



The Binnacle

Charlevoix Yacht Club

February / March 2020

209 Ferry Avenue, PO Box 522, Charlevoix, MI 49720

www.charlevoixyachtclub.org

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Mon. Feb. 10 CYC Board Meeting

Fri. Feb. 21 Mardi Gras Party hosted by Doug & Cory Baker & forum with CYC Partners

Mon. Feb. 24 Mariner's Board Meeting

Fri. Feb. 28 Camaraderie AND Lasagna, Salad and the BEST pie north of the Mason-Dixon Line. Hosted by Max Carthew, Josephine Malecek, Denise Moline, and Karl Lahm.

Mon. Mar. 9 CYC Board Meeting

Mon. Mar. 23 Mainer's Board Meeting

Fri. Mar. 27 Euchre Tournament Hosted by Will Harrison & Jenny Bednar.

Fri. April ???? The club is open every Friday but it's more fun when members host. Is it your turn? Send your idea and date to info@charlevoixyachtclub.org.



View from new club site parking lot January 6, 2020



Future view from parking lot

New Clubhouse Update

Rich Hodgson

Construction of our beautiful new clubhouse is well underway. Currently, the first floor I-beams and joists are being installed. Many of our yacht club members are getting involved according to their area of expertise and/or interest. Tim Fisher of Indesign has provided images of what the building will look like when finished. These images and floor plans are available to club members via a binder kept at the club. There are also pages in the binder for your feedback and comments. There is a sense that we're building something significant for the future of the club, our sport, and even the town.

Several members have requested information about the project, how it's funded, and the organizational structure. CYC Partners LLC was formed August 2, 2019. Current members are Bob & Rafina Grove, Robert Fawcett & Laurel Rosen, Mike & Rhea Dow, John & Lani Ochs, Tom & Pam Barnes, Christopher & Autumn Lamb, and Rich & Perry Hodgson II. CYC Partners is using a combination of equity investments and debt from the partners, and a bank to fund the project. The building will be divided into three condominium units consisting of an event hall and boaters' lounge downstairs, and the Yacht Club's facility upstairs. The event hall and club will initially be owned by CYC Partners while the boaters' lounge will be owned by Irish Boat Shop. Additionally, the common basement will be used by Sail Charlevoix. The condominium rules provide a great governance structure for what will be a shared, multi-use property.

For those long-time members who remember it, CYC Partners is acting similarly to the role CYC Corp played in raising money to get the current clubhouse. One difference is that the event hall will initially be a separate operation from the club facility. The eventual goal is for the club to own both the club facility and the event space.

Recognizing that there are many questions, and that dialog would be helpful, two information sessions are being planned for this winter and summer. The first is scheduled for 7pm Friday, February 21st, at the club. Please consider attending to find out more about this important move for the club. If you would like to be more involved, please contact Commodore Robert Grove or Rich Hodgson, we'd love to hear from you.

Sail Charlevoix News

A little bit about Sail Charlevoix from their website.

In 1985 a small group of businessmen, formed what was then named the "Charlevoix County Sailors". Their desire was to teach children to sail during the summer on our beautiful Lake Charlevoix. At that time their task was how, where and with whom. The "Why" was very certain, which is the same as it is today.

Today Lake Charlevoix Mariners is the organization body of the Sail Charlevoix program and now facilitates fund-raising, facilities management, and management of the sail school program. Sail Charlevoix's mission is to grow the next generation of sailors.

Our juniors learn-to-sail program gives many students their first opportunity at command of a boat. Students earn self confidence and responsibility as they gain boat handling skills. Lessons include sailing terminology, knot-tying skills, safe sailing lessons, racing skills and much more.

Our adult program has successfully provided newer sailors the opportunity to comfortably handle their own boat. We tailor these sessions to the individual. Whether getting on a dinghy for the first time or refreshing good sailing habits, our instructors are there to provide the experience desired.

More information about our programs can be found on our website at sailcharlevoix.org.



Meet the Lake Charlevoix Mariners / Sail Charlevoix Team

Diane Allen

Members of the Lake Charlevoix Mariners are pictured during their December meeting hard at work planning the 2020 season of the Sail Charlevoix sailing program. Pictured left to right: Vice President Colin Texter, Board Member Steve Hufford, Past President Tom Barnes (standing), President Dan Tosch, Registrar & Program Administrator Diane Allen, Secretary Andy Allen, Treasurer Lynn Smolenyak, Program Director Stan Carroll (standing), Boat Maintenance Chief Al Pertner. Other members not pictured include Ron DeCosse, Tanner DePriest, Dino Franchino, Chris Kuhn, and Bill Wadland. We are sailing forward to a fantastic Summer 2020 season!

Help Sail Charlevoix's Youth Sailors

Colin Texter

The primary goal of the Lake Charlevoix Mariners is to foster lifelong sailors and support the future sailing community with eager young sailors. We are a growing our Sail Charlevoix Program with a bold vision of integrating our activities better with CYC and have plans for a move closer to the new Yacht Club. Our next year is especially critical as we have plans for purchasing a new dock to support our program in the new location. One of the largest fund-raisers for our program is the proceeds from selling donated boats. Without this funding we will be unable to relocate our operations and integrate with the Yacht Club.



We are featuring this 28' 1991 Melges E-Scow in good condition that was generously donated to us. This is a very fast and fun boat and well equipped with sails and rigging and includes the trailer pictured. We are asking \$15,000 for the vessel, but are open to offers.

See more boats listed at sailcharlevoix.org/boats-for-sale. Any financial donations are also greatly appreciated. For more information contact donations@sailcharlevoix.org



Awards Night 2019

Jenny Bednar

CYC Awards Night November 16, 2019 celebrated winners of every age and a variety of skills and contributions. Pictured here (clockwise from upper left) Dave Irish, receiving the Barnes Cup service award from Commodore Bob Grove; Ayla and Matt Henninger of Montuno; Lynn and Noel Smolenyak, Lynn was recognized as Best Wednesday Night Host; Stan Carroll, Pam and Tom Barnes, that's a lot of metal folks!; Keith Attee, Ethan Morrical, Sierra Hilt, and Elliott Sikkenga of Ticket To Ride.

Congratulations to all our winning racers, whether your crew brought home a trophy, a flag, or only memories of fun on the water.

Thank you to the volunteers that made the season delightful; event chairpersons Keith Attee, Noel Smolenyak, John Kunitzer, Mike Miller, and Jim Abbey. Additional thank yous to, buoy placers Tanner DePriest, Addison Amstutz, and Ashley Hagen. And finally thank you to our on the water Race Committee, Mike Tofil.

There is a full photo documentation of the festivities on our Facebook page (thank you Diane Allen and John Kunitzer).



Cranberry Cup 2019

Tom Barnes



The 2019 Cranberry Cup is in the books and the short answer is Bob Grove, Steve Pirie, and some mysterious and talented young lady from Traverse City named Beverly have won the coveted Cup! They dominated the 7 boat field with 4 first places, a 2nd and a 5th (just to show they were human). Bob expressed how impressed he was with Steve's driving and Beverly's competence. He said whenever he was in the way, Beverly gave him a shove...and it was all good. Great sailing!

We always congratulate and thank the Race Committee but I'm here to say that our RC is the very best RC. John Kunitzer was RC every week of the Arena and had a variety of crew. Terry Meyer and John were the RC for Cranberry and did a lot of work. This RC excelled beyond any expectations. John and Terry handed out beers to needy sailors. They sensed that some of us were bound up in the anxiety of the close quarters and they generously handed out Heinekens to get us loosened up.

I'm proud of my team (daughter Abbey and Stan Carroll) and very pleased that we came in second. Pam on the other hand has rearranged all the furniture in the house to fill the void in which she was counting on the Cup residing. I'll have another year of getting dirty looks for not having the only sailing trophy she will allow to be displayed where family and friends can see it.

Tanner, Rosie and (new to the boat) Augie were the surprise contender on Sayonara. They sailed their best day of the season. If not for 2 6th places in the middle, they were on the podium every race. Its not a secret that, with the short legs, getting off the start line is critical in the Arena. Tanner and crew did a great job of finding ways to clear the start line quickly and then sailed very solidly.

Our Tawas friends, Bill Coberl, JB and Peter Morley sailed well but I guiltingly took away our cup last year and expect their hearts weren't fully in it. Tawas wins the "Furthest Travelled" award and also the J22 Spirit Award for making the trek here each week. Let's be sure to return their good sportsmanship by having a good showing at next year's Bay of Pigs Regatta.

This Arena series saw more than 40 participants jump onto boats, including 22 in the Cranberry Cup. Bob Grove's vision of seeing 20 J22s on the line is closer to reality. Al and Liz Pertner have generously donated Wiley (the red J22) to Warrior Sailing and we'll expect to see her next year. Rheinhart Matye, the previous owner of Sayonara, is once again her owner (his wife bought it for his birthday!) As a result of selling one, Bob is back in the market for another J22. That means we will have 10 Charlevoix boats next year, and assuming Tawas comes back, it could be our second biggest Arena Series ever (we had 12 boats back in '97).

Thanks to everyone who participated, for the CYC for sponsoring the event and to all on shore that lent encouragement. You can see some great pictures by visiting our Facebook page at Charlevoix Arena Sailing.

So You Bought a Boat....

Will Harrision

We met some friends for dinner in the last throes of January. Despite the calendar, the conversation turned, as it always seems to do, to boats and the new boating season. Now, we realized, it was time to start thinking about that list of 'boat things' we were sure we wanted to do in the off-season. Turns out, the off-season is rapidly slipping away!

Most of us who mess about in boats have two lists: the to-do list, and the wish list. It's easy to procrastinate your to-do list by spending valuable evenings 'researching' your wish list. Raise your hand if you are guilty. (*Wow, its hard to type with my hand raised.*) Yes, I can see you there, trying to read this AND finish your Dark n' Stormy with your hand in the air. For me, the item is sails. I mean, who doesn't need a new sail?

Sails are to sailors what engine overhauls are to power boaters; something you would like every year, are lucky to get every five years, and in some cases, you haven't had one since Ronald Reagan was President. When I started to think about sails, I realized I knew very little, so I needed to talk to an expert. Fortunately, I know a guy. Now, there are many great, reputable sail makers, and all have their advantages. But there I was, at the club, having a beer with Keith Attee from Mack Sails, thus he became my expert witness. I started by asking pointed, insightful questions such as "How do I know when I need a new sail?" (*Brilliant stuff*) Ever the true professional, Keith chuckled and filled me in on some of the many things to evaluate when trying to see if a new sail is really a good idea.

First, you need to think about the primary way you use your boat. Are you from downstate, and only sail on Memorial Day, Fourth of July and Labor Day? Those three days, do you just take a turn around Raspberry Bay then head to the dock to party? If so, a 'blown out' old sail that is still not in danger of gross failure is probably okay. If you want something better, a used sail might be a good compromise. Someone may suggest a re-cut, but you should think long and hard before re-cutting a blown-out sail. When a sail ages, especially the Dacron sails, the weave is stretched apart, and becomes loose. Re-cutting an old Dacron sail may only get you one season of slightly better performance before it stretches again, and you are back where you started. The cost of the re-cut would be better put toward a new sail.

On the other hand, if you use your boat for racing once per week, or take several multi-day cruises every summer, the efficiency and reliability of a new sail can pay dividends in terms of your added enjoyment of boating. Let's not kid

ourselves, boats are never an investment; they are most certainly an expense. The only return you will see is one measured in smiles and sunsets. That said, let's look at some numbers. On a Wednesday night race you will sail about 7.5 nautical miles for the race. If your average is 6 knots, it will take 75 minutes to finish. If a new sail can get you 0.25 knot faster, you will finish the same race in 72 minutes. Three minutes can take a third-place boat into first. Winning races equals more smiles. If you are a cruiser, and you plan a trip to Beaver Island in favorable conditions for reaching, you might plan for a boat speed of 6.5 knots. Even off the wind, a blown-out sail will not shape properly. A good sail, properly cut and sized, and designed for reaching, could give you a full knot or more of performance. Not only will you get there a little sooner, a sail that shapes properly will reduce leeway and boat heel, making the entire trip a little comfier. You will be able to watch the sunset with a little bigger smile.

I do believe the off-season is the best time to evaluate sails. Everybody and their dinghy will be ordering new sails in the spring, so it behooves you to get an order placed early, no matter which sail maker you choose. Otherwise, Murphy's Law of Boating stipulates your new sail will arrive at 10am on the Saturday of Red Fox, only one day later than the promised expedited delivery date for which you paid a premium. All the while, you will have been marveling at the crispy new sails hoisted by every other boat back in June. Right now, a new main is still on the wish list for the Seeker family and is likely to stay there for a bit. Sails are the primary 'engine' however, and they should not be ignored. As any power boater will attest, poor-performing engines will make you late for the sunsets and allow for fewer smiles. Fortunately, when we're ready, I know a guy...





50th ANNIVERSARY OF THE CYC RED FOX REGATTA

Planning is underway for this year's RED FOX REGATTA! It is our 50th year for this great fund raising event. We are hoping to have an outstanding regatta and want to start the planning NOW! Each month starting in May we want to offer CYC Red Fox SWAG to create excitement and to get boats on the water. We are planning to use a black and gold theme for the logo. Pictured left is one idea. We are looking for volunteers who to work on both designing swag and launching those designs each month. Send your ideas to Jim Abbey, jbabbey1@yahoo.com, 313-467-7408.

More Charlevoix Yacht Club Membership News

Jenny Bednar

2019 gave us some lovely memories and 2020 holds promise for more memories to come. With our membership renewals, we voted on two positions on the board of directors. Congratulations Marty Jensen and Andrew Berge. Our current CYC Officers are:

Commodore: Bob Grove, Vice Commodore: John Kunitzer, Past Commodore: Noel Smolenyak, Secretary: Paul Gregor, Treasurer: Mark Pirie, Directors: Jim Abbey, Andrew Berge, Max Carthew, Marty Jensen, John Kunitzer, and Mark Pirie. Thank you all for your service to the club.

Summer, Fall, and Winter 2019 brought some new faces to the club. Welcome to our new members that joined after May 2019: Sustaining Members: Anja Lehmann & Tim Dickinson, Club Members:

Denni Moline & Karl Lahm, Michelle & Thadd Gormas, Joy Canning & Paul Fiedorek, Karen & Bill Long, and Page Sikes. CrewMembers: Jodi Bingham, Theresa Gagnon, Ryan Linden, Breah Slaggert, and Nicholas Whitley.