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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

Reminders

In case you haven't gotten the memo, it's **way** past the time to renew your membership! Per the club bylaws, membership renewals are due on May 1st. If you haven't done so already, fill out the form at the end of this newsletter, enclose a check for \$40, and mail them to the club Secretary, Marcia Taylor. (Her address is on the membership form.)

Second, we're already past the Summer Solstice, meaning that the days are already getting shorter as the season speeds towards Fall. The good news is that the best sailing is the sailing that you haven't done, yet. Get out there and sail!

All one really needs in life is good company, an avocado tree, a mango tree, a vine of fresh tomatoes, and a box of books atop a crate of wine. And a boat. One always needs a boat.



Commodore's Comments

By Dawn Dowdle, S/V Irish Wake



All right, this is my second article for the FLYC as Commodore. I want to remind everyone that without his or her participation, nothing gets done. This means from your article for the FLYC Newsletter to the events we as a group have tried to design for you. This means we all have to read our newsletter, ask questions and share answers. Remember to talk with the FLYC Board and Directors. We have all had a very hard and long winter, and

are SO looking forward to the boating season, so lets make this the best season for everyone!

We need to follow up on the things we talked about, like paying our membership fee by May 1st to Marcia, like putting together articles for the newsletter, like letting everyone know about everything, like making plans for the Saturday morning coffee klatch, our dish to pass for the Memorial Day Weekend Picnic and what will we do regarding the "Christening of the Boats"? We need to make sure that everyone in the marina is invited to join our club. We need to know if our neighbors need our help, or if they just need to hear a "Hello." Hey, it's almost summer, we need to be ready for it. We need to make sure our boats are in good shape from paint to lines, from engine to the head. We need to look at everything, make everything ready, so we can enjoy the summer. So take a look at your list, make sure you have addressed every line, then get started with a great 2014 season.

Just as important is the health and welfare of the marina. I

mean the docks, the slips, everything. For that reason I have contacted Guy Schamel for an update and I will post his response here, so that everyone has the right information.

Thanks to everyone for all your help.

Remember, my companionway is always open; do drop in at slip 212, *The Irish Wake*.

See you all soon!

Your Commodore,
- Dawn

Hi Dawn,

The contract was signed officially this last week. What a relief it is to have this behind us. The dock reconstruct will begin with Pier I in the next couple of weeks. To not disrupt the season for our members we will plan to move to each pier in the off-season until each pier is replaced. Per our contract all docks must be completed by September 2017, although we expect to have them completed prior to that date. We will also be taking over maintenance of the park, including the cleaning of the public restroom. Hopefully with weather permitting we can begin to put in boats soon. Looking forward to a good summer.

We are very appreciative of all the support and thank you and all for all you did to help us.

Thanks,
Guy

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

There has been so much fun and excitement seeing everyone around the Marina. I can hardly believe that we are already 5 weeks into the season. As the saying goes, time sure flies when you're having fun.

To date we have had our pizza tailgate party and nautical flea market, the Memorial Day picnic, the celebration of the birthdays, the lighting of the boats, and our first ever Father's Day brunch. Each event had wonderful attendance and the food was fantastic; plus we've even had some prizewinners.

Our first winner of the season was Kathy Walker, who was the recipient of a canvas bag from Finger Lakes Canvas at the Memorial Day picnic. Our second event took place during the "Lighting of the Boats" on Friday, June 13th. 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place awards were given for best lighting decoration.

1st Place - Ted and Jan who won a large canvas bag from Finger Lakes Canvas.

2nd Place - James Sherrick who won a Candy Sundae cup from Sandy Follette.

3rd Place - Cliff and Nancy who won a \$25 Gift Certificate from Classic Adventures.

Congratulations to each of you!

Although many events have already taken place, there are certainly many more events to participate in. To stay up to date the FLYC has several locations where you can check on events. Please use the following links.

Website www.FLYC.us

Facebook www.facebook.com/fingerlakesyachtclub

Twitter @FLYachtClub

If you do not use these social media outlets; please check the bulletin board at the Marina Bar and Grill for notices and sign-up sheets, or stop by and see me at slip #339.

Happy sailing to you! Rebecca

- 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.

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.

Spring Commissioning and Boatyard Etiquette

by Rick Lenard, RCR Yachts

Finally, it's above freezing and we're all eager to get to work on our boats. With the mad rush to get it done and launched we tend to forget some simple safety reminders while working on our boats. When you arrive at your local boat yard to start the spring work remember you're not the only one there! Others are busy working so please don't come flying full speed through the yard. Your fellow boaters have their kids, dogs and spring supplies nearby. They also might be working on a project where your dust will invade the nice finish they've been dreaming about all winter! Slow and steady will make everyone around you happier.

The number one accident is ladders! You've got thousands invested in your boat, why have an old nailed together wooden ladder with rungs missing? Spend a few extra bucks and invest in a good quality aluminum or fiberglass ladder. The ladders of today are so well made and affordable. There is even one that collapses into itself and is light enough to toss in the trunk of a compact car. We've seen people use two different size A-frame type ladders with planks across for scaffolding. There's nothing worse than having the bottom fall out from you when you're 6-10' above the ground! Harbor Freight sells a 5 piece scaffold for under \$200. It's fully adjustable and will disassemble to fit in most trunks too. When you have your ladder up against the boat, please tie it off! It's a long way down! And speaking of ladders, bring your own! We've had instances of people up on their boats working inside and when they go to leave, someone "borrowed" their ladder! Bottom line; be careful while using ladders in the yard.

Sanding: "I love the sound of sanders in the morning, sounds like boating season"! Seriously, it's the messiest job (except for replacing the head) of ownership. Please be considerate of oth-

ers, the guy downwind of you is varnishing his toe rails and your bottom dust is coating his work! Save the sanding for an early morning when the wind is calmer or when there are less folks around to get covered with your dust. Some yards will only let you sand or grind if you seal the boat and collect your dust! Oh, and the music you love while sanding doesn't need to be loud enough to be heard in the next county! Try using ear buds! Coveralls, mask and goggles should be a no brainer too.

Extension cords and hoses: Bring enough to get to your boat. These new shrink hoses that curl back up to a small bundle are great! Getting 2 of those and you can cover 100' and they shrink back to nothing. I bring a hose splitter to the yard so if someone else is using the hose, I can split it off so we can both use it. When you're done, one can go to the dock and the other home for the garden. Same is true with extension cords. Bring enough to go some distance. I bring a multi splitter for that as well, so everyone can get the power. No sense getting into a fight with a fellow boater over who gets to plug in first.

Lastly, we ask that you clean up after yourself! If you brought it to the yard, take it with you or dispose of it in the trash cans provided or in the dumpster nearby. Police your area before you leave, pick up loose pieces of tape, rope, tarps, brushes, rollers, beer cans and other debris. WE as boaters should be more conscious of the environment and do our part to keep it clean. If you see someone not being courteous, kindly let them know or let the yard management know. All these comments make sense don't they, but every year we need to be reminded. Happy spring, see you on the water!

- Rick

Why Do We Need Hot Water on a Sailboat?

by Jim Morris, S/V Sails Call

Boat launch day, no matter what the weather, is a great day! This year the weather was cool and accommodating. The lake was full of nasty debris so the boat only motored from the haul out slip to dock 3. And there it sat for another two weeks while we took care of all the other things in life that took us away from the marina.

Sue and I finally had a day to get things ship shape. Clean the top side and wax the hull-check. Organize the interior space-check. Load fresh water aboard-check. Flush the lines with fresh water-oh boy we have a problem Houston.

We turned on the pump and the clatter sounded just like normal for the first 10 seconds, but the pressure switch did not make and the pump just kept on pumping. Faucets are off! Not good. I jump into the quarter berth, pull open a cover and look for leaks by the pump-no leaks. Move to the next space and see a large amount of antifreeze and water swirling around. Quick turn off the pump!

Our water heater is a cylindrical tank laying horizontal and wrapped in solid foam insulation. Like most boats, there are a lot of tubes and lines in the space with very little room for a flash light let alone my big head. After getting a good flash-light and contorting myself into the space, there is a steady drip coming from the bottom side of the water heater. Not good at all.

Visions of coughing up another "boat unit" to replace the tank are swirling in my mind. But maybe just maybe we can fix it.

So now we go about draining the 20 gallons or so of fresh water recently put in the tank and break out the tool box. All things considered the tank is easy to remove from the space and top side we go to take a good look. I am searching the seams looking for a split weld, when our good boat neighbor says to look at the O-ring at the heater element. The O-ring has been extruded from under the heater element flange and is obviously broken. Leak source found!

I am thinking this might just turn out to be a very simple repair. I tell my first mate not to worry, we just need a \$1 dollar O-ring and we will be back in business. Out come the big Channellock

pliers to unscrew the heater element. We turn the bronze fitting about 1 turn and it feels like it hit a wall. Odd? Try again and no luck. Well it has to come out we say and give it hard tug. SNAP and out comes the heater element (most of it). The bronze threads don't like the stainless nipple threads and of course the bronze loses that fight. The stainless threads are galled. Thoughts of getting by with a \$1 dollar repair revert back to the original "boat unit".

Well our boat is from Europe and you would think the fittings might be metric and you would be correct except for the water heater element. For you techies, the element is made in Italy, the tank made in Europe, and private labeled by Volvo Penta (who told me I needed a completely new tank). Believe it or not, I found a source in the USA that had the replacement element for a reasonable price. We order the element and with great anticipation I assemble the element and carefully screw it into the stainless. Of course, it starts to cross thread.

OK so we need a tap to clean up the threads. It turns out the element has a male 1 1/4" British Pipe Thread Parallel (Whitworth). The search is on for a tap. My shop and several other partner shops do not have this large of a tap. Phone search=strikeout. I can tell you there is not a tap of this size in any hardware store in the Finger Lakes. My research on line leads to a surprise. This is one expensive tap! Last resort is Ebay and I find a brand new tap for a smaller fortune and buy it. Buyer agrees to two day shipment which gets the tap to the office in time for a Saturday repair. But of course it doesn't show until Monday. I am thinking hot water is really not that important as other boats head out into the lake.

Well to end this story, the tap fixed the threads. The heater element screwed into the old tank and sealed nicely. Replacing the tank went OK and we have lots of hot water. Total investment was a couple of hours of sweaty work and a fraction of a boat unit.

What I learned-that water heater is going to be bypassed and bone dry in October.

- Jim



Cake for EVERYONE!

Starting off the sailing season with a Birthday celebration.





Lighting of the Boats



2014
Harbor Lights
and
FLYC
Lighting of
the boats





Finger Lakes Yacht Club

Memorial Day weekend celebration





1st FLYC Father's Day Brunch





Cherry-Berry Sangria

Simple Syrup -

- 1/2 cup cherries pitted
- 1 cup water
- 1 cup sugar

1. Combine the cherries, water, and the sugar in a small saucepan over high heat and bring to a full rolling boil. Reduce the heat to medium and continue cooking until the sugar has dissolved, the cherries are soft and the liquid has a nice red syrupy hue. About 10 minutes.
2. Remove from heat and allow to cool completely. Strain out cherries from syrup and reserve cherries for another use later.

For the Sangria -

- 2 cups cherries, pitted and sliced
- 1 cup strawberries, hulled and quartered or chopped
- 1 cup of blueberries
- 3-4 tablespoons cherry simple syrup
- 6 oz pineapple juice
- 2 oz berry vodka
- 1 -750 ml bottle of merlot
- Club soda

1. In a pitcher, combine the cherries, strawberries and the blueberries.
2. To the fruit add the 3-4 Tablespoons of cherry simple syrup, the pineapple juice, berry vodka, and merlot.
3. Mix thoroughly to combine.
4. Cover and chill in the refrigerator for at least 2 hours.
5. Serve sangria over ice with a splash of club soda.

Note: There will be extra simple syrup left over. Store in a jar in your refrigerator for later use.

FLYC 2014 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 17th –

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

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

Friday, May 30th - **Christening of Boats & Summer Birth-
day Celebration.** Cake provided - 7:00 p.m.

June

Friday, June 13th - **Waterfront Festival and Lighting of the
fleet.** Prizes to be awarded for best decoration and most origi-
nal.

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

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

July

Friday, July 4th – **ALL AMERICAN PICNIC – Burgers,
Hot dogs, and Rolls Supplied. Bring a dish to pass** –Social
time 6:30; Dinner 7:00

Saturday, July 6th – **Boat Picture Day.** Noon.

Saturday, July 26th – **Commodore's Cup Race - TBD by
Commodore**

August

August 1st-3rd – **Watkins Glen Italian Festival.**

August 7th-10th - **NASCAR at the Glen.**

Saturday, August 16th – **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 30th – **Farewell to Summer - Labor Day
Weekend** – Bring a dish to pass – 6:00p.m. Social Time: 6:30
Dinner

September

Friday, September 5th – **Watkins Glen Vintage Race week-
end**

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

Saturday, September 20th – **Progressive Dinner TBD**

October

Saturday, October 4th - **Grape Harvest Race and Social** -
Grape themed menu

November

Saturday, November 1st, **Annual Meeting and Banquet**

FLYC Race Calendar for 2014

*Times listed are for the pre-race Skippers' Meeting. Each
competing boat must send a representative to this meeting to
register for the race and receive race instructions. 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-31st 13:00 Early Bird/Rig Tuning Race.
Handicaps published.

June

Sa-7th 13:00 Summer Series Race #1

Sa-21st 13:00 Summer Series Race #2

Sa-28th 13:00 Tentative – Seneca Yacht Club Invitational at
Watkins Glen

July

Sa-12th 13:00 Summer Series Race #3

Sa-19th 13:00 Summer Series Race #4

Su-20th 13:00 Beginning Skippers' Race

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

August

Sa-2nd Watkins Glen Italian Festival

Sa-9th 13:00 Summer Series Race #5

Sa-23rd 13:00 Summer Series Race #6

September

Sa-6th 13:00 Summer Series Race #7

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

Sa-20th 13:00 Summer Series Race #8

October

Sa-4th 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 1st 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:

- Racing
- Cruising
- Social activities
- Newsletter
- Web site
- Sailing classes
- Other _____

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 _____