



the Binnacle

Newsletter of the Lake Champlain Yacht Club, Inc.

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<http://www.lcyc.info>

August 2014



ROSINA WINS LCYC 2014 Ladies Cup



Noah Dater and Crew celebrate.

Sailing in Schuyler Island Race? Notice of problem at Schuyler reef on page 4.

Lady Skipper Race Rescheduled

Herb McCormick Presentation—Friday, August 22—details page 7



Commodore's Corner

Summer 2014 is turning out to be a wonderful summer for me, my family, and MOOvin's crew. We have had great weather for Wednesday night races and weekend cruises. The only complaint we have is that the winds on the weekends have been on the light side, resulting in some hot, slow races. My younger son is quick to point out that these make ideal mornings to go water skiing! He's a glass half full kind of kid.

Our cruising fleet completed their Southern Lake cruise in early July and their Northern Lake cruise last week. In addition, a large group of cruisers competed in our annual "Champagne Race" and enjoyed a fast trip up Willsboro Bay to a very close finish. Congratulations to Southern Cross for taking line honors this year. I can't recall the club fielding as active a cruising fleet as I have seen this year. Kudo's to Doug and Merri Purdy for continuous communication and lots of organization to keep the fleet on the move!

I felt that the Ladies Cup weekend enjoyed the best weather and racing that we have seen in many years. I was happy to hear numerous competitors go out of their way to tell me this as well. The weather, particularly the wind, really cooperated, and we were treated to a beautiful day with 8-12 knots winds throughout the race. The events within our control were close to perfect as well. The cocktail party on Friday night was very pleasant. The snacks were good, the Dark 'n Stormy's were tasty, and the company was great. Our Ladies Cup dinner was served very promptly upon the arrival of the fleet. This is not an easy task, given that our shoreside crew doesn't know when the race will finish, or how quickly the fleet will make its way back to the harbor. The Little Garden Market provided pulled pork, grilled chicken skewers, and several salads that were absolutely delicious. Guessing how much food to order is always a challenge, but Jean White and her team did an outstanding job of ensuring eve-



ryone was served dinner, yet very little food was left over.

I'll wrap up with a couple of requests of our members. First of all, please remember to identify your dinghy with your mooring number or your last name (or both) . The marking should be made in a way that it can be seen from the dock, if your dinghy is kept in the water. When inflatables leak, stern anchors chafe away, or your dinghy needs attention in some way, it is important that the stewards are able to identify the owner of the dinghy so that it can get prompt attention. Please remember to have a stern anchor set, and to dock your dinghy in the appropriate section of the dock (South of the dock for dinghies under 10', North of the dock for dinghies between 10' and 14'.

Second, please remember that if you invite

guests to use the club or your boat, you must physically be at the club with your guests. Exceptions to this policy can be granted by the board of governors in rare circumstances. We love to see our club shared with the broader community, but it is important that our members are present to ensure that their guests understand the club's policies and practices.

Sadly, I've already heard the three words Vermont Sailors fear the most..."Back to School." That's right, summer is rapidly marching toward fall. Make the most of these next two months of boating.

Doug Merrill
Commodore



Rosina



Lady Skipper Race Rescheduled

Unfortunately, we had no wind for this year's Lady Skipper Race. As a result, we are rescheduling that race for Sunday, August 24. The Lady Skipper Race will be run by the Etchells/Sportboat race committee. Boats participating in the Lady Skipper Race will start first and head out onto the broad lake. The Etchells and Sportboats will then do their usual series in the bay. NOTE: the starting sequence for the Lady Skipper Race will begin at 10am, which is a change from the published starting time in the NOR.

-Dave Powlison LCYC Regatta Chair

Sailing in Schuyler Island Race? Please read this.

One of the key marks of the Schuyler Island Race is off-station, confirmed by a very recent listing in the Region 1 Notice to Mariners. The mark, HBN Schuyler Reef, is normally off the north end of the reef. Since the LCYC SI course leaves it to port, our rounding of it is normally in safe water even for deep draft vessels. However, the mark is now sitting off the south end of the reef, leaving the rocky 6 ft knoll at the north end unmarked. Because of the wide use of GPS technology by most of our regular racers, the Race Management Group, in conversation with the Regatta Chairman, has decided to go ahead with the race using that same hazard as the rounding point, leaving the entire reef to port. The configuration of the Reef is fully shown in normal GPS Lake Champlain Chart formats. Properly equipped racers should be able to see it or identify its environs clearly and leave it to port safely, although at their own risk – as has always been the case in any LCYC race.



Junior Sailing

By Walt Marti

The 2014 Junior Sailing season officially wrapped up on August 8th. Because of your support, 103 Junior Sailors filled 189 spots and either began, or furthered, their hopefully lifelong passion for sailing.

For the most part the weather was kind to the program and when it was not, the staff did a great job making sure skills were enhanced on land and most importantly, the sailors were always having fun.



2014 Champ Chase Regatta (MBBC) - Pre Race Yoga

This year we took 22 sailors and 15 boats to MBBC for the Champ Chase regatta and 14 sailors and 9 boats to NLGYC for the Cheeseburger In Paradise regatta. Please note that we will be hosting Champ Chase again in 2015 and will be looking for lots of volunteers (and housing for our guests).

The 2014 Junior Sailing Tag Sale and Boat Show on July 18th 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. This year on the Weaver's J/29 Fat Cat they won the fund raising competition and placed 2nd in their division.

A special thank you to the 2014 Junior Sailing staff; Erika Merrell, Stephanie Benoit, Gabe Mantegna, Noah Allan, Charlie Maitland and Kevin Wilkinson – their dedication and enthusiasm throughout the entire eight weeks was inspiring.

While the sun has set on the 2014 program - I am already looking forward to an even better summer of 2015...



2014 Cheeseburger In Paradise – NLGYC

Herb McCormick Presentation—Friday, August 22

Don't forget that Herb McCormick, a cruiser, racer, and writer about all things sailing will be joining us for an entertaining evening of stories, photos and videos about his experiences at sea. Herb has raced and cruised from above the Arctic Circle to Antarctica, and countless places in between. An award-winning journalist, his recent books include *One Island, One Ocean* (a first person account of the Around the Americas expedition, a circumnavigation of North and South America via the Northwest Passage and Cape Horn), and most recently, *As Long As It's Fun*, a biography of the famous cruising couple, Lin and Larry Pardey, who have circumnavigated the globe, and then some, multiple times. He'll have copies of *As Long As It's Fun* for sale (\$25 and \$15 respectively) and be available to sign them.

It all happens at the LCYC clubhouse on Friday evening, August 22 at 7:30 pm. It should be a fantastic evening for anyone who likes to spend time on the water—whether you race, cruise, or motor. Don't miss it! For more information about Herb McCormick, go to: www/herbmccormick.com. This event is free of charge to LCYC members and the general sailing community.

Scuttlebutt * (another word for Editor's Notes)

Thanks to Doug Purdy for his two stories about cruising on Lake Champlain. We are working on teaching him how to sign his work.



The photo is of Will Colomb, son of new members Leslie and Ed Colomb. Will crewed for me for several years and is now at the US Coast Guard Academy. He is on the yard arm of the USCG Eagle. About 140 feet above the deck on a two week "cruise"

He graduates from "boot camp" on Saturday. My boot camp did not feel like that much fun.

Peace, Tony Lamb, Editor

A Champagne Race to Remember.

This year's champagne race was one for the record books. At last count there were at least 75 people who joined us for the finish line festivities in Willsboro Bay. Including both power and sail there were 27 LCYC boats anchored in the bay after the race. The pursuit race started off as all the others have except for the larger number of boats. As yachts made it to Shelburne Point, they took off on a fast reach westward. The contestants spread out a little as they reached the strong southerly wind of the broad lake. Dick and Ginny Walters arrived at Willsboro Point in the lead only to find that the wind gods had forgotten to include Willsboro Bay in their plans.

Impetuous drifted in fickle winds with the finish line almost in sight for what seemed like an eternity before the other boats began rounding the point to find that the same fate awaited them. I arrived at Willsboro Point with the last few boats that started the race. Though we made 7 to 7.5 knots on the way across, we couldn't catch the majority of the boats. I was sure there would be no chance of catching the front runners, but there they were all within a ¼ mile of the point drifting in light air!



The lead traded hands a ½ dozen times as a zephyr of wind would push a few boats ahead while others would sit becalmed. Finally some gusty winds came over the mountain and the boats began to make headway. Southern Cross caught the majority of the bay's fluky winds and crossed the finish line first. Star Wagon was second and Antares, who did an amazing job of finding the light breezes, came in third. Dragon Fly, a Tanzer 22, came in fourth!





The rest of the race was very exciting too. The boats came across the finish line, set by the Rieley's on Friendship, in tight groups, often in very gusty conditions. The bay became rather crowded with boats trying to get their sails down and anchor set. After all the boats were settled, we went ashore to get ready for the cookout. The Schumaker's have been an indispensable part of the Champagne Race. They transported all our gear and food to Willsboro with their van, for which we are extremely grateful.



First Place was awarded a cement block, which was marked with the number "1." Todd and Beth on Southern Cross received the gag award with a smile but, for some reason, they refused to keep it on board until next year's race...



We ate and talked and gave out awards and had a wonderful time. Of course we had the race's signature "champagne toast" to the contestants after handing out the prizes. Thanks to all the people who helped get food, organize the race, transport materials and make this a day to remember.



Full Circle



My sisters and I camping in the 60's

As a child my family took me camping every weekend during the summer. My parents were never sailors, but they wanted an experience that was enjoyable for the entire family. I have many fond memories of camping at Minerva Lake in upstate New York. My father would often take me fishing for bass in our small canoe around the Adirondacks.

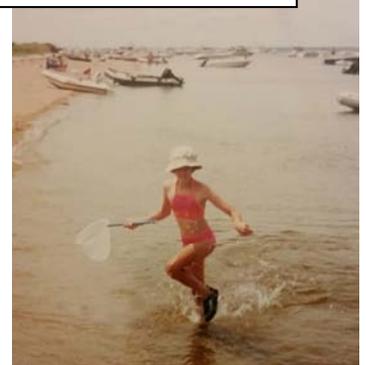
Our daughters in



As my own family grew, I saw sailing as an opportunity to spend time with my family in the same way. We spent countless weekends sailing and living on the lake. Our main goal was to have fun and to spend time together. One of my daughters really took a liking to fishing. She would spend her entire day searching for fish. One of our favorite destinations was Burton Island State Park. My daughter Kate loved

Burton Island because there were so many great places to go fishing, and they had ice cream at the store too! Kate always had a line in the water no matter where we were, but Burton Island was a magical destination that she remembers fondly.

Kate during Nantucket Cruise



Kate is grown now and has married and moved away to Boston. She recently began sailing in Boston Harbor with friends. She called this spring and asked if we were going to be sailing to Burton Island this summer. We told her that we would likely be going there during the first week of August for our northern lake cruise. Kate said that she and Jake, her husband, would like to take their vacation during that week, but that we had to go to Burton, and she had to be able to fish.

\$90 later we had enough supplies and licenses to do a little fishing and Kate and Jake drove over from Boston. Kate caught several large bass and her first pike during the week, but the best part for me was to see her favorite childhood memories relived on the lake and at Burton Island. Cruising during her childhood has left her with a deep appreciation for sailing and the lake. I couldn't have hoped for more during those long summers spent on the lake 20 years ago. Not surprisingly, Kate and Jake are talking about getting their own boat soon. The love of sailing passes to a new generation.



The LCYC north bound cruise began with two days at Valcour Island. The first day was highlighted with an enormous squirt gun fight involving several boat crews and their dinghies. A new generation of children was there to enjoy it. Both Mighty Quinn and Cool Change had a grandchild with them for the entire week. It was reminiscent of my summers long ago seeing the kids enjoying the water as we stopped at anchorages around the lake.

Valcour Hike



After a trip to the Valcour lighthouse we headed for Deep Bay. After picking up a mooring in Deep Bay we walked to Mooney Bay Marina just north of the state park. Everyone had an ice cream as we explored the Marina and its small store. While the rest of the group was hiking, my daughter Kate spent the day fishing with Chuck and Mary Finn's granddaughter, Inga. Kate managed to help her catch her first fish. I'm sure it was a special moment for her.



The next day the group split up after lunch in City Bay at Hero's Welcome and some boats went to a concert at Knight Point State Park while the other boats went to Butler Island to



Campfire at Burton

anchor. The following day we all met at Burton Island. It was a good thing that we had the moorings



while at Burton because there were some strong storms that blew through. We had wonderful cookouts and a lot of fun

roasting marshmallows over the fire at Burton while the kids played, fished and swam for 2 days.

Friendship took a group to Woods Island for a hike on the second day.



Moored at Burton

We reluctantly left Burton Island and motored/sailed all the way to Malletts Bay where we anchored at the state park in the north east corner of the inner bay. We had a fun evening with drinks and snacks aboard Baka Maru. The next day Mighty Quinn, Friendship and Purdy Suite sailed for home while most of the rest of the boats went to Quaker Smith where they enjoyed fireworks from Shelburne Farms on their last night out.



Anchored in Mallets Bay