

August 2020

Volume 16, Issue 4

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
AHOY!

SV The Irish Wake



It is hard to imagine that it is August already! We have been absent much of the summer due to health issues – NOT COVID, luckily! But we came back this weekend and enjoyed sailing FINALLY! It surely has been hot, and a sail on Seneca is just what the doctor orders for socially distancing! I am glad to be back at the marina, seeing friends and sailing. I know this summer has been different for all of us, it has changed the way we do most anything. We have gone without our social gatherings, in some cases we have tried to postpone some items even if we have to wait until next year, but all of these changes are necessary in order for us to all be safe. Thanks to everyone for doing their part, being patient and considerate of others as we all go through this together.

On another note, I have been working with the Schamels all summer to get this WiFi/Internet access/connection for all boats straightened out. We still have some issues, not due to a lack of trying neither the Schamels nor me. We have had Empire, the Marina's provider, involved as well, they thought they had it covered but I am not sure they do. I for one do not have a good connection. It would be very helpful if each one of you could let me know what your reception/connectivity is like. I mean, do you browse, email, stream, game??? What or when does it work well, bad or not at all. Please let me know, email me, or stop me when you see me. I want to get this fixed for everyone.

Thanks again for your help and understanding. Enjoy summer boating, it is good exercise, good for your mental health and it's a great way to enjoy the summer weather.

Best,

-Dawn

Vice Commodore's Comments

by John Chesbrough

SV Aquarelle



Saturday, August 1st, saw a unique, for this area, political rally for boaters in their boats on Seneca Lake. Estimates of the attendance range from 35 boats to 150. Sounds familiar. Does anyone besides myself grow weary of politicization at the Village

Marina? I would prefer that the marina remain neutral territory. This is not to belittle anyone's right to free speech, but I would sincerely hope that leaving the drums and banners at home works for everyone. I am reminded of grade school when every four years it was great status to wear as many buttons as you could fit onto your shirt.

August 6th is the anniversary of the A-bomb and Hiroshima. The U.S. government described the bomb as conventional warfare. A little more than a year later John Hersey's article "*Hiroshima*" appeared and put matters in a new light, setting history in a truthful manner.

I confess to being one of many people who is prone to being lazy about the pandemic. Sometimes I forget to bring a mask when I have to walk in public. A pandemic is, by definition, worldwide and this one is far from done and over with. Significant history is being made right now and our lives will have to adapt to new routines. Historically pandemics have engendered advances in science and in public awareness of our environment, both natural and societal. It's a ripe time for careful study and introspection. Ostentatious self indulgence is so last year.

- John

Port Tacks

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Rear Commodore's Comments

by Tony Kut yana



It's the end of July and despite the COVID restrictions we have done every race so far except the first one and the Commodores race. The first two races had plenty of winds but as we get deeper in the summer the winds are more unpredictable as the third and fourth race were more floaters. There have been different winners for each of the races, so it appears to me that

changing over to the Portsmouth Yardstick handicapping system doesn't seem to be a problem and will be okay.

In order to counter the light winds, we are looking ahead a day or so at the predicted weather to move the race day to more favorable weather. We are texting the change to the normal bunch of racers, however contact Jim or me if you are not being texted and want to be. On the same topic we would normally just do the race on schedule and reschedule at the race meeting as needed. However, we are looking ahead now because the marks are not permanent and arrangements for setting and removing the marks are more difficult. The winds sometimes

don't follow the weather reports so sometimes we will likely make a wrong call.

So far, I think the races have been going ok with a couple of annoyances caused by the committee boat such as countdown to start and radio malfunction which I think I have resolved. The problems with setting and gathering the marks have been taken up by a great bunch of volunteers. Thanks to all.

For the cruising end, there will be some boats headed to Sampson the first week of August. I haven't been there yet, but I hear the improvements are nice. If you plan on heading there you will likely need a reservation. The lake is nice in that area as it is much wider and there are generally good places to anchor at the Dresden side of the lake even if you don't get into Sampson.

Enough said, continue to have a nice summer, avoid the virus and hope the winds get better.

- Tony

Secretary's Column

by Sue Morris



Ahoy fellow FLYC members!

Covid has certainly changed our normal this season! I hope all is well with you. There have been no new members at this time.

Stay safe and healthy! Enjoy your boating time!

SV Sails Call

Send any membership forms and checks to the following address:

Sue Morris
P.O. Box 14
Pine Valley, NY 14872

- Sue, FLYC Secretary

From the Treasurer

by Denis Kingsley



In that there have been no FLYC events which required the expenditure of funds, there has been no activity in the FLYC account.

We remain solvent.

SV Tark

- Denis, still cooking the books.

Socially Speaking

by Maggie Martin & Lynne McGinnis



We will not be returning to our usual schedule of picnics until it is safe. It has been good to be able to see everyone around the dock and we hope that you all have been able to enjoy your boats this summer. Be well and keep others safe by following guidelines for

avoiding Covid 19. Our best to all of you and loved ones during this time.

- Maggie & Lynne

Contact: Maggie 607-621-7247
Lynne 607-426-7914
Email both at social@flyc.us

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FLYC Member Nautical Artwork in Watkins Glen Gallery

Maggie Martin is the 'Artist in Focus' at the Franklin Street Gallery here in Watkins Glen during the month of August. Stop in and see her paintings at the front of the gallery. Open Noon-5 Thursday-Sunday. The Watercolor paintings are of boats, some of them were done at The Village Marina. Maggie and husband John Chesebrough new-to-them boat is *S/V Aquarelle*, (means "watercolor" in French).

SV Aquarelle & SV Brewster



Figure 1: Watercolor of S/V Seawing by Maggie Martin.

Solving Problems Online

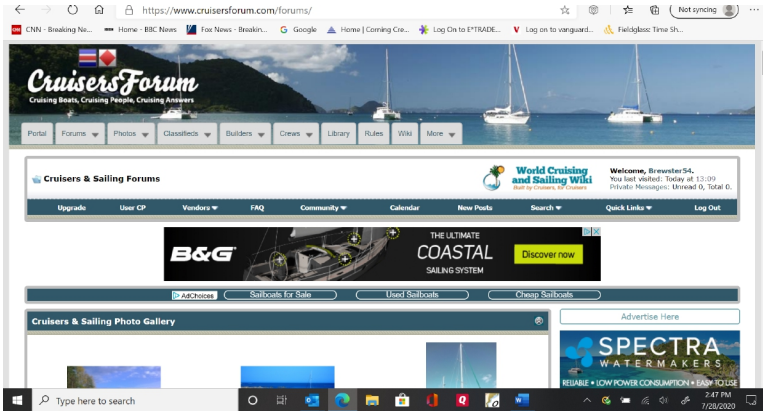
By Jim McGinnis

SV Brewster

Hey all:

I just thought I'd send in a note about using on-line sources to solve boating problems. I know many of you have been using these sources for years but some might not. Most of you have certainly caught on to the depth and breadth of information available on YouTube video's which are great for getting some background on how to solve a problem (...and for killing time).

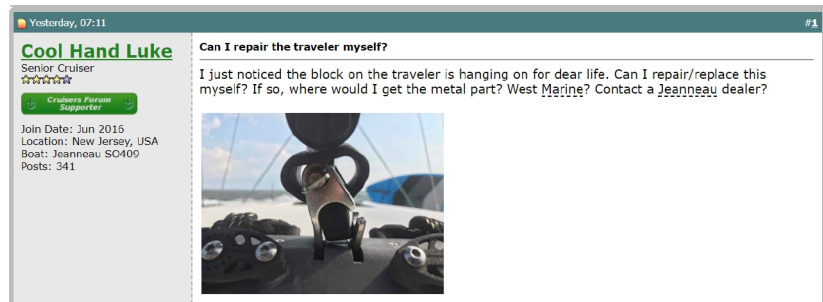
I wanted to suggest an on-line forum that has a wealth of information and access to hundreds of experts. Don Kloeber pointed it out to us during the Cruise Planning Course last fall. I signed up and have been getting a regular email from the "Cruisers Forum" ever since with the top trending topics. They all have something of interest and lead to understanding how something works or it can be fixed. Take a look when you get a chance. www.CruisersForum.com



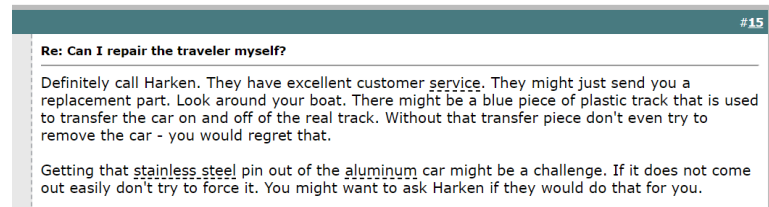
Visit Popular Forums

Monohull Sailboats, Multihull Sailboats, Powered Boats, General Sailing, Classifieds Ads, Crew Positions, Life Aboard a Boat, Seamanship & Boat Handling, Navigation, OpenCPN, Training, Licensing, & Certification, Health, Safety, & Related Gear, Rules of the Road, Regulations, & Red Tape, Electronics: Comms / AV, Electrical: Batts / Gen / Solar, Lithium Power Systems, Engines & Propulsion, Propellers & Drive Systems, Plumbing / Fixtures, Deck Hdw: Rigging / Sails, Aux. Equipment & Dinghy, Anchoring & Mooring

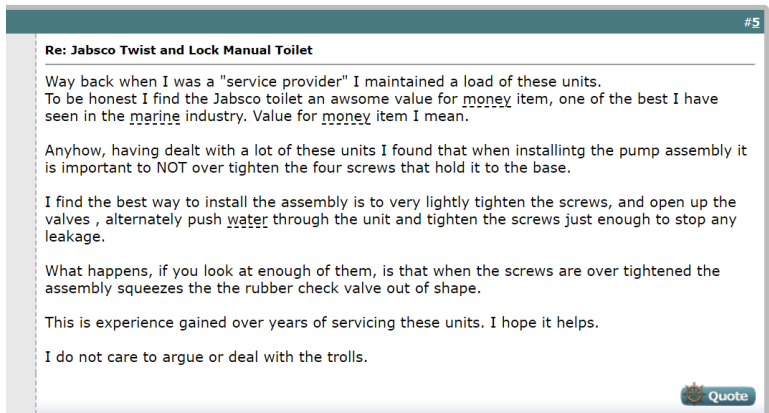
Here is a typical question:



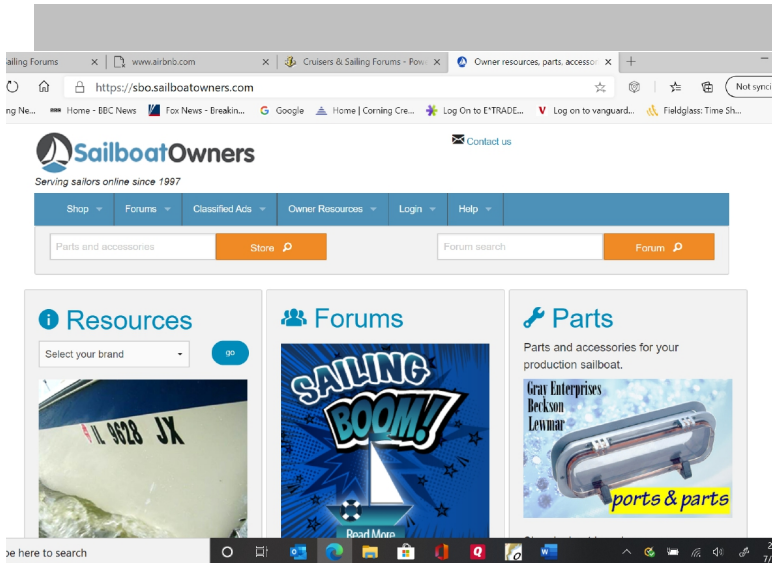
Typical of the (15) responses in just a few hours with good recommendations.



Sometimes you can get an extremely experienced response to specific question. Here someone asked about leaks after a new Jabsco toilet installation.



Whatever the topic you can learn something by reading a bit from a number of knowledgeable contributors. The site is well-moderated to eliminate political comments (and anything more offensive than the awful smell coming from somewhere in your boat.)



Another really useful site is www.SailboatOwners.com Here you can find answers to questions specific to your exact boat and recommendations on replacement parts that fit that boat. You can get a length recommendation from the site for your boat and order new halyards. Of course, you can look at a lot of boats with pricing to get an idea of what yours is worth or what that dream boat might cost.

Have fun!

- Jim

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Wear a Mask, Wash Your Hands, Stay 6 Feet Away from Others!

From the Center for Disease Control

There is currently no vaccine to prevent coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus. The virus is thought to spread mainly from person-to-person. Between people who are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet). Through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes or talks. These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled into the lungs. Some recent studies have suggested that COVID-19 may be spread by people who are not showing symptoms.

Everyone Should: Wash your hands often. Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds especially after you have been in a public place, or after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.

It's especially important to wash: Before eating or preparing food. Before touching your face. After using the restroom. After leaving a public place. After blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing. After handling your mask. After changing a diaper. After caring for someone sick. After touching animals or pets. If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

Avoid close contact

Avoid close contact with people who are sick. If possible, maintain 6 feet between the person who is sick and other household members. Outside your home: Put 6 feet of distance between yourself and people who don't live in your household. Remember that some people without symptoms may be able to

spread virus. Stay at least 6 feet (about 2 arms' length) from other people. Keeping distance from others is especially important for people who are at higher risk of getting very sick. Cover your mouth and nose with a mask when around others. You could spread COVID-19 to others even if you do not feel sick. The mask is meant to protect other people in case you are infected. Everyone should wear a mask in public settings and when around people who don't live in your household, especially when other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain. Masks should not be placed on young children under age 2, anyone who has trouble breathing, or is unconscious, incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance. Do NOT use a mask meant for a healthcare worker. Currently, surgical masks and N95 respirators are critical supplies that should be reserved for healthcare workers and other first responders. Continue to keep about 6 feet between yourself and others. The mask is not a substitute for social distancing. Cover coughs and sneezes. Always cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze or use the inside of your elbow and do not spit. Throw used tissues in the trash. Immediately wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not readily available, clean your hands with a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.

Clean and disinfect

Clean AND disinfect frequently touched surfaces daily. This includes tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, toilets, faucets, and sinks. If surfaces are dirty, clean them. Use detergent or soap and water prior to disinfection. Then, use a household disinfectant. Most common EPA-registered household disinfectants will work.

Monitor Your Health Daily

Be alert for symptoms. Watch for fever, cough, shortness of breath, or other symptoms of COVID-19. Especially important if you are running essential errands, going into the office or workplace, and in settings where it may be difficult to keep a physical distance of 6 feet. Take your temperature if symptoms develop. Don't take your temperature within 30 minutes of

exercising or after taking medications that could lower your temperature, like acetaminophen.

Follow CDC guidance if symptoms develop.

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Editor's Corner

by Tom Alley



rebuttal: February.

The summer of COVID marches onward. At least the weather has been nice – warm and sunny the way summers should be. (Remember, this is an *opinion* column!) For those of you who insist that the weather has been too hot, I'd like to provide you with a one-word

I'm sure that many of you have noticed that *Tomfoolery* had an uncharacteristically late launch this spring (early summer, actually) and that she hasn't left her slip too much in the short time she's been launched. There's been a flurry of work going on since April that included some deck re-coring, sanding, painting, varnishing, and a ton of electrical and mechanical work.

Fortunately, the to-do list for *Tomfoolery* and her crew is beginning to get a little shorter, which is a good thing. The goal of all this activity is to become ship-shape for a "bucket list" item that your editor and his crew have been pursuing for the past three years. The goal is to make our fair sloop seaworthy and competitive for the 2021 Marion-Bermuda Race.

This race is the last ocean race in which there is a Celestial Division in which only traditional navigation is allowed. (No electronics; all with a sextant and stopwatch.) Having taught the subject for a couple of decades I've always wanted an opportunity to use this skill where there is a defined purpose and goal. This race is the perfect opportunity.

SV Tomfoolery

The logistics involved just to get to the starting line have been overwhelming at times. Early on, I was told by a race veteran that just getting to the start is two-thirds of the effort, and I believe it! Because of some of the uncertainties imposed by the New York Canal system, it will be necessary for us to depart this Fall and to store *Tomfoolery* somewhere along the Hudson River this winter. Next May the race crew will complete the trip to Massachusetts, arriving by Memorial Day for the required pre-race inspections and briefings. The race itself will begin on June 18th and will last about 6 days.

What's really mind-bending about all of this is that once we arrive in Bermuda, we're only *half way* through with the trip!

This entire exercise has made me appreciate Seneca Lake even more. It's sheltered. It's not crowded. There is some really great sailing to be experienced. There are plenty of people around to help you when you need it. And most importantly, you're never too far from home.

Embarking on a big adventure like this is both exciting and terrifying at the same time. Stay tuned as this story unfolds!

- 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@flvc.us.

2020 FLYC Calendar

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

Corrections & updates are highlighted.

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.

January

24 **Deadline for newsletter articles.**

February

01 **February Newsletter Publication Date.**

March

20 **Deadline for newsletter articles.**

April

01 **April Newsletter Publication Date.**

15 **Earliest possible launch date.**

May

01 **Membership renewals due!**

22 **Deadline for newsletter articles.**

23 **Rust Removal Race.** Practice race. (1300)

25 ~~Memorial Day Picnic. (1700)~~

June

01 **June Newsletter Publication Date.**

05 ~~Christening/Rechristening of the Fleet. (1700)~~

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

19 ~~Light Up the Night Competition. (1900) Village Marina, all docks.~~

20 **Watkins Glen Waterfront Festival*

21 ~~Sunday Fathers' Day Brunch. (1100)~~

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

July

04 ~~All American Picnic. (1700 cocktails/1730 dinner)~~

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

18 ~~Commodore's Cup Race. (0900)~~

18 ~~Commodore's Dinner. (1700 cocktails/1730 dinner)~~

24 **Deadline for newsletter articles.**

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

August

01 **August Newsletter Publication Date.**

01-02 **ABC-FLX Rendezvous at Sampson.** (FLYC membership invited!)

07-09 ~~*Watkins Glen Italian Festival~~

13-16 ~~*NASCAR at the Glen~~

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

15 ~~Hawaiian Luau at the Flagpole. (1700 cocktails/1730 dinner)~~

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

29 **Nautical Swap Meet.** (1000)

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

September

07 ~~Labor Day Picnic. (1700 cocktails/1730 dinner)~~

10-13 **Glenora Wine Cellars Vintage Grand Prix.*

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

12-13 **FLYC Club Cruise #2 to Geneva.** Joint cruise with the ABC-FLX chapter.

18 **Deadline for newsletter articles.**

19 **Grape Harvest Race.** (1300)

19 ~~Grape Harvest Festival. (1600)~~

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

October

01 **October Newsletter Publication Date.**

03 **Soup/Chili/Chocolate Festival.** (1600)

08-12 **Annapolis Sailboat Show.*

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

17 **FLYC Haul Out/Help Out Day.** (1000)

17 **Member Banquet & Annual Meeting.** Details TBA.

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

November

20 **Deadline for newsletter articles.**

December

01 **December Newsletter Publication Date.**

* *Non-FLYC events.*

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. <input style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;" type="checkbox"/>
--

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 _____