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Please send any comments, questions, or corrections to:  
[editor@flyc.us](mailto:editor@flyc.us)

## Commodore's Comments

by Terry Stewart

SV True Love

### Half-Time

Half time approaches. July 31<sup>st</sup> is our sailing season half time. Schooner *True Love* has completed 143 sails with a busy weekend upcoming. *True Love* projects over 335 sails by October 22<sup>nd</sup> with about 6,000 guests having been aboard to see the highlights of the south end of Seneca Lake. Many memories are made aboard the schooner and so many people return over and over to make more. We recently sailed "Reesha", who crewed aboard *True Love* 40 years ago in St. Thomas. Every week someone shows up who made memories on her decades ago and come again to relive the sailing experience. Thanks to our captains and highly skilled and seasoned crew members who put in all their efforts to make it happen. No memories can be made without everyone being on the team.



Speaking of memories. How about the "end of year yacht club banquet". This is another place to create memories and share sailing tall tales. Do we want to return to a place we know or forge a new memory elsewhere? I'm wondering about the Seneca Lodge? We may have too many participants for the private room unless we ate as a group in the dining area and retired to the private room for the meeting, if a date could be settled on. What about the upstairs area of the "El Rancho" Mexican restaurant. I'm throwing these suggestions out there to stir up flagpole discussions about what would please the greatest number of people, and to get a date set so a sign-up sheet could result by September. Any productive input will be appreciated.

-Terry

# Vice Commodore's Comments

by John Chesbrough

SV Plein Air



## Miscellaneous Updates

Saturday July 8<sup>th</sup> witnessed our first social gathering for this summer with a picnic celebrating July 4<sup>th</sup>. The club's grille made an appearance for some hamburgers, hotdogs, veggie burgers and anything else that was available.

Thank you very much Mike Sidell for accepting the grille master duties.

And thank you to everyone who volunteered with the tables and chairs and setting everything up. We missed the luxury of the white golf cart and its trailer; mechanical problems brought it to a halt. The other golf cart was substituted but it lacks a trailer hitch ball. The volunteers overcame this hardship with vigor and a smile. Everyone who attended the picnic responded graciously to the BYO side dish request. I have to say that even with guest prices all the way up to \$10 this picnic was the best deal in town. The next yacht club food event will be the Commodore's Race picnic, let's keep up the good work, folks.

The FLYC mooring field in the not so deep waters off Smith Park has disappeared, mostly for unknown causes. Dennis Kingsley and I are considering our options for locating our chains. If anyone else (we started with six mooring balls, actually five, but six anchors, separately owned) is interested in having this done please speak to Dennis or myself.

There is a new sign at the end of the old fuel dock: Parking Prohibited, Pump Out Only. Tokens for the pump-out are \$5, for about 5 minutes of pumping, available from me.

See you at the marina!

- John

## 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>

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# Rear Commodore's Comments

by Don Swanson



## And Then There's Life...

It's funny how life always finds a way of happening when you're busy making other plans, but this summer has been a case study in this phenomenon of universal ironies. Long ago, during the depth and darkness of winter, visions of summer sailing on brisk northwesterlies under clear sunny skies danced in my head. And although this summer hasn't gone exactly as I hoped, I won't complain. Instead, I look forward with optimism regarding the remaining part of our sailing season and hope for skies clear of Canadian wildfire smoke.

But seriously, any time I am on the water (even in the heat, haze, or rain storms the materialize out of thin air - literally), the complaint department is closed. Isn't it strange when our health protocols are completely reversed from the days of covid? Irony strikes again. Enough rambling. Let's get down to business....

## Mid-Season Race Recap

This season of racing is shaping up nicely, albeit with the requisite issues of weather and busy summer plans. But through it all, and at the time of this writing we have managed to cobble together half the season of our Summer Series, the Rust Removal Regatta to kick it off, a new "fun" race, and as of now there is only one scheduled race to make up.

Thanks to everyone who has volunteered to help retrieve marks. If every skipper was willing to do it once or twice each season, we would have this duty covered efficiently. Both setting and retrieving is not that big a deal and both tasks offer opportunities to practice your sailing and boat handling skills. For instance, when I retrieve marks with *Independence*, a 25-foot C&C, I prefer to heave-to just upwind of the mark and drift onto it. This makes it a simple and no stress operation.

## And Now for Something Completely Different

This just in...

As I was finishing writing this month's entry, I was a bit distracted while also working out the details for the most recent addition to our menu of racing delights. On July 22<sup>nd</sup>, the FLYC held our first "annual" *Cock of the Walk* fun race with nine boats participating. On account of light winds, a short course, to Hector Falls and back was chosen, which meant a short window of staggered start times. For each start time, skippers and crew dashed from the start location on the lawn to their vessel and got underway, some even putting up sails as they motored out the harbor entrance. It was a hectic start, as we all made haste to cross the usual start/finish line with sails up and motors off

*SV Independence*

and it must have been quite a sight to the casual observer, perhaps a bit humorous. Soon the race was underway. As the fleet sailed into a steady, yet gentle north wind (Force 2) the tacking duels began in earnest. It was after a tack or two (to escape dirty air) I looked up and noticed a storm skirting west to east just north of our turn around mark. I grabbed the foulies and was happy I didn't hank on the 150 (was flying a 120).

As the leading pack of three boats pushed through a bit of rain and were closing in on the mark the wind finally decided to pick up, rather suddenly and in just the right place - at the turn around mark.

I was on *Independence*, neck and neck with *Brewster* and both boats trailing *Seek Ye 1<sup>st</sup>* by about a hundred meters in the same gentle breeze that had gotten us there when suddenly, *Seek Ye 1<sup>st</sup>* was heeling over a LOT more than we were. And finally, there it was, in our sails, the wind we all hoped would send the fleet home. But it was not to be. The wind quickly faded to a ghost wind and as the fleet struggled downwind towards the finish line, the sun began to cook, and a few boats dropped out. Considering the heat and sun and the rapidly fading wind, it was a sensible move. Nevertheless, the majority of the fleet hung in there and the order of boats finishing included: *Seek Ye 1<sup>st</sup>* (congrats to Mike C. our first defending champion), *Brewster*, *Independence*, *Dry White*, and *Tomfoolery*. Mike, take good care of that auspicious trophy, you will be defending it next year!

## Wrapping Up

Check the event calendar for our schedule of race and cruising events. And a special thanks to the race committee (Tom, Jim, and Bill). Without their help and sage advice none of this would be possible. And finally, thanks to all participating skippers and crews. Keep up the good work everyone and hope to see you out on the water!

- Don



Figure 1: The COTW perpetual trophy.



Figure 2: 2023 COTW Champion, Mike Crouse.

# Secretary's Column

by Katie Alley



## Secretarial Update

If, for whatever reason, you have yet to renew your FLYC membership (shame on you for being this late!), please note the new address to use, below:

Katie Alley  
295 Stillwater Dr.  
Horseheads, NY 14845

Thank you and see you on the water!

- Katie, FLYC Secretary

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Since pictures are worth a thousand words, here's a "lengthy essay" about one of our recent club races...



Figure 3: Might that be the Black Pearl? Or just Mike Crouse?



Figure 4: Dry White and Brewster during the Cock of the Walk race on July 22<sup>nd</sup>.

SV Tomfoolery



Figure 5: Brewster and her intrepid racing crew!



Figure 6: The FLYC race fleet makes the most of the waning breeze.

# FLYC Mid-Season Race Standings

FLYC Race Committee

With five of eight races in the books, the club is just past the halfway mark in the Summer Series of races. After a number of weeks with optimistic starts followed by drifting to the finish line on dying winds, the weekend of August 5<sup>th</sup> saw some wonderful Force 4 breezes keeping the fleet tightly packed all the way around a 6-mile course.

There are still plenty of events left, including the annual Commodore's Cup and the FLYC participation in the Barge Race at the north end of Seneca Lake.

Never raced before? No worries. Our fleet of racers will guide you through the process to ensure you have as much fun as they do!

Season standings are shown below. Series totals are based on the sum of scores from all races, with the two worst scores for each boat being discarded.

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## FLYC Season Race Scores - 2023

		Throw-Outs									
		Date ->	6/10	6/24	7/1	7/8	7/15	8/5	8/26	9/16	
		# Boats ->	11	4	9	6	9				7.8
Boat	Owner	Type	Race #1	Race #2	Race #3	Race #4	Race #5	Race #6	Race #7	Race #8	Total
Ellawicious	Bill Trondsen	Pearson 26	7	1	1	4	3				5
Dry White	Tom Keebler	Pearson 28-2	1	8	4	2	10				7
Skylark	Bob Hansen	Sea Sprite 30	5	8	2	1	9				8
Tomfoolery	Tom Alley	Alberg 35	4	4	6	8	2				10
Tavernier	-	Pearson 31	10	4	7	6	1				11
Tiny Tina	Jeff	Sabre 28	8	2	3	8	7				12
Brewster	Jim McGinnis	Hunter 336	2	8	8	7	4				13
Independence	Don Swanson	C&C 25	11	8	10	3	6				17
Hang Loose	Dave Lewis	J/24	3	8	9	8	10				19
Lanikai	Tony Kut yana	C&C 25	11	8	10	8	5				21
Sweetest Thing	Chad	O'Day 28	11	8	10	8	8				24

# Editor's Corner

by Tom Alley



## The Recurrence of Chronic Summertime Writers' Block

As you can tell by the "thin" nature of this issue, our members and club leadership are out boating instead of writing newsletter articles. I don't blame them, but it does

make my job a little more challenging so that I can get the latest club information out to you in a newsletter.

I do hope all of you are racking up memorable times on the lake and I hope even more that you'll share them with the rest of us at the end of the season in the form of an article, or even two! It's a great way to make the off-season go by a little faster as well as an excellent way to inspire others to set off on adventures of their own.

## Word Games

As I was thinking about what I could write (between repairing various bits on my boat, house, and car), my thoughts wandered to how the number of licensed captains we have in our midst in the marina has increased, and to the increasing number of

SV Tomfoolery

certified scuba divers that also call Watkins Glen their home port.

How does one address such a group? A group of crows is called a "murder". A gathering of baboons is often called a "congress" (while appropriate, it is in fact erroneous – baboons come in "troops"). But what would one call an assemblage of scuba divers? Or a plethora of captains? (The [TV commercial](#) for Captain Morgan's rum seems to have struggled with this last dilemma.)

Word problems aside, it's the season to be concentrating on our boats and to be spending time on the water with them. As such, I'll be following the example set by our club leadership. Perhaps then we can contemplate the finer points of the English language as we savor some time under some Seneca Lake sunshine.

See you at the marina!

- Tom

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*Well, your editor has opened his big mouth again. If you wish to agree, or (more likely) to tell him he doesn't know squat, please send your comments to [editor@flyc.us](mailto:editor@flyc.us).*

4000 years later and we're back to the same language.



Some jerks decided to build this and now I have to learn 3 languages.



# 2023 FLYC Calendar

This is the club calendar as discussed at the Board meeting in March. 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 Labor Day Weekend on the lawn by the marina flagpole.

**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.

## February

01 **February Newsletter Publication Date.**

11 **FLYC Planning Meeting.** Meeting of the Board of Directors to plan the 2023 FLYC Event Calendar. All are welcome. (1000) *Panera Bread, Horseheads.*

## March

24 **Deadline for newsletter articles.**

## April

01 **April Newsletter Publication Date.**

15 **Earliest possible launch date** (per slip contract).

## May

01 **Membership renewals due!**

25 **Deadline for newsletter articles.**

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

28 **Memorial Day Flag Raising & Picnic.** BBQ chicken. Bring a side or dessert to share and your own beverage. (1700)

## June

01 **June Newsletter Publication Date.**

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

10 **FLYC Nautical Swap Meet** (TBD)

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

16-17 *\*Watkins Glen Waterfront Festival & Cardboard Boat Races.*

18 **FLYC Fathers' Day Brunch** (1100)

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

30 **Christening/Rechristening of the Fleet & Light Up the Night.** Village Marina, all docks. Walk the docks, meet your neighbors, and learn about their boats as they are rechristened. Share hors d'oeuvres at your boat. BYOB. (1700)

## July

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

04 *\*Watkins Glen Independence Day Fireworks (2145)*

08 **Independence Picnic.** Hamburgers, hot dogs, on the grill. Bring a side or dessert and your own beverage. (1700)

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

22 **Cock of the Walk Race.** A "fun" race featuring a LeMans style start not counting toward season totals. (1300)

24 **Deadline for newsletter articles.**

28-30 *\*ABC-FLX Cruise to Sampson. All FLYC members invited to join!*

## August

01 **August Newsletter Publication Date.**

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

11-13 *\*Watkins Glen Italian Festival*

18-21 *\*NASCAR at the Glen*

19 **Make-up Race.** If needed. (1300)

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

## September

02 **Commodore's Cup Race.** Destination TBD. (1000)

03 **Commodore's Dinner.** Steak dinner with Chef Mike. (1700)

08-10 **FLYC Club Cruise to Geneva.** Joint cruise with the ABC-FLX chapter.

09 *\*Seneca Yacht Club Barge Race, Geneva, NY (0900)*

09 *\*Vintage Grand Prix*

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

22 **Deadline for newsletter articles.**

23 **Grape Harvest Race.** (1300) Join in this annual reverse-handicap race!

23 **FLYC Wine Tasting.** (1700)

30 **Make-up Race.** If needed. (1300)

## October

01 **October Newsletter Publication Date.**

07 **Gear Buster Race.** (1300)

07 **Soup/Chili/Chocolate Festival.** Bring your best effort in one of these 3 categories to win! Power will be available for crock pots. (1700)

05-08 *\*Annapolis Powerboat Show.*

12-15 *\*Annapolis Sailboat Show.*

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

## November

TBD **Member Banquet & Annual Meeting.** *Horseheads Brewery (in the marina). Food by Lakeside Eatery.* (1700) RSVP by November 1<sup>st</sup>.

24 **Deadline for newsletter articles.**

## December

01 **December Newsletter Publication Date.**

## January 2024

26 **Deadline for newsletter articles.**

*\* Non-FLYC events in italics.*

# Finger Lakes Yacht Club

## Membership Application

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

Finger Lakes Yacht Club, Inc.  
c/o Katie Alley, Secretary  
295 Stillwater Dr  
Horseheads, NY 14845

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

Web site

Cruising

Sailing classes

Social activities

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 \_\_\_\_\_