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Commodore's Comments

by Howard Cabezas

SV Ruthie

The Finger Lakes Yacht Club met for their 2017 annual meeting and our creative juices were flowing! Something we will be trying out this season is an increase and a variety of new social events. We are hoping to encourage our yacht club friends and strangers alike to get to know one another even more! An ice cream social, scavenger hunt, Hawaiian beach party and nautical costume party are some of the ideas being considered. We encourage input from all members so send us your ideas for creative gatherings; we would love to hear from you! Collectively we have much wisdom, talent, and passion and we envision not just another boating community but a boating family!



Anyone interested in being a Rear Commodore for the season? We are still looking to fill this position. This position includes scheduling cruises and timing racing activities.

Dive into the racing, cruising, and social schedule to see what we have planned for this summer! Keep an eye on the Finger Lakes Yacht Club website for updates as events are finalized!

Have a desire for some yacht club clothing? The Finger Lakes Yacht Club emblem on shirts, hats, sweat pants etc. makes for great presents and helps spread our name around! If you are interested, a group order will be taken at the beginning of the boating season.

April 15th is coming hard and fast, can't wait to see you all!

- Howard

Vice Commodore's Comments

by Dawn Dowdle

SV Irish Wake



Thank you all for electing me as your new Vice Commodore. I also want to thank the outgoing officers of the Yacht Club for their time and service to the club. We are a success because we have a membership that is willing to volunteer and work together. You may know who I am, you may know my boat, *The Irish Wake*, but did you know my boating career began on Seneca Lake 22 years ago aboard my father's 38-foot Marine Trawler Yacht, *The Manhattan Dream*? Or that my first sailing experience was sailing aboard the 12 meter America's Cup boat, *True North*, in 2008?

We found our first sailboat in the Watkins Glen Marina, a 28-foot Newport on Dock 4. We found more than a boat that year; we found friends, comrades, teachers, and family; that's why we're still here. To give a little more history, my husband and I have taken classes through the Power Squadron and learned many things.

I have served as Treasurer of the Seneca Power Squadron as well as the Commodore of this yacht club. I am glad to serve as your Vice Commodore and look forward to working with Howard as Commodore. Recently, my husband, Wilbur, and I sailed in the Caribbean aboard a 36-foot Catalina. My husband and I lived on our boat for the summer last year and expect to do the same going forward.

This 2017 New Year for the Finger Lakes Yacht Club got off to a great start as the officers and board members just finished the February meeting and everyone came prepared. Our Commodore had the race and cruising schedule set for discussion and Lynn had the Social Schedule set up ready to go. With all this in mind it is all systems GO! Looking forward to the 2017 boating season I am excited to again live on our boat. I loved being there all summer last year and look forward to another rewarding summer ahead. As we prepare for the upcoming boating season I want to make every effort to grow our membership. Of course, I need everyone's help, by talking to your slip neighbors and friends. This marina is a great community and I think that certainly extends to the FLYC, so let's make sure we let everyone know we want everyone to join in the fun and friendship we all share.

Remember: There are good ships, and there are wood ships, and ships that sail the sea. But the best ships, are friendships, and may they always be.

Looking forward to the new and old friendships,

- Dawn

Slip 212, The Irish Wake

Port Tacks

Published up to 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>

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Secretary's Column

by Sue Morris

SV Sails Call



Happy Spring soon!!

Approximately 100 days left until getting those boats out in the water! That varies with all! Hoping everyone is good and please remember to rejoin or join in FLYC! Membership form and check can be mailed to me at the following address! Cost is \$45.

100 Mead road
P. O. Box 14
Pine Valley, NY 14872

See you soon!

Thank you,

- Sue

From the Treasurer

by Denis Kingsley

SV Tark



The club's treasury has changed slightly downward since the last report. All invoices have been accounted for and paid.

- Denis, still cooking the books.

o o o o o

I recently read a book that contained a passage you might enjoy:

"Am I comparing us to Einstein? Yes. Sailboats attract the loons and geniuses among us, the romantics whose boats represent some outlaw image of themselves. ..."

The entire industry is built on a feeling, an emotion. It's rarely the thing – or is it?

Regardless boaters are suckers. They'll pay more in moorage and repairs than their vessels are worth and rarely understand how swiftly rain and salt water conspire to corrode and rot,

costs soaring as values spiral. And don't get me started on racers who blow thousands to make their sloops go half a smidge faster so they can finish eighth instead of eleventh in regattas so obscure they don't make the tiniest print in the sports section. One local fanatic spent eleven grand on a carbon fiber-toilet to save seventeen pounds. There are plaques on the walls at City Capital Boatworks from skippers thanking us for overpriced paint jobs they're convinced helped them win. It's all in their heads. So yes there's a special wing of any boater's asylum for racers, but they're all nuts. Myself included. Sinners too. Wrath begun on boats, my grandfather told me, insisting Noah himself was a notorious cusser. But sloth, envy, lust, pride and gluttony thrive here too, as do naivete, belligerence and other second rate failings.

All you need to become a boater is money, though you don't necessarily need even that. Wait long enough, and somebody will pay you to haul theirs away."

Taken from "Before the Wind" by Jim Lynch. Borzoi Books by Alfred A. Knopf – ©2016

Socially Speaking

by Maggie Martin & Lynne McGinnis

SV Sacre Bleu & SV Brewster



The calendar is pending as we are working to finalize the schedule for the years' activities! The dates are currently being coordinated with the race committee to make it work for those who race and all members and their guests. Some of the items that have been planned include reviving a nautical swap in June to raise our wa-

terlines and trade your stuff for their stuff. Venues for the end of year meeting and banquet are being considered, but we have decided to make it memorable since it is near Halloween, and we all like to have fun..., it will be a costumed

event!!! Dress up like your favorite pirate, sea captain, wench, whatever boating related get up you can get together.

In the spring, when we are getting back to our boats, we will be returning to the never-ending joys of boat ownership (or crew-manship?) and membership in the FLYC. We would love to hear from the members to make it what you want it to be. Contact Lynne or Maggie by email or phone-Your ideas are always welcome!

E-mail: Maggie social@flyc.us
Lynne social2@flyc.us or 607-210-4009

- Maggie & Lynne

Miscellaneous News

Marina Activity Update

By Tom Alley



If you haven't been to check on your boat at the marina lately, you'll be in for a surprise. Some time before the Holidays, the stand of trees just north of the "back lot" where boats are stored has been clear-cut. There is some conjecture that this activity is in preparation for construction of condominiums that were proposed a few years ago, but as of this writing we have no confirmation to that supposition. Stay tuned for details as we investigate further.

- Tom

US Coast Guard Launches New Online Newsroom

USCG Public Affairs Office

2017 Feb 02

WASHINGTON — The Coast Guard is scheduled to launch its new, online digital newsroom, <http://www.news.uscg.mil>, Thursday afternoon.

The mobile-friendly content management system replaces the service's previous news site, www.uscgnews.com, and offers an email subscription service that delivers both regional and national Coast Guard news.

Users can click [here to subscribe](#) to the news delivery service. This new capability will allow users to manage their Coast Guard news preferences through the service's subscription preferences page.

Users currently receiving Coast Guard news via uscgnews.com will continue to receive news releases via email; however, users can opt-out of the emails by clicking the unsubscribe button at the bottom of any Coast Guard email sent from the new system.

For more information, please contact:

U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters
Contact: [Headquarters Public Affairs](#)
Office: (202) 372-4630

Vessel Safety Examination

By Ray Margeson

A Vessel Safety Check (VSC) is performed at your boat! ranging in locations from boat to your driveway. A vessel safety check usually takes 15 to 30 minutes, depending upon the size of your boat. And your examination can take place on the hard or on a trailer as well as afloat – get a head start on the boating season

What's In it For Me?

Vessels passing safety checks are awarded a U.S. Coast Guard/Power Squadron Decal that informs:

- Coast Guard
- Harbor Patrol
- Sheriff's & Police
- other boating law-enforcement & safety agency's

that your boat was in full compliance with all Federal and State boating laws during a safety check for that year. Best of all every Vessel Safety Check is 100% Free of charge!

What if I Don't Pass?

If your boat does not pass, no citation is issued at that time. Instead, you are provided a written report in how to correct any discrepancies.

Why Receive a Vessel Safety Check?

Safety! The peace of mind that your boat meets federal safety standards and that in an emergency you will have the necessary equipment to save lives and summon help.

In some cases boating insurance agencies offer discounts for vessels which undergo a Vessel Safety Check every year. All decals and safety checks are void December 31st of year they are inspected, they are also void should the operator /owner fail to maintain the vessels equipment or the vessel itself to the standard at the time of the safety check.

Find an Examiner

Seneca Sail and Power Squadron has several certified Vessel Safety Examiners located from Seneca Harbor Marina to Lodi and spots in between. To get yours, just drop an e-mail to vsc@SenecaPowerSquadron.US.

- Ray

Tacking an Open 60

by Rich Wilson

sitesALIVE, Reprinted with Permission



Posted November 27th, 2016

Another long day and night. In the aftermath of crossing the front between the two high pressure systems, which didn't have anywhere near as much wind as one might have expected, we then headed off to the east, oddly back toward the front, with the forecast anticipation that the wind would shift, allowing us to tack and head south on a more favorable direction.

About 10 hours before this was predicted, it appeared to be happening. Suddenly we had a big wind shift. I waited about a half hour to see if it would stay or not, and it did. Maybe we should tack now. Let's try it, so we did.

After Ellen MacArthur finished second in the 2000 Vendée Globe, she wrote a book, and one of the chapters was entitled 'The 30 Minute Tack', because that's about how long it takes to tack an Open 60 when alone.

First you must move the sails that are in the forepeak on the windward side. If you do this before the tack, you can try to roll them (in long sausage like sail bags) from the high side to the low side, because the low side will soon be the new high side. You want this weight where it will help. But you have to be careful up there, because the bow is pounding up and down, and getting knocked sideways by the waves, as the boat continues to sail while you are setting up for the tack. You could easily get thrown across the forepeak if you lost your balance or your grip. Plus, our gennaker weighs 75 kilograms (165 pounds) and if you were to leeward and trying to guide it into its new spot – well, let's just say you don't want it rolling on top of you as it could break a leg or arm, or pin you up there for who knows how long. Dominique Wavre, who had the boat before us, put 10 small 3:1 block and tackles in the forepeak to help pull and guide these sails. They work perfectly. Anyway, I got the gennaker rolled into position, then rolled the fractional gennaker downhill and on top of the gennaker, and I had positioned a big net that then could be pulled to the roof to capture the sails and keep them in place after the tack.



Meantime, I had started draining the starboard forward tank 1, and amidships starboard tanks 2 and 3, that contained, between them, about two tons of water. There is a pipe, called a scoop, that gets pushed through the bottom of the boat into the water streaming past, and depending on whether it faces forward or aft, it either sucks in water into the tanks, or sucks the water out of the tanks. There are 10 tanks, 5 on each side, all connected to a central plumbing system, and each with Open or Close valves. So while I was wrestling with the sails in the forepeak, we were draining tanks 1, 2, 3.

Once those 2 pieces are set, then you can go and tack the boat. Pull back the leeward running backstay and load it on the winch; ease the new side traveller so that the mainsail won't push the boat into the wind after the tack before you've had a chance to pull the jib in; ease the mainsail sheet some also to help with that same situation; load the new jib sheet on the big winch; make sure the jib sheet is clear forward; put a winch handle in the new running backstay winch; take a turn off the old jib sheet winch so that it will be easier to get that running free; take a good look around – all set?

When you are well and truly ready, because this is all going to happen fast, and if you tack by autopilot, once you push that button, the boat will turn whether you are ready or not, and it

will turn fast. Ok we're ready, now release the canting keel from its 40 degree cant to centerline. This is the final step. The boat now lays way over and it seems chaos is imminent.

Then very carefully push the two one degree buttons on the autopilot for tacking, you have ten seconds to do it, or not, ok, ready, push! Leap to the jib sheet and unwind the 4 turns off the winch as the boat turns and the jib starts flapping madly, next to the new backstay winch and grind that tight to its pre-set mark, then leap across the cockpit to the old backstay winch and let that off so that the mainsail boom can swing out and not push the boat back up into the wind, then grab the new jib sheet and pull like a madman, great huge armloads of sheet, all the time hoping that the jib has actually swung through up forward, and if it has, once you've got the excess in, jump on the pedestal winch, which has already preselected high gear for the new jib sheet winch, and grind like your life depended on it. Once you have picked up steering speed again, you can breathe a bit of a sigh of relief. If the boat had been pushed back up into the wind, it then stops moving, the autopilot alarms start going off, the boat starts going backwards, threatening the rudders.

We got through the tack, and then it's ten minutes of grinding to get the jib and mainsail set again, push the button for the canting keel to cant, then go below and start refilling the tanks on the other side.

Whew!

We ended up doing that 3 times yesterday. Our first tack worked, but then the wind shift did not hold, so we had to go back. Then, late at night, a new weather map and routing suggested we should tack now. So, at midnight, we did, with all the lights on, and we got through, and started rolling south.

All of this is why the numbers for the pedestal winch today are high!

Position: 25° 07'S x 16° 32'W
Course: 166° True
Speed: 10.7 knots

Editor's Corner

by Tom Alley

By the time this issue gets out, we'll right around 100 days away from getting our boats launched for another season. It sounds like a long time but, in reality, it isn't and I'll be scrambling (like everyone else) the week before launch trying to get 3 weeks of work done in a single weekend.

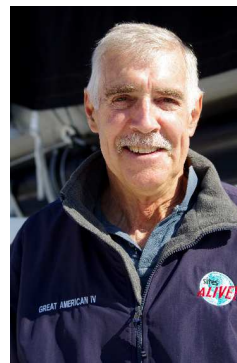
The fact is, the next 100 days will go by quite quickly. There is a great deal of planning and coordination that will take place. Aside from the yacht club calendar, with its social events and races, we have to dovetail things in with community events (Waterfront Festival, Italian Fest, car races), other yacht clubs

True Wind Speed: 14.1 knots
True Wind Direction: 113° True
Sail Plan: Mainsail with one reef, plus Solent Jib
Air temperature: 77° F / 25° C
Sea Temperature: 83° F / 28.3° C

Winch Pedestal Revolutions (daily)	Amp Hours: Alternator (total)	Amp Hours: Solar (total)	Amp Hours: Hydro (total)	Amp Hours: Wind (total)
2026	1294	243	5374	811

- Rich

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Rich Wilson's motivation in participating in the extraordinary challenge of Vendée Globe is to excite and engage students in learning, by connecting them to live, global, real-world adventures and curriculum. Students, educators, families, friends, asthmatics and seniors are all encouraged to join the expedition by visiting the program website at <http://vg2016.sitesalive.com>. sitesALIVE! Foundation is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization, and donations

are gratefully accepted via <http://www.sitesalive.com>.

Photos 1-3 courtesy of sitesALIVE (www.sitesalive.com).

Photo 4 by B. Gergaud, courtesy of sitesALIVE.

SV Tomfoolery

(Barge Race, Thunder on the Lake), and the Power Squadron (Rendezvous, Junior Sailing, and cruises to the canals and Lake Ontario). The result is a summer packed with all sorts of things to do and all sorts of excuses to spend time on your boat.

As I shovel the snow from my walk and chip ice off of my car's windshield this week, there's no more pleasant thought than being out on the water, enjoying a warm breeze and the afternoon sun. I guess I'd better get to work on that to-do list!

- 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.

Obersheimer Winter Seminar Series

March

01 **Racing Part 1: Starting, Upwind, Racing Rules of Sailing 2017-2020**

April

05 **Racing Part 2: Mark Roundings, Downwind, Changing Gears, Sail Trim**

Events & Boat Shows

February

11-19 *New England Boat Show, Boston, MA*
16-19 *Central New York Boat Show, Syracuse, NY*
16-20 *Miami International Boat Show, Miami, FL*
16-20 *Strictly Sail Miami at Bayside, Miami, FL*
22-26 **Western NY Boat Show, Orchard Park, NY**
23-26 *Greater Philadelphia Outdoor Show, Oaks, PA*

March

01-05 **Atlantic City Boat Show, Atlantic City, NJ**
02-05 *World Fishing and Outdoor Show, Suffern, NY*
24-26 *Maine Boat Builders Show, Portland, ME*

April

21-23 **Bay Bridge Show, Stevensville, MD**
28-30 *Annapolis Spring Sailboat Show, Annapolis, MD*

June

30-7/2 *Wooden Boat Show, Mystic, CT*

October

05-09 **US Sailboat Show, Annapolis, MD**
12-15 **US Power Boat Show, Annapolis, MD**

Regattas

February

04-05 *Quantum J70 Winter Series 3, Tampa, FL*
17-19 **St. Petersburg NOODs, St. Petersburg, FL**

23-26 *J70 MidWinter Championships, St. Petersburg, FL*

March

12-17 *Flying Scot Mid-Winter Championship New Orleans (LA)*
18-21 *Lightning Winter Championship, St. Petersburg, FL*
23-25 *Lightning MidWinter Championship, Miami, FL*
24-26 *J22 MidWinter Championship, New Orleans, LA*

April

20-23 *Sperry Charleston Race Week, Charleston, SC*

May

05-07 **Annapolis NOODs, Annapolis, MD**
19-21 *J24 National Championship, Seattle, WA*
26-28 *J24 North American Championship, Houston, TX*

June

09-11 **Chicago NOODs, Chicago, IL**
16-18 **Cleveland Race Week, Cleveland, OH**

July

20-23 *J22 North American Championship, Buffalo, NY*
27-30 **Marblehead NOODs, Marblehead, MA**
28-30 **CanAm Challenge, Youngstown, NY**
28-30 *J88 North American Championship, Youngstown, NY*
29-30 *Lightning Atlantic Coast Championship, Burlington, VT*
31-8/6 **LYRA Championship, Rochester, NY**

August

04-06 *J70 Corinthian National Championship, S. Dartmouth, MA*

September

14-18 *Beneteau 36.7 North American Championship, Youngstown, NY*
15-23 **J24 World Championship, Port Credit, Ontario Canada**
21-24 *Lightning North American Championship, Wrightsville Beach, NC*

October

09-15 *J70 North American Championship, Rye, NY*

2017 FLYC Calendar – *Proposed*

This is the club calendar as discussed at the Board meeting in early February. 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.

Regular/Repeating Events

Saturday Morning Kaffee Klatch. Every Saturday at 0900 from Memorial Day Weekend through mid-September under the awning on Dock 5 at the Marina Bar & Grill.

Post-Mortem Racing Social. After every club race at 1700 on the lawn by the marina flagpole. BYOB/Snack to share. Open to racers and non-racers alike.

March

24 **Newsletter article deadline.**

April

01 **April Newsletter Publication Date.**

May

01 **FLYC Membership Renewals Due.** Please fill in a renewal form and send it to Sue Morris with payment.

06 **Members & Friends Kaffee Klatch.** (0900) Coffee, donuts and bagels provided by the Club.

26 **Newsletter article deadline.**

27 **Junior Sailing Dockside Orientation.** (1000) Details to be announced.

03 **Rust Removal Race** (1300). Not counted toward season totals.

28 **Memorial Day Picnic.** (1700) Bring a dish to pass and BBQ Chicken provided by the club. Social mixer; 17:30 dinner.

June

01 **June Newsletter Publication Date.**

03-04 **FLYC Cruise #1** (Proposed).

10 **Summer Series Race #1.** (1300)

16-17 **Watkins Glen Waterfront Festival*

16 **FLYC Lighting of the Boats.** (Dusk) Prizes to the member boat with the best lighting.

17 **Cardboard Boat Regatta. Special marina parking restrictions will be in place.*

17-18 **FLYC Cruise #2** (Proposed)

18 **FLYC Fathers' Day Brunch.** (1100) Families welcome. Bring a dish to pass.

24 **Summer Series Race #2.** (1300)

July

01 **Summer Series Race #3.** (1300)

02 **All-American Picnic.** (1700) Club will provide traditional picnic entrée. Please bring a side/dessert to pass. Social mixer; 17:30 dinner.

08 **New Skipper's Race.** (1300) This is a race open to any skippers new to racing – a great learning opportunity.

08-09 **FLYC Cruise #3** (Proposed). Accompany the Junior Sailing fleet to Geneva on their way to Lake Ontario.

14-16 **USPS District 6 Rendezvous. Kingston, Ontario.*

21 **Newsletter article deadline.**

29 **Commodore's Cup Race.** (1000) Special scoring.

29 **Commodore's Cup Dinner.** (1700) Details to be announced.

29 **Finger Lakes Wine Festival.*

August

01 **August Newsletter Publication Date.**

03-06 **NASCAR at the Glen*

05 **Make-Up Race.** (1300)

05 **Hawaiian Beach Party & Luau.** (1700) Club will provide the entrée. Bring a dish to pass. Social mixer; 17:30 dinner.

11-13 **Watkins Glen Italian Festival*

12 **Summer Series Race #4.** (1300)

19 **Summer Series Race #5.** (1300)

26 **Summer Series Race #6.** (1300)

31-9/3 **Indy at the Glen.*

September

02 **Surprise Race.** (1300) Details to be announced at the Skippers' Meeting. (That's why it's a surprise!)

03 **Labor Day Weekend Picnic.** (1700) Hot dogs and hamburgers provided by the Club. Bring a dish to pass. Social mixer; 17:30 dinner.

08-11 **Glenora Wine Cellars Vintage Grand Prix.*

09 **Seneca Yacht Club Barge Race, Geneva, NY*

09 **Race Make-Up Date.** (1300)

16 **Summer Series Race #7.** (1300)

16 **Soup/Chili/Chocolate Festival.** (1700) Bring your best chili and chocolate dishes to win prizes! Social mixer; 17:30 dinner.

23 **Summer Series Race #8.** (1300)

25 **Deadline for newsletter articles.**

30 **Grape Harvest Race.** (1300) Special scoring. Details to be announced.

30 **Grape Harvest Festival.** (1700) Bring a "grape-themed" hot or cold dish to pass. Social mixer; 17:30 dinner.

October

01 **October Newsletter Publication Date.**

07-08 **FLYC Cruise #4** (Proposed)

14 **Gear Buster Race.** (1300) Special scoring.

29 **Member Banquet & Annual Meeting.** Costume themed due to proximity to Halloween. Details to be announced. Event includes awards and election of officers and directors.

31 **Marina Haulout Deadline** (per slip contract).

November

20 **Deadline for newsletter articles.**

December

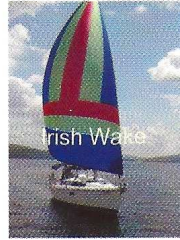
01 **December Newsletter Publication Date.**

** 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".



CLASSIC ADVENTURES

Wilbur Dowdle

9696 Grove Springs Rd
Hammondsport NY 14840
or

Village Marina, Watkins Glen, NY
Slip 212 on Pier 2

H607 292 6479 C 607 769 0086 Wilburd@frontiernet.net

Boat parts and supplies, delivered to your boat!

Finger Lakes Yacht Club

Membership Application

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

Finger Lakes Yacht Club, Inc.
c/o Sue Morris, Secretary
P. O. Box 14
Pine Valley, NY 14872

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"/> Junior Sailing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |

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 _____