



## August 2023

# *the* Ditty Bag

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## Commodore's Report

*by Anu Day, Commodore*

As the dog days of summer drag on, please be aware that lake levels are rapidly approaching a historic low. Exercise caution on the water, and keep a close eye on your depth finder. With any luck, we will soon receive enough rain for the lake to rise to normal level.

As many of the County and Corps ramps close due to low lake levels, we are fortunate to still be able to use our ramp at LCYC. Please review our rules and safety guidelines for launching. LCYC members are allowed to use the ramp to launch their own boats only; our ramp is not to be used by non-members or unaccompanied visitors.

As we are halfway through the year, here's a suggestion for something to read on a hot summer afternoon: dig out your LCYC Handbook, and review our rules and bylaws. Even us "old timers" need to do this periodically. Our rules and bylaws

were formulated for the benefit and safety of all our members and deserve regular perusal.

As most of you are aware, Rick Mella has kindly stepped up to be Race Director for the rest of this year. Thank you, Rick! As most of you are also aware, we have lost some members of our LCYC family in the past few weeks. Our thoughts and prayers are with their loved ones. Let us use this opportunity as a reminder to appreciate ourselves, each other, and all that life has to offer.

Happy sailing!! Stay safe and hydrated.



## Welcome New Members

*by Carolyn Cole, LCYC Admin*

Michael and Marylin Myers, Spring Branch, TX



## Sailing Beyond: Local Sailor Finishes Fourth in US Sailing Youth Championship



Dylan Tomko, grandson of Terry and Gail Tomko, along with crew Jessica Green of Long Beach, California, competed in the 2023 US Sailing Youth Championship in Bristol, Rhode Island. The team, known as Lupe Tortilla in honor of their sponsor, finished the event in fourth place in the Nacra 15 fleet. Though they are not necessarily happy with this outcome, they are pleased to be learning and improving, according to Terry Tomko.

As fourth place finishers, Dylan and Jessica qualified for this year's Youth Champs in Knokke, Belgium on the North Sea. (The Youth Champs are the qualifying event for World Sailing's 2023 Youth World Championship. Top eligible teams in each class at Youth Champs will represent the USA at Youth Worlds.) Dylan and Jessica returned from this competition on Saturday, July 29, having finished 35th out of 74 Nacra 15 teams. Terry reports that the team capsized once and was involved in three collisions in the week-long event, sailing in heavy winds with under 70 degree temps.



## Low Water Hazard

*By Bill Cook and Sally Phillips*

The coordinates of the shallow area off of North Park are approximately 29.867421, -98.206208. If not using a GPS or a depth guage, avoid the area immediately to the south of the North Park peninsula. If you have less than half of the dam before you on your left as you sail East, you may be at risk of bumping the bottom. Obviously, there are many low water locations in the lake at this time. All boaters should always use caution on lakes, especially lakes that are not constant level.



## Wurstfest Regatta 2023

*By Glen Graham 2023 Wurstfest Regatta Chair*

Our signature annual event is approaching quickly, and plans have been moving along to get ready for our 55<sup>th</sup> Wurstfest Regatta. Every year we hold a raffle in conjunction with the regatta to help offset the costs associated with hosting such a large event. Suggested items can be: Adult beverages, restaurant gift cards, sailing and boating gear, items for pets, jewelry, art objects, travel opportunities to name a few. If you have any items to donate to the raffle please contact Marty Chrisman, Margaret Vasile or me at [wfr-affle@lcy.net](mailto:wfr-affle@lcy.net).





# Series and Event Racing

*by Rick Mella, Race Director*



I would like to thank everyone who has welcomed me to the 2023 Race Director position. I am honored to be part of the existing team of excellent volunteers who work extremely hard to run the LCYC sailing program here at Canyon Lake. My desire is to continue the great work that my predecessor

Chuck Begley started and performed over the last two years.

To add to the growing numbers of Principal Race Officers and Chase Boat Leads, I plan to arrange and hold group or individual sessions next year to aid volunteers in gaining additional training and experience. More to follow in future articles.

The weather forecast for the mid-summer sailing event on Saturday and Sunday, July 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> was extreme climate change: the weekend's races were completed under bright sunny skies with high temperatures reaching 104 degrees by midday.

Eighteen registered Keel Boats & nine registered Board Boats are currently sailing in this event and will finish on Aug 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>, with awards presentations to the fleet leaders following each day's racing.

**Standings Prior to Aug 19<sup>th</sup>:**



Keel Boats

J-22 Fleet:	Scott Dunn
PHRF Spin:	Jake Dempsey
PHRF NonSpin:	Dru Wright
Big Boat:	Steve Wilson & Jack Mogab
Multi-Hull:	Jeff Hiller

Board Boats

Flying Scots:	Bryan Calk
Aero:	Jordan Merson

We are still in need of volunteers for the upcoming racing events:

Aug 5<sup>th</sup>: Long Distance Race

Aug 19<sup>th</sup>: Keel Boat Summer Series

Aug 20<sup>th</sup>: Board Boat Summer Series

Sep 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>: Condensed Fall Series begins prior to Wurstfest Regatta in November.

One side note: Next year's Summer Series will be scheduled earlier in the day to capture stronger winds and to avoid the afternoon high temperatures.



## Port Captains' Report

*by Ann Cook and Mindy Rogers, Port Co-Captains*

**Whew!** The past couple of months have been very, very busy on the LCYC social front:

- 78 served at the Father's Day Breakfast on 18JUNE
- 200 partied hearty at the Jimmy Buffett/Margaritaville Extravaganza on 24JUNE
- 106 attended holiday festivities on 04JULY
- 30 had breakfast with the Commodore on 09JULY



Having recovered from making many a margarita for the Jimmy Buffet crowd, John Ruiz enjoys a quiet moment on the Fourth of July.

• 100 enjoyed the excellent Shrimp Fest on 29JULY  
 And all this was happening during some of the hottest summer days on record! How can we offer so much to so many? Because we are a volunteer club and various members step up to give of their time, energy and creative efforts to ensure that everyone has plenty of food and enjoys a good time. Much appreciation is in order for: Susan Hoffman, Joyce



Festive decor added to the fun on the Fourth.

Hunter, Laurie McGill, Mindy Rogers, Susan Taylor, Dru Wright, Dave & Audrey Anderson, Jose & Katherine Camareno, Robert & Lisa Crider, Carolyn Harris, Scott & Christina Purcell, John Ruiz, Don Rogers, Katie & Don Joachim, Jan & Allen Broyles, Donna Rice, Jack & DeAnne Laumer, Joe & Margaret Vasile. You guys

rock!

HUGE thanks to Jake and Dani Dempsey and their galley crew for ensuring the success of our most recent event. Their planning and organization started well

before the 29th, but they arrived early on Saturday morning to prepare tubs of sausage, potatoes, corn, mushrooms, onions, seasonings, and boudin balls to go with the fresh, jumbo shrimp which were boiled to perfection! Lemon bars and ice cream for dessert rounded out the menu, and there were seconds for anyone who could manage more. If you were not able to attend, you missed a truly outstanding meal.

And now we look ahead to August—a relatively quiet month by comparison. Our next Commodore's breakfast is scheduled for 9:00 am on Sunday the 13th to be hosted by Susan & David Hoffman, Susan & Scott Holland, and Claudette & Tom Cozzi. The menu will be forthcoming in the weekly e-Blast, so look for it, and remember to RSVP. *By the way, you should receive an immediate confirmation email after you respond, and it will be sent to the address you indicate.* We've recently had a couple of complaints about "missed confirmations" which turned out to be typos in the email addresses entered. The Google Form system is not able to validate emails, so it is important to type carefully. (Just saying. . .)

Once again we enter our plea for galley crews and event hosts. If you are interested in planning, decorating, cooking, serving or even KP duty mixed in with a healthy dose of fun and laughter, we've got just the place for you! Don't hesitate to come forward just because you have not done it before. We will guide you and reimburse you and introduce you to other members you may not know. It's a real bonding experience and exactly what a volunteer organization is all about—being willing to work together for success. 😊

Stay cool. We look forward to seeing you at the club or on the water!



## Docks and Grounds

*by Pete Prados, Docks & Grounds Committee Chair*

**The staff completed replacing exposed Styrofoam flotation on the Youth Dock. This concludes 95 percent of the flotation replacement in the marina.** The

remaining work includes fabrication and installation of an 8' X 180' hinged walkway connecting the bridge at the boat ramp to the Super Dock. We hope to receive delivery of the frame (complete with flotation) early next year. The D&G staff will assemble and install the new walkway.

Note: It is worth mentioning that the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) mandated that this project be completed by the year 2028. It has been a high priority project for the LCYC D&G staff who have a number of other routine responsibilities including maintaining the marina, clubhouse, swimming pool, facilities, and grounds. John Ruiz, David Anderson, and Kyle Monroe started working on the flotation replacement project in August 2022. As they became more experienced, they developed an efficient system to replace the old, exposed Styrofoam floats. **The result is that all of the required flotation replacements were completed in less than one year. This was projected to take 24 months at a minimum.**

Please be aware that the breakwater at Joint Base San Antonio (next door to LCYC) has been moved to the shore. LCYC requested action after part of the breakwater became dislodged. A navigation buoy with light has been set (west of the LCYC breakwater) to guide members to the LCYC marina and boat ramp. We are anxious to learn more about future plans for JBSA and will keep you informed.

LCYC has had a long-standing lease with USACE. It includes the boat ramp and property along the shoreline. We pay the Corps an annual fee and are required to maintain this area. USACE representatives visit the property annually to make sure that we are following strict guidelines in the marina, shoreline and boat ramp areas. At present we are securing the open access points to prevent outsiders from trespassing.

Reminder: All members in good standing have access to the swimming pool and all other facilities at all times, even when they're in use by a party who has reserved



a facility.



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