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Port Tacks

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

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Please send any comments, questions or corrections to:
editor@flyc.us

Commodore's Comments

by Dawn Dowdle

SV *The Irish Wake*

Hello Fellow Boaters! I am pleased and proud to be voted Commodore for 2020; thank you all for your support. Some of you may know me and others not, so I will give you a bit of history. My husband, who you may know, is Wilbur Dowdle, we have a 336 Hunter named *The Irish Wake* and we live on dock 2, at slip 212. I say live, because we live on our boat all summer long, May until September anyway.



We have been members of the FLYC and this marina for 10 years. Over the years we have made lots of friends, joined this yacht club, the Power Squadron, we have taken classes with the Power Squadron. We sailed as crew on a couple of 12-Meter America Cup boats, that's what got us started, after that all we wanted was to sail! Well, it took a couple of years, but we found a 28-ft Newport here in the Marina and here we stayed! We got 2-foot-itis after a year and went straight to the 336 Hunter we love and have now. We've been to several boat shows over the years and we would recommend everyone go, but nothing suits us better than *The Irish Wake*. So, we hope you will visit us, come and say hello, our companion way is always open.

I look forward to a great year, we have social events and races to schedule and hope you will join us at our meeting Saturday, January 11, 2020, at 2:00 pm in Bath, NY at the Wildflower Hills Community Center, 7404 Wildflower Way E, in Bath, NY. We will have Judy Cherry, Executive Director of the Schuyler County Partnership for Economic Development (SCOPEd) as our guest speaker to update us on the future development of the Park and the Marina. We hope to see you all and get us all thinking about next summer and how we will all enjoy ourselves and each other.

Fair Winds,

-Dawn

Vice Commodore's Comments

by John Chesbrough



SV Secret Searenity

Greetings FLYC members I hope everyone is enjoying the unpredictable weather.

Several FLYC members attended an open meeting in October at the local community center to listen to a presentation of plans for Clute Park. One of the aims of the project is to

provide year-round recreation in the park as one proposal includes an ice-skating area near the existing pavilion. Our thoughts naturally moved to Seneca Harbor Park and the Village Marina concerning the future of the current water treatment plant and of the Village Marina Bar and Grille building. FLYC member and executive director of SCOPED Judy Cherry has accepted our invitation to attend the January meeting to inform us of the current state of affairs. Perhaps the FLYC will be able to provide SCOPED with some useful insights. All of us would like to know what the future holds for our boating community.

- John

Port Tacks

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Rear Commodore's Comments

by Tony Kut yana



As I'm writing this it is snowing outside. What a difference a month makes. Hopefully we don't have a miserable winter but if we do it will make spring and summer that much better. I would like to thank (not really) whomever nominated me to be a FLYC officer. I learned in my service days that I don't volunteer for anything but I guess not much would get done without volunteers so I reluctantly accept the nomination and will try to do the best I can.

I found out the other day that the rear Commodore handles the clubs water activities like racing and cruising. As you all

SV Lanikai

probably know I don't do much cruising, but I used to anchor out a lot when I first got the boat and it's actually pretty nice. If someone has some ideas to get the cruising thing going let me know.

From what I know the race schedule is pretty much firmed up. Like eight races, some will be on Sunday due to some scheduling conflicts. More details to come. Same as the cruising thing above. Any ideas, changes, etc let me know.

Anyway, have a good winter and see you in the spring.

- Tony

Secretary's Column

by Sue Morris



Happy fall to all of you!

Seasons come and go very quickly but the FLYC friendships are forever! Thanks to both old and new memberships 2019! The cold season is coming fast so stay safe and healthy over the winter!

- Sue, FLYC Secretary

SV Sails Call

From the Treasurer

by Denis Kingsley



The FLYC treasury is now going into hibernation for the winter as all bills have been paid, no income is expected until the spring, and no social activities are scheduled.

SV Tark

Have a wonderful Holiday Season, but remember to keep at least enough left within your budget for 2020 dues.

- Denis, still cooking the books.

Socially Speaking

by Maggie Martin & Lynne McGinnis



the spring.

The schedule for next summer has been drafted and will be approved at the January 11 meeting that will be held in Bath, NY. The picnics are much as we had this year with a few new twists to keep it fresh! We look forward to seeing the boats back in the water and “all y’all” again in

SV Sacré Bleu & SV Brewster

Meanwhile, many of us will be wandering around the country and the world visiting new ports of call. Best to you and yours during these cold months; stay healthy and look forward to good times on the docks to keep warm.

- Maggie & Lynne

Contact: Maggie 607-621-7247

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Email both at social@flyc.us

The Racer's Edge

By Jim McGinnis



Hey boaters!

Sailboat racing is an art form, a skill and a science. You should be considering racing your boat if you are not already. You should join another crew if you don't have a sailboat to

race or aren't able to race your own boat for any reason. The racing part of your membership for the Finger Lakes Yacht Club remains as free as the wind.

The science is in the physics of tuning the sailboat rig, adjusting the sails and getting the greatest lift possible from the available wind. Reading the wind from the patterns on the water and using what the weather apps tell you can make a huge difference during the races.

The skill is where the practice comes in; learning the rules, developing some techniques/ habits and working together with the rest of the crew as a team. Watching what the other boats/teams are doing and how they are handling the course is

FLYC Race Committee

a great learning opportunity. Balancing the sails for maximum speed with minimal weather helm takes practice and trial and error on each boat.

When you do achieve that balance is when the art reveals itself. This skill translates to your day sailing and just enjoying your time on the boat with family and friends with confidence. All that being said, the camaraderie of the crew and the other competitors built during sailboat racing in competing and participating can change your outlook on life. Don't take my word for it, try it yourself.

We always need more boats and more crew for every race throughout the season. The racing schedule is always available on the website and the Village Marina bulletin board. You can just show up at the flagpole at 1:00PM on race day and join a crew or start racing your boat.

Hope to see you there next season!

- Jim

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Editor's Corner

by Tom Alley



As the year winds down, we are in the season where club activities are traditionally at a minimum. We've had our annual meeting and elections, the boats have been laid up for the winter, but we haven't yet kicked off the planning phase for next season. Good thing

this lull comes around the Holidays. I'd hate to think how hectic things would be if our peak boating activities were to coincide with them. (I guess I won't be moving to New Zealand any time soon!)

Although our club activities might be at their nadir, now is the time to be thinking about what we want to be doing during the next boating season. Equally important is communicating those wants to the club officers, directors, and planning committee members so that they can be incorporated into our 2020 calendar. The main planning meeting for next summer will be

SV Tomfoolery

in early January, so don't keep your thoughts to yourself for too long.

Looking at the calendar, we have around 150 days until most of us will be launching. Seems like a long time, but somehow the launch date always sneaks up on me, even after over 30 years of owning a boat. Will this year be different? Probably not, but one can hope, right?

In the meantime, here's hoping that all of you have a wonderful Holiday season. Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy New Year!

- Tom

Well, your editor has opened his big mouth again. If you wish to agree, or to tell him he doesn't know squat, please send your comments to editor@flyc.us.

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 _____