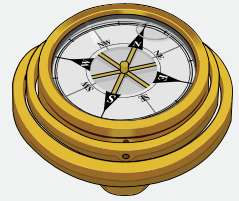




# the Binnacle

Newsletter of the Lake Champlain Yacht Club, Inc.

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<http://www.lcyc.info>



## Noted World Sailor and Journalist to Speak at LCYC



### Herb McCormick, Cruiser, Racer, and Writer About All Things Sailing

We're very pleased to announce that Herb McCormick, a cruiser, racer, and writer about all things sailing will be joining us for an entertaining evening of stories, photos and videos about his experiences at sea. The former editor-in-chief of *Cruising World* magazine and yachting correspondent for the *New York Times*, Herb has raced and cruised from above the Arctic Circle to Antarctica, and countless places in between. An award-winning journalist, his recent books include *One Island, One Ocean* (a first person account of the Around the Americas expedition, a circumnavigation of North and South America via the Northwest Passage and Cape Horn), and most recently, *As Long As It's Fun*, a biography of the famous cruising couple, Lin and Larry Pardey, who have circumnavigated the globe, and then some, multiple times. We'll have copies of *As Long As It's Fun* for sale (\$25 and \$15 respectively), and Herb will be available to sign them.

It all happens at the LCYC clubhouse on Friday evening, August 22 at 7:30 pm. It should be a fantastic evening for anyone who likes to spend time on the water—whether you race, cruise, or motor. Don't miss it! For more information about Herb McCormick, go to: [www/herbmccormick.com](http://www/herbmccormick.com). This event is free of charge to LCYC members and the general sailing community.

### *Upcoming events*

**June 19 Junior Sailing Pot Luck**

**June 20 Cruiser Pot Luck**

**June 26 Parent/Child Sail-Along**

Finally, make sure you check the LCYC website calendar to make sure you don't miss out on any of our many events and for additional information.





## Commodore's Corner

While the calendar insists that summer is still a few weeks away, it doesn't feel that way on Lake Champlain. Our mooring field is almost full, and the club is buzzing most evenings with members heading out on their boats or enjoying the view while they grill their dinner. Steve and Charlotte Adams hosted a wonderful season-opening cocktail party. They have led this event many times in the past, and gently, but skillfully guided Jean White and I through our first big social event in our new board member roles. Thanks for their hard work. Attendance was very good, and it seemed like everyone really enjoyed themselves.

Several members have approached me regarding the state's new shoreline zoning regulations that go into effect July 1 (H.526). There is concern that the new rules will greatly restrict any improvements that we may plan for the club, such as a Butler Build-

ing replacement or improvements to the parking area. Civil Engineering Associates was retained last winter to update the club's site. We have met with CEA and discussed the effect that the new rules will have on upcoming potential projects. CEA demonstrated that the existing Shelburne shoreline zoning regulations are already more restrictive than H.526, so no new constraints will arise for the club. The permit application process is still being worked out between the town and the state, but our rules and options have not changed. Therefore, we will continue to work on plans for a replacement for the Butler building and the maintenance shed, with the intention of having a plan to present to our membership by our annual meeting this fall.

The weather is beautiful, so let's get our mind off the statehouse and onto the water. I'll share a recommendation for enjoying the summer to its fullest. Think out of the box this summer. By this I mean get off your boat, and get onto OTHER PEOPLES boats!





When I recall some of the most memorable days I had on the water last season, they were spent outside of my comfort zone, as a guest on other's boats. I accepted an on-the-dock invitation for impromptu sunset dinner cruise with the Bill and Susan Bresee on Sophie. Once aboard, I was treated to a delicious steak & quinoa salad. I prevailed on Susan to share her recipe, and I later put it to good use for the Macdonough Race. My crew thanks them!

One Monday I wandered over to the South parking lot to admire the sleek new sportboats that have been arriving at LCYC over the past three years. Oliver Seslar and Jason Hyerstay both generously let me sail with them on their VX One and Viper in the clubs new Monday night series. I now understand the appeal of these fast, comfortable, and

easy to sail designs. Similar curious complements to Bill Fastiggi and Bob Turnau about their new Henderson 30 Buffalo Theory lead to a day of sailing with their highly skilled team. Prior to my day aboard, I confess to believing that a boat with so little weight and so much sail area simply went fast without much effort. A few hours aboard convinced me that realizing this speed requires a large crew who knows what they are doing and understands how to work together.

I was invited to sail in the MBBC J/24 Frostbite series with John O'Rourke and Jill Gagne. John and his partner Doug Hamilton set up their crew so that duties rotate each race, and one person is assigned as a full time tactician. The opportunity to focus on calling tactics in several races was new to me, and I

recognize I have a long way to go to master this part of sailboat racing. However, it did show me that even having an amateur dedicated to tactics is faster than having no-one on the boat responsible for it. Lesson learned!

I had thrown in the towel for small boat sailing at the end of October when I learned that Andy Horton had brought a foiling Moth dinghy to sail on Shelburne Bay. I've been fascinated with hydrofoils for decades, and had wanted to try sailing a Moth ever since they were developed. I shamelessly let Andy know of my interest and offered anything for an opportunity to sail it for a session. Andy was happy to share the experience with me and I enjoyed one of my most memorable sailing days of all time on a cold gray November afternoon foiling above, crashing into, and swimming around Shelburne Bay.

My take away from this is that boating can be

so much more than your existing routine of racing, cruising, or motoring with your family and friends. If you are a die-hard sailor that looks at powerboats with disdain, join a power boater for a few hours one afternoon. Learn to waterski, or get whipped off of a tube. You may find you look forward to flat calm evening's more than breezy ones. If you cruise, and can't understand why people get so worked up trying to sail around rubber balls in crowded groups, ask someone to bring you aboard during a race. You might find it amusing. You may learn a trick or two which will make your own sailing easier or safer. Or, you could learn that joining a group of sailors to focus on teamwork for two hours is simply a lot of fun, and you will come back.

Doug Merrill  
Commodore



## Junior Sailing

By Walt Marti

Thanks to a very productive Work Day we made great progress in getting the Jr. Sailing fleet ready for the 2014 season. The FJ's have never looked better and with the assistance of Vermont Sailing Partners, all the sails have been inspected and repairs made.

The Opti's recently got all spiffed up recently due to the efforts of the Durant's (Ben, Addie and Ellie), Gene Cloutier and Jeff Rogers – thank you!

A special thanks to Ernie Reuter who again this year led our Safety Training seminar for the Jr. Sailing instructor's and launch drivers.

Important dates for June include:

June 16 – Season Begins (9:00 AM)

June 19 - Dessert Potluck - Staff Meet & Greet (6:30 PM)

June 26 - Parent Sail Along & Family BBQ (5:30 PM)

While 10 of the 22 sessions are at capacity, there are still approximately 50 slots open for this summer. Whether you are a true beginner or an advanced racer – we have classes to meet your needs. Please help spread the word about this amazing opportunity open to all between the ages of 8 – 17.

Information and registration is available on the Youth page of the LCYC website or contact Walt Marti at 802-777-1956.



## From the Weather Mark

We're underway with another great season of racing on Lake Champlain! I'm especially pleased with the great work our race committees have been doing. On the first Wednesday night, A1, winds were such that I would have guessed we would not be able to race. But the wind suddenly appeared, the RC was ready, and we got a race in. The following Monday night, the Etchells and Sportboat fleets enjoyed fabulous conditions and got in three races—again, with the help of some solid RC work. The Wednesday A2 race had much the same conditions as A1. And again, we got a race in. Then there was the Tea Kettle. Talk about light wind. And somehow our RC pulled it off. Fantastic! So the next time you cross the finish line, be sure to give the committee a thank-you wave or shout out for their fine work.

Need a crew or know someone who wants to crew? Jason Hyerstay has set up a "Crew Call" section under "Racing" on our club website. It's new, so there aren't many people on it, but in time there will be, and it should give those interested in racing a place to find a ride and benefit those looking for crews. Just a reminder: to post here, you must first log in to the site.

Race registration is going quite well, but if you're one of the few who hasn't signed up, be sure to do so soon. It's really easy and, again, you need to log in first to register. And if you know someone who is interested in racing their boat, encourage them to join us. Again, they just need to go to our website and register to race.

Hope you're enjoying the new orange race marks. The seagulls seem to be doing so!

*--Dave Powlison  
Regatta Committee Chair*



## **Docks and Dinghies**

Club opening was a great success and LCYC is looking terrific for the summer season! Most of you are probably aware that the club added two new dinghy docks at the opening of the 2012 and 2013 seasons. This added needed space for those wishing to keep their dinghies in the water. There are still openings on the dinghy docks if you want to claim a spot for the season. Check out page 37 of the 2014 LCYC club log for more information on use and storage of dinghies. There are a few key points worth reviewing here in the Binnacle as the racing, cruising, and general boating season transition to full summer swing.

Of critical importance, any member's dinghy kept at LCYC during the boating season must be marked with their mooring number and/or the owner's name. This makes it easier for the stewards or other members to notify you of any current or impending problem. Members can elect to store infrequently used dinghies on the south side of the work dock drive and ramp on a first come, first served basis. Members can also elect to keep frequently used dinghies in the water in the designated spots on the dinghy docks. In the water spots are available first come, first served starting on club opening work day after the dock crew has completed installation of all dock sections and utilities. Dinghies must be secured to the dock and with a stern anchor; the stern anchor and float must not obstruct the path out for other dinghies. Although the stewards will assist in keeping dinghies from foundering after a heavy rain, it is the member's responsibility to keep their dinghy seaworthy. Owners of dinghies with outboard motors have an extra responsibility to assure that rain water collecting in the dinghy does not become contaminated and to keep oil and gas out of the lake. LCYC reserves the right to remove neglected dinghies from the dock. Please keep in mind when selecting a spot for your dinghy that the south side of the dock is for dinghies no longer than 10 feet; there are limited spots available on the north side of the dock for dinghies 10 to 14 feet long.

As an added courtesy, LCYC maintains three club dinghies for members' use on the east side of the launch dock. These dinghies may be used to get to a member's boat but must be immediately returned to the dock; they may not be left on a mooring and they may never be taken from the mooring area. You may be tempted to leave a club dinghy tied to your boat while performing a few "short" jobs on the boat; however, remember that club dinghy use is most popular when stewards are not on duty, we have only three dinghies, and we have approximately 150 moored boats. Please be courteous and consider how you might react when you want to get to your boat and all three dinghies are gone!

Lastly, get to know your neighbor dinghy and your neighbor boat. Keep an eye out for anything amiss, and let the owner or stewards know if you see something awry. Have a great summer and safe boating!

Don Weaver  
Dock Master

## Cruising Plans in June

### Dinner Anyone?



Our First “official” Cruiser Potluck Dinner will take place on Friday June 19th at 6pm. I say “official” because I have already eaten dinner informally with many of our cruising fleet members at the club several times. These meals have happened often while on cruising trips, but this year I wanted to have a couple announced dinners so more people could join in. Merri and I will get burgers and rolls, including vegetarian options. Please bring a dish to share and your own beverage and dinnerware.

### **Set Sail!**

Our first cruise will be on Saturday, June 20th. Please join us for the captain’s meeting and coffee at the clubhouse at 8:30 AM. Weather permitting, we will sail to Valcour in the morning to rendezvous with Mallets Bay Boat Club for their “Wildflower Cruise.” This tradition is lots of fun and a great chance to meet other cruisers from MBBC. We will likely anchor in Spoon Bay or on the New York Side of the island depending on the wind. Richard Villamil of MBBC (an expert on the island’s fauna and history) will guide our tour of the island. This is a fun walk around the island with an opportunity to listen to Richard’s narration on the geo-



logic history of the island and its inhabitants. We usually meet on shore for a campfire and drinks Saturday evening. Don't forget the marshmallows! Any changes to our destination will be on the cruising board at LCYC and emailed on our listserv.



## On the Horizon...

### Our First Big Cruise

Plan ahead to attend at least a portion of our southern lake cruise. The day after the Burlington fireworks, we will set sail on a trip to the South end of the lake. First we will go to Kingsland Bay and then on to Westport for their fireworks on the 5th. Westport has a parade with food vendors and Jonathan Newell will be playing at the Galley at the Westport Marina. If you're looking for adventure you can continue on southward with us to Crown Point and possibly even Fort Ticonderoga before we return. For more information on our trips and future events, read the descriptions on the [lcyd.info](http://lcyd.info) website calendar and in the cruising section.

Doug Purdy



**Scuttlebutt \* (another word for Editor's Notes)**

It is great to see the activities of the cruisers in the club described and the invitation to join them. I hope they see many new faces joining them.

Their activities appear far more wholesome than what was alleged to be a food fight at the Westport Yacht Club on one cruise back in the day. The Collins' can probably better describe our late night trip back from there to the club in a Scarab power boat. The big disagreement is on whether it took twenty or twenty three minutes door to door.

One of the "Joys" of sailing in light air is to watch other boats as you separate on different tacks. For a while you feel like you are light years ahead and then light years behind. And then as the boats close you find you are about where you were when you started out. Sort of like many things in life including life.

Peace, Tony Lamb, Editor