



the Binnacle

Newsletter of the Lake Champlain Yacht Club, Inc.

Commodore: Jill Gagne

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Director of Club Communications: Doug Merrill

Binnacle Editor: Tony Lamb



Historic Find, page 4

Remember Opening Workday, May 13th !!

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Commodore's Corner



By Jill Gagne , Commodore
E-mail: LCYC.Commodore@gmail.com \

As I write this article it is officially Spring, which means longer days, more sunlight, and more importantly, Club opening is just around the corner. We will be returning to a combined Work Day on May 13th, with a goal of bringing the membership together to see old friends, make new friends, and of course prepare the club for the coming season. I hope to see you all there.

Maybe I am jumping ahead a bit! Let me take a moment to cover a few of the winter activities that have taken place.

- At the January Board of Governors (BOG) meeting the Change of Watch took place. The outgoing Board members and committee volunteers were thanked for their service: Bill Kallack (Junior Sailing Programs), Micahel Kerbaugh (Docks), Gunnar Sievert (Cruising), Wes Daum (Grounds), Jean Sievert (Social) and Walt Marti (Commodore), and the incoming Board members and volunteers were welcomed: Jill Burley (Junior Sailing Programs), Gene Cloutier (Docks), James Kurfis (Grounds). I want to thank Walt, Bill, Michael, Gunnar, Wes, and Jean for their dedication and service to the club; thank you for being such good stewards and turning things over to the new members in such good shape.
- In February the Risk Management committee kicked off, led by John Stetson, Vice Commodore. The purpose for the committee is to assist the BOG with the management of risk. The committee will research issues and provide recommendations to the BOG for action. Areas that will be reviewed range from notifications, to insurance policies, to permits and registrations, and many other topics.
- In March the BOG approved the 2023 operating budget, Junior Sailing registration opened, the calendar has been finalized and published, and the Log is ready to go to print.

Back to Spring and thinking about being back on the water...

Mark your calendars, June 3rd is New Member Orientation and the Opening Cocktail Party - come meet the new members, enjoy the ceremonial Change of Watch, and reconnect with friends you may not have seen over the winter months. Take time to notice the updated and refreshed Club House. Just in time to help us celebrate 25 years in the modern club house. Please read Ben Durant's request further on in the Binnacle for nautical or LCYC related items that members may wish to donate to help update the clubhouse.

Annual Awards

Each year the Board of Governors reviews nominations for LCYC's perpetual awards – The Commodore's Cup and Yachtsperson of the Year. Congratulations to this year's award recipients.

2021 Yachtsperson of the Year – Jean Sievert:

The Yachtsperson of the Year award goes to an LCYC club member for significant contributions to the club.

The 2022 Social calendar was at great risk due to a late resignation from the Board of Governors. Due to Jean's herculean efforts – 2022 was one of the best. Jean, thank you for going above and beyond the call.



Jean Sievert

Congratulations, and again, on behalf of the BOG and all of LCYC - thank you!

2021 Commodore's Cup – Lynnea and Leonard Rosner:

The Commodore's Cup is awarded for significant Cruising achievements.

The 2022 Cruising calendar was at risk due to a BOG committee chair's late-season skiing injury. Mainly due to their efforts, the 2022 Cruising schedule did not miss an event. Thank you Lynnea and Leonard for going above and beyond the call.

Congratulations, and again, on behalf of the BOG and the LCYC Cruising community, thank you!

The Past Resurfaces!!



Betsy Dempsey, our club membership chair, reported the following find:
This fall, I got wind of a trophy being sold on Etsy. When I looked at it, I had no choice but to purchase it. It is a trophy in the form of a pewter pitcher. It is from the 1930 Lake Champlain Yacht Club Regatta engraved with: 'Grudge Race - Appleyard vs Woodbury'. On the bottom, it is stamped, "Priscilla Pewter 4536". If anyone has any more information about this regatta, I'd love to hear about it. Come spring, I plan on displaying it at the club for all to see. It's a piece of LCYC history that has finally come home!

Betsy Dempsey

New Members!



Ahoy! Brett Maxwell and Jessica Brown here, checking in from landlocked Waterbury Center. We're so pleased to join LCYC and excited to get to know other members and to spend some quality time on the water.

Brett grew up on Cape Cod, sailing in Vineyard Sound and Buzzards Bay out of the Woods Hole and Quissett yacht clubs. Brett moved to Vermont in 1989 and currently works in supply chain management for Concept2 in Morrisville. Brett has two sons, Seamus and Teague, from a previous marriage, who live in Massachusetts.

Brett Maxwell and Jessica Brown

Jessica was raised in Manhattan, loves being near, in, or on any beautiful body of water, and identifies as a certified beach bum. After a long career as a Public Defender in various New England jurisdictions, Jessica has recently joined the faculty at Vermont Law and Graduate School with a focus on criminal law, restorative justice, and justice reform.

At home, we enjoy gardening, cooking and cocktails, and serving at the pleasure of our 14-year-old Boxer-Beagle mix, Bojangles. When not working, we travel as much as possible – we want to take in as much culture and good food as the world has to offer.

We have a new-to-us Herreshoff designed Goldeneye, an 18' sloop rig built by Cape Cod Shipbuilding, that was on the hard last year due to lack of mooring availability. We can't wait to get her back onto Lake Champlain!



JR, Maureen, Leo and Charlie Neumann

Happy New Year to everyone. JR & Maureen Neumann and their family are excited to become new LCYC members this year. JR, after working several years at IBM, now has a second career running a dog training business; Green Bandana Dogs.

Maureen is a professor at UVM. Their kids Laura, Leo, and Charlie are at emerging stages of their young adult lives. Laura

works for an Environmental Conservation firm in D.C., Leo is a freshman at UVM, and Charlie is in the middle of their sophomore year at BHS.

We started sailing with a Phantom 14 and an Isotope Catamaran 16, moved into a Hunter 23 four years ago and grew into our new boat the *Wind Rose*, a Cape Dory 36, this past summer. We enjoyed sailing her on the coast of Maine before bringing her home to Lake Champlain. We can't wait to meet you all this summer to swap stories about sailing and boat repairs.



JR and Laura Neumann

Greetings! We are Justin, Sabina, and Alex (¾ of the Goggin/Ernst family - our other son Kurt, lives in NYC now). We love being on the water and have been spending time with sailboats ever since Justin, Kurt and Alex built a 10 foot wooden sailboat from a Shell boat kit in 2013.

We've gradually expanded our repertoire and in 2020 took another leap and bought our current S2 9.1 sailboat boat. We've been daysailing on the Inland Sea for the past two seasons and look forward to exploring other parts of Lake Champlain while we build our sailing skillset. We hope to take part in some races in the future.

We moved to Vermont in 2015 and live in Jericho. In addition to sailing we also enjoy gardening, bird watching, photography, skiing, kayaking, and hiking. Being relatively new to sailing and to Vermont, joining LCYC seems like a wonderful way to make new connections in the community. We are excited about the chance to meet some of you during the volunteer and social gatherings in 2023 and going forward.



The Goggin/Ernst Family



Around the Club

Stewards



By John Stetson, Stewards Chair

It is always difficult to picture the coming boating season with six inches of new snow on the ground! Yet the mere act of writing this article is a reminder that the season is not really that far away!

We are fortunate to have a great team of stewards in place. Parker Main and Ethan Behr are returning for their fourth seasons. Maeve Begin, also in her fourth season, joins us from the Swampscott Yacht Club. Adelaide Durant and Fisher Irwin will round out the team. Parker will be our Head Steward.

In an effort to fill the pipeline for future years, we are trying a new program. For about 8 weeks this summer, we will have one or two stewards-in-training working with the full time stewards. They will get experience driving the launches and assist with the steward's tasks around the docks and clubhouse. They will only operate the launches when accompanied by a licensed steward. Not to worry, as a crew member, they do not count against the six passenger limit.

With the hope of building a bit of continuity from one year to the next and easing the load on our volunteers we hope to hire one or two senior stewards. These individuals might be retired or otherwise have flexibility in their schedule to fill in as needed during the summer, but primarily work from the end of August through September after the regular stewards have departed for their academic endeavors. Depending on availability, they might work 150 to 300 hours.

The most significant change this season, and going forward, is that all stewards must be USCG licensed. Currently 8 to 12 volunteers are working on their credentials. Their effort is very much appreciated and will allow us to continue offering the launch service as we have enjoyed.

Please let me know if you or anyone else that comes to mind are interested in any of these roles. Licensing does take 3 to 4 months to complete, so it is not too soon to take the plunge! Lastly, please do not hesitate to pass along any suggestions for areas of improvement.

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House: Clubhouse 25th Anniversary – Your help is needed.



By Ben Durant, House Chair

Your Nautical White Elephant Donations Requested

Do you have a nautical item that that you cherish but you don't know what to do with? The white elephant we're looking for might be a nautical item that is an heirloom, or a piece of significance that doesn't really fit in to your current décor, or an object that doesn't please your spouse. If you have a special piece, please considering donating!

Here's why.... Your House Committee has been busy giving the clubhouse a refresh as the building is turning 25 years old this year. We would truly love your donation to help us jazz up the club and enhance the nautical feel. We'd of course love LCYC specific items, but other maritime objects and art might be the perfect thing to make LCYC even better.

Please contact House Chair Ben Durant at 802.355.6688 or email him at Ben-Durant@gmail.com if you have something you're considering donating. Keep in mind, donations can be anonymous or we can give you credit in a tasteful way.

Thanks for your help in sprucing up LCYC!



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Docks



Gene Cloutier, Docks Chair

We are in the tailwind of winter and have finally made it to the month of March which springs us ahead to spring, the docks are still in their mode of hibernation. However, the docks team has been actively planning re-entry with a lively discussion about when to put the docks back into the water. Officially, the docks will now be on the same sequence of the club workday that is May 13 this year. Mike Kerbaugh did a fabulous job scheduling dock work during the COVID period. Now, the board, dock committee and risk committee all decided that it is time to move into the post pandemic era and return to the workday comradery and vibrancy of our traditional workday.

Safety was the primary concern about returning the dock work to the same club workday. To ensure that safety, there will be several changes made this year to protect that work environment. Work on the dock ramp bank will be limited and cordoned off with yellow caution tape as well as a few key positioned club members in bright vests to ensure people are not on the ramp so that trailer drivers on the ramp can operate safely. All dock team members will have specific roles (similar to years past) that limit the number of people in specific areas. Finally, there will be an after work report to the board on how work was performed and highlight any issues to be addressed in the future.

During the month of March and early April I hope to have the dock team members assigned to specific areas and workday tasks that include;

- the on water assembly team,
- water dinghy team to transport docks (hopefully 3-4),
- in water team, on shore team,
- truck trailer drivers,
- forklift drivers, and
- specific coordinators in each of those areas.

Additional dock work may include construction/repairs of docks before launching, electrical and water dock hookups, and any other special tasks. Anyone interested in these areas please contact me so we can get those buttoned up before workday.

This year I also hope to have a few dedicated people to ensure that the dock water and electrical pods are cleaned of dirt and spider webs and checked for proper working order on a regular basis (bi-monthly) this summer for those not able to make workday. Dingy assignments will be consistent with past years and posted assignments on the breezeway bulletin board.

As always, since this is my first year at this I welcome any new and old ideas that improve our dock areas.

Thank you.

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Regatta



Bob Turnau, Regatta Committee Chair

Dear Racers,

I know at this moment in many spots in Vermont it's tough to see that Winter has relaxed its icy grip on the weather and that we will be sailing soon. But there are some subtle indications that things are going to change: Monday was the vernal equinox, so we are officially in spring; the days are getting longer; we are in day-light savings time; and it's only about sixty days until the practice race! In no time, we'll all be in the crunch to get the top-sides cleaned and buffed, and the bottom painted.

As we go into the season, there are a couple of dates to keep in mind: the first race is the Tea Kettle on May 27th, the first Wednesday night race is May 31st, the first Etchells race is June 5th, followed shortly by the first Single-Handed race on June 8th. The Ladies Cup is August 5th and is a must-to-be on the calendar for any sailor. The season winds down with the last weekend race The Hot-Ruddered Bum on September 23rd, the last Wednesday night is September 27th and the Awards Ceremony on November 3rd.

While its been a long winter, it will be wonderful to see everyone soon back out on Lake for some great sailing and "civilized" competition. Given the dearth of wind at the beginning of last season, I would recommend that we all should focus our cosmic energy and channel a collective request for more wind and fewer calm days this season!

See you soon,

Membership



Betsey Dempsey, Membership/Secretary

I am so excited for the season to begin!

You'll see many new faces this spring, including the families of Keith Lewandoski and Vanessa Rezzonico, Richard and Susan Downing, Justin Goggin and Sabina Ernst, and Brett Maxwell and Jessica Brown. Please make it a point to say hello and introduce yourself to anyone that you don't know at the club. It helps foster the wonderful sense of community we

have at LCYC!

This season members will continue to track volunteer hours on our website, under the "Volunteer" tab. However, this season it will be even a bit easier. If anyone has difficulty with entering their hours, please reach out to your chairperson or myself and we will show you how. At Opening Work Day, I will plan on having my laptop open and available for members to enter hours, if they wish. I will also be available to help and answer your questions.

Need a name tag button, boat or car stickers, or a burgee? I have them! Just let me know if you need any. Buttons are free, boat and car stickers are \$1, and burgees are \$20 each. Please remember to wear your buttons at all LCYC events for those of us that have difficulty with remembering names (myself included!)

Harbor



By Paul Boerman Harbormaster

Whether you are currently waxing your skis or reading books by the fire, it will not be long before our attention returns to boating and activities at LCYC. As your harbormaster, my primary concern is always the safety of you and your boats in the LCYC harbor.

The mooring chain replacement process is ongoing with a four year cycle. Chains will be replaced by the club diver during the 2023 season for the following mooring numbers: 1, 2, 7, 9, 12, 13, 14, 16, 17, 24, 27, 31, 38, 40, 41, 42, 43, 46, 47, 53, 76, 77, 78, 79, 86, 92, 93, 95, 103, 117, 124, 126. No action is needed by the club members with boats on these moorings.

All club members are expected to maintain their mooring pennants in safe condition. I would advise every member to stop by the club between now and early May when the mooring field is commissioned. You will find the mooring balls and tackle near the boat ramp. (See attached photos). Please inspect your line for any excess wear. It is your responsibility to replace the lines. Pierre LaRocque the club diver can be a resource if you want your lines replaced. You can contact him at pierre@champlaindivers.com.



I also would like to remind you of Harbor rule number 8. This rule states that all members must label their mooring balls with your mooring number and name. When you stop at the club in early spring to inspect your pennant bring paint or decals and please label your ball correctly.

I would also like to remind all club members that the size(length, draft, displacement) is matched as close as possible to an appropriate mooring with the correct depth and scope. If a member changes boats at any point during the year you are required to contact the harbormaster with these changes before placing your boat on your mooring. Depending on changes to your boat, a new mooring assignment may have to be made.

In the last couple years, interest in joining the club has been strong and we have a number of people on the wait list for a mooring. If you are not planning to use your mooring for any part of this coming season we would like to be able to make a temporary assignment to someone on the list. Please reach out to me if your plans change and you will not be putting a boat on your mooring this summer.

Looking forward to seeing you all at spring workday.

All the best,

Paul Boerman
LCYC Harbormaster



Scuttlebutt (Editor's notes)



I recently looked at part of the Club history on the LCYC website. It was in 1988 that Commodore Bern Collins started the Club newsletter, The Binnacle. 35 years.

As I think about the season to come and the issues to come, I am reminded of our need for lots of photographs of club activities. I hope that all of you will consider submitting photos to share with the membership.

We are also looking for articles of interest to the members. If you have something you would like to have published, please contact Doug Merrill or myself.

Finally, I note the passing of long time member Bob Penniman. An avid sailor and active member. I hope to have a remembrance of him in the next Binnacle.

Peace,
Tony Lamb