



the Binnacle

Newsletter of the Lake Champlain Yacht Club, Inc.

Commodore: Jill Gagne

June 2024

Director of Club Communications: Doug Merrill

Binnacle Editor: Tony Lamb



Changes Proposed to Dock System, see page 17, 18



Photo by Walt Marti

In this issue:

Commodore's Corner	Page 2
Remembering Shell Reilly	Page 4
Coast's Great Loop Adventure	Page 6
Meet the Stewards	Page 8
Meet the Jr. Sailing Instructors	Page 10
Around the Club	
Stewards	Page 12
Harbor, Changes to the South End	Page 13
Membership	Page 15
Social	Page 16
Docks	Page 17
Scuttlebutt	Page 19



Commodore's Corner



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

Welcome to summer and the 2024 season! We once again were blessed with beautiful weather for club opening day, which resulted in a great turn out and a quick morning of work to get the club ready for season with the docks in, the house spruced up, the boats polished and bottoms painted, the Jr. Sailing boats cleaned and rigged, and the grounds cleaned up and ready for use. Thank you to all who attended and did their part to open the club, and special thanks to the Social Committee and those who baked to keep all the workers nourished!

The racing season has begun, the cruisers had their first pot-luck, and the social season kicked off with the Club Opening Cocktail Party. This is the event I look forward to each year to be able to socialize with old friends and officially welcome in the new members who joined since last June. We also took a moment of silence at this year's event to pay our respect to members who have passed, particularly long time member Shell Riley. Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves and once again the Social Committee did a wonderful job decorating and keeping the appetizers flowing.

This year we welcomed thirteen new members, with four in attendance at the party. Welcome



to Joshua and Amanda Kallen, Bill and Eva Fraser-Harris, Juliana and Will Anderson, Maxime Rousseau, Marianne Rousseau, John and Lauren Bakewell, Tyler and Amanda Hoffman,

George and Shirley Pappas, Andy and Annie Dunn, Eric Schulz and Tilley, Mary and Matt Tryhorne, John and Amanda Ring, and Peter Heissenbuttel and Elizabeth Pocock.

The club is in good financial shape as we head into the summer, read more about this in the Treasurer's update. Be sure to check out the Social Committee update highlighting the events you should be looking forward to this season, and learn more about the Secretary and Membership Committee that is looking for additional help. You don't want to miss the Dock's Committee update with information about the new docks proposal and how and when you can learn more about it.

Also In this Binnacle article you will get to meet the Stewards for the 2024 season. We have a great group of individuals, many who may be familiar to you from last year. The team is being led by Adelaide Durant, our Head Steward. Be sure to say hello and introduce yourself if you have not met them before. They do so much behind the scenes to keep the club running smoothly. Also you will get to meet this year's Jr Sailing Instructors; Leigh Kerbaugh returns as our Head Instructor and is already gearing up the team to make the season memorable for all the campers!

I would like to end with a few words about Shell Reilly and his contributions to LCYC over the years. He was active in the cruising community and served on the Board of Governors. He was well known and loved among the members and will be missed. Read the memories Lynnea and Leonard Rosner shared and enjoy a few pictures from Shell's daughter's blog.

Wishing you all good summer with fair winds and following seas.

Remembering Shell Reilly

By Lynnea and Leonard Rosner:

Here are a few memories we have of sailing both on and off the lake with Shell and Penny going back to the days of the original Sea Shell when the yacht club tended to raft up at the various anchorages and party - frequently with a dozen or more boats attending. Usually there wasn't a problem, but once 8 or so boats were rafted together on the south side of Sloop Cove with stern lines ashore when a front arrived during cocktails with a pronounced wind shift to the NE. Shell said we needed to immediately break up the raft and leave Sloop to anchor on the other side of Valcour. Most followed his sage advice, peeling off one at a time, but the few boats that ignored it spent a miserable night.

On several of our trips south, we spent time on their dock in Placida, conveniently just off the ICW and cruised part of Florida's west coast together. It was interesting when a thunderstorm rolled over us at anchor to find it wasn't our mast that attracted a stray bolt that landed too close for comfort, but a hard top over their much lower Mainship cockpit. Fortunately it wasn't a direct hit, but the stray voltage caused havoc with all their instruments.

Several of our trips south coincided with Shell taking Friendship to and from their place in Florida for the winter. One spring, just after we tied up at the south side of Lock 1, Shell called to say he was at Lock 3, Mechanicville, why didn't we join him? With just enough time to clear Locks 1 and 2 before they closed for the day, we headed on our way, only to find ourselves in pea soup fog just past Lock 2. Unfortunately with the mast down we had no radar, and felt our way, from buoy to buoy, not quite visible from one to the next. What a relief it was to hear Shell's voice as we approached the town dock where he was waiting to catch our lines.

Over the years we joined them for several off lake trips aboard Friendship; out the St. Lawrence to Quebec City, up the Erie Canal to Ithaca for a visit to Cornell, and through the Canadian waterway to Ottawa. All the trips were memorable - spending time on a boat with friends in interesting places is special.

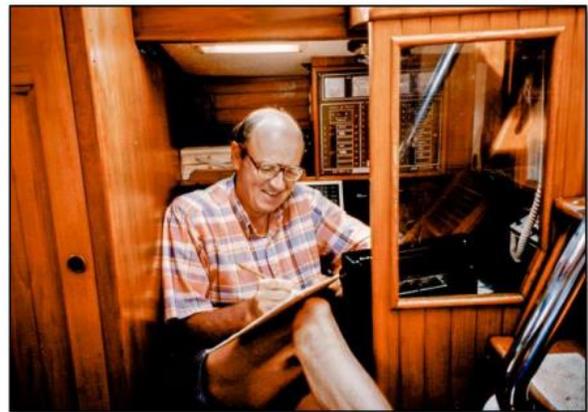
One unusual occurrence was a few years when Friendship, Tranquility, and Antares were tucked into Barn Rock for the night. After we returned to the club, Bob S checked Google Earth and found a shot of our three vessels at anchor on the site.

We will miss seeing Shell at the helm of Friendship. With similar philosophies on cruising (if you have a boat, use it), we could always count on them joining us wherever the wind took us, be it Deep Bay, Burton Island, or Fort Ti, going ashore for a walk, raising a drink before dinner, and ending the day with a friendly round of dominoes.

Photo's from Shell's Daughter, Paige's Blog:



Above left: Dad at the helm of the first *Sea Shell*, a Cheoy Lee Offshore 36, with Scott and Paige along for the blustery ride.



Two photos at right: Dad at the helm of the second *Sea Shell*, a Mason 43, and in that yacht's navigation station. I took these photos when I crewed for him on one of the Caribbean 1500 rallies he took part in (1990?), sailing offshore from Norfolk, VA, to St. Thomas, USVI.



Left and above: Dad right where he liked to be: at the helm of one of his boats. Photo on the left taken in the mid 1990s while cruising the second *Sea Shell* in the Caribbean. The photo above taken in 2022 while cruising *PenShell*, a Mainship 350, in Florida.

COAST's Great Loop Adventure

Walt Marti

On August 1, 2023, our 25th Wedding Anniversary Aimeea and Walt with Milo (our 6-year-old Cockapoo) in tow, began our Great Loop adventure on COAST, a Sabre 38 powerboat. After 6,252 miles, 140 locks, three countries, eighteen states and seven Bahama islands – we arrived back where we started, “crossing our wake” on June 4, 2024. The time in between was truly “the adventure of a lifetime.”

A summary of our travels by month:

August – The Canadian Route
Chambly Canal, Ottawa River, Rideau Canal, Lake Ontario, Trent-Severn Canal, Georgian Bay, The North Channel. Some of the most majestic cruising North America has to offer – simply stunning.

September – The Great Lakes
Lake Huron, Mackinac Island, Lake Michigan, Harbor Springs, Lake Charlevoix, Door County, WI, Sheboygan, Milwaukee, Chicago. Since Wisconsin is Walt's birthplace, we enjoyed visiting with family and friends.

October – The Rivers
Illinois, Mississippi, Ohio, Tennessee, Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway to Mobile, Alabama. While not the most scenic part of the trip, it was one of the most interesting sharing the water with the commercial traffic.

November – The Panhandle
Gulf of Mexico, across the big bend of Florida to Fort Meyers. Here we laid the boat up in Okeechobee Waterway and came home for the holidays and skiing.

February – Gulf Coast
In February, Walt went back to supervise service work (fluid changes, anodes, etc.) and entertain graduate school friends and later in the month family – exploring the islands of the Gaspa-



rilla Sound including Boca Grande, Useppa and Cabbage Key.

March – Marco, Everglade City, The Keys
With Aimee back on board it was time to continue heading South to enjoy Southwest Florida and the Keys. Favorite stops were Key West, Marathon, Key Largo/Ocean Reef and one of our favorite places – Key Biscayne.

April – The Bahamas

After a brief visit to Miami and dinner at our favorite restaurant near Miami Beach Marina, a tiny gem serving the best Italian food, it was time to look for a good day to cross the Gulf Stream and head East. We love the Bahamas; it was top of our list to spend time in our favorite spots like the Berry Islands including Chub Cay. Covering the favorites was important and we also wanted to make time exploring new areas in the Exuma's, we had a wonderful time visiting Compass Cay, Staniel Cay, Normans Cay and the breathtaking Wardewick Wells Cay, part of the Land & Sea National Park. We also dipped into the Southern part of Eleuthera with a visit to Cape Eleuthera and rounding up our tour of the Bahamas with our last stop at Great Harbor Cay.

May – East Coast

Not wanting to miss another summer in Vermont, it was time to head back to Florida to plot our course North. We made new friends with a couple preparing to sail around the world, we explored Jekyll Island and then lingered in South Carolina enjoying the history and foods of Beaufort and Charleston. We had a lovely cruise through the Albemarle Sound and after making the obligatory stop at Coinjock, battled the wind and waves of the Chesapeake to get to the Potomac River where we had a lovely week in DC visiting our daughter Avery. Next up was more exploring Chesapeake Bay with notable stops in Solomon's Island and Oxford. We left COAST at the House of Merrill in Annapolis and came home for LCYC Workday and to get our house ready for our return.



Heading Home - Back on board mid-May we left the Chesapeake, traveled the C&D Canal, continued up the coast with a lovely stop in Cape May, NJ before pushing on to New York City with a much-celebrated circle of the Statue of Liberty. Liberty Landing on the New Jersey side of the Hudson makes for an easy excursion into New York City. A whirlwind of 10 hours, 12 miles of walking, great food and a Broadway Show, NYC was a fun side trip. Continuing, we enjoyed a great trip up the Hudson River, passing all the historical sites to the Albany Yacht Club. Here, loyal Rogue partners Geno and Matt boarded the good ship COAST and helped bring her home via the Champlain Canal.

We are grateful for the time we had on COAST. If you want to learn more about our trip please join us at the Speaker Series the night of the Commodores' Potluck – July 19th.

Meet the Stewards



Adelaide Durant

I am thrilled to be back for my second year at the club!

This past year I have spent my time in Kingston Ontario at Queens University, where I have just finished up a busy first year studying Economics and Politics. Additionally, I have been busy balancing my time as I have worked closely with Queens Pre-Law Society and will continue this into the summer and next academic year serving as a fundraising coordinator. I am excited to put my learned experiences of being an active club member into action this summer!

When I am not working at the club, I enjoy spending my time playing tennis, rollerblading, or simply enjoying what Vermont Summers has to offer. I can't wait to be back on the water and see everyone soon!

Charlie Filkorn.

I am a senior at Mount Mansfield Union High School. I love to ski, sail and play tennis. After high school I plan on going to college where I will major in aerospace engineering. This will be my second year with the team at LCYC, and I am looking forward to my first summer as a fully licensed steward!

Looking forward to a great summer.



Fisher Irwin

Hello LCYC, my name is Fisher Irwin and I'm looking forward to returning as part of the LCYC stewards crew this summer. I am a graduating senior at CVU High School and will be attending Williams College in the fall where I plan to major in biochemistry and molecular biology. I have been active at LCYC since my first camper experience in Optis and FJ's in the Junior Sailing Program at age 10. I've spent all of my summers on Lake Champlain and enjoy fishing, waterskiing, wakeboarding, sailing and scuba diving regularly. I've also been crew on The Green Flash and Preacher in the EtcHELLs series for the last few seasons. I'm a certified lifeguard and active Eagle Scout in Troop 602 here in Shelburne. When the lake is frozen, I enjoy alpine skiing, ultimate frisbee and playing euphonium.



Gabby Torrens-Sperry

My name is Gabby and I will be returning this summer as a steward! I started as a new steward in 2020, and stayed with the club until 2022, so I am excited to see some familiar faces again and make new connections with some new ones after being away last summer. I grew up in Shelburne and I am currently a fourth-year student at the University of Miami. I will be graduating in this upcoming Fall 2024 semester with a major in Political Science and a minor in International studies. I love to be outside and enjoy the Vermont summer weather, especially on Lake Champlain. In my free time, I enjoy cooking and baking (I am more than happy to take recipe recommendations!), do yoga, and travel. After college I plan on staying close to the water and sunshine in Miami and pursuing a career in local governance.

Maeve Begin

Hi! I'm Maeve, I'm a rising senior at UVM majoring in Public Health with a minor in political science. I grew up in Swampscott, Massachusetts and worked as a steward there for three years before moving up to Vermont. This will be my second summer here at LCYC and I am looking forward to another beautiful summer on the lake!



Parker Main

Ahoy! I am excited to be returning to the club this summer for my fifth season. I just finished my senior year at the University of Hartford studying music management with a concentration in classical performance. I'll be heading back to school in the fall for my final semester of college after completing an internship this summer with Burlington City Arts helping out with their summer concert program. When I'm not working I enjoy running, reading, and being out on the water. I look forward to seeing you at the club this summer!

MEET THE 2024 LCYC JUNIOR SAILING INSTRUCTORS



Leigh Kerbaugh

Leigh Kerbaugh returns for her second year as Head Instructor. Leigh is from Williston and just finished her sophomore year at the College of the Holy Cross. At Holy Cross, Leigh is a Biology major and in her free time volunteers at the Boys and Girls Club in Worcester. Leigh grew up at LCYC, and now spends much of her free time on her family's cruising boat, Stella. She loves sailing, and spending summer days around LCYC. She has very fond memories of Junior Sailing camps when she was younger and cannot wait to be back for another summer. Leigh hopes to share her passion of sailing and the lake while having fun with all of the junior sailors this summer!

Henry Bushey

Henry Bushey returns to the Junior Sailing staff for his second year of instructing. Henry lives in Charlotte and just finished his junior year at CVU. In his spare time, Henry plays baseball for CVU and Champlain Valley's American Legion baseball program, races 420s for the Northern Vermont High School sailing team, and enjoys outdoor activities with family and friends. He can be seen racing on J Chip with his family on Wednesday nights. Henry has sailed in LCYC's Jr. Sailing program for nine years and is excited to come back to LCYC where he grew up sailing. He looks forward to continuing to instruct returning campers and introducing new sailors to the sport!



Eloise Durant

Eloise Durant joins the LCYC Junior Sailing Staff for her first year of instructing. She lives in Williston and just finished her Junior year at Champlain Valley Union High School. Eloise grew up sailing on her family's boat, Ellie B. She spends her time sailing for NVHSST, running cross country, skiing and playing ultimate frisbee. She loved junior sailing as a kid and is extremely excited to spend her summer sailing and having fun!



Griffin Hanson

Griffin Hanson was born and raised in Shelburne VT and has been a part of the Junior Sailing program for 8 years. He is a rising junior at Champlain Valley Union High School, this is his first year as an instructor. He plays varsity football and has mentored in unified sports for 8 years. Unified Sport is a program that works with kids with mental or physical disabilities to achieve their dream of playing sports and other co-curricular activities. In his summer free time he enjoys being on the water as much as possible to fulfill his love for the outdoors and he loves hanging out with family and friends. Lake Champlain has played a large role in his childhood and his love for the water and sailing and he can't wait to enjoy that passion with the junior sailors of our 2024 season.

Magnus Nilsson

Magnus Nilsson is a Shelburne resident and has been a part of the Junior Sailing program for the past eight years. He is a rising junior at Champlain Valley Union High, and this is his first year as an instructor. He races 420s in both the spring and fall on the Northern Vermont High School team. During his free time, he enjoys cruising the lake on his family's boat, and overall spending time on the water. He is also an avid skier during the winter. Some of his favorite memories come from Lake Champlain, and is excited to give the same opportunity to the Junior Sailors!



Instructor in Training

This summer, the Junior Sailing staff will be joined by Freya Heinzer as an instructor in training.



Around the Club



Stewards

By John Stetson, Stewards Chair

The team of stewards is slowly taking shape. We are anxiously awaiting three of them to complete their high school requirements and will be joining us soon. Please remember to introduce yourself so that they begin to put names to faces; their photos and bios are elsewhere in this edition of The Binnacle.

The likelihood of thunderstorms increases during the summer months. Please be mindful of the weather when contacting the stewards for delivery to or from your boat. For the safety of all, launch service will be suspended during thunderstorms. The club dinghies are usually available.

As a reminder, the designated swim area is between the swim float and the junior sailing dock. Please minimize boat traffic other than those in use for the junior sailing program.

Our newest steward is in the process of completing requirements for the US Coast Guard Merchant Mariner Credential, or Launch Operator license. Three volunteers are also in the final stages of completion or are waiting for final approval. The process is predictably taking about 6 months to complete. It continues to be our goal to provide steward service with licensed launch operators.

We currently have two openings for stewards in training. Candidates must be at least 16 years old and demonstrate a sincere commitment to pursuing their USCG credential and joining the team in future seasons. The program is designed to enable the candidates to gain about 45 sea days toward their USCG Credential, or about half of the required time. Individuals will work alongside the regular stewards in every respect, however, they will not deliver passengers without supervision in the vessel. This is a paid position and need not be members.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if you have any suggestions to improve our launch service or if you are interested in becoming a steward.

A
R
O
U
N
D

T
H
E

C
L
U
B

Harbor



By Paul Boerman, Harbormaster

The Harbor has been commissioned and the moorings are filling quickly. Racing, cruising, and water sports are underway and the water temperature is tolerable for swimming. While there’s been lots of activity visible on the water there has also been significant work on land to improve dry sailing access and storage for Aeros, Lasers, kayaks, SUP’s, and dinghys. Though the dry sailing parking lot is under the purview/management of the Harbormaster, the utilization of the “south end” is a group effort. Kudos go to John Harris (one design sailor), Matt Fisher (grounds), Ben Durant (house), and the BOG. These efforts resulted in three additional spots for dry sailboats over the previous season. It also will leave the south bank and possibly portions of the beach available for kayak/SUP/dinghy storage. Repurposing the terraced lawn from storing small sailboats to a new gathering place for members (think Adirondack chairs and possibly a fire pit) is a work in progress. The map attached shows the assignments for the dry sailing parking lot and for Aero storage. In order to create as many opportunities as possible for members to store boats, the spacing in this area is tight. Please remember that this area is not available for parking your cars. If a member has their dry sail boat out sailing and returns to find a car parked in their spot it will not allow them to put their boat away. All of the dry sail spaces have been assigned this season, so none are available for vehicular parking.

If you have a mooring assignment, this is a reminder that it is your responsibility to maintain the mooring ball, stainless steel swivel, pennants and pick up buoy in seaman like condition. If your pennants are old and worn, please consider having them replaced. Pierre, the club diver (802-233-1479) can make new ones if you desire. Before leaving your boats during the summer, please ensure that everything is secure and ready to weather any unexpected storm.

If you will not be launching your boat this season or will be away from your mooring for any extended time please keep the Harbormaster (Boerman802@gmail.com or 802-734-8101) in the loop. There are members on the waitlist that would enjoy temporary access to a mooring if you are not using it. LCYC also utilizes empty moorings for guest boats visiting from reciprocal clubs.

Here’s hoping your summer mimics Jimmy Buffet lyrics. “Shells sink, dreams float, life’s good on our boat”



AROUND THE CLUB



LCYC Dry Sail and Dinghy Park

		Drainage Swale														
		South														
k/SUP ge Rack	Sailing Dinghy Parking	Owner	Knigh / Fraser-Harris	Hill	Holly	Turcotte	Burley	Tryhorne	Woodruff	Hamilton	Morgan	Hyerstay	Means	Bakewell	Storage Shed	West
		Boat	Melges 15	1/70	Catamaran	Catamaran	Catamaran	Catamaran	Vanguard 19	Plying Dutchman	VX-One	Viper 640	Viper 640	Daysailor		
	Spot #	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12			
		Driveway						North						Driveway		
		All Parking Spots angled ~30-40 degrees to the West														

A
R
O
U
N
D

T
H
E

C
L
U
B

Membership



Betsy Dempsey, Membership/Secretary

What does it mean to be assigned to an LCYC committee?
Many of us think it involves volunteer work we are asked to do by our assigned committee chair. While that is true, did you know:

- You can change committees at any time?
- You can always do tasks for another committee without switching committees.
- Your volunteer hours count, no matter what jobs you do around the club.
- We have a new committee, Secretary/Membership. (Ok, a little shameless self promotion!) Here are a few tasks I would gladly pass along:

- meeting (along with a few other members) over coffee to get to know applicants
- collecting information for the next edition of the log
- making name tag buttons
- keeping new members up-to-date

If you think you'd like to work for a different committee, (even Secretary/Membership!), no problem just let me know.

Welcome a Special, New LCYC Member!

AHOY to William Farricker Weaver, born on May 9 to proud parents, Caroline Weaver and Michael Bazylewicz. (Not to forget proud Grandparents, Don and Betsy Weaver!)

All of 6lbs. 2oz., William decided to arrive 4 weeks early so he wouldn't miss any part of the season. Already owns a PFD :) His Jr. Sailing application is being completed as we speak.



A
R
O
U
N
D

T
H
E

C
L
U
B

Greetings from the Social Deck!

Robin Jeffers, Chris & Jenny Leopold, and Barb Schumacher, Co-chairs

On June 8th we kicked off the 2024 season with the celebratory Opening Cocktail Party, including recognition of new LCYC members. As always, the best parts of this event were the renewed interactions between our members and the wonderful array of contributions to the appetizer and dessert tables. Thank you to all the members for their creative and delicious appetizer and dessert contributions to the potluck!

Looking forward, we have an exciting schedule of events for 2024! On June 19th we kick off our first Wednesday night dinner of the season with the return of Pizza Night. Farmer's Market Pizza returns to LCYC serving a variety of freshly made pizzas baked in their wood-fired hearth. July brings an exciting array of members' favorite social events and activities beginning with Ye Olde Fashioned Burger Burn on Wednesday, July 10th. On Friday, July 12th, the annual Boat Tour offers members the opportunity to board and visit a diverse selection of the Club's new and classic boats. Enjoy refreshments and conversation with the owners as you tour each of the boats. Farmer's Market will be on shore selling their homemade pizza fresh out of their wood fired open hearth oven. Round out July as LCYC's Commodore and Past Commodores host the Commodore's Potluck Dinner on July 19th. Past Commodores will grill chicken, salmon burgers, veggie burgers, and hot dogs complimented by your homemade potluck salads, sides, desserts and an LCYC cake. The evening will conclude our first Speakers' Series event featuring Aimee and Walt Marti talking about their exciting 2023 cruise around the "Great Loop".

August brings two Ladies Cup events on August 2nd & 3rd with a Friday night Speakers' Series event featuring Cocktails and Desserts followed the next day by the Ladies Cup Reception & Awards on Saturday afternoon immediately after the running of one of the oldest racing events in North America. LCYC's annual Family Day on Sunday, August 11th is for all LCYC members and their guests (including grandchildren, nephews, nieces, cousins) with an afternoon filled with face painting, Bouncy House, Big Blue Trunk, Flying Juniors, make your own sailboats, snacks and ice cream sundaes. Our Wednesday night dinner in August launches LCYC's first ever Taco Night on August 14th. Join us as volunteers cook and serve soft tacos with all the fix-ins that you love and appreciate in tacos. The month concludes with our signature Corn Roast & Potluck on Friday, August 23rd. Our experienced team of volunteers will grill Italian sausage, beef, salmon, veggie burgers, and hot dogs complimented by your homemade potluck salads, sides, desserts and an LCYC cake.

Celebrate the onset of cooler weather in September with our traditional Oktoberfest dinner on Wednesday, September 4th. Our Oktoberfest fare features beer, cooked grilled sausage, sauerkraut, potato salad, and traditional black forest cake. Join us for breakfast at the Clubhouse on Saturday, September 14th for the annual Macdonough Breakfast. Our breakfast team starts serving pancakes, French toast, sausage, fruit, juice, and coffee/tea at 8:00 a.m. and ends at 9:30 a.m. All LCYC members and Macdonough race competitors are welcome. There is no charge for this event, however donations to LCYC's Junior Sailing Program are graciously accepted.

A reminder: all of our social events are dependent on you, our members, to serve as volunteers.

Since last year, the Social program has managed our volunteer needs through a new software program called SignUpGenius which helps us organize our work and identify our volunteer needs, recruit volunteers and send event reminders to scheduled volunteers. Although SignUpGenius has provided significant assistance to us, our entire social program is dependent upon LCYC members volunteering to work our events. Remember, not only do your hours working as a volunteer for social events count towards your LCYC volunteer requirements, it is a terrific way to meet a broad spectrum of members. As of June 10, we still need volunteers for many of our remaining events. Signing up is easy! To volunteer for an event, click on the following link, then click on the LCYC events at the top of the page: <https://www.signupgenius.com/tabs/33776D902A7CBE8C71-lcycsign#>

A
R
O
U
N
D

T
H
E

C
L
U
B

Docks



Gene Cloutier, Dockmaster

Starting with a very special thank you to the dock team for an amazing spring launch day team for amazing work. I have received multiple comments about how well the team worked together safely and efficiently and many thought it was a record time. Steve Walkerman, Don Weaver both did a great job setting up the launching sequence and lining up the docks on shore and how they are to be put together in the water. Walt Marti and Lauren Strong did a great job leading the team on the water but all that is made easy with the great team all working together and a self-managed team. I am truly grateful for this team.

Tony Lamb is still working to get a couple people to mount the jr sailing dock life ring and replacing some dock boards. Please contact Tony if you are available to help.

Now the big news! A focused team of Bob Schumacher, Don Weaver, Dan Donegan, Jill Gagne and myself have been working many months on reviewing the current dock layout and evaluating new dock replacement. There are many reasons for changing at this time. As we know the clubhouse and docks are truly part of the identity of our club. However, the driving force for this big change to replace the docks with a completely new system begins with safety. The current docks lack stability, require constant maintenance and have poor connectivity with the current dock pin system. The team analyzed multiple options from continuing with the current process of fixing annually as needed, to replacing docks with a contractor using the existing layout, to a complete redesign and new system of docks. In the end the team elected to recommend a complete replacement and selected the same vendor that the Shipyard used, StructurMarine, out of Montreal. This company has been truly engaged with us during the process and their engineers designing the new layout. This system is made from aluminum structure with composite decking.

This summer there will be a few evening Q&A sessions to share information with members. The Docks team and StructurMarine will be hosting these sessions on July 30th and August 13th from 5:30-7:30.

A layout is below with an overlay over the current dock system in the shaded areas..

A
R
O
U
N
D

T
H
E

C
L
U
B

Treasurer's Report

By Jay Heaslip

LCYC remains in strong financial shape as we start the 2024 season. After many years of operating surpluses, we projected ending 2023 with a deficit. We had reserves in place to cover the projected deficit but obviously this is not a sustainable path. The BOG recommended a dues increase of \$250 for Active members, which was approved at the 2023 fall meeting. Our actual deficit for 2023 ended up at \$6983.65. For 2024, our budget is showing an expected surplus of \$8,328.16, so we are in good shape with the increased dues.

On the capital fund side we are also in good shape. The BOG continues to make investments in the club to improve the overall member experience. Recent capital projects include a refit of the house interior, a playset, new picnic tables and a rebuild of the mooring puller. Our capital fund balance as of today stands at \$247,115.80. The BOG is looking at additional capital projects, more on that at a later date.

We've changed the structure of the Treasurer's job in the last couple of years. The job has been streamlined and we realized we could get it done without employing a bookkeeper. Instead, we are relying on member volunteers for parts of the job. This also helps spread institutional knowledge among the members. Charlie Woodruff has stepped up to help by doing statement reconciliation and also running payroll in the summer. There are other opportunities for anyone with some accounting experience and attention to detail. This is a great way to fulfill your volunteer hours. Anyone who is interested can email me.

If you have any questions or suggestions for improvement with regard to our club finances please don't hesitate to email me at treasurer.lcyc@gmail.com.

A
R
O
U
N
D

T
H
E

C
L
U
B

Scuttlebutt (Editor's notes)



The recent passing of Shell Reilly and Marcel Beaudoin, who had been members of the club for 51 and 50 years, caused me to reflect on how few members are left from when I first joined 45 years ago.. They had in common that they were both gentlemen of the old school, and gentle men. They are symbolic of that time in the life of the Club. I am reminded how lucky I am to have found a community of such good people in which to spend so much of my free time.

The news of the changes to the south lot and proposals for changes to the dock system were also a reminder of how much the sailing experience on Lake Champlain and of LCYC has changed in what seems like the brief 45 years I have been hanging around them.

When I first joined the Club there was a Lake Champlain Racing Conference. It had its' own Commodore and officers. Each December they would meet and begin mapping out the following season's racing schedule. There were two long distance races, our McDonough and MBBC's Lake Champlain Race. The latter, included a race mark just north of the Champlain Bridge. They started Friday night and sometimes did not finish until Sunday morning. MBBC's Royal Savage and our Odziozo were each two day events. On Saturday afternoon each club had a party complete with beer. (Although, one year, MBBC had "shot races" where you poured a shot each on a block of ice and saw whose shot made it down the ice and into a waiting mouth first. Big to do at our club when Social refused to send out for a fifth keg of beer.). Two more races were sponsored by the Valcour Sailing Club, the Mayor's Cup followed on the next day by the Valcour Race.

In those days there was a large C and D fleet. The Tanser 22 had been a very popular boat from the early days up to the early 70's when members began to move up to bigger 26 and 28 foot boats. I had a Pearson 26 in the D fleet, but there were several 22, and 24 foot boats. I moved up to a C&C 33 and into the C fleet. I always thought of C as being the dining fleet. The boats were typically racer/cruisers and large enough to have real stoves and ovens. On the longer races we always had lasagna (with red wine) and I know that chili and beef stew were popular C boat menus. My crew complained when we did not have real maple syrup for our pancakes. I explained that when they stopped having MisterBrau for breakfast we would move up. They brought Labatt Blue the next race and I brought real maple syrup.

The B fleet seemed to be the serious racers. It was quite competitive. (No lasagna for them!) The A fleet was "Grand Prix". Really big boats like Golden Dazy and Adventure II, plus Mame, a Hinkley 38 and another large boat from Mallets Bay. Although the boats do not seem huge today, in their day they were huge. Dazy was 41 feet long. Adventure was a Cal 39 but had a high freeboard, drew 6 feet, had a 12 foot beam and weighed 14,600 pounds. I think they raced it with a crew of 10. The spinnaker pole was at least 17 feet long and although it was made out of aluminum, it required two to mount it in place. I sailed on it for most of a season and they never reefed or shortened. It just healed over and went faster. The other three boats were similar.

This was also an age when you would see all sorts of sails no longer seen-like a blooper and staysail. One boat had the cat and "tweety" on their spinnaker and blooper. Racing in those days was a big commitment and the large number of crew required made it dif-

**A
R
O
U
N
D

T
H
E

C
L
U
B**

difficult to sustain. Eventually the Conference disbanded. It was replaced by the Lake Champlain Championship Series.

Back in those days the Club had sand trucked in for the beach next to the boat launch and there were swim lessons held there.

I won't say that the "good ole days" were better, but if you can picture a US Federal Judge waiting with other members to manhandle a dock section off the trailer and having a couple of musk rats jump out from under neath the dock and scurry down the path to the lake, and see him, with the other waiting members, high tail it out of the way, you would have to admit that there were some good times had.

Peace,
Tony Lamb