

the Ditty Bag

January 2024

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Commodore's Report

by Glen Graham, Commodore

Happy New Year! I am looking forward to a great year of sailing and club activities. Club improvements and activities were a resounding success last year due to our dedicated staff led by Maggie Carty and John Ruiz, our fearless leader Anu Day, and our outgoing board with Fred Lindsey, Joe McDonough, Gary Kirkham, and Mindy Rogers. Of course, nothing could ever be accomplished without dedicated members who volunteer countless hours to ensure the club's continued success. I cannot say THANK YOU enough to all our great volunteers. Most of the work in LCYC is accomplished through our committees. If you have not volunteered before, or if you would like to do more this year, please reach out to a committee chair, and offer your services.

I am hoping (as I expect everyone is hoping) for some substantial rain this winter and spring. It would be nice to see A Dock floating again! I have been very impressed by our staff and many volunteers who have managed to keep LCYC operating during this time of historically low water levels. A task force has been established to plan for further potential drops in the water level. ***If you are interested in how your boating activities may be impacted, please plan to attend the Town Hall meeting scheduled for the first weekend in February.*** Details will be available in the weekly email blasts as we get closer to the meeting date.

In the meantime, I'll see you out on the water!



Welcome New Members

by Carolyn Cole, LCYC Club Administrator

There were no new members added to the club this month.



IMPORTANT Message from the Business Manager

by Maggie Carty, LCYC Business Manager

Please note that the Club business office phone number is changing effective January 1, 2024. **The previous phone number will be discontinued.**

The new number for the LCYC Business Office is (830) 964-2314. The new number will be listed on the website and in the 2024 Directory



Sea Scout Ship 26

by Eliza Sutton, Boatswain's Mate



This month, the Ship mainly focused on spending time with our families, but there were a few things we did together. The Ship hosted family photos at the club as a fundraiser. We look forward to doing this again next year. Our Scouts also went ice skating for our last "on the water" activity. We had a lot of fun, and everyone improved throughout the day. Again, we would like to thank you for everything LCYC has done for the Ship. We greatly appreciate it. Merry Christmas, and happy holidays!

Sincerely,

Ship 26 Alamo

Part of Ship 26 on Jolly Mon



Series and Event Racing

by Rick Mella, Race Director



Flying Scot Pre-Start Maneuvers



Flying Scot Start

2023 – 2024 Winter Series

Saturday, December 16, 2023, Keel Boat Winter Series got underway with thirteen boats registered for the 3 month sailing series (Dec 16th, Jan 20th, and Feb 17th). The weather forecast was for windy, clear skies with possible wind gusts of up to 24-28 mph coming from North to Northwest at 10 – 13 mph. Race Committee volunteers, Bob Fajkus, Jack Carter, and Gary Perser did a great job placing the Windward/Leeward marks and setting the starting pin to line up two races for the first month. On the Race Committee Signal Boat, Dru Wright and I started the first race at 13:05, with keel boat sailors given a racecourse of (W3) three times around Windward – Leeward – Finish (6.36 miles) to facilitate each race lasting between 45 minutes to 1 hour. With Canyon Lake water levels at historic lows, sailors had multiple roundings to meet the time limits. Three fleets were formed at the skipper's meeting (PHRF Spinnaker, Big Boats & PHRF Non-Spinnaker).

Series and Event Racing, cont.-

Current Winter Keel Boat Leader Standings:

<u>Fleet</u>	<u>Boat Sail Number</u>	<u>Skippers</u>
PHRF Spin	391	Travis Grahmann
Big Boats	48	SJS Team
PHRF Non-Spin	821	Darlene Beeson

Sunday, December 17th, 2023, Board Boat Winter Series, opened with seven Board Boats registered for the three-month series, with dates (Dec 17th, Jan 21st, and Feb 18th). Six Flying Scots made the 13:05 start, but winds were not steady and shifted from the East to Northeast at 3 mph. Three races were scheduled, but Race Committee PRO Travis Grahmann had doubts on the weather forecast of winds at 6 – 8 mph in the late afternoon. All six Flying Scots finished the first race in 30 minutes just in time for the afternoon wind shift, building steadily at 7 mph from the South. Within 20 minutes, the RC Chase boat volunteers (Bob Fajkus, Peter O'Conner, and Bill Allen) assembled the new Windward/Leeward – downwind finish racecourse in record time where the new 2nd start got underway at 14:52. Race 2 was three times around the Windward/Leeward course; with steady winds and clear skies, race 3 was designed with four laps, giving sailors the opportunity to play Canyon Lake wind shifts and a chance to change finish standings.

Current Winter Board Boat Leader Standings:

<u>Fleet</u>	<u>Boat Sail Number</u>	<u>Skippers</u>
Flying Scot	6194	Bryan Calk

Race Committee volunteers are needed. Volunteers are always welcome, no experience required! For those LCYC members / non-members, who want to help with Race Committee duties, please reach out to me since we have plenty of openings for volunteers throughout the 2024 calendar year.

Contact info: Email: richardamella@gvtc.com or RaceDirector@lcy.net



Port Captains' Report

by Ann Cook, Port Co-Captain



It's a **new year** with a **new calendar** and **new opportunities**, and we started it off right with a "First Things First" Sail on January 1st. Hope you got out on the water and came into the clubhouse for Hoppin' John, cornbread, and homemade chocolate chunk cookies. Hoppin' John is a traditional Southern dish of black-eyed peas, rice, and ham. To Southerners, black-eyed peas signify luck and prosperity, which we can all use more of in 2024.

Here's a quick glance back at the end of last year. Our annual meeting held at the Mystic Shores Community Center on December 2nd was very well-attended. We had a short business update, an awards presentation, a fabulous dinner, and lots of holiday camaraderie—although it was a little difficult to recognize some sailors dressed in their party best! Lots of fun and good cheer were had by all. Jerry Towler photographed the event for us; see the images [here](#).

On the following Saturday, Commodore Day, assisted by a bevy of former commodores (Clark, Wells, Samulin, and Crane), served a rather potent grog and some delicious gumbo. This event was followed by our Annual Christmas Party and its gift exchange, which

always promises to be a boisterous gathering; this one did not disappoint.

Then our final Commodore's Breakfast, hosted by the out-going Board of Governors, was held the next day on December 10th.

Below are some upcoming dates:

- Our January Commodore's Breakfast will be hosted by the incoming BOG and will be held on the 14th. Be sure to RSVP for this one. We ring the bell to start serving at 9:00 am.

- An orientation for new members will follow at 11:00 am. Those involved will have been sent an invitation.
- The February Breakfast is scheduled for the 11th, and we could use more volunteers. It's only a few days before the 14th, so be thinking about a Valentine theme, and let us know you can help.

Port Captains' Report, cont.-

There are lots of opportunities for "hosting and helping" in the new year, so don't be shy about stepping up. We will find a place for you. Our budget will cover the food, so you will be reimbursed for any out-of-pocket expenses. We just need a little of your time and elbow grease, and we can guarantee that you'll get to know members with whom you

work! Please contact Ann Cook and Sally Phillips at PortCaptain@lcyc.net . 😊
We look forward to seeing you at the club or on the water. Let's make it a HAPPY New Year!!



Docks and Grounds Update

by Pete Prados, Docks & Grounds Committee Chair

On January 10, 2024, the US Army Corps of Engineers will conduct their annual inspection of the LCYC marina. Please check the walkways, docks, and finger piers for tripping hazards and the following: old mooring lines, bad snubbers, water hoses lying across docks, etc. Also, make sure that shore power cables are not touching the water. If concerns are noticed, members should let D&G staff know as soon as possible.

The D&G staff is monitoring the water level in the lake and its effect on the launching and retrieval of boats. At present, skippers can launch and retrieve their boats at their own risk. If this changes, notices will be posted at the clubhouse, in the LCYC Weekly News, and at the base of the boat ramp.

Skippers are reminded not to use ISamp receptacles on the marina pedestals for shore power. These receptacles should only be used while the skipper is present and should not be left unattended.



LCYC Women's Sailing Program 2024

By Dru Wright, Women's Sail Chair



I'd like to invite all LCYC Women interested in sailing to join us on January 6th from 4-6 for a "Wine & Cheese Social" at the clubhouse. We have several activities and events planned this year to help you get out on the water and have FUN sailing! We will work to help you find crew to sail your boat or help find a boat that needs crew! Come and find out more about the following activities!

Social Parties – January 6th, April 7th, and August 3rd
Wednesday Morning Women's Sailing at 10 a.m. – meet at the Super Dock

FUN SAIL Events – March 23rd, May 27th, June 22nd, July 4th, July 27th, and September 2nd
Weekend Co-Ed Practice Sail/Race Days and discussion groups

SEW-MAD Women's Regatta – September 28th

Promoting: Race Committee Volunteers (training dates: January 13th, January 14th, February 11th, September 14th)

Promoting: Adult Learn to Sail, Sunfish Sailing, Sail-On Program, and Long-Distance Racing

Women Only Learn to Sail with Lynn Simpson – TBD

Looking forward to seeing you be a part of this fun group! See you on the water!



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