



the Binnacle

Monthly Newsletter of the Lake Champlain Yacht Club, Inc.

Commodore: Fritz Horton Vice Commodore: Steve Walkerman

June-July, 2003

Binnacle Editor: Muddy Bilges

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



Etchells On-the-Water Clinic

By Dave Powlison

Eight Etchells from Lake Champlain Fleet 25 took advantage of a rare opportunity to receive a Saturday of on-the-water coaching from one of the great sailors in the world of Etchells sailing, Jud Smith. Jud, who has won the Etchells North Americans several times, and most recently the Jaguar Series—a three-event midwinter championship.

The fleet spent four hours sailing a number of short, windward-leeward courses on June 21, while Jud offered advice and suggestions from the LCYC inflatable. Midway through the session, he rotated through the fleet, sailing aboard almost every boat and again offering his help. Jud works for Doyle Sails in Marblehead, Mass.

Ernie Reuter won the award for the most races won that don't count. *Senior Moment* earned a certificate for a discount at a local fiberglass repair shop, and inflatable driver Bob Penniman earned the "most information gathered" award. It was a fabulous learning experience for all who participated.

Open Class Rules Explained

By Lou Chiriatti

The open class is designed to provide a variable PHRF handicap for racing. This is sometimes known as a "PHRF Golf", rolling, relative, or progressive handicap and has been used in one form or another at many yacht clubs. The intent is to adjust PHRF ratings after each race based on performance. All boats, including new racers, have a chance to win based on real history of our boats, our lake and winds.

All boats start with their sanctioned lake PHRF. If 5 boats are racing, the first and last place boats get -2 and +2 respectively, added to their PHRF ratings. Second place and second-to-last place boats get -1 and +1 added to their PHRF ratings. These revisions will be the PHRF ratings for the next race.

Race Position	=====>	1	2	3	4	5	6
2 Boats in race	Adjustment	-1	+1				
3 Boats in race	Adjustment	-1		+1			
4 Boats in race	Adjustment	-2	-1	+1	+2		
5 Boats in race	Adjustment	-2	-1		+1	+2	
6 Boats in race	Adjustment	-3	-2	-1	+1	+2	+3

(*Open Class Rules—continued*)

The Open Class system has several benefits. The PHRF's will move slowly and don't creep up as some systems do. A boat can leave to sail Jam A/B. When it returns, it will pick up it's generated open class rating as if it never left. Note that since the fleet average will not change, a new boat can more fairly enter the fleet with it's original lake PHRF with minimal effect on established Open racers. It will then be adjusted over time.



The Instruction Program's RIB has a new home to be more convenient for the instructors, to open up space at the main pier and to keep the boat free of scum. Commodore Horton has sold his boat hoist to the club for this purpose.

Article	Page
Etchells Clinic	1
Open Class Rules	1
Commodore's Corner	2
Opening Day Festivities	2
Whaler Transformed!	2
Guest Mooring Policy	3
Boat Tour 2003	3
Gas Grilles at LCYC?	3
Diamler-Chrysler	3
Shell's Burger Burn	4
Order form for Nametags	5
Photo of LCYC	6
Board & Officers	6



Commodore's Corner

by Fritz Horton

At the end of June we find ourselves once again in full swing at LCYC. The extended period of cold and rain in May is now a fading memory as the heat and humidity set in. The boats are all commissioned and the building has been fitted with new metal louvers, and we hope the roof "leak" is history at this point, but the jury is still out on that question for now.

For the rest of the season, the **monthly Board of Governors' meetings** will be held at the club on the first Tuesday of each month, beginning at 7:00 pm. All members are welcome to attend.

Dave Cain says sales of the **laminated name tags** that pin to one's shirt or blouse in lieu of the stick-on-then-fall-off labels we use at many parties. He wants to make sure you all have a chance to buy one and asked to have the cut-out form included in this issue. Please order yours right away to insure delivery by the Ladies Cup.

Last year, I proposed a new trophy—the "Blind Maiden of Justice"—to allow a results-based scoring system to run in parallel to the traditional PHRF rating system and to test a different way of rating our participants in racing. Taking the initiative on a slightly different tack, so to speak, Steve Landau set up the "**Open Class**" in the cruising fleet, while I debated the merits of continuously-adjusted handicapping with several members. In its second year now, the Open Class has grown and is thriving alternative to racing in PHRF, where the ratings almost never change and are based on the performance of like boats in all waters regardless of degree of skill, the age of their sails and equipment or the sailing conditions in their home waters.

Rare Bird Sighted! As you may know, many birds outlive most men by many decades. One has been spotted around the club this spring. It used to be a mountain dweller with aquatic tendencies but now spends its time near the Bay. It especially enjoys cutting through brush with sharp pincers to get at fallen white birch trees, its favorite source of sustenance. You'll never find this bird in a tree, though. Small, lightweight and sprightly, this "bird" is, of course, **Gardiner Lane**, honorary LCYC member and nonagenarian. He was spotted at the club one recent Sunday afternoon taking a dip for a bit of exercise, but you might find him doing what he really enjoys—cutting brush! He says he really loves the work which blends exercise with useful work and mental acuity. Bob Platt pointed Gardiner in the right direction, reminding him of his legendary immunity to poison ivy....



You see his paintings on canvas at the club, and you may know he has eschewed canvas for birch bark in recent years. Now he has moved from small painting vignettes on thin sheets of bark to working on larger, inch-thick birch "canvases" he and his friends select in the woods. With a far-off look in his eye, he says he spends a fair amount of time studying the *back* side of the bark to determine what the curved remains of the tree wants to have painted on it... If we're lucky, he might see a scene at LCYC in one of those tree chunks!

Opening Day Festivities

Over 100 members attended a gala opening day party at the clubhouse on Saturday evening May 31. Hosted by Don and Betty Ann Lockhart a feast of every imaginable treat was prepared and enjoyed by the members. This was the 117th opening day at LCYC since being organized in 1887 for the enjoyment of the lake by all who go down to the sea in boats.

Rear Commodore Steve Landau welcomed all to the boating season and introduced the Board of Governors for 2003. Membership Chair Beth Thorpe introduced the new members and those present received a club burgee and an enthusiastic welcome from the club. Listed below are the new members and their boats.

John & Heidi Bean.....	Chris Craft 38
Bob Davidson & Ann Van Gilder.....	Grady White 21
Charles & Mary Finn.....	Catalina 38
Jack & Jane Flecke.....	Catalina 27
William & Maurene Gilbert.....	Mainship 34
Keith & Barbara Kennedy.....	Islander 36
Jack & Linda Penniman.....	Etchells
Chris Pierson & Patty Cady.....	Cape Dory 27
Russ & Anita Shapiro.....	Uniflite 23
Georg Steinthorsson & Susan Dunning.....	Pearson 28
Malcolm Willard.....	Cobalt 19

Whaler Transformed!

Remember the low-slung, unnamed "Whaler" of years past? It had a sagging control console and low seats that would leave you wet after riding in anything but the calmest waters. The mahogany seats and sides always needed refinishing, and the boat needed repairs to its hull and equipment. At the end of last year, it looked like a derelict in comparison with that bright new inflatable purchased for the sailing instruction programs.



Bill Aldrich with a stand-up control console donated by Chris Morgan got together and a matching combination seat & storage locker, made repairs to the hull and replaced broken hardware and engine control. The result is a more modern utility boat that should be drier for its operators with more space for marks and their tackle.

Now if she only had a name.... Ah, yes! How about the "*William M. Aldrich*"?

LCYC Guest Mooring Policy

By Steve Landau, Harbormaster & Rear Commodore

Due to a current limitation on the number of guest moorings available at LCYC the following policy will be observed to provide the fairest treatment of our variety of visitors.

Guest moorings will be available on a first come basis. No reservations will be accepted except on the day of arrival. A visitor may call the morning of arrival and reserve a mooring if one is available for the night. There is a three night limit.

Guest moorings are available for guests of members and for members of recognized yacht clubs with proper ID. Except for visiting racers from MBBC and Valcour there is a \$10 per night charge to cover service expenses.

Stewards will have a list of available member moorings that may be used as guest spots in addition to the designated club moorings. No one except our working stewards may lend or assign a guest mooring to a visiting boat.

Any question re this policy may be directed to:
Steve Landau- Harbormaster 985-3742

FYI: Moorings are also available in Burlington Harbor (call Burlington Boat House Ch 74) and Shelburne Shipyard 985-3326. In addition there is an excellent anchorage next door in Sledrunner Cove.

Annual Boat Tour July 18th

By Steve Landau, Harbormaster & Rear Commodore

On Friday July 18 from 6 to 8 pm, the LCYC Board of Governors is sponsoring the Annual Jr. Sailing Boat Tour. We ask boats new to our fleet to be on display at an assigned dock space and be open to members for an informal fun evening.

Light refreshments are provided by LCYC, and folks BYOB for a few hours of meeting new members, seeing neat boats and general socializing.

Donations benefit the JR. Sailing program.

Gas Grilles at LCYC?

As you may know, gas grilles are available at the Shelburne Shipyard for use by those who keep their boats there. Use is not supervised, the tanks are periodically refilled and the grilles cleaned on an as-needed basis. The convenience of the grilles and the prohibition against use of grilles on boats moored at their docks have made these grilles very popular.

The question is on the table for the members: should LCYC's new grilles be gas?

If you have concerns or questions or wish to add your support to this question, please let Charlie Van Winkle know your thoughts soon.

LCYC's Skip Sheldon First to Finish in DaimlerChrysler North Atlantic Challenge



(SCUTTLEBUTT 1361 - June 30, 2003 (www.sailingscuttlebutt.com) Skip Sheldon's *Zaraffa* crossed the finish line in the Daimler Chrysler North Atlantic Challenge at 09:17:28 (UTC) Saturday and claimed the coveted "first ship home" title in this first-ever race from Newport to Germany.

Zaraffa's passage took 13 days, 15 hours, 7 minutes and 28 seconds. During the 3,618 nautical mile journey, the Reichel/Pugh 65 recorded a top speed of 25.7 knots. The winning crew included Mark Rudiger (navigator), Richard Clarke, Neal MacDonald, Richard Mason, Greg Gendell, Michael Joubert, Justin Clougher, Josh Adams, Dave Flynn, Geoff Ewenson and Rodger Erker.

"We were extremely lucky with our weather routing," said Sheldon of Shelburne, Vt., who at 73-years-old adds this title to an impressive sailing record. "It is the key to any race." Rudiger further explained, "The most difficult [part] was the start," he said. "We went up into the cold eddies when most of the others went further south. We invested early and that paid off. This was a trip we expected to be awful and it came out to be great."

However, despite a seven-day lead, Skip and his crew would have to settle for no better than third overall. The next boat to cross the finishline, though finishing more than a week later, was in first place on IRC corrected time as of July 7, with several yachts still in the Atlantic at press time. The yacht *UCA*, appeared to be the overall winner, followed a few hours later by the second place contender, the Open 60 *Team 888* (ex-*Kingfisher*).

We will be anxious to hear more about this interesting event as soon as Skip can give us a recounting.

Event website is <http://www.dcnac.de>



LCYC

Old Fashioned Burger Burn

Burgers and Hot Dogs
Salad and Chips
Beer and Soda

Since 1987 ~ Still ONLY \$5⁰⁰

Wednesday, August 6th
After the Race

Everyone Welcome
Fine Dining for All!!!

LCYC Nametags Still Available

By David Cain

Tired of tatty paper nametags that are difficult to read and fall to the floor at LCYC events? Dave Cain has found a solution for you! His nametag is shown at right and speaks for itself! Made of plastic with a pin on its rear face, it will last longer than you will remember where you put it the last time you wore it.



This space
left blank
because

YOU

didn't send me
your article!



Send copy & photos to hortonfw@adelphia.net



If you wish to order one or more, simply send a note to Majestic Badge with the following information and a check:

Lake Champlain Yacht Club Nametags:

No. of badges _____

Exact Name on the first badge :

Exact Name on the second badge :

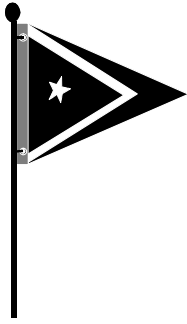
(List additional names on a separate sheet of paper.)

Enclose a check for \$6.50 per badge plus \$3.00 Shipping for up to 12 badges.

Mail to:

Majestic Badge
P.O. Box 546
Peabody, MA 01960-7546

Questions? Call David E. Cain, 802-241-2941 days
email: vpsdcain@madrivern.com



the Binnacle

Lake Champlain Yacht Club, Inc.

P.O. Box 411

Shelburne, VT 05482

fold here

**Wanted for Junior Program
& Clubhouse:**

Old sailing tapes and DVD's!

Contact Barb Robitaille,
Instructional Programs Chair.



2003 Board of Governors

- Commodore..... Fritz Horton
- Vice Commodore & TreasurerSteve Walkerman
- Rear Commodore.....Steve Landau
- Secretary, Membership & Log..... Beth Thorpe
- GroundsCharlie Van Winkle
- Boats Bill Aldrich
- Communications Dave Kelton
- DocksJohn Harris
- HarbormasterSteve Landau
- HouseBob Platt
- RegattaTris Coffin
- Sailing ProgramsBeth Robitaille
- Social CommitteeSteve Adams
- Stewards & PersonnelLinda Livingstone
- Communications, Cruising /RendezvousDave Kelton

Appointed Officers

- Fleet ChaplainChuck Bowen
- One-Design CoordinatorRick Stevens
- Club HistorianBerne Collins
- Fleet SurgeonsDrs. Larry & Roberta Coffin
- Club LiaisonBruce Hill
- Auditors .. O'Brien, Doremus & Phillips
- PHRF HandicappersBarbara Francis, Gene Cloutier

Stewards

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