



the Binnacle

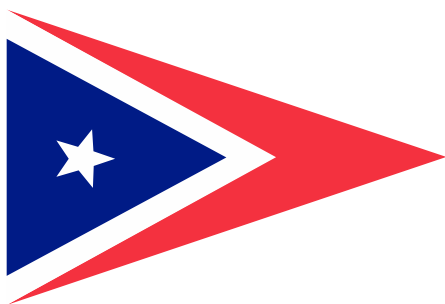
Newsletter of the Lake Champlain Yacht Club, Inc.

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<http://www.lcyc.info>

August 2015



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Commodores Corner

Two weeks of hot, humid days have made for iffy boating and a summer that reminds me of growing up on the Chesapeake Bay. While enjoying the 'dog days of summer' I can't help but notice that the sun is setting earlier. With the Boat Show and Family Day behind us, and the Ladies Cup just ahead, we are clearly in the home stretch of this summer.

Late summer is bitter sweet. It's a time to break from routine and take a real vacation. While Vermont is where I prefer to spend my time in the summer, it is exciting to get away to explore new places with friends and family. In our case, we will head to Israel and Italy, taking our sons overseas for the first time. Late summer is a time to really enjoy the routines that we have established and savor our time on the lake. The boats are in, the docks are adjusted, and the water is warm. Stop working, finish your projects, and simply enjoy some quality time on the water.

The waning days of summer are also signaled by another club tradition; the selection of a new round of board members. Our nominating committee is beginning the process of finding nominees who are interested in serving on the Board of Governors. How does this process work? Are there secret rituals? Hardly. The process is simple, and works pretty much as you would expect it to.

LCYC has a nominating committee comprised of former Commodores. Throughout the year, these folks are keeping their ears open for members who seem to take an extra interest in the club. Members who have good ideas, and seem able to follow up on these ideas. Members who really care about the club and are willing to work hard to improve its future. They speak to current committee chairs and inquire about who has shown a real interest in the workings of the club's management. They gather and discuss suggested names.

Attention is paid to ensuring we have a board that evenly represents our membership base. Recent members and long term members. Men and women. Power boaters and sail boaters. Racers and cruisers. When all is said and done, we develop a list of candidates, and the calls begin.

When you get 'the call', please take the time to learn about the opportunity and seriously consider if you would be willing to serve. In many cases, the club has standing committees that bring years of experience to the area, the BOG member (committee chair) is serving to bring this committee's work before the board and execute its strategic plan. All board positions require a commitment of time. Some are flexible, some are seasonal, some demand a lot of time, others not so much. You are being asked because your peers believe you can do this. But should you?

I

f you can afford the time and are willing to invest the energy, I strongly recommend serving a term on the board. No matter what committee you chair, you will learn a lot about how the entire club is run. You will meet new people. People that you normally would not boat or socialize with. Some of these people will evolve into your close friends. You will grow. Your appreciation for the club, and for its many talented members, will grow as well. You won't get rich. You won't become more popular. But you will find the role fulfilling, and you will be appreciated for it!

Feel free to ask me, or any of our current or former board members, for more information about what serving on the board is all about.

Doug Merrill
Commodore

Etchells Fleet News – August 2015

By Fleet Captain John Harris

So far it has been another very exciting year in the Etchells Fleet. With 11 active boats in the LCYC fleet now we are routinely getting 9 to 11 boats on the line for both our E Series events as well as on Wednesday nights. The racing has been incredibly close and arguably some of the best in the history of the fleet. There have been a lot of interesting races with lots of “shuffling of the deck” and lots of different boats getting a taste of being in the front of the fleet. Newcomer Scott Willard (USA 1098) now has his boat in the water and is on that steep part of the learning curve (where we all were at one point in our Etchells sailing careers). But with his strong sailing background and experience we’re sure he’ll get it figured out quickly.

On the Kelemen Cup front, the latest season to date results are posted and there is a raging battle going on at the top of the fleet with the top 4 boats (USA1300 (Ernie Pomerleau), Pied Piper (Dave Powlison/John Harris), Rascal (Rick Stevens) and Senior Moment (Don Brush/Bob Schumacher)) only separated by 5 points and Hot Chocolate (Ted Castle) still within striking distance as well. And I should point out that over half the fleet (the top 6 boats) has won at least one race!! It’s looking like it could be a very interesting balance of the season with two more E Series and the rest of the Wednesday night season ahead of us. The only downsides to the season so far have been the 2 Monday nights where we didn’t have any wind and the unfortunate circumstances that lead to a rather large hole suddenly appearing in the side of Senior Moment a few weeks back. Unfortunately both things are part of sailboat racing...and no one was hurt. And, of course, Bob Schumacher (our intrepid LCYC Boats chairperson) was just dying for some more boat repair work to add to his list of Things to Do !!

This past weekend was the 2015 running of the Ladies Cup and it while it was one of the more “interesting” Ladies Cups in memory from a wind and weather perspective, it was another dominant showing by the Etchells fleet starting with Ladies Cup Winner “Senior Moment” with Don, Shirley and “Team Hawko” (Kevin and Emma) aboard. USA 1300 was right on Don’s tail in 3rd place overall with Piper Piper in 5th and Indecision (John O’Rourke/Jill Gagne) in 10th. Lady Falcon, from Malletts Bay, rounded out the Fleet finishers in 16th.

In a testament to the strength of our Fleet, this is the 3rd year out the past 4 that an Etchells has won the Cup, with USA 1300 winning in 2012 and Pied Piper winning in 2013.

Junior Sailing

By Walt Marti

The 2015 Junior Sailing season officially wrapped up on August 7th. Because of your support, 90 Junior Sailors took advantage of our 6 FJ's and 10 Opti's, filling 168 spots that either began, or furthered, their lifelong passion for sailing.



Our hardworking staff consisting of Meg, Bridget, Charlie, Noah and Ian did a great job making the sailors were always safe and having fun.



This year LCYC hosted 52 Junior Sailors and over 20 coaches/parents from 5 different clubs for the Champ Chase Regatta. Thanks to the effort of many volunteers – and some creativity on the race structure – we put on a world-class event. Sailing in his first regatta - LCYC's own Matt Rogers won the overall Opti fleet and the FJ team of Teddy Turnau/Avery Marti took 4th in the FJ fleet. While many families and individuals gave generously of their time – a big thank you goes to John Harris who put together a fantastic on-the-water team and ran two days of fabulous racing.

The following week we took 5 FJ's and 2 Opti's to the Cheeseburger Regatta in Lake George where for the 2nd year in a row – Jack Merrill finished 2nd in the Opti fleet. Our top FJ finish was the team of Jeff Goldman/Matt Kuenne who tied for 3rd place.

The 2015 Junior Sailing Tag Sale and Boat Show on July 17th was yet another example of the generosity and support of the LCYC community – thank you!

Our Junior Sailors once again competed in the Regatta For Lake Champlain - Junior Sailing Challenge. Once again the Weaver family hosted our team on their J/29 Fat Cat. After a 2nd place finish in the Jr. Sailing division in 2014 – this year, with Emma Hawko at the helm - LCYC placed 1st – congratulations!

A special thank you to Bob Schumacher who tirelessly lent his time, expertise (and workshop) to make sure the 2015 Junior Sailing program never missed a beat – and to my family and lovely spouse (Aimee) who support me 100% with the program.



2015 LCYC Boat Tour

This year's boat tour, along with the Junior Sailing Tag sale, was another big success. While weather was a bit grey, the wet stuff held off until the bitter end, and everyone had a great time. We had representatives from the J-70, Viper, and the Etchells fleets, who always welcome sailors interested in joining them. And we had a variety of cruisers, powerboats, and racers that represented the wide variety of boats found in our mooring field - from Al and Sandy Lewis's the old but beautiful wooden Seamaster Cruiser to Steve Unsworth's brand new Dehler 29 (amazing what they can fit into a boat these days!)



The dock before the members arrived.



And as usual, the guests followed their particular interests - some spending considerable time poking around the boats themselves (engine compartments, quarter berths, bilges, etc.). Others, of course, were more focused on meeting new members and catching up with old friends. The boat tour is as much a moving party as anything else, and to me is one of the more prominent social events of the season.

Thanks go to Jean White and the social committee for hosting the event and providing appetizers. And many more thanks go to the members who showed us their boats - they spent the afternoon cleaning the decks, preparing food and drink - and were all around wonderful hosts.

Joss Besse



LCYC Family Day 2015 on Sunday, 7/19/15



Family Day started with an ominous forecast of heavy rain and thunderstorms. And yet, tradition has it that we luck out every year, with enough sunshine for outdoor games, junior races, BBQ and a really good time. Yet, I wasn't optimistic as I arrived Sunday morning in torrential rain! With just a few hours before start time, it wasn't looking good. A call came in from WND & WVS paddleboard folks who asked if we would cancel the scheduled demo. While I assured them that the show would go on no matter what, I secretly dreaded a potential disaster. We lucked out again! By 1 pm the sun was out, lawn games were up and ready, the face painter already had a line of kids, boat crafting was underway, the docks were filling up with classic boats and temperatures rose into the high 80's with enough humidity to get almost everyone in the water at one time or another.

Hosts Kendra and Scott Bowen were joined this year by co-hosts Christina and Philip Sidell, new LCYC members as of late 2014. Junior sailing instructors organized a great race, classic boats offered rides & tours and WND & WVS brought in 8 stand up paddleboards for everyone to try. They generously donated their time and expertise for what turned out to be 3 hours of demos, mini lessons and great fun for paddlers from toddlers to grandparents! We tried all kinds of boards and made SUP converts of many of us. I know a board is in my future for sure!



Back onshore, while we prepped for a BBQ of the traditional burgers, hotdogs, baked beans, salad and Chester's ice cream sandwiches, we listened to the great sounds of Gus Bloch and Lausanne Allen. Their fiddles and songs offered a range of folk, jazz and country favorites that created a really warm and lively atmosphere. As I watched kids bring their boat creations down to race them at the end of day, I felt a drop of rain and looked up to see the promised clouds arriving...but not before everyone had enjoyed another great LCYC tradition...Family Day in the sun!

Jean White
Social Chair



Lake Champlain Race Week - August 9-14, 2015

Who's up for a challenge?

This 6-day/evening event, sponsored by MBBC is being held in an attempt to increase awareness, participation, and collaboration of the various weekly sailboat racing conducted on Lake Champlain during the summer. It incorporates pre-existing weekly events at LCYC, MBBC, and the Community Sailing Center and challenges all sailors (both adults and juniors) to participate in sailboat racing events at three different venues, in a variety of boat types (from keel boats to lasers) for six consecutive days.

Scoring will be conducted per individual participant, one event throw-out will be granted, and awards will be given to:

- Top 3 overall
- Top woman, junior (<18), master (55+)
- Youngest competitor

Participation award (for those that sail all 6 events)

In addition to participation, volunteers are needed to invite interested participants on your boat for the Monday and Wednesday portions of the event at LCYC. Many of these participants will be junior sailors from LCYC, MBBC, and CSC.

Please contact Bretton Gardner (bretton.gardner@gmail.com) if you would like to participate or volunteer crew openings, and provide the following information:(in the alternative you can fill out the google form at <http://goo.gl/forms/dXOGPpdH8f>)

- Name
- Preferred contact information
- If Registering:
 - o Division (women, junior, master, open)
 - o Dates Plan to Sail
 - o Boats/sail number planned to sail
 - o Need for boat placement (if necessary)
 - o If volunteering crew openings
 - o Date
 - o Boat

Number of openings

On Friday, August 14th, after the completion of the final event (420's at CSC), there will be a BBQ sponsored by MBBC (\$7) and a short awards ceremony at the Community Sailing Center in Burlington.

Hope to see everyone there!

LCYC Southern Lake Cruise 2015

by Doug and Merri Purdy

The Southern Lake Cruise this year covered close to 100 miles of water. Members first got together during the potluck at the club on July 3rd. Later that evening our fleet traveled to Burlington to watch the fireworks display and aerial acrobatics show while at anchor. Several boats picked the perfect spot and seemed to be at the center of the aerial acrobatics show. Despite perfect conditions for the fireworks display, the finale was canceled due to a fire breaking out on the barge. The trip back to the club offered limited visibility, but mariners were well prepared and everyone returned safely. Thanks to our stewards for staying late to get everyone to shore.

On Saturday the 4th, we sailed for Westport to see their fireworks display. I am always amazed at the great job this town does with its parade and fireworks display. The wind came up close to 15 knots at one point as we close hauled our way down the lake. Though delayed a little, the fireworks display was great and the finale was amazing.

On Sunday morning, we went ashore to CoCo's at the Normandie Beach Club for breakfast. Eggs Benedict was on the menu and due to the chilly weather, we sat inside this year.



Our next destination was Port Henry Marina where the manager, Dave Koran treated us like kings as usual. Dave gave us a complimentary night at the marina to help spread the word about this fine facility that has replaced Velez Marina since the Crown Point Bridge has been built. We had a potluck on shore, went for walks in town, went swimming at the town beach, stopped at the ice cream stand, and made use of a complimentary

ride to the store provided by the marina management. This marina knows what customer service is and you won't be disappointed after a night's stay. The facilities are brand new including showers, laundry, brand new docks, a 25-ton travel lift, pumpout system, and a massive stone breakwater protecting the marina patrons.

We left the marina and motored across the lake to DAR State Park to enjoy their pavilion which overlooks the lake giving a spectacular view of the Adirondacks. The bay is protected from the south, but wasn't large enough to protect the entire fleet so later in the afternoon we traveled to the bridge and spent the day walking the ruins at Crown Point, and visiting the museum on site. It



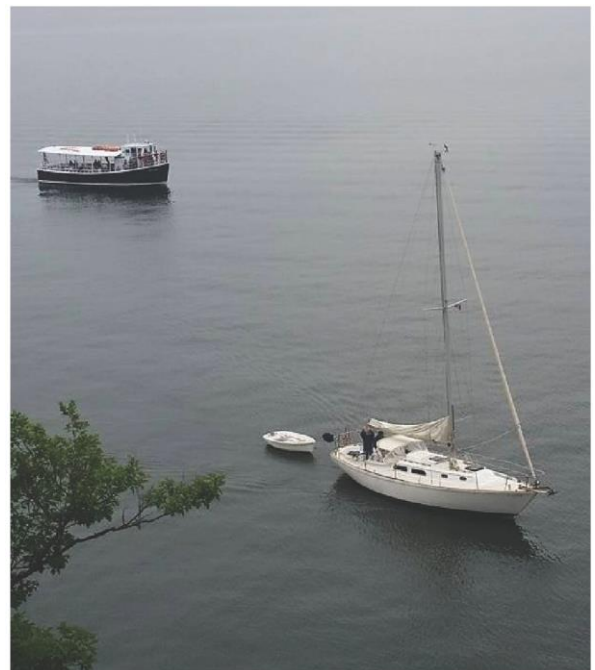


is easy to forget how much history there is here on the lake that other boaters across the country don't get to enjoy.

Our next day was spent at Kingsland Bay where we went for a great walk around the park. The night was quiet, but at first light a front came through and winds blew into the 40's. The skills of our fleet's sailors prevented disaster and the anchored boats left for calmer conditions. Barn Rock harbor was perfect and due to the sudden wind shift it was empty. What an idyllic place



this bay is. With a babbling brook and protection from all but southerly winds, it was so nice, we stayed two nights. The state land surrounding this bay makes for excellent hiking and the club members present had a wonderful stay anchored fore and aft or tied to shore. Revelation gets the photo op award for their arrival during our hike.





The group reformed in Converse Bay on the LCYC moorings after being divided by the heavy winds of Kingsland Bay and commitments off the lake. We were joined by Impetuous, Meridian and Sea Wolf on this day. The cruise moves up and down the lake and members join us for as long as they can and return home for various reasons, but they do their best to return to the group as soon as possible. We went ashore at the Cedar Island Resort ferry landing and then walked to Point Bay Marina for an ice cream. Upon returning we spent the evening on Purdy Suite having dessert together and then settled in for what turned out to be a quiet night.

Converse seldom disappoints sunset viewers and this night was not different. We awoke to a freshening breeze out of the South and peeled off the moorings to sail for Willsboro Bay. The wind was such that we made a perfect spinnaker run directly for the point at speeds up to 6.3 knots.



Club Members on the cruise were treated to a close reach 12-15 knots of wind on the way back to the club and we truly enjoyed the nearly perfect sail we had once we left the fickle winds of Willsboro Bay. I am not sure which is more enjoyable, leaving the mooring for a sail on the open lake or leaving the open lake after a week of cruising to pick up the mooring and return to the club. Our second cruise is the first week of August. Watch the next Binnacle for an article on the Northern Lake Cruise.

Doug and Merri Purdy.

Results of 2015 LCYC Communication Survey

I would like to thank all those that took the time to participate in the LCYC Communication Survey. We had a good response. 91 members completed the survey, giving us some valuable data to understand how we, as a club, are communicating to our members. This data will help improve how we keep members up to date, and hopefully more engaged in the club.

From the data we can draw some clear conclusions:

- The membership feels the club keeps them up to date about what is going on at LCYC
- Club emails are the main conduit for reaching club members
- The Binnacle is popular and is well read by membership
- The website is used frequently. The primary use is for checking the calendar and race results
- Posts on the clubs Facebook page only reach a third of membership

Please feel free to review the raw data from each question in the survey results below.

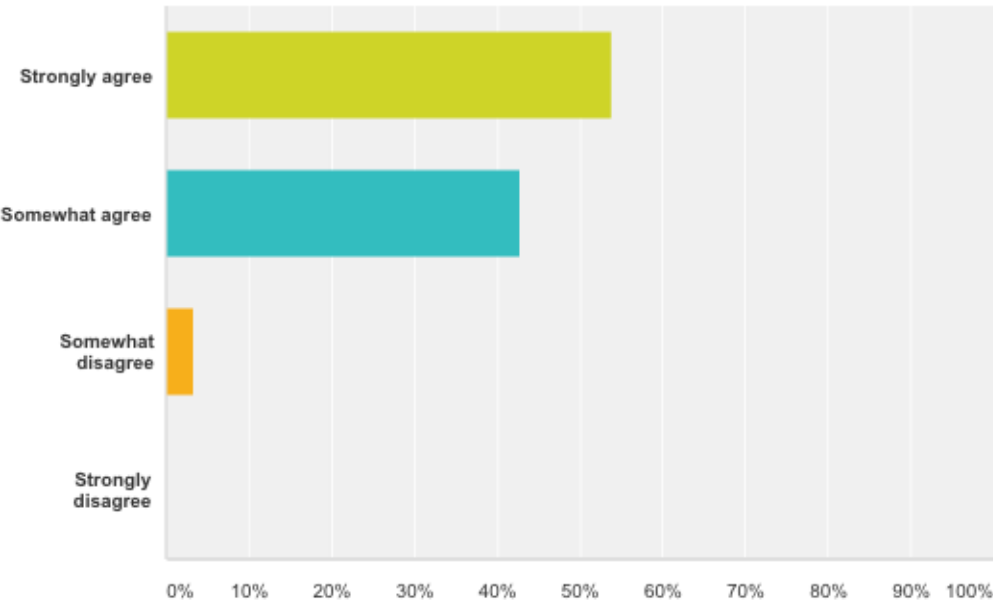
Thanks Again

Marc Gamble
Communication Chair

Question 1

I feel LCYC keeps me up to date about what is going on at the club.

Answered: 89 Skipped: 2



Answer Choices	Responses	
Strongly agree	53.93%	48
Somewhat agree	42.70%	38
Somewhat disagree	3.37%	3
Strongly disagree	0.00%	0
Total		89

Question 2

The primary way I learn about what is happening at LCYC is from the.... (PLEASE RANK)

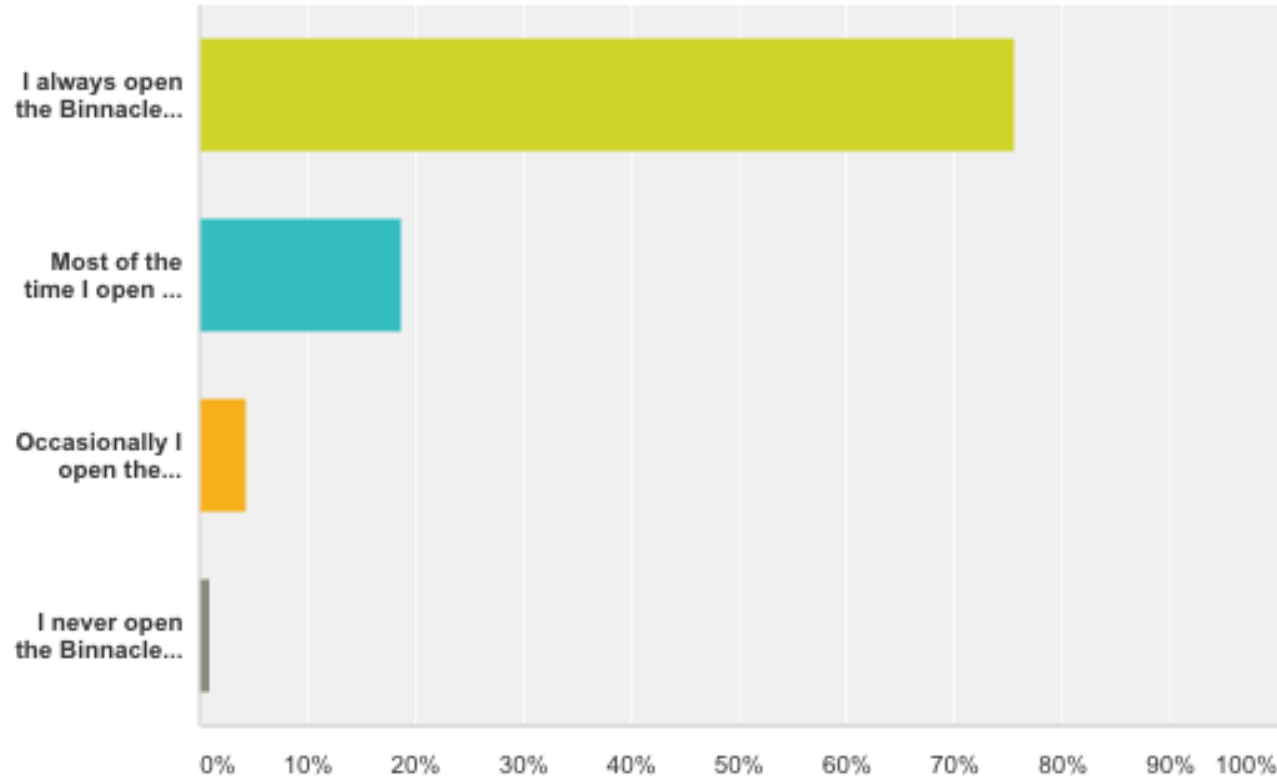
Answered: 91 Skipped: 0

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Total	Score
Club eMails	80.22% 73	13.19% 12	3.30% 3	0.00% 0	2.20% 2	1.10% 1	0.00% 0	91	6.66
The Binncale	9.89% 9	52.75% 48	21.98% 20	10.99% 10	2.20% 2	1.10% 1	1.10% 1	91	5.49
LCYC's Facebook Newsfeed	0.00% 0	3.30% 3	14.29% 13	15.38% 14	13.19% 12	26.37% 24	27.47% 25	91	2.73
The Log	1.10% 1	6.59% 6	13.19% 12	32.97% 30	27.47% 25	13.19% 12	5.49% 5	91	3.59
The LCYC Website	7.69% 7	14.29% 13	18.68% 17	16.48% 15	30.77% 28	8.79% 8	3.30% 3	91	4.12
Word of Mouth	1.10% 1	9.89% 9	26.37% 24	21.98% 20	15.38% 14	25.27% 23	0.00% 0	91	3.84
Other - If you select "Other" please write up your reason in the "Here are some specific things I like about how LCYC communicates ..." field below.	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	2.22% 2	2.22% 2	8.89% 8	24.44% 22	62.22% 56	90	1.58

Question 3

When I receive the Binnacle email....

Answered: 90 Skipped: 1

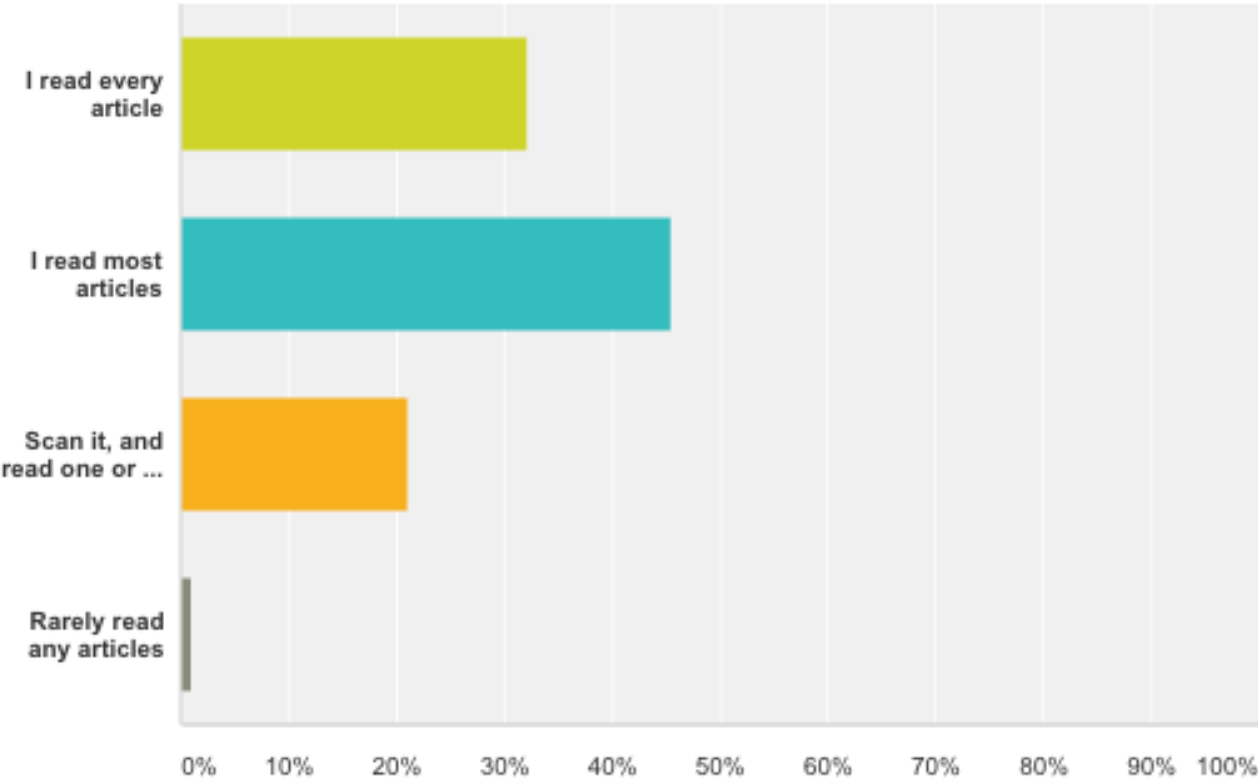


Answer Choices	Responses	
I always open the Binnacle PDF	75.56%	68
Most of the time I open the Binnacle PDF	18.89%	17
Occasionally I open the Binnacle PDF	4.44%	4
I never open the Binnacle PDF	1.11%	1
Total	90	

Question 4

Once I open the Binnacle:

Answered: 90 Skipped: 1



Answer Choices	Responses	
I read every article	32.22%	29
I read most articles	45.56%	41
Scan it, and read one or two articles that interest me	21.11%	19
Rarely read any articles	1.11%	1
Total	90	

Question 5

**I would like to see (or Write) a Binnacle
Article on: (If you want to write it, please
leave your name)**

Answered: 4 Skipped: 87

Showing 4 responses

More articles from winter cruisers

7/15/2015 9:57 AM [View respondent's answers](#)

I don't know what the Binnacle is. I have received a few emails regarding social events...?

7/14/2015 3:11 PM [View respondent's answers](#)

Lake ecology and how LCYC members can / should help lead stewardship efforts for the lake.

7/14/2015 1:39 PM [View respondent's answers](#)

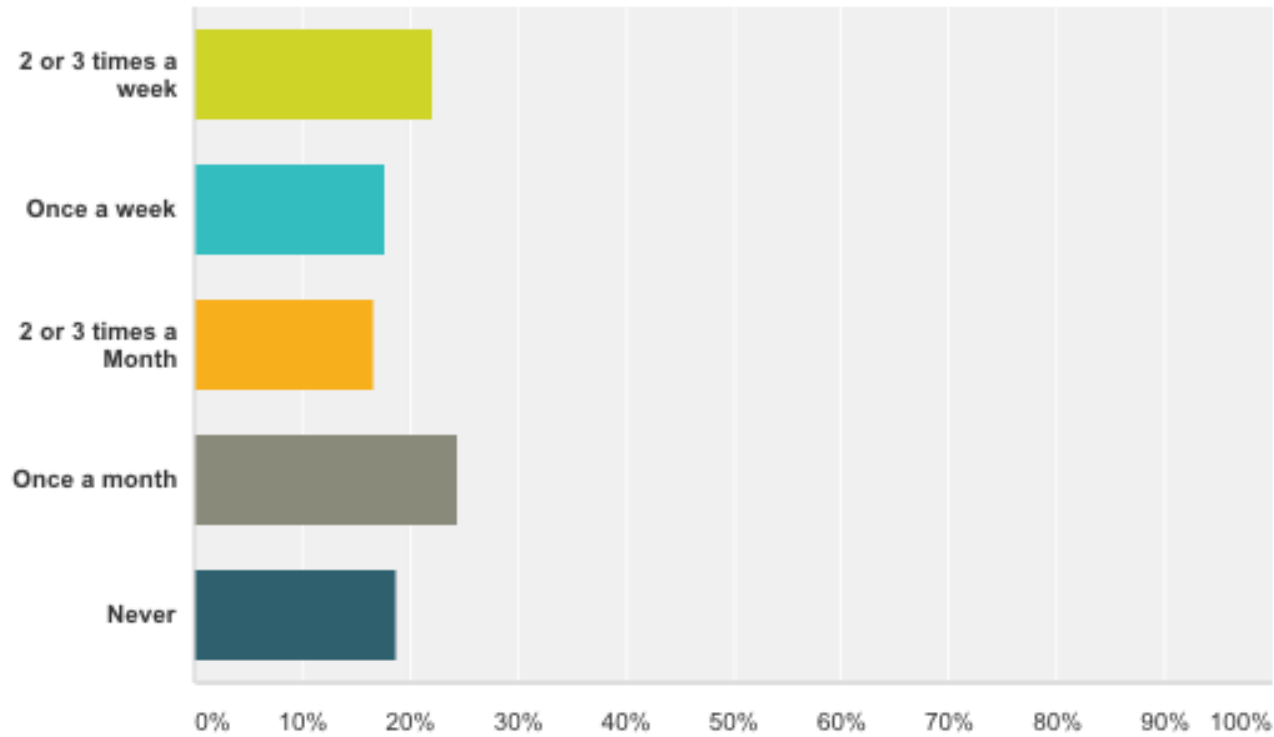
Charlie Van Winkle

7/14/2015 1:04 PM [View respondent's answers](#)

Question 6

During the boating season, I check the LCYC Website:

Answered: 90 Skipped: 1



Answer Choices	Responses	
2 or 3 times a week	22.22%	20
Once a week	17.78%	16
2 or 3 times a Month	16.67%	15
Once a month	24.44%	22
Never	18.89%	17
Total		90

Question 7

The main reasons I go to the LCYC website
is to.... (PLEASE RANK):

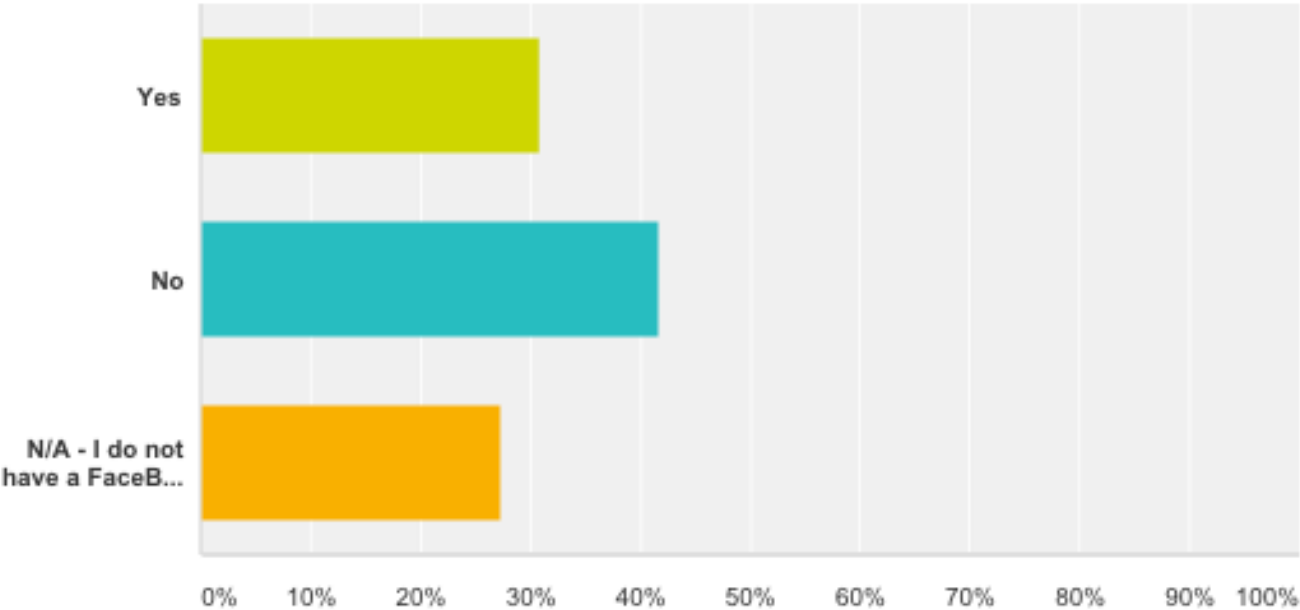
Answered: 77 Skipped: 14

	1	2	3	4	5	6	Total	Score
Check the calendar	40.26% 31	50.65% 39	3.90% 3	2.60% 2	2.60% 2	0.00% 0	77	5.23
Get information on Racing (including checking race results)	44.74% 34	15.79% 12	17.11% 13	17.11% 13	1.32% 1	3.95% 3	76	4.74
Get information on cruising	1.32% 1	11.84% 9	28.95% 22	43.42% 33	7.89% 6	6.58% 5	76	3.36
Get information on junior sailing	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	7.89% 6	18.42% 14	60.53% 46	13.16% 10	76	2.21
Get information on social events	7.89% 6	21.05% 16	40.79% 31	11.84% 9	14.47% 11	3.95% 3	76	3.84
Other - If you select "Other" please write up your reason in the "Here are some specific things I like about how LCYC communicates ..." field below.	6.58% 5	0.00% 0	1.32% 1	6.58% 5	13.16% 10	72.37% 55	76	1.63

Question 8

I have "Liked" the LCYC facebook page and currently see LCYC updates when I check Facebook. (If you like the LCYC Facebook page right now you can answer yes to this question.)

Answered: 84 Skipped: 7



Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	30.95%	26
No	41.67%	35
N/A - I do not have a FaceBook Account	27.38%	23
Total	84	

Question 9

Question # 9 - Here are some specific things I like about how LCYC communicates to its members:

Reminders for Social Events via email blasts

The emails aren't too frequent. You use that service judiciously. Thanks.

The Binnacle summary/index in the body of the email.

The log is great for finding member contact info, finding who chairs committees and providing details on rules, etc.

The Binnacle; Racing page in LCYC info.; the calendar of events.

I think you do a very good job in communicating issues and information to members. Keep doing what you are doing.....

I check racing results every week

Would like to see more communication. Plus more community-building. So many great members, but not enough bringing people together. Plus the way the new alcohol policy was rolled out was very quick. Should have been discussed with the full membership..

The emails are appropriate and specific this year. Very helpful.

I don't use Facebook.

Link-able calendar

Clear & concise Adequate event advance notice

The email alerts are great The website redesign is nice

I have appreciated seeing the emails about upcoming events.

E-mails are timely. Weather reports on website.

Multiple media and mechanisms are useful

I think it works fine

I like the binnacle

I typically don't check the website. I sometimes check the white board at the club. I rely mainly on the newsletters that I receive in my inbox for updates, warnings, etc. Thanks!

It seems that the communication is more frequent. Which I like, but it is not too over whelming.

sorry I did no even know we had a FB page. I just liked it!

Bulletin Board, Cruising Board, Posters

There seem to be more communications this year.

emails

Emails are efficient

Good website

my visits to the website are primarily for general updates & information without regard to priority areas listed.

I like the emails, posters at the club and Binnacle.

I particularly appreciate the email blasts - they are always timely and relevant, and highlight things I might have missed

Question 10

**Here are some issues I have with LCYC communication
WITH SUGGESTIONS on how to fix them:**

Work Day activities - it's hard to know what people need help with on work day. Is there a way to add on the website where someone could add work tasks with number of folks required and allow people to sign up for them, also including POC for specific task.

The Binnacle could be more complete. Many articles seem under-written.

Include "add to my calendar" links.

No major issues.

NONE

perhaps sharing what the issues are in the first place with club members, then the whole club can be aware of them?

I have previously suggested that occasional work projects be better communicated to all members. That has happened this year via email announcements. Would encourage this, but email may not work for others, who may prefer FB posts.

Not an issue but a suggestion, send a weekly newsletter on Monday with the week's events listed.

Better procedure needed for members purchasing a mooring from another club member

No issues that I can think of.

Being a brand new member, it would have been potentially helpful (certainly welcoming) to have a member call me and welcome my family and I and see if we had any questions, etc. (Certainly we have felt welcome when talking with people face-to-face!)

I suggest that the minutes to the board meeting be available....I apologize if they are already readily available and was not aware of it.

When I was a Board member, I was far more connected with decisions and policy the Board dealt with. I think it would be useful if the Board meeting minutes were available on the website (to members after logging in).

Binnacle articles give members a sense of community; when written by committee chairs, these also provide valuable information about current programs plus plans for the future. This is particularly important during the boating season. Fewer Binnacles result in a reduced sense of connection among members, as well as from the Board of Governors. Suggestions: Set a schedule and deadlines for committee chairs' articles or reports (however brief). New member profiles have been done in the past. Provide more insight on Board decisions.

Facebook is hard to post stuff on compared to other sites

7/14/2015 1:41 PM [View respondent's answers](#)

I do not find the web site helpful. HOwever I am not a web designer so I don't know how to fix it.

I don't think there is near enough discussion and dialogue about club issues. Many things are discussed and decided in board meetings and no where else.

I'm relatively happy with the LCYC communications

I would like to see a race "schedule" in a single document as opposed to the calendar format. that would be much more useful in communicating with and scheduling crew.

Need outreach to get more club younger members racing.

Send surveys with ranking by item, not a list ranking, Somethings i had to give a rating to i don't use at all, hence not reflected. Emails are #1, great! Thank you for Binnacle articles and news also.

pretty good on day to day stuff, but not so great on long term activities - what's happening on Butler building? what are plans for the docks? What unusual, long term things are percolating with clubhouse, boats, etc

Minutes of all board and committee meetings posted on an email site would give members a sense that this is a transparent organization that keeps its members properly informed. Might interest more members to be on the board and committees.