. This unforgettable evening ended with a beautiful sunset capped by a starry night with fireworks in the western sky over the stern of the *Ti*.

The evening evoked many memories of the intertwining of my own family with LCYC harkening back to that evening in June of 1990 when Jenny and I were presented our first LCYC burgee as new members. Beginning that first evening with the opening cocktail party we felt welcomed into the LCYC family and from that date forward, LCYC became an integral part of our family life. Our four children grew up at LCYC starting in the junior sailing program that first summer, joining us as family crew on our *Etchells* (the first on Lake Champlain), *Man A War*, and then our J29, *Rampage*, to race on Wednesday night and weekend races, and then working as sailing instructors and stewards. LCYC Spring and Fall Workdays, Burger Burns, family pic-

nic and birthday parties became staples of our family life. In the late fall and winter months, family walks on Shelburne’s nature path would begin or end at LCYC taking in the incredible view of our Green Mountains across Shelburne Bay. Our family has been touched by LCYC’s programs but more importantly, our lives have been enriched by the relationships and support from countless members, past and present. Some of those members, such as Don Rathbone and Gardner Lane are no longer with us but their spirit and love for LCYC remains with us. Yes, good, enduring yacht clubs are like family, they are with us in good and bad times, sometime we squabble or need our own space, but mostly, we value and thrive on the bonds and memories that we share together. June 9<sup>th</sup> was one of those big family reunions celebrating the 125<sup>th</sup> year of our family, past, present and future.

Speaking of the days ahead, July is another big month at LCYC with four headlining family oriented events coming our way. The first is the annual Fireworks & Rendezvous Potluck on July 3. The day begins with a potluck dinner at the Club and ends with an exhilarating fireworks display on Burlington’s waterfront. Plan to join other LCYC boats outside the Burlington breakwater by monitoring channel 72 for the raft up location. Next up is on July 13 is LCYC’s annual Boat Tour and Tag sale to benefit the Junior Sailing Program. Doug Merrill, Chair of Junior Sailing and coordinator of this year’s Boat Tour is promising an exciting array of new and not so new sail and power boats from our diverse fleet. This is a wonderful opportunity to step aboard boats you have admired from a distance, talk to owners about their craft over wine and cheese, and pick out those bargains and special finds at Tag Sale. The annual Champagne Race is on Saturday, July 14<sup>th</sup>. This fun filled pursuit race for cruisers and racers alike begins at the Club and ends at a destination location on the Lake with a cele-

bration for the winners and a party and fun for everyone. On Sunday, July 22<sup>nd</sup>, the celebration of our 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary continues with the reinstatement of an LCYC tradition – Family Day. The 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary's version of Family Day will be an exciting event filled with both on the water and onshore activities intended for family members of all ages. Family Day will be highlighted with a potluck dinner, dessert, music from a local youth band and a bon fire (weather conditions permitting). July at LCYC...join the fun

Commodore Chris

## New Members.

### New Members

The LCYC membership continues to grow year round; since the last report out in the April 2011 *Binnacle* there have been nine new members that have joined the club. There were four new members to join in late 2011:

Susan Shane & Charlie MacLean (children Graham and Erick) of Shelburne, VT, owners of a Regal

Paul & Betty Mayer of Shelburne, VT, owners of a C&C 99, *Jazz*

Brady & Karla Toensing (children Zachary, Adelaide, and Lily) of Charlotte, VT, owners of a Chriscraft 22, *Scout*

Katherine Watts of Shelburne, VT, owner of a Laser

In 2012 we have five new members that have joined to date:

Susan Bowen (children Jane and Ray), of Shelburne, VT

John & Deb Delmage of South Hero, VT, owners of a Compac, *Zephyr*

Bill Fastiggi of Winooski, VT, co-owner of a Henderson 30, *Buffalo TH30ry*

Ian and Camille Schmidek (children Wyatt and Alex), of Shelburne, VT

Jack Wallace & Vivien Allan (child Margaret) of Shelburne, VT, owners of a J29, *Boomer*

If you run into one of the new members or see someone unfamiliar around LCYC, introduce yourself, answer a question, share a story, and be sure to give them a warm welcome. If you have friends or family who are interested in joining LCYC, please refer them to Jill Gagné, the membership Chair.



Picture of the month submitted by Gene Clutier (only submission).

Photo is memorable because it was the last moment boat shown was behind Sur real Escape for rest of that race.

## JUNIOR SAILING NEWS.

LCYC's Junior Program for 2012 is shaping up to be a terrific year. Registrations for the eight weeks of courses has been strong through the spring. A few of the sessions are completely full, but most have at least a few spaces left in them, so if your kids, or your neighbor's kids, want to learn to sail this summer, get them signed up soon!

The program's success hinges on the quality of our instructors. I'm very excited at the high level of talent that we will have running our program this summer. The program will be co-lead by Erika Merrell and Connor Aswad. Erika comes to LCYC with six years of experience working for the sailing program at Camp Eagle Island, in the Adirondacks, including three years as its lead instructor. She has also lead sailing expeditions off the coast of Maine for Outward Bound. Erika



Jr. Sailors take their swim test.

completed her US Sailing Small Boat Level 2 Coaching course this spring. Connor Aswad is a Burlington Native that grew up sailing with his family at Malletts Bay Boat Club. Connor taught at MBBC for five years, finishing as the head instructor there. Connor is a student at the University of Vermont, where he is on the sailing team. Connor also has a year and several summers worth of experience working as a sailmaker for Bill Fastiggi at Vermont Sailing Partners. Connor has also completed his US Sailing Level 2 certification.

Erika and Connor will have three familiar faces working on their staff. Matt Chikanowsky returns to LCYC this summer as an instructor. Matt, a UVM engineering student, has taught at LCYC for the past two summers and is certified as a US Sailing Level One small boat instructor. Silas Hill will be returning to the staff as a full time junior instructor. Silas is a student at Champlain Valley Union High School and has sailed at LCYC with his family 'his whole life.' Silas was a part time junior instructor last year, and has spent many summers as a student in the program before taking on the responsibilities of an instructor. Gabe Mantegna is a long time participant in the program who will be joining us as an junior instructor for the first time. Gabe completed his US Sailing Small Boat Level One instruction certificate this spring. The staff will be working with three instructors-in-training over the summer. Charlie

Maitland, Ian Campbell, and Noah Allen are all long-time LCYC junior sailors who will spend several weeks of the summer serving as trainees to the instruction staff. We hope to see them back as instructors in future years!

The junior program will continue its practice of introducing activities designed to complement the core dinghy sailing experience and stimulate interest in the broader world of sailing. We expect to have several 'big boat days' when camp members will be invited to sail on one of the club member's larger sailing yachts. I hope that the Etchells fleet will repeat last years very successful

Etchells racing afternoon, where several boats in the Etchells fleet were made available to the junior sailors, who raced each other out in the bay, with the owner of the Etchells aboard to coach and keep an eye out for safety. We will also have a guest lecture day, where we invite local sailors of



Swim test in traffic?

various accomplishments to come in during lunchtime and discuss how and why they have ended up in their various sailing adventures.

I welcome all club members and junior sailing families to two events this summer that involve the junior program. The junior sailing open house will be an opportunity for the instructors to discuss their curriculum and approach to the season and a chance to meet the staff and other participants in the program. It will be a pot-luck dessert event, at 6:30 on Thursday, June 21 at the club. At 5:00 on Friday, July 13, we will host the annual Junior Sailing Tag Sale and Boat Show. Dig out your unused maritime treasures from your basement or bilge and bring them by the club to sell. Or, come by to find boat bargains for yourself! A selection of club member boats will be on hand at the dock to tour as well.

Doug Merrill

## From the Weather Mark

There's a new trophy for the Ladies Cup--a "First Junior Skipper" perpetual trophy—a handsome wooden portrait of a sloop sailing upwind. You can see the trophy in the upper right-hand corner of the trophy case. This trophy has been collecting dust in the trophy case for some years now, and we've decided to recycle it. So round up a junior sailor and see if you can help them get their name in the first spot on the new trophy! The requirements are:

- the junior skipper must be 17 or under on the day of the event,
- the junior skipper must steer the boat, unassisted, from the warning gun to the finish,
- you must let the RC know that you have a junior skipper and the name of that person before the starting sequence begins, preferably ashore at the skippers' meeting. If for some reason the junior skipper does not end up steering the boat as specified above, you must notify the RC of that when you finish.

Other perpetual trophies being added this year are a first overall for the Spin and JAM classes in the Schuyler Island Race and first overall for the Spin and JAM classes in the Double-handed Race. Like the new junior trophy for the Ladies' Cup, these are recycled LCYC trophies. However, this group dates back to the early 1900s and are classic reminders of LCYC's storied past. They will be on display at Family Day, Sunday, July 22.

In other news, "W" mark is now in place after an absence of some years. This should make it much easier for the RC to set a west-wind course. It will probably also assure that we have south and north winds for the rest of the season!

If you haven't checked the calendar, the Tea Kettle race has been reschedule for Saturday, August 25. An updated SI an NOR will be posted shortly.

We're still looking for some help on race committee. We need someone for the Schuyler Island Race, which is on Saturday, August 18, and D4, which is Wednesday night, September 19. And if you're feeling adventurous, you can do either the early shift or late shift for the Macdonough, Saturday, September 8. Drop me an email if you're available to help make these events successful.

Dave Powlison  
LCYC Regatta Chair



## DOCKS

The docks are in great shape. As usual there are a number of maintenance issues that will be corrected over the summer. None of them should cause problems for member usage of the docks. It appears that all potential dinghy spaces are taken. I do not know if more are needed - if anyone needs a dinghy space and does not have one please let me know. We have budgeted for one last 16ft section to be added this summer and I would like to know how quickly we need to build it.

Some things members should keep in mind when using the docks:

Please respect other people's dinghy tie up locations

Keep your dinghies pumped out and properly secured

The slips are not for spending weekend days as one would in a marina - they are intended for people to load/unload and do work on their boats. Please limit your stays to no more than a couple of hours especially on weekends or when there are many boats using the docks

Boats should not be left on the docks over night without specific permission of the Dock Chairman or Commodore and then only in dire situations

Dock power is there to run tools or charge batteries not to run air conditioners

The water supplies on the docks is potable

The swim float has plastic grate planks for decking to minimize the weight of the float and make it inhospitable for the Cormorants that leave their mess. These planks are not able to take large heavy people horsing around on them. Last year several of them were broken by such activities and could have been dangerous. Please use the float appropriately. If the damage continues we may be forced to eliminate the swim float.

Your Dock Chairman Mike Lynch

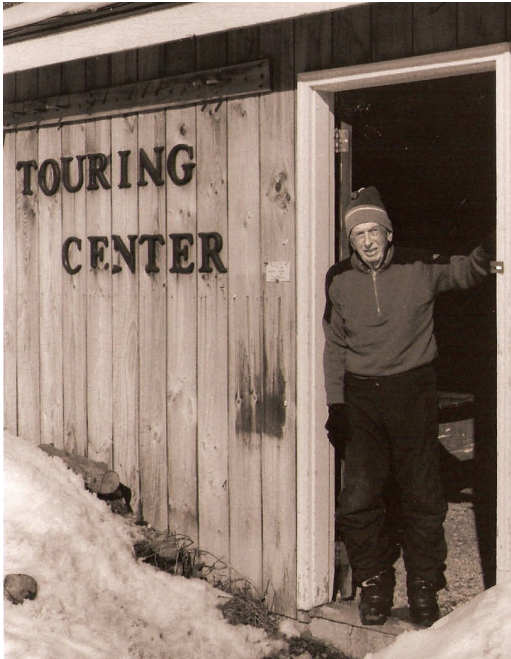


New Members



## Old Goats, Snow, and the Bolton Valley Backcountry Project

While snow is far from most sailors' minds right now, many of us revel in it when winter comes around – and that certainly was true for long time LCYC member and Commodore, Gardiner Lane. Many knew him from the years when he successfully raced his J-24 “Snowbird” during the summer, even into his mid 80s. Less well known is the critically important role Gardiner played in the creation of the Bolton Valley Nordic Center and the development of one of the most extensive Nordic and Backcountry trail systems in the state.



The Nordic Center developed a strong following of volunteers who have maintained and improved the impressive network of Nordic and Backcountry trails originally created by Gardiner and his group of “old goats”. When the Nordic Center land was put up for sale last year, those volunteers organized themselves as the “Friends of Bolton Valley Nordic and Backcountry” and sought the help of the Vermont Land Trust (VLT) to protect public access to the land. VLT has purchased an option on the property and is working to raise \$1,050,000 towards the acquisition price. Once purchased, the land will be transferred to the state as an addition to the Mount Mansfield State Forest and protected for future generations.

While Gardiner passed away several years ago, his legacy is being honored by VLT and the “Friends” group, who have created the Gardiner Lane Leadership Circle to recognize those who make leadership contributions to the fundraising effort. With fundraising now underway, contributions from old friends and fellow skiers – and sailors - would be most welcome. More information on the project can be found at <http://www.vlt.org/initiatives/bolton>. If you are interested in making a contribution to the Gardiner Lane Leadership Circle, you can do so at <http://www.vlt.org/initiatives/bolton/bolton-leadership-circle>