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# Port Tacks

The Finger Lakes Yacht Club – Village Marina, Watkins Glen, New York

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## Corrections

If you notice any newsletter or web site errors, please do not hesitate to contact the editor at the e-mail address below. Your feedback is appreciated!

editor@FLYC.US

## And Time Marches On...

Eagle-eyed readers may notice that this issue marks the beginning of the 10<sup>th</sup> year of publishing *Port Tacks*, our club newsletter. Hard to believe we've been using this format for a decade already!

At the risk of being overly "cliché: Where does the time go?

I think what we *really* mean when we utilize this saying is, "Why does time go by so quickly when we are enjoying a nice sail on a warm, sunny afternoon and why does it crawl by so slowly when we are shoveling snow out of the driveway in blizzard conditions for the third time in two days?"

Like many aspects of life, there is likely a lesson in this experience for us. The trick is to identify it correctly. Using the temporal perceptions above, I would humbly

suggest that we are being provided an incentive to learn the art of *savoring*.

I propose to you that savoring is an art, a skill that takes years to master, sort of like sailing or golf.

Sailing. Now there's an idea! See you on the water!

*"How beautiful it is to do nothing and then rest afterwards."*

- Spanish Proverb

## Commodore's Comments

By Dawn Dowdle, S/V Irish Wake



Hello from your Commodore!

Yes, I am in one piece and hoping to get out sailing as soon as I can! I feel great! I have some issues with my right peripheral vision; meaning I have none at the moment, so don't get on my right during a race! I have a new haircut, SHORT and you'll be glad to know I am taking full advantage of having Wilbur wait on me! I am looking forward to the summer at the marina and can't wait to see you all.

I want to thank each and ever one of you for all your prayers, gifts, cards and thoughts, you are all amazing! Given this and the issue with the marina and the extension of the lease for the Schamel Brothers all began at the same time. No one can speak to the family we have at the marina and the FLYC better than I. The support, the closeness, the caring, the network we have, WOW! We have it all, from the management down!

We had a great showing at the meeting for the marina lease and even though Mr. Woodland tried to make his case with untruths, fast talk and claims that he could make more money for the county, we stood our ground. We have sent additional letters to the local paper hoping that we can publish these as did

Mr. Woodland, as full a page ad like he. We have to make sure we are heard, we have to make sure the legislators and everyone knows the truth. Given all that the Schamel Brothers have done for us, do we really want to lose them? I think not.

Remember what it was like? Remember when there wasn't a restaurant, a shower room, docks and fingers, or even a break wall? If you don't remember things before any of these, take note, these were all built and paid for by the Schamel Brothers, but they all belong to the county and the county reaps a payment for all of these, in the form of a lease payment and taxes. Count the sales tax revenue that you as boat owners bring in when you buy groceries, clothes, gas or pay for entertainment. I think we should have a say in who gets the lease, we bring a lot to this community and to this county even if it is only the summer, where would they be without us?

- Dawn

Upcoming Events & Dates

2014

**February – Meeting of the Board of Directors.** Once the new Board is organized, a meeting will be scheduled to set the calendar and plan events for the 2014 season. This usually occurs in February. The meeting is open to all members, so watch your e-mail for announcements!

**FLYC Event Calendar** – The entire (and most current) event calendar is always available on the club web site. Check it out at:

<http://www.flyc.us/>

**LATE BREAKING NEWS**

**Membership Renewals  
– Due May 1<sup>st</sup>**

It won't be long and it will be time to renew your membership for the 2014 boating season. The good news is that, thanks to the wonderful effort of all our volunteers, there are no plans for a dues increase! It's never too early to renew, so fill out the membership form on the last page of this newsletter and mail it in today.

**From the Vice Commodore**

by Barry Lewis, S/V Kestrel

This has been a long, cold winter, and I'm sure you are all as ready for the sun and warmth of summer as me. It won't be long now and we will all be scrambling to get work done on our boats, searching for that gear we stored last fall, and convincing our significant others that we "absolutely need" that new ~~toy bauble gizmo~~ accessory for the boat before it's time to put it in the water. It is very exciting to see the planning for the 2014 season get underway. We have a terrific calendar of social and race events this year, a few mooring balls in the plans, and the possibility of some shared events with other sailing clubs and the Seneca Sail & Power Squadron.



We are all busy these days and have unending lists of things that need doing, friends to visit, work - I have even heard it said that a few of us have other interests besides sailing..., I don't believe it myself, but I guess it's possible. Be sure to take a few minutes and look over the calendar of events later in this newsletter. Add the events that interest you to your calendars now so you'll have them handy as your summer schedule fills up. This is going to be a GREAT season and I look forward to seeing you all very soon.

- Barry

**From the Rear Commodore**

by Jim McGinnis, S/V Brewster

After much planning and discussion, the 2014 race calendar is beginning to take shape. There are still a few loose ends to tie down, but they should be resolving themselves in the coming weeks before we get our boats back into the water.

The traditional summer race series will live on, but is getting trimmed back from 10 to eight races this year to free up a couple of weekends for other events.

Our relationship with the Seneca Yacht Club in Geneva will continue as we discuss the possibility of up to three joint races in the coming season: One in Watkins Glen, one in Geneva (the Barge Race), and one that's halfway between (e.g., Lodi).

New this year will be some Wednesday evening "class" races where the fleet will be limited to specific boats. If there is interest, we will also give some night racing/sailing a try to coincide with the full moon (Werewolf Series?).

Stay tuned for details. See you soon!



- Jim

**From the Secretary**

by Marcia Taylor, S/V Windfall III

The 2014 sailing season is on the horizon and we have an exciting lineup of races and social events scheduled for the FLYC. Your application and \$40 check are due by May 1<sup>st</sup>, but please don't delay. I'm looking forward to your membership applications coming in so you won't miss out on any of our events!



- Marcia

## From the Treasurer

All invoices have been paid and the club has slightly over \$2,000 in its checking account.

In other words, we are solvent as the new club year begins.

by Dennis Kingsley, S/V Tark

- Dennis



## Socially Speaking

It is officially less than 60 days until boats are launched and a new season of sailing and celebration will be upon us. Our social calendar is now available. It is full so be sure to mark your calendars early. The continuations of many popular annual events such as the "Homemade Soup/Chili Cook-Off" are not to be missed. Neither are the additions of some new events such as the "Old Salt's Sea-Fest Dinner".

The season kicks off on May 17<sup>th</sup> with the **Pizza Tailgate Party and Nautical Flea Market and Swap Shop**. Start preparing now by sorting and piling up all those unneeded, unwanted treasures to sell or trade. It might even make these last few days of winter pass more quickly.

Any time during the sailing season should you have ideas or news to share you can find me at our "Coffee Klatch" each Saturday morning at 8:00 a.m. Volunteers are always welcome to make these events the best that they can be. To help out, you may contact me by email at [social@flyc.us](mailto:social@flyc.us) or by phone at 607-368- 3367.

Looking forward to enjoying the season with you!

by Rebecca Lewis, S/V Kestrel

- Rebecca



### About FLYC Racing

All times indicate the beginning of the skippers' meeting prior to the race. This meeting is mandatory for anyone wishing to compete. Each boat must have at least one representative at this meeting.

### Early Bird Race

Also known as the "Rig Tuner's Regatta," this race is held in the pre-season to allow skippers to blow the cobwebs out of their boats and crew and tune up for the coming season.

### FLYC Summer Series

This is a series of eight races held on weekends in June through September and is used to determine the club champion each year. Scoring is done per USSA PHRF handicapping with some slight modifications to allow for "golf-style" adjustments to keep things competitive.

### FLYC Commodore's Cup

The club's signature event held in late July or early August. It consists of a one-way race of approximately 14 nautical miles from Watkins Glen to Lodi State Marine Park. A beach party usually follows.

### Grape Harvest Race

A way to enjoy the fall foliage and get one last race in before the long winter.

### Entry Fees

There are no race entry fees for FLYC members.

### Handicapping & Scoring

Handicaps are assigned using the PHRF system with some local adjustments. Scoring is done using the time-on-distance calculations.

### Additional Information

For additional information on the FLYC racing program and for the most current schedule and scoring results, please refer to the club web site and click on the "Racing" link.

### Other FLYC Fleet Events

Not into racing? Join the FLYC fleet for some cruises to various points on the lake! Contact either the Cruise Director, Vice-Commodore, or the club web site for additional details.

## Cruising Committee 2014

by Mike Crouse, S/V Seek Ye 1<sup>st</sup>

The big news is that the mooring balls are a go, and we have it in writing! Landowner permission is all that is needed now.

Private ownership of the mooring tackle is a must. Private property notification on the floating buoy will eliminate liability. Yearly fee is \$25.00 for a PRIVATE mooring setup.

Cost to install will likely be around \$500, give or take, depending on things like depth, distance up the lake, size of the chain, et cetera. Wilbur and I will finalize prices within the next month. If we buy in bulk we can save along with Wilbur getting materials at his discount.

We are working on contacting landowners for revocable permission. We have identified several locations with no direct cottages or docks on shore that also have proper depth.

It would be good to know how many FLYC members (and other marina tenants) would be interested. I already have a list started, but sending me an e-mail will help! ([crouse@flyc.us](mailto:crouse@flyc.us))

The committee is also looking for a volunteer to write up an agreement we could sign with a landowner?

Training for use of the setups will help everyone.

Volunteers, come spring, will be needed! Andy has volunteered to ride the float raft with the mooring weights. She may need help pushing them off into the lake. Insurance will be required for volunteers.

My guess is that we will have between 6 and 12 buoys this year and I'm sure we will all share for those that aren't quite sure whether this is for them.

Spring is coming! Over and out!

- Mike



## New Handicapping Rules for Racers

by Tom Alley, SV Tomfoolery

Those of you who subscribe to the e-mail newsletters from the Haarstick loft in Rochester may recall receiving the following e-mail in mid-October:

*FROM PHRF Lake Ontario WEBSITE:*

*"In 2006, PHRF-LO lowered the maximum spinnaker size (without penalty) to 180% from 183%. In order to ensure that boats were not penalized due to this change, it was agreed that all spinnakers built before 2006, would be grandfathered for the life of the sail.*

*During a project to correct and improve the way we calculate our spinnaker sizes and apply penalties, it was realized that applying the grandfathering for spinnakers would not be possible."*

The good news is that this will have virtually no effect on the FLYC race fleet due to the limited size of the spinnaker fleet. However, this is a change over which there will certainly be much "discussion" among the larger race fleets on Lake Ontario where they tend to get wound up over things like this.

Also a reminder to those who do fly spinnakers of the new "Rule 55" that makes it illegal to use yarn or rubber bands to control your sail deployment. This rule is designed to eliminate

the discharge of debris into the water that could be harmful to marine life that may mistake the rubber bands or yarn as something edible. UK Sailmakers has an interesting product to take the place of rubber bands. A link to UK's video is in the latest Haarstick newsletter.

- Tom



## FLYC 2014 Proposed Event Calendar

by FLYC Board of Directors

### FLYC Events & Activities Calendar for 2014

*Coffee Klatch every Saturday morning at 8:00 a.m.*

**April 15th - Boats go in the water!**

#### May

Saturday, May 17<sup>th</sup> –

- **Pizza Tailgate Party** at 1:00p.m.
- **Nautical Flea Market and Swap Shop**

Saturday, May 24<sup>th</sup> – **Memorial Day Weekend Picnic** – Bring a dish to pass 6:00 p.m. Social Time, 6:30 p.m. Dinner

Friday, May 30<sup>th</sup> – **Christening of Boats & Summer Birthday Celebration.** Cake provided - 7:00 p.m.

#### June

Friday, June 13<sup>th</sup> – **Waterfront Festival and Lighting of the fleet.**

Prizes to be awarded for best decoration and most original.

Saturday, June 14<sup>th</sup> – **Cardboard Boat Regatta** at 12:00 p.m.

Sunday, June 15<sup>th</sup> – **Father's Day Brunch** at 11a.m.

Saturday, June 28<sup>th</sup> – **FLYC to host post race Social with Seneca Sail - TBD**

#### July

Friday, July 4<sup>th</sup> – **ALL AMERICAN PICNIC – Burgers, Hot dogs, and Rolls Supplied**

**Bring a dish to pass** –Social time 6:30; Dinner 7:00

Saturday, July 5<sup>th</sup> – **Tentative - Boat Picture Day**

Saturday, July 26<sup>th</sup> – **Commodore's Cup Race - TBD by Commodore**

#### August

Saturday, August 2<sup>nd</sup> – **Watkins Glen Italian Festival – Aug 1, 2, 3**

**AUGUST 7<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> - NASCAR RACES WATKINS GLEN RACEWAY**

Saturday, August 16<sup>th</sup> – **Old Salt's Sea-Fest Dinner** – Crab Boil Dinner Bring a dish to pass - 6:00 p.m. Social Time; 6:30 Dinner

Saturday, August 30<sup>th</sup> – **Farewell to Summer - Labor Day Weekend** – Bring a dish to pass – 6:00p.m. Social Time: 6:30 Dinner

#### September

Friday, September 5<sup>th</sup> – **Watkins Glen Vintage Race weekend**

Saturday, September 6<sup>th</sup> – **Homemade Soup/Chili Cook-off and Chocolate Dessert Contest** – Start time 5:00 p.m.

Saturday, September 20<sup>th</sup> – **Progressive Dinner TBD**

#### October

Saturday, October 4<sup>th</sup> – **Grape Harvest Race and Social** - Grape themed menu

#### November

Saturday, November 1<sup>st</sup>, **Annual Meeting and Banquet**

### FLYC Race Calendar for 2014

*After each Saturday race there will be a post-race social mixer at 17:00. Scores will be announced at these gatherings. BYOB/snack.*

#### May

Sa-31<sup>st</sup> 14:00 Early Bird/Rig Tuning Race  
Handicaps published

#### June

Sa-7<sup>th</sup> 14:00 Summer Series Race #1

Sa-14<sup>th</sup> Waterfront Festival & Cardboard Boat Race

Sa-21<sup>st</sup> 14:00 Summer Series Race #2

We-25<sup>th</sup> 19:00 Wednesday Night Class Race, 25-30 footers

Sa-28<sup>th</sup> 14:00 Tentative – Seneca Yacht Club Invitational at Watkins Glen

#### July

Sa-12<sup>th</sup> 14:00 Summer Series Race #3

Sa-19<sup>th</sup> 14:00 Summer Series Race #4

Su-20<sup>th</sup> 14:00 Beginning Skippers' Race

Sa-26<sup>th</sup> 10:00 Commodore's Cup Race to Lodi  
Mid-Summer race with Seneca Yacht Club at Lodi

We-30<sup>th</sup> 19:00 Wednesday Night Class Race, 30 ft & up

#### August

Sa-2<sup>nd</sup> Watkins Glen Italian Festival

Sa-9<sup>th</sup> 14:00 Summer Series Race #5

We-20<sup>th</sup> 19:00 Wednesday Night Class Race, 20 ft and under

Sa-23<sup>rd</sup> 14:00 Summer Series Race #6

#### September

We-3<sup>rd</sup> 19:00 Wednesday Night Class Race, 25-30 ft

Sa-6<sup>th</sup> 14:00 Summer Series Race #7

Sa-13<sup>th</sup> 10:00 Seneca Yacht Club Barge Race in Geneva, NY

Sa-20<sup>th</sup> 14:00 Summer Series Race #8

#### October

Sa-4<sup>th</sup> 11:00 Grape Harvest Race

*Summer Series standings will be determined by the best 6 of 8 race scores for each competitor.*

*All other races are scored as stand-alone events.*

# Finger Lakes Yacht Club

## Membership Application

Membership renewals are due by May 1<sup>st</sup> each year. Send this completed application with your \$40 check to:

Finger Lakes Yacht Club, Inc.  
c/o Marcia Taylor, Secretary  
32 Robie St.  
Bath, NY 14810

Are you also a member of the U.S. Power Squadron? If so, please check this box.

Application:  New member  Renewal

**Important:** Please be sure to include the names of all of your "dependent" family members. This will ensure that membership privileges are awarded properly.

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate which areas interest you:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Racing            | <input type="checkbox"/> Web site        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cruising          | <input type="checkbox"/> Sailing classes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Social activities | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter        | _____                                    |

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: Home: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Work (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
Cell: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Boat Name \_\_\_\_\_ Type:  Sail  Power

Make/Model \_\_\_\_\_ Length \_\_\_\_\_

Boat Year \_\_\_\_\_ Location/Slip# \_\_\_\_\_

By this application, I/we promise to uphold the By-laws of the Finger Lakes Yacht Club, Inc. and to comply with its rules and regulations.

Signature(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_