



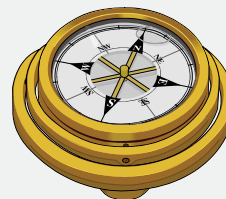
the Binnacle

Newsletter of the Lake Champlain Yacht Club, Inc.

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Binnacle Editors: Tony Lamb

<http://www.lcyc.info>



LADIES CUP ★ 125th ANNIVERSARY

Join us in celebrating a Ladies Cup tradition that dates back to 1888! ALL ARE INVITED – Sailors, Spectators, Racers and Cruisers.

Schedule of 2013 Ladies Cup Events All shore-side activities at LCYC

Friday, August 2nd:

1500-2100: Guest boats arrive. Arrange for a mooring by contacting one of the LCYC stewards at [\(802\) 985-3372](tel:8029853372). Arrange early as space is limited.

- 1830-?: Welcome party. Food catered by La Villa Bistro (plates of salads, rum punch). No charge.

Ladies Cup Trophies on display, including new trophy for first junior skipper (age 17 or under as of August 3, 2013)

Saturday, August 3rd:

- 0800-0930: Bagels and Fruit, coffee and juice. Donations accepted for the LCYC Junior Sailing Program.
 - 0800-0930: Late Registration
 - 0930: Skippers' Meeting
 - 1105: Scheduled Ladies Cup Race Start
 - Awards Presentation - as soon as possible after racing. Beverages available. Champagne toast for all. Each participating boat will receive a commemorative 125th anniversary mug.
- 1600: Ladies Cup BBQ. Catered by the Bottomless Pit BBQ of Jeffersonville, featuring pulled pork, salads, beverages. [Online registration available up through Thursday night August 1.](#) Tickets also available at the door. \$12.50/person.

OFFICIAL RACE DOCUMENTS available at: <http://lcyc.info/racing>.



Commodore's Corner

Where has our summer been the past six weeks? The near record low lake levels of April and early May seem a distant memory as the Burlington area has experienced the wettest sixty day period on record. Our fears of extremely low summer lake levels have been replaced by the problems and issues associated with record high lake levels in July.

The wet weather has certainly stressed our Club activities and events. Since our docks were launched in early May, Lake Champlain has risen by more than three feet necessitating the constant adjustment of the chains and electrical components for our docks. Through the efforts of Board members, the work of numerous volunteers and the cooperation of our membership, we persevered through both the weather and the resulting conditions on our grounds and docks. I want to recognize the work of Dave Powlison, Jim Spencer and Noah Dater in their coordination of parking limitations and offsite parking at Shelburne Farms as well as the flow of information to our membership and their guests on Wednesday nights. Thank you to the volunteers for their work and to the membership for your understanding and cooperation regarding parking and carpooling! Recognizing that climatologists are predicting that this wet weather may become more of a "norm" for Vermont and appreciating the critical role that the "parking lawn" plays in our parking facilities, we are beginning to explore options to increase access and utility of the "parking lawn" during such wet conditions.

Despite our wet weather and parking issues, most Club events and activities have gone off without a hitch. On June 1 we officially opened our season in fashion with the Opening Cocktail Party. The Cocktail Party is one of LCYC's "signature" events bringing out the best in

our membership. We had a fantastic turnout for the event with the clubhouse overflowing with members, experienced and new. Our members pulled out all the stops in assembling an amazing and elegant lineup of hors d'oeuvres and refreshments. We officially welcomed the following new members into our LCYC family: David & Eleni Churchill, Ben & Amy Durant, Don & Catherine Holly, Ben & Kristin Knight, Taylor Ricketts & Karen Carney, Oliver & Gay Slesar, Les & Dale Velte. Welcome aboard! A heartfelt thank you to a team of veteran hosts who know how to throw a party: Steve and Charlotte Adams and Jean Henshaw. Jean, Steve and Charlotte did a wonderful job of organizing the event, decorating the clubhouse, preparing beautiful flower arrangements, welcoming new members and carrying on the wonderful traditions associated with this "signature" LCYC event. Thank you!

Our Junior Sailing, Regatta and Cruising programs are in full gear. LCYC is hosting the Champ Chase Regatta the week of July 15. Our junior sailors will be competing with their counterparts from Malletts Bay and the Lake George junior programs. The registrations for our program are robust this year. The Board is receiving terrific feedback from parents and participants commenting on our quality of our program and the support from our membership. Kudos to the instructors, member volunteers and Doug Merrill for their leadership in the stewardship of the next generation of sailors. Despite the challenging weather, we have experienced high participation in our Wednesday night and weekend races. Our team of volunteer PROs, under the leadership of Keith Kennedy, have done an excellent job of navigating the challenging weather with the result that all scheduled races have been run and scored! Thank you! The weather has posed equal challenges to our schedule of cruising events and rendezvous'. Several boats experienced an exciting trip back from the Valcour Island Wildflower cruise in one of the many severe thunderstorms we

experienced in June. LCYC was well represented in Westport, NY for their annual Fourth of July festivities and fireworks. By all accounts, Westport knows how to throw an outstanding old fashioned Independence Day party. Plan ahead and mark it on your 2014 calendar!

Ahead on the calendar: August 2-3 Ladies Cup Weekend. I'm looking forward to each of these special events, especially Ladies Cup Weekend. Come celebrate the 125th anniversary of one of the oldest sailing trophies in the world. Yes, the world! Plan to attend two days of LCYC hospitality and good times both on and off the water. Festivities for the 125th anniversary include: a Ladies Cup Punch Party on Friday night; Saturday breakfast; Ladies Cup Race (Definitely!); and the Ladies Cup Barbeque! It doesn't matter whether you: race or cruise; use a sail, motor, oars or a paddle to propel your vessel; sold your boat or just bought a new one...the only place to be August 2 & 3 is LCYC! Join us!

Commodore Chris

JUNIOR SAILORS ROCK!!



The LCYC junior sailors fielded a team this past weekend in the Regatta for Lake Champlain. They raced the J/29 Boomer, competing with the other R4LC entries in general, but more specifically against junior teams sailing J/29s for the Lake Champlain Community Sailing Center and the Mallets Bay Boat Club. The LCYC team raced on the lake, and competed with the other teams to raise money for the R4LC. Our juniors sailors triumphed in both areas, finishing first among the junior teams on the water and in funds raised. They came in seventh out of 29 finishing boats, a really strong finish! Most importantly, as you can see from the post-race photo that Jill Spell sent me, they all had a lot of fun! Fritz's description of the race follows:

"We performed the "drop & secure sails" maneuver in 1 minute and 15 seconds! Armed with that they and I were confident we were ready for anything that might come our way short of a thunderstorm. As it was, the course threaded the needle between a big dark cloud to the north and a rain shower to the south on the way to Schuyler that allowed us to reach the full leg. Wind shifted to the west when we rounded Schuyler and sent us on another close reach to Four Brothers almost overpowered at times. By the time we rounded Four Brothers, we had a moderate WSW wind that carried us to the finish line. We passed five or six boats along the way and were never passed. Ben was foredeck, Noah drove the entire race, Alden and Cole were a trimmer / grinder team as was the team of Elenore and Sam at times. The crew did a wonderful job, and they were waaaaay too patient with Dorothy and myself as we gave them waaaaaaaaaaaaay too much advice.

Lots of fun and good prizes for the team. Fritz"

Scuttlebutt * (another word for Editor's Notes)

If you were not on the email list of those skippers who it was thought might be interested in sailing in the new Lake Champlain Racing series you missed the discussion about why the Mayor's Cup was not included in the new series.

Left unspoken was one of the darker sides of the old conference-drinking and partying, and I do not mean just a little. Each of the three sets of day races were two day events with a party thrown Saturday night. Needless to say some of us were appalled by the behaviors shown by crew. I remember one Odziozo where people were upset because Social would not send out for a seventh Keg of beer.

In Mallets Bay there were shot races where contestants would race shots of vodka down a block of ice into their mouths. I do not know how the races were scored (or if you were allowed a throw up) and I am not sure anyone really cared.

The worst of course was Plattsburgh. This was in the days before the Naked Turtle. We know that the Turtle is not a safe place for a married person after nine o'clock and I do not want to know what happens to single folk who hang out there. So you might wonder how it could have been worse before.

Most of us anchored out between Valcour and the shore near a place called the Valcour Lodge. Jeff Hill, other skippers and I can tell you stories of crew straggling back at all hours of the night very drunk. Not a dingy was safe within a mile of the anchorage.

There was (still is) a bar called the Tijuana Jail on one of the back streets. I was never there but if someone told me that they had been in Jail the night before I hoped they meant the county jail. Seems to be a place of fine dining now complete with website, I will have to try it next time I am in town-how we all have aged.

Karen went up to race one Sunday and arrived about 8:30 a.m. She thought there had been an apocalypse-not a person was stirring.

Jack Milbank reports his cockpit looked like the Plattsburgh way station on Sunday morning. The worse part is that half of the bodies weren't his and he spent his time before the race going from boat to boat to find owners for the crew. Never did say what he did with the leftovers-marooned them on the island?

So the Mayor's Cup party, although tame by comparison, is the last vestige of the old days. Isn't it great that we have put the focus on the sailing instead of all that other stuff.

Peace, Tony Lamb, Editor