Welcome to the 2016 sailing season at Leatherlips Yacht Club! I’m sure we are all looking forward to Docks-In on April 2 and the first races of the season on April 10. Yesterday was a glorious February Saturday. It was sunny with temperatures in the 60’s. Four of your board of governors met at the club to assess how the winter treated LYC and to begin plans for the upcoming work parties, where we will get the club ship shape for the season. Every Saturday in March there will be a work party at the club. Please make plans to join us for as many as you can. Generally speaking, there are four main areas we will work on. If one area appeals to you, contact the governor leading that and volunteer. If you don’t have a preference, just show up on Saturdays and chip in wherever help is needed. Vice Commodore Mark Hess will lead work on the house, Rear Commodore Ed Hinton will coordinate work on the docks, and Fleet Captain Don Schregardas will take on the grounds. Member at Large Ken Fallon and I will work with John Lawmon, Steve Nearing and others to get the clubs’ safety boats ready to go. I am also asking Member at Large Donna Cochran and Don Schregardas to work with our members who have kayaks and shells to get that space organized. There are a couple of big projects involving the sea wall and the Laser docks, but those are dependent on the water level. You may hear more about those later. Mostly, though, the club simply needs some tender loving care. And thinking of that prompted me to come up with a “theme” for this season - - - LYC or “Love Your Club.” Each of us loves something (if not everything!) about our club. Some love racing on Sunday afternoons. Some love to arrive at dawn to row. Some love Friday evening pot lucks and other social events. And who doesn’t love sitting on our wonderful porch and sharing stories and friendship with other members who love our sport? So, my challenge to you for the spring is to choose something about Leatherlips Yacht Club that you love and show a little love to the club by coming to work parties and helping make that something that you love a little better.

See you on the water – but first at March work parties.

Mike Mirarchi
Commodore
FROM THE SECRETARY
Thank you to all members for giving their boat "OH" numbers and license expiration. There are quite a few that will expire in March, 2016. As a reminder, the Constitution and our Lease with the City of Columbus requires all boats to have a current boat license and appropriate "OH" numbers.
There are a limited number of lockers available for rent. Please contact me if you are interested.
If you did not renew your locker from 2015, please clean out all items prior to Docks In. After the meeting, remaining locks will be cut off and items inside will be donated to charity.
Questions? Carolyn Tanner, cmtanner9@gmail.com

On the Hard Mark Hess, Grounds Chair
It's time to prepare Leatherlips for the 2016 sailing season. Saturday work parties are scheduled for March 5th, 12th, 19th and 26th, from 9 am to 12 noon. All help is appreciated. We have the following projects: Fence repairs, Sea wall repairs, Outside chimney repairs, Club house painting, Roof repairs, Safety boats, Racing marks, Dock repairs and Grounds Clean-Up. Leatherlips work parties are always satisfying. Come make your club a better place.
Mike Mirarchi: Commodore  
Mark Hess: House  
Ed Hinton: Grounds  
Don Schregardus: Docks

Kayak Korner
Kayak Storage:  
There is an annual fee for members to store kayaks on the racks at the club. Presently a number of kayaks have not paid for storage. To arrange for kayak storage, contact LYC Secretary, Carolyn Tanner, at lyc.secretary1@gmail.com  
Otherwise, please remove your kayak by April 1st.  
Thanks, Mark Hess

SOCIAL CHAIR NEEDED
Over the years, LYC club members have enjoyed a variety of social events that are typically not sailing related. They are a great way to spend time at the club and interact with members of the other fleets. Two that I enjoyed were the “Port of Call” event, where fleets prepared food representing “ports” from around the world, and the “Moonlight Sail” which gave us a rare chance to sail after dark. There have been lots of others . . . Casino Night, Movie Night, Halloween parties, Chili Cook-offs and OSU game watching events. These social events are an important part of club membership. At this point, the club doesn’t have a Social Chair. So, in the spirit of LYC – “Love Your Club” – if you are willing to organize a couple of social events please contact Commodore Mike Mirarchi.

LYC OPEN HOUSE
Sunday, May 22, 1 - 4 PM
It's been a while since we had an open house. It is a great way for visitors to see our facilities, meet us and if the weather cooperates, go for a boat ride! We are inviting all the families and youth who are signed up for summer sailing classes, as well as our Shawnee Hills neighbors and anyone who is curious about classes or membership.
There will be no Sunday Races that day. All of you are invited to be at the club, go boating and enjoy the day, even if you are not taking guests out for boat rides.
Planning is underway and volunteers are needed. Here are the committees that you can help with:
- Publicity  
- Club/grounds  
- preparation  
- Meet & greet  
- Parking  
- Hospitality  
- Boat rides  
- Handouts

Let me know what interests you. All help is appreciated.

Anne Filbert  
740-965-1628  
afilbert@insight.rr.com
The "House Guy"
As Vice Commodore, I am responsible for the "house" this year. Let me know if you notice any problems or want to reserve the clubhouse.  

The Plumbing
- Last year we experienced serious plumbing problems. Keep in mind that we have a septic system and need to send as close to just water down our drains as possible. In the bathrooms, we use septic safe toilet paper. Please use a minimum amount. In the kitchen, do not allow grease or food scraps to go down the drain and keep a strainer in the sink drain. Your efforts will be appreciated.

The Fireplace
Members would like a working fireplace again and I will be looking into that. From previous reports, it is an expensive project. In addition to serviceability, the exterior of the chimney is in bad shape. At a minimum, we plan to repair and stabilize the exterior masonry of the chimney this year. With some luck, maybe we can do more.

House Committee
If you would like to help work on the clubhouse let me know. There are several projects that I would like to accomplish. I expect we have good times ahead of us and am looking forward to the 2016 season.

Thanks, Mark Hess  
House Committee Chair, 740-965-1628, mahess@insight.rr.com

Learn To Sail

LYC INSTRUCTION PROGRAM 2016
Planning for the 2016 season is well underway. This year’s program is set up to offer a youth Beginning/Beginning Intermediate session 6 times throughout June and July. The Advanced/Intermediate Racing Clinic will be offered July 5 - 8.

The Adult program is a special focus area this year. This year the classes will meet on Tuesday/Thursday evenings for 6 weeks. The last few meetings will allow for the instructors and club members to offer “fleet” boat experience to the students!

Marketing for the program has been ramped up over 2015 with the help of many from the Club. LYC Members will receive priority scheduling but only until April 15! Don’t forget Club Members also receive a discount.

To download the application for Youth or Adult Learn To sail, go to:

http://www.leatherlips.com/learn-to-sail-2016/

Questions? Steve Nearing, steve.nearing@gmail.com  
Carolyn Tanner, cmtanner9@gmail.com

NOTE
New address for:  
Honorary Member Margie Hess  
(widow of Bill Hess)  
690 Albion PI  
Westerville, OH 43082  
614-942-6290

Got a boat, sails, trailer, etc. you want to sell? List your item for sale on the new Classified Ads webpage on the LYC website. Send your ad text and picture to Tami Chapman at tchapman@avalontechgrp.com and she will add it to the webpage. Please be sure to include a price and contact phone or email in your ad. Classified Ads are limited to boating related items. Ad will remain on the website for 60 days unless you contact Tami to extend your ad, or let her know that your item has sold and the ad will be removed.
INTRODUCING THE 2016 FLEET CAPTAINS

The LYC fleet captains do a great job on so many tasks - asking for volunteers to serve on Race Committee, having social events throughout the year, organizing fleet regattas and attending the winter meeting when we set the racing calendar. I couldn’t do my job without their help. Here are this year’s Fleet Captains:

Comets: Dick Harmon has been the fleet captain for a record number of years, Please, someone volunteer to bail him out!

Day Sailers: JP Clowes has his hands full - Day Sailer Nationals will be at Lake Erie this summer and he is a Sea Scouts leader.

Interlakes: Steve Nearing has a winning system for fleet-building - sell your boat to someone at the club, then get yourself another one.

Lasers: Bob France already has the spring party on the calendar. Lasers had a great turnout last year, and the fleet is racing on Tuesday evenings all season. Bob, thanks for letting me pass the tiller to you.

Lido 14: Kathy Muenz had a tuning clinic last year that set the stage for increased participation. The fleet hosted a fabulous banquet in January, so who knows what’s next?

Lightnings: Don Schregardus couldn’t resist coming back to LYC after his retirement. He agreed to be on the BOG, then jumped at the challenge to revive our Lightning Fleet. Welcome back, Don!

Thistles: Paul Kreitler is ramping up for another competitive year with Thistle Days and some returning talent in the fleet.

Fleets are an important part of the club’s social structure, and most of our projects could not be completed without the leadership of your fleet captains. They are one of the reasons we get so much done working together. Thank your fleet captains and give them a hand when they need it.

NEWS FROM THE FLEET CAPTAINS

Sunday Races: Docks In will be Saturday, April 2 but the first Sunday races will not be held until April 10. April 3 will be a "sail on your own" day. Turnout is usually small for the first race day, so we decide to try this.

Race Committee Training: Hands-on sessions are planned for a couple of Saturdays in April. Goals are to familiarize members with operation of safety boats and practice using the equipment for running races. Maybe even a refresher on rules. If you are a little unsure about your Race Committee skills, this is the training for you. Watch for details.

Open House May 22: There will be an Open House Sunday, May 22 from 1-4 pm. There are no races that day. We hope to have boat rides, promote the sailing classes and show off the club to interested neighbors and visitors.

Sailing 101 Workshop: Saturdays in June should be warm enough for members to enjoy introductory sessions on the basics of boathandling, safety, sail controls, maintenance, preparation and racing. Gain understanding that will increase your confidence and improve results. Watch for details.

Summer & Fall All-Fleet Regattas: Two new regattas are on the racing calendar for 2016. The Summer All-Fleet Regatta is July 31 and the Fall All-Fleet Regatta is October 2. Racing for these dates will follow the same format we use for Holiday Regattas. These 2 regattas will replace the races normally held on those Sundays. This means you can sail in a mini-regatta & enjoy a picnic every 4 or 5 weeks through the summer and fall! Warning signal for the first start will be at 12:30 pm. The order of starts will be the same as in the Holiday Regattas. There will be three (or more) races, with no start after 4 pm. Each regatta will be scored as a separate event. A potluck picnic will follow at 5:30 pm, and the club will provide grilled sandwiches (hamburgers & hot dogs).

Women’s Championship Regatta: The regatta will be August 13. The regatta is still handicap format, but there is one change for 2016. Crew for the Women’s Championship may be female or male. Skippers must be female. It’s an experiment to see if we can improve participation.
Check Your Safety Equipment in the Off Season


During the off-season, boating may not be at the forefront of your mind. However, it is a good time to inspect your safety equipment. With no pressing boating trips forcing you to check things out quickly, you now have the time to go through your equipment thoroughly.

By taking some time to perform a complete inspection of your equipment during the off-season, when spring arrives, you are sure to have an easier and safer start to your boating season.

Electronics: Remove the old batteries in your portable electronics. Inspect the connections before inserting the new batteries.

Fire Extinguishers: Check your fire extinguisher and ensure it is properly charged. If it has lost any of its charge, have it recharged or replace it.

First-Aid Kit: Check everything for expiration dates. Replace everything that has expired and restock all supplies used during the previous boating season.

Flares: Check the expiration date on your flares. Buy new flares if the dates have passed.

Life Jackets: Inspect each life jacket for wear and tear. The material should show no signs of mildew or rot. Check for any tears in the material and straps. If you find any damage, discard the life jacket and replace it.

Inspect dock and anchor lines: Check all lines for signs of wear and replace them if necessary.

Check Your OH Watercraft Decal Expiration Date!

Anne Filbert, Racing & Safety Chair

Ohio Watercraft registration decals are issued for three years and always expire on March 1st, although the year will vary. Check your registration card or the decal on your boat to see if the registration needs to be renewed this year. Vessels stored at LYC must display valid OH numbers and registration decals except for paddleboards, kiteboards and belly boats, which are exempted. For details, see watercraft.ohiodnr.gov/registration

Boat Registration Alternative for Kayaks and Shells

Hand-powered canoes, kayaks, rowboats, inflatables, rowing shells, racing shells and pedal boats that will never be propelled by a motor or sail are eligible to display a single decal in lieu of “OH” numbers. The decal is valid for three years and costs $25. Visit watercraft.ohiodnr.gov/alternative for more information.

Your Kroger Community Rewards enrollment expires in May. Be sure to re-enroll!

Support LYC!
Register your Kroger Plus Card
at www.krogercommunityrewards.com
(our Group Number is 83393)
OR
print this page & have your Kroger cashier scan
this bar code. Registration is good for 1 year.
Save These Dates!  

2016 Racing and Events Calendar

Sunday races: 2:00 PM start. Holiday Regattas, Spring & Fall Regattas: 12:30 PM start. (These 5 regattas followed by potluck picnic, 5:30 PM. Fleet Regattas & Club Championship: start time TBD.

April
2 Sat  Docks In
3 Sun  NO CLUB RACES
10 Sun Club Races - Interlake RC
17 Sun Club Races - Day Sailer RC
24 Sun Club Races Thistle Day - Laser/Lightning RC
30/1 S-S Interlake Chiefs Regatta - Thistle RC

May
1 Sun  Club Races - Day Sailer RC
8 Sun  Club Races - Laser/Lightning RC
14 Sat Thistle Damful Regatta/Thistle Day - Interlake RC
15 Sun  Club Races - Interlake RC
21 Sat Laser Laserlips Regatta - Day Sailer RC
22 Sun  LYC Open House 1-4 pm - NO CLUB RACES
28 Sat Memorial Day Regatta 12:30 start, picnic 5:30 - Thistle RC
29 Sun  NO CLUB RACES
30 Mon  Memorial Day Holiday - NO CLUB RACES

June
5 Sun  Club Races - Day Sailer RC
12 Sun Club Races, Thistle Day - Lido 14  RC
19 Sun Club Races - Interlake RC
26 Sun Club Races - Thistle RC

July
2 Sat  Independence Day Regatta, Thistle Day 12:30 start & picnic 5:30 - Lido RC
3 Sun  NO CLUB RACES
4 Mon  Independence Day Holiday - NO CLUB RACES
10 Sun Club Races - Interlake RC
17 Sun Club Races - Thistle RC
24 Sun Club Races - Day Sailer RC
31 Sun Summer All-Fleet Regatta 12:30 start, picnic 5:30 - Laser/Lightning RC

August
4-7 Thur- BSA Small Boat Sailing Merit Badge Camp
- Sun  6 PM Thurs - Sunday noon (host: Sea Sea Scouts)
7 Sun Club Races - Thistle
13 Sat  LYC Women’s Championship Regatta 12:30 start - Interlake RC
14 Sun Club Races, Thistle Day - Laser/Lightning RC
21 Sun Club Races - Interlake RC
27 Sat  LYC Club Championship Regatta - Comet RC
28 Sun Club Races - Day Sailer RC

Continued Next Page

Cut to hang on your fridge
Save These Dates!  

2016 Racing and Events Calendar

September
3 Sat  24-hour Endurance Race noon start (tentative)
4 Sun  24-hour Endurance Race noon finish (tentative)
5 Mon  Labor Day Regatta, Thistle Day 12:30 start & picnic 5:30 - Interlake RC
10 Sat  Day Sailer Regatta - Laser/Lightning RC
11 Sun  Club Races - Day Sailer RC
17 Sat  Lido 14 Minton Regatta - Comet RC
18 Sun  Club Races Lido 14 RC
24 Sat  Comet Pigskin Regatta - Lido RC
25 Sun  Club Races - Comet RC

October
2 Sun  Fall All-Fleet Regatta 12:30 start & picnic 5:30, Thistle Day- Day Sailer RC
9 Sun  Club Races - Sea Scout RC
16 Sun  Club Races - Interlake RC
23 Sun  Club Races - Thistle RC
29 Sat  Laser Freeze Regatta - DIY RC
30 Sun  Club Races, Thistle Day - Laser/Lightning RC

November
5 Sat  Docks Out

OSU Football Schedule
9/3  - Home
9/10 - Home
9/17 - Away
9/24 - OFF
10/1 - Home
10/8 - Home
10/15 - Away
10/22 - Away
10/29 - Home
11/5 - Home
11/12 - Away
11/19 - Away
11/26 - Home

The sailing instruction program received a great opportunity (at short notice!) to have a free exhibit at the Arnold SportsWorld Expo for Kids & Teens. The event was held at the Ohio State Fairgrounds, Mar 5 & 6, at the same time as the more famous Arnold event downtown. LYC had 2 Oppis on display and passed out a flyer that highlights the Youth Sailing Day Camps, the Adult Sailing Class and our May 22 Open House. Knot tying activity and hiking bench were offered for kids to try.

LYC tack pins
ON SALE!
$3 ea.
Contact Kathy Muenz
kbmuenz@columbus.rr.com

Leatherlips Yacht Club
is on FACEBOOK!
We are all “US Sailing”

Many of the learning opportunities and sailing events we enjoy at Leatherlips Yacht Club are made available to us by US Sailing, the national governing body for our sport.

Over the last few years, we’ve hosted several US Sailing seminars.

Our Junior Program Director and instructors have all attended training to become US Sailing certified instructors.

Many of our race officers are graduates of US Sailing race management programs and are US Sailing Certified Race Officials.

**US Sailing is a nonprofit, member-supported organization.** Every US Sailing member contributes to the development and availability of the programs we benefit from at Leatherlips Yacht Club.

I encourage you to join me in doing our part by becoming a US Sailing member today. We are all “US Sailing.”

Leatherlips Yacht Club is US Sailing MVP Club. Through our MVP Partnership, you'll receive up to 20% off your US Sailing membership dues. The club will receive a portion of your dues in our **US Sailing MVP account** to expand access to US Sailing programs: train instructors, host seminars, purchase program materials and supplies, etc.

**US Sailing’s resources and programs are essential to our sport.** Please join today.

US Sailing Membership with the Leatherlips Yacht Club MVP discount:

- **Youth:** $20  
- **Individual:** $50  
- **Family:** $75

Please join today: [https://www1.ussailing.org/membership/mpp/default.aspx](https://www1.ussailing.org/membership/mpp/default.aspx)

**Bring US Sailing programs to our club by joining the US Sailing MVP Program today!**

- Train more instructors, race officials and coaches  
- Host Safety at Sea Seminars, racing rules seminars and race management seminars  
- Train instructors in safe powerboat handling and safety/rescue practices  
- Send club representatives to Leadership Forums, Yacht Club Summits, Regional Sailing Symposiums  
- Save on sailing program supplies and educational materials
Photo Gallery

Youth Learn To Sail

Holiday Hayrides

One of the very first LYC Lightnings

Early LYC Comet Fleet

Historical photos provided by LYC
Historian, Kathy Muenz

Visit us at: www.leatherlips.com

LYC MainSheet

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