Tebruary 2016 Volume 12, Issue 1 Tooks

The Finger Lakes Yacht Club, Village Marina, Watkins Glen, NY

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Commodore's Comments

by Barry Lewis
The 2016 season has officially begun!

SV Kestrel

The officers and directors met for our annual planning session and a new calendar of events is included in this newsletter and has also been posted to the website. There will be some changes to the racing program this year as Steve Howard, our Vice Commodore, takes over as the Race Committee Chairman. The Race Committee is normally chaired by the Rear Commodore, but we do not have anyone to fill that position this year.



Part of the annual planning process is to review what works from year to year and to determine what we want to continue and what we should drop. We have added some new ideas in the racing area, we have kept many of our social events that have been so well liked, and we have ideas on possible changes for the Commodore's Cup to make it even more fun.

Another part of this process is to review our accounts to be sure we are operating in a way that will keep the club financially viable and will be able to meet obligations to our members. In 2015, we had some expenses that haven't been part of our normal annual plan: We performed some much-needed maintenance on the storage shed/trailer, we replaced a race mark's anchors and rode, and we had the live music at the annual dinner meeting. With these expenses, on top of our normal operating costs, we spent more than we collected in dues and fees during the 2015 season.

Our account balance is fine, we aren't out of money, but we have made some changes to reduce the chances we will continue to reduce our balance year-to-year. In an effort to keep from raising the membership dues, we decided to discontinue the live music at the annual dinner meeting. I enjoyed the music, as I am sure some of you did as well, but we didn't feel it was something we wanted to consider raising the membership dues to fund. We also approved reinstating fees for racing in the FLYC racing events. The Vice Commodore and the Race Committee will be establishing fees for racing that will be collected and maintained to fund race-related costs..., expenses like replacing race marks, anchors, or rode.

As I mentioned already, we do not have a Rear Commodore this year. We also don't have a cruising committee and we have a number of people wearing more than one hat. We need to hear from those of you interested in being involved in directing the club. Many of you have held positions in the past and it is much appreciated. We welcome you to participate again if you are interested. We are also always looking for new people to help move us forward, either as officers (day-to-day operations) or as directors (strategic). As a club we should try to assure we don't leave the responsibilities to the same people too long and let them get burnt out. We want to keep our activities and ideas fresh. We need to keep people involved and having fun. If you are interested in a possible position for next season, learning more about a particular position, or are just interested in helping out, please contact me for more information.

-Barry

Vice Commodore's Comments

by Steve Howard

SV Horseplay



Despite what the thermometer may say, winter is winding down. February 4th is "Hump Day" and we are now on the downward slide of the snowdrift (if any drifts have yet developed, they haven't here, as I write this).

We are now in Full-On Boat Show Season. Rochester is done, Atlantic City finishes up February 7th. The New England show in Boston starts February

13th, Syracuse the 18th and Buffalo the 24th. Can Spring boat chores be far behind?

As you may have heard or read, the winter meeting of the FLYC Board took place on the 31st of January at the Harbor Hotel in Watkins Glen. Topics of discussion included social activities for the upcoming year, tentative racing schedules, potential methods of increasing our membership and participation, and for that matter, just introducing more friends, family members, co-workers and/or the general public to the wonderful activities that we enjoy on (and around) our boats. <u>Any</u> suggestions that you might have for any of these areas can be sent on to any of the board members. The quality of the club and its activities is totally dependent on the input of the members.

I have a more significant article in the Rear Commodore section of this issue of *Port Tacks*.

See you at the marina soon.

- Steve, Horseplay, Slip 221

Port Tacks

Published six times a year by the Finger Lakes Yacht Club. The opinions expressed in **Port Tacks** are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent those of the Finger Lakes Yacht Club, its officers, directors, or members.

Club Web Site http://www.flyc.us

OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

Commodore

Barry Lewis <u>commodore@flyc.us</u>

Vice-Commodore

Steve Howard vc@flyc.us

Rear Commodore

Position vacant. <u>rc@flyc.us</u>

V/C Steve Howard filling in.

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Race Committee Chair

Steve Howard <u>racechair@flyc.us</u>

Social Committee Chair

Rebecca Lewis <u>social@flyc.us</u>

Webmaster

Tom Alley webmaster@flyc.us

Rear Commodore's Comments

by Steve Howard

SV Horseplay



I've just returned from the meeting of the FLYC Board of Directors where the proposed schedules for the Club's Social and Racing calendars for 2016 were presented. I'm going to let Rebecca handle the Social calendar while I deal with the Racing schedule.

We've put together a schedule of eight races, counting towards a yearend Club Champion. Besides these

eight, there are two individually scored races (the Commodore's Cup and the Grape Harvest Race).

The season will start in early June with the Rust Removal Race (not for score), then possibly a "Summer Sailstice" Race (not for score) on the Sunday of the Waterfront Festival Weekend where, in the *Spirit* (thanks for the use of your vessel's name, Andrea) of "Summer Sailstice" you are asked to bring along folks who've never sailed (or at least have never raced) and let them learn why we spend our time and resources on this endeavor we so love.

A New Skippers' Race is scheduled between Race #3 and the Commodore's Cup. Perhaps a new skipper or two (maybe even one who came along on "Summer Sailstice" will join in for the Commodore's Cup race to Smith Park.

In mid-August I'd like to have a Small Boat Race (25' and under, not for score). Whether it's a boat like our O'Day 23, or Tim's Hobie trimaran, a Lightning or a Laser, perhaps some of the bigger boat skippers will try and re-learn how to use a hiking strap and a tiller. It might be humorous.

Also starting during August we'll try out some different race course designs. We don't have any islands we can readily circumnavigate, but we can merge the Windward-Leeward style and our regular Triangular courses. Brush up on your Racing Rules regarding two vessels meeting head-on. These races will be part of the overall series and are for score.

The Summer Series closes out at the end of September, leaving only the Grape Harvest Race on October 1st and the Gear Buster Race on the 15th during those blustery winds so prevalent during the closing weeks of the season. (Also, this could get you into preparing your shopping list of replacement parts for next season.)

On a couple of side notes:

I am advising all Skippers in the Grape Harvest Race of an entry fee of "One (1) bottle of Wine (of your choosing)" that will be shared among all participants of the Festival in a Wine Tasting (after the completion of the Race). While not advocating the consumption of such beverages while operating a vessel, some sampling might be understood on this particular occasion.

And, finally..., after discussion with, and with the support of, the Board of Directors there will be a participation fee for any

vessel taking part in the racing season. It is understood that some Skippers only race in the "special" races, such as the Commodore's Cup and the Grape Harvest Race, while others will race at any and every opportunity. The Board has put completely up to me how to institute this. Whether it will be a "per race" fee to be paid at sign-in on race day, or a "Season Pass" has not yet been decided. We did agree that the fee for non-members of the Club should and will be higher than for FLYC members.

I was told that a few years ago there had been a fee of \$2 per race for members and \$5 for non-members. My current thinking is around \$15-20 per season for members and \$20-25 for non-members. Some folks might ask why we need this. There are several reasons, but two jump to the front of the list. Last year one of the race markers got cut off by a prop and the anchor, shackles, chain and rode were lost in 250' of water and needed to be replaced. This cost the Club \$123. We were fortunate that the marker itself was not lost or damaged beyond repair. The basic marker without decal or light costs \$366 at retail. Equipment, as we all know, doesn't last forever and there is no "Rainy Day, or Replacement, Fund" for racing, and there should be. Secondly, the racers are the ones racing for the awards. The racers should pay for the trophies, not the general membership.

The fees under consideration are nominal. Just compare them to Buffalo Harbor Sailing Club's \$175 (for one boat and one regular membership for mid-week racing only). \$275 if paid after March 1st. Plus, they have a campaign going to develop a Long-Term Capital Fund.

I am open to, and fully request, your suggestions regarding this.

On a more fun note, I've been asked about racers helping out other racers with tips on trim, tuning, tactics, etc. being given at our sign-in meetings on race days. With this idea in mind, but as an exercise to be done at this time, I ask you to send me your "Pearls before Swine" in as few words as possible to get your racing advice out to us all. See if you can do it in just 6 words like the following examples:

When in doubt, ease it out.

Tack on Headers. Gybe on Lifts.

Race as often as you can.

Try and sail a shorter course.

Win the start. Extend your lead.

Relax, it's just a sailboat race.

Wear shades. Retire early. Drink ______. (Fill in the blank with a refreshment of your choice).

Send them to me at rc@flyc.us

I will print any that I receive in future issues of *Port Tacks*.

For other opportunities to learn more about racing, sail trim, tactics, etc. at this time of year, see the list of seminars being put on variously by Obersheimer Sailor Supply, RCR Yachts and North Sails (in concert with Buffalo Harbor Sailing Club) in the Boat Show Calendar section of this issue of *Port Tacks*.

Hump Day takes place this week. The slide to Spring has now commenced. I know I cannot wait. See you at the marina.

-Steve, Slip 221

SV Sails Call

Secretary's Column

by Sue Morris



Happy Valentine's Day to all!

I hope everyone has enjoyed their mild winter! Approximately 90 days until launch time I was told. Looking forward to spring. Please remember to sign up and register for a great upcoming FLYC 2016 season!

Please send all information to:

Sue Morris 100 Mead Rd PO Box 14 Pine Valley, NY 14872.

Thanks to all and see you soon!

-Sue

From the Treasurer



by Denis Kingsley

Like a bear (not bear market) in winter, the checking account is hibernating. No activity since Fall. With all bills paid the club is solvent.

- Denis, still cooking the books.

SV Tark

Socially Speaking

by Rebecca Lewis



A sunny hello to you! At the time of this writing the sun is shining, the sky is blue, not a flake of snow is on the ground and there are actually iris leaves poking from the ground! I trust that you, too, have had a mild winter season so far.

Barry and I have been over to the marina to visit the boats a couple of times. Everything looks well and the

progress on the docks is coming along nicely.

I am excited to share this last Sunday all yacht club events were presented and approved. The 2016 calendar of events promises to provide you with another season of great food, great fun, and great company. Our very first event will be the return of our Saturday morning ritual "The Kaffee Klatch" Saturday, May 7th, at 9 a.m. This will take place out on the covered deck behind the Village Marina Bar and Grill. Bagels and coffee will be provided.

SV Kestrel

All events will be posted on the website calendar for your convenience. There will also be a paper copy at the marina once the season has kicked into gear and, as in the past, sign-up sheets will be posted for each event.



Always remember, I love keeping in touch with each of you. Should you have any questions or comments please feel free to contact me.

Can't wait to see you all at the marina!

- Rebecca

Seneca Junior Sailing

by Tom Alley



Three years ago the Seneca Sail & Power Squadron launched a new initiative to focus on getting our younger mariners more involved in the wonderful hobby that we all enjoy so much. Two years ago, this initiative resulted in the formation of Seneca Junior Sailing, where highschool-aged youth could get some

serious on-the-water experience in sailing,

racing and cruising. This program will kick off its third season in 2016 and it is open to members of the Finger Lakes Yacht Club.

Seneca Junior Sailing will begin with an orientation meeting later in the spring where details of the program will be reviewed and a calendar of events will be presented. Registration will follow a short time later. A rough overview of the program is as follows:

- June will consist of our participants learning and refining boat handling and basic sailing skills.
- July will be spent concentrating on racing procedures and tactics
- In August and September, Junior Sailing crews will compete with the FLYC race fleet in their regular summer series races.

SV Tomfoolery

 More advanced participants will have the option of applying to go on overnight and multi-day trips to gain cruising experience. These include events such as the FLYC Commodore's Cup and the Geneva Barge Race.

Last year the program was also opened up to any parents that wished to participate, and we had a couple of adults that can't wait to do it again this year. (After all, why should our kids get to have all the fun?) So if you're interested in broadening your sailing skills, please don't hesitate to join in!

If you are interested in getting more information about the Seneca Junior Sailing program, please contact me:

Tom Alley seo@SenecaPowerSquadron.US

If you have been sailing for many years and want to "pay forward" all of the help you received in your boating career, I'd love to talk to you about joining our team of coaches! Talking with those that helped out last year, I'm not sure who had more fun: Our students or our coaches!

-Tom

Miscellaneous Stuff

North U Sail Trim Seminar on March 20th

Plan on attending the North U Sail Trim seminar taking place on March 20th, Knox Hall Room #110 at UB North Campus. Over 60 people attended last year's Tactics Seminar however all the tactics in the world won't help you if you don't know how to sail fast!

Title: North U Sail Trim Seminar Location: SUNY Buffalo, NY

Date: 03/20/2016 9:00:00 AM

Instructors: Geoff Moore, North Sails Toronto Cost: \$50-\$129 (see web site for details)

Hosted by Buffalo Harbor Sailing Club at: The University of Buffalo - North Campus, 716-645-6900, Seminar will be held in Knox 110, Check in: 8:30 am, Class: 9:00-4:30. Register Here

Editor's Corner

by Tom Alley

SV Tomfoolery

The dead of winter (such as it is in our area this year) is often considered to be the "slow" time of year for boaters. Our boats are on the hard, covered up, wrapped, and mothballed until such time as the days get longer and the temperatures creep up to where we begin to fantasize about being back out on the water again.

Well, maybe in a "normal" year it would be so, but temperatures certainly have been quite spring-like for much of the season so far and I'm sure that more than a few of us have been thinking about what it will take to get our boats ready for the impending boating season.

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Maybe it's just me, but in some ways this is the peak season of the year for boating activity. There are committee meetings, planning sessions, and all sorts of things going on in order to get the boat, our crew, and even ourselves ready for another year on the water. At times it seems like getting the boat back into the water and going back out onto the lake and putting all of those plans into action would be a *relief* compared to the hours spent organizing things.

Looking at the calendar of yacht club events reinforces this viewpoint when you see all of the things planned for the coming year. The good news is that there is a lot to choose from and the diversity of these activities is such that there should be something for just about everyone to get involved and be entertained. And this is just one of the calendars available to FLYC members.

Those of you who are also members of the Seneca Sail & Power Squadron have a similarly busy calendar available to you. Add

in the activities for Junior Sailing and you may find it easier to just live aboard your boat this summer and only go home to do laundry and to mow the lawn. (Hmmm..., tempting thought!)

With all of this activity going on, there will be plenty of stories to be told. I hope you will consider sharing them in our newsletter as well. Don't like to write? Then send me snapshots of your adventures and of club events. A splash of color always helps make our newsletter better.

Above all, please participate, as it makes every event all the richer.

Before you know it, the calendar will really be into the spring months and we'll all be back at the marina. See you there!

- Tom

Boat Show/Event Calendar

A listing of boat shows, seminars, and regattas (in locations with non-solidified water) to get you through the off-season! Compiled by Steve Howard.

Boat Shows

February

03-07 Atlantic City Boat Show

06-14 **Great American Outdoor Show**, PA Farm Show Complex, Harrisburg, PA

11-15 Miami International Boat Show

13-21 **New England Boat Show**, Boston Event & Convention Center, Boston, MA

18-21 Central New York Boat Show, NYS Fairgrounds, Syracuse, NY

24-28 **Western New York Boat Show**, Buffalo Bills' Practice Facility, Orchard Park, NY

March

10-13 **World Outdoor Fishing and Hunting Expo**, Rockland Community College, Suffern, NY

April

22-24 Annapolis Spring Sailboat Show

October

06-10 US Sailboat Show, Annapolis, MD.

Regattas

April

14-17 Charleston Race Week, Charleston, SC.

July

22-24 **Can Am Challenge**, Youngstown Yacht Club, Youngstown, NY

August

05 J/80 North Americans, National Yacht Club, Toronto, Ontario

13-19 **Lightning North Americans,** Rochester Yacht Club, Rochester, NY

19-25 **J/22 Worlds,** Kingston, Ontario

Distance Races

June

O3 Susan Hood Trophy Race, (The Coolest Race on the Lake!) Port Credit Yacht Club

July 16

Lake Ontario 300/600 Challenge, Port Credit Yacht Club

Lake Ontario Short-Handed Race Series (LOSHRS)

June

05 Course Race

18 Port Credit YC to Youngstown YC

19 Youngstown YC to Port Credit YC

August

20 **100-Miler**

September

17 Port Credit YC to Dalhousie YC

18 Dalhousie YC to Port Credit YC

Winter & Spring Seminars





Obersheimer Sailor Supply Winter Seminar Series

November 4th - Preparing The Boat For Winter, What Did We Learn This Year, Getting Your Kids & Friends Sailing*

December 2nd - Travel Cruising, Marine Safety, Heavy Weather

January 6th - Make Your Boat A Yacht, Boat Electronics for Dummies

February 3rd - Bottom, Gelcote & Teak Repair, Anchors, Instrument Systems

March 2nd - Racing Part 1: Starting, Upwind/Downwind Tactics & Strategy, Play Chess Not Checkers, Racing in WNY*

April 6th - Racing Part 2: Sail Trim, Turning the Corners, How to Be Successful Racing PHRF*

May 4th - Weather Forecasting (Back by Popular Demand)**, General Discussion, Q&A, Social BBQ Hot Dogs/Hamburgers Will be Provided

> * Guest Speakers: Tim Ray (North U), John Tracy (US Club Judge) **Guest Speaker: Todd Santos (WIVB)

> > Coffee and Cookies Provided at All Seminars
> > All Seminars Start at 7PM

March

- 09 **RCR Yachts Seminar Series.** Terry Huchinson of Quantum Sails at the Buffalo Yacht Club, Buffalo, NY.
- 20 **North U Trim Seminar.** Geoff Moore of North Sails Toronto. Presented by the Buffalo Harbor Sailing Club at Knox Hall Room 110, SUNY Buffalo North Campus, Amhers, NY. Register at www.NorthU.com. Fee applies.

April

12 **RCR Yachts Seminar Series.** Skip Dieball, reigning Etchels World Champion. Presented by North Sails Toledo at the Erie Yacht Club, Erie, PA.

2016 FLYC Calendar (Preliminary)

This is the club calendar as discussed at the Board meeting in late January. Some dates are subject to change as plans firm up and get finalized. Please check the club web site (http://www.FLYC.US) to see the most current information.

March		16	New Skipper's Race. (1300) This is a race open to
25	Deadline for newsletter articles.		any skippers new to racing – a great learning opportunity.
April		16	Post-Race Mortem Social. (1700)
01	April Newsletter Publication Date.	23	Saturday Morning Kaffee Klatch. (0900)
15	Earliest possible launch date (per slip contract).	23	Commodore's Cup Race. (1000) Special scoring.
	Earnest possible faunch date (per sup contract).	23	Commodore's Cup Dinner. (1700)
May		25	Deadline for newsletter articles.
01	FLYC Membership Renewals Due. Please fill in a	30	Saturday Morning Kaffee Klatch. (0900)
	renewal form from the web site and send it to Sue	30	Race Make-Up Day. (1300)
0.7	Morris with your payment.	Augus	st
07	Saturday Morning Kaffee Klatch with Coffee and	01	August Newsletter Publication Date.
	Bagels. (0900) Kick off the season with the club's traditional Saturday morning ritual of having some	04-07	*NASCAR At The Glen
	coffee and snacks on the restaurant deck to start the	06	Saturday Morning Kaffee Klatch. (0900)
	weekend.	06	Summer Series Race #4. (1300)
14	Saturday Morning Kaffee Klatch. (0900)	06	Post-Race Mortem Social. (1700) BYOB/Snack to
21	Saturday Morning Kaffee Klatch. (0900)		share.
21	FLYC Member Birthday Picnic. (1800)	12-14	*Watkins Glen Italian Festival
25	Deadline for newsletter articles.	13	Saturday Morning Kaffee Klatch. (0900)
28	Saturday Morning Kaffee Klatch. (0900)	13	Summer Series Race #5. (1300)
29	FLYC Memorial Day Picnic. (1800)	13	Post-Race Mortem Social. (1700) BYOB/Snack to share.
June		20	Saturday Morning Kaffee Klatch. (0900)
01	June Newsletter Publication Date.	20	Surprise Race. (1300)
04	Saturday Morning Kaffee Klatch. (0900)	20	Old Salt's Seafood Fest. (1700)
04	Rust Removal Race (1300). Not counted toward	27	Saturday Morning Kaffee Klatch. (0900)
	season totals.	27	Summer Series Race #6. (1300)
11	Saturday Morning Kaffee Klatch. (0900)	27	Post-Race Mortem Social. (1700) BYOB/Snack to
11	Summer Series Race #1. (1300)		share.
11	Post-Race Mortem Social (1700) BYOB/Snack to share.	Septe	mber
17-18	*Watkins Glen Waterfront Festival	03	Saturday Morning Kaffee Klatch. (0900)
17-18	FLYC Lighting of the Boats. (Dusk) Prizes to the	03	Race Make-Up Date. (1300)
1 /	member boat with the best lighting.	09-12	*Glenora Wine Cellars Vintage Grand Prix.
18	*Cardboard Boat Regatta. (1200) Special marina	10	Saturday Morning Kaffee Klatch. (0900)
	parking restrictions will be in place.	10	Summer Series Race #7. (1300)
19	FLYC Fathers' Day Brunch. (1100)	10	Post-Race Mortem Social. (1700) BYOB/Snack to
25	Saturday Morning Kaffee Klatch. (0900)	179	share.
25	Summer Series Race #2. (1300)	<i>17?</i>	*Seneca Yacht Club Barge Race, Geneva, NY
25	Post-Race Mortem Social. (1700) BYOB/Snack to	17 17	Saturday Morning Kaffee Klatch. (0900) Soup/Chili/Chocolate Festival. (1700)
	share.	23	Deadline for newsletter articles.
July		24	Summer Series Race #8. (1300)
02	Saturday Morning Kaffee Klatch. (0900)	24	Post-Race Mortem Social. (1700) BYOB/Snack to
03	All-American Picnic. (1800) Club will provide		share.
	traditional picnic entrée. Please bring a side/dessert to	Ontob	
	pass.	Octob	
09	Saturday Morning Kaffee Klatch. (0900)	01	October Newsletter Publication Date.
09	Summer Series Race #3. (1300)	01	Grape Harvest Race. (1300) Special scoring. Entry 'fee' of 1 bottle of wine per boat to be used at the post-
09	Post-Race Mortem Social. (1700) BYOB/Snack to		race wine tasting.
	share.	01	Grape Harvest Festival. (1700) Includes wine tasting.
15-18	*USPS District 6 Rendezvous	01	Grape trainest resultain (1/00) metades wine tasting.

Saturday Morning Kaffee Klatch. (0900)

- Gear Buster Race. (1300) Special scoring. Test your boat and crew in fall conditions to see if you need to replace anything over the winter!
- 31 Marina Haulout Deadline (per slip contract).

November

05 **Member Banquet & Annual Meeting.** Includes awards and election of officers and directors.

26 Deadline for newsletter articles.

December

01 December Newsletter Publication Date.

* Non-FLYC events.

Classified Ads

For FLYC Members

Just a reminder that members can place free, non-commercial ads in our newsletter to buy, sell or trade boating-related "stuff".

Boat For Sale - Fleetwind 12

Looking for a small daysailor? St. Mary Our Mother School will be auctioning off a Fleetwind 12 sailboat (similar to a Sunfish) at their "2016 Escape" fund raising event. This is the boat that has received lots of TLC from the students of the boat maintenance seminars being taught through the Seneca Sail & Power Squadron by John Read and Mike Crouse, so you'll know it is in top condition.

The fundraising event will be held on February 26th at 6:00 p.m. in the Elmira Heights American Legion. It's a fun party that includes heavy hors d'ouevres, cash bar, live DJ, a fantasy gaming casino, numerous raffles and door prizes, and dozens of items (including the sailboat) in a silent auction. Proceeds will be split between St. Mary Our Mother School and the Seneca Sail & Power Squadron.

Tickets to the event are \$30/person or \$55/couple.

For additional information or to reserve your tickets, call the school office at: 607-739-9157 or e-mail Coleen Bukowinski at: cbukowinski@dor.org

Finger Lakes Yacht Club Membership Application

Membership renewals are due by May 1 $^{\rm st}$. **Annual dues are \$45**. Please send this form and a check to:

c/o Sı P. O.	r Lakes ue Morris Box 14 Valley, N	Are you also a member of the U.S. Power Squadron? If so, please check this box.							
Application:		New mem	ber	Rene	ewal				
			ude the name privileges are				family members.		
Name(s):					□ Racin □ Cruisi	g ng I activities	h areas interest you: Ueb site Sailing classes Junior Sailing		
Address:									
Phone:					rk ()			
E-mail:									
Boat Name				Тур	e: 🗌	Sail	☐ Power		
Make/Model				Len	igth				
Boat Year	Location/Slip#								
		we promise t s rules and re		By-laws of	the Fing	er Lakes	Yacht Club, Inc.		
Signature(s)					Date	! <u></u>			