

# ◆ LORAIN SAILING ◆

Volume 12 – Issue 3

March 2008

## SHIPS COMPASS by Commodore Fran

The “gutter boat races” were once again a big success! Thanks to Darryll Headley, Chris and Kimmie Merkle and Eileen Holloway for all their hard work. The food was great!!! Uhm mmm—Jumbolyia and sloppy joes! See Roy’s column for more information. Also check out the next brunch that is planned.

Sunshine committee is a new committee that has been formed. Diana Komar is heading that up. Please call or email Diana with news about our past and current members. You can reach Diana at 440-365-6511 or [dkkom@alltel.net](mailto:dkkom@alltel.net). Thanks Diana for helping with this. Diana is also head of the membership committee.

March 15<sup>th</sup> will be our first meeting of 2008. We will have a guest speaker from ODNR, Dan Fuller. He will speak for about 15 minutes about ODNR services to boaters, answer our questions and enjoy our St. Patty’s Day dinner with us. We will also have a race meeting before the general membership meeting, please see Andrew Wilson, Fleet Captain’s article for time. Membership meeting is at 4pm, dinner to follow.

## Vice Commodore Darryll

With the bitter cold and all of the snow outside it is hard to imagine that SPRING is just around the corner. It is now time to start thinking about getting the club ready for the new boating season. I would like all of the LSYC members put April 12th on your calendars for Spring clean up. The rain date will be April 19th. I will have a sign up sheet at our general membership on March 15th. The more members we have sign up the easier it will be for everyone. We will have LSYC’s annual chili cook taste off following the work day to warm our bodies and hopefully not burn our tongues. For those of you who missed the 2nd annual Gutter Boat Regatta you missed a great night of competition. Congratulations to LSYC trustee Chris Beal for his big win. Chris will be the guy to go after next year. I would like to thank everyone who helped out with the regatta. THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

**Vice Commodore  
Darryll**

## COMMODORES CORNER

Chris Merkle is currently an LSYC trustee. He has served on the board for years and in 2006 was Commodore. Chris began sailing at the age of three aboard “The Red Star”, a wooden Star boat. His first national regatta was in the late 60’s, as a teen, and the second year he and brother, Matt, placed in the top ten. In 1993 Chris and Matt purchased a Soverel 33, the well know “Moisture Missile”. Campaigning the Missile in the Great Lakes regattas since 1993 they have won or placed in many races.

In 1999 Chris met Kim Plato, granddaughter of Past LSYC Commodore Paul Plato (1934). Chris moved to Lorain and started working for Superior Electric. Chris and Kim have actively raced the Great Lakes together since then. When not racing they are cruising on Kim’s 28’ Marinette, Pogo. Several years ago, Kim and Chris were married at LSYC.

## From the Fleet Captain: Andy Wilson

With the beginning of the '08 season comes an opportunity to restore our weekday club race program to one evening for PHRF/Jam and One Design fleets.

Last year, LSYC hosted racing Wednesday evenings for the PHRF/Jam fleets, and Thursday evenings for the One Design fleets. This way the Shamrock committee boat was used for both big and small boat fleets. This was a change from previous years in order to allow the "big" boats more time to travel to regatta events and still maintain a proper One Design course.

This year, we have the opportunity to have two committee boats. One that can service the One Designs by setting a course for the evening and the other to run races for the PHRF/Jam fleets on the set wheel course. All fleets can race on the same Wednesday evening.

The board feels that a change like this should be put to the general membership for discussion and input. Prior to the General Membership Meeting in March, we will hold an open forum for racers and all interested parties to discuss the matter. This race meeting will begin promptly at 3:00 pm Saturday, March 15<sup>th</sup>. Please join us.

## BULLETINS FROM BOBBY

Club emails to AOL members have been being returned lately. I know this is a problem with all the Spam coming in (I delete approx. 200 a day).

Looking at AOL's help center it may be a Spam setting that needs to be setup or as simple as adding [manager@lsyc.info](mailto:manager@lsyc.info) to your address book.

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## Don't forget your "dead reckoning" and LORAN

By Paul Burik,  
GCBA delegate

As electronics is taking over many of our everyday tasks, we are becoming more dependent on GPS - be it on land or on the water. But as every boating manual states "do not forget your dead reckoning skills, you never know when the GPS may go down".

The government has been exploring that possibility since 2001! Recently the Department of Homeland Security determined that enhanced LORAN (**L**ong **R**ange **N**avigation) would serve well as the back-up system for navigation and time signals. The system is currently administered by the Coast Guard and relies on 24 land based stations, not on satellites subject electronic jamming like GPS does. Nineteen of the stations were updated to the enhanced version of the system - eLORAN. The operation of the new system will be transferred from the Coast Guard to the National Communication System. It is anticipated that GPS/LORAN receivers will be available soon in the \$1,000 to \$1,500 range.

## Annual "Gutter Boat Race"

was well attended and highly competitive, thanks goes to Darryll Headley and the Chris and Kim Merkle.

Interlake Sailor Gets GOLD CUP!! I really didn't know what to expect .... but what a surprise landing the Gold GUTTER CUP, last Saturday. The food was great and fun was had by young and old on a frigid winter night.

The race was conducted in single elimination format with about 25 entries. After winning the final heat there where a few that took notice of my speedy little craft. I didn't know what I was doing but my design seemed to work. Some tips for next years event are; Keep the keel centered and aft of the midpoint and place the rudder as



far back as possible. By placing the weight at the back the bow did not plow through the water every time a puff came over the stern. The CG of the sail was kept low to minimize tipping. The head of the sail was  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the mast height. The foot was on the deck and the sides of the sail were bent at 90 degrees to make it like a rigid spinnaker. A last minute addition was Scotch Tape to the sides to keep the wood dry.

These tips will help the challengers at the next regatta when I defend the prized Gold Gutter Cup.

*Continued From Page 1— Fran*

Memorial Day will be here before we know it. Again this year, we plan to march in the Lorain parade and then have our official opening and blessing of the fleet with a party afterwards. I would like for all of the members that have served in the armed forces to please let me know what branch you were in. We plan on recognizing everyone at the ceremony and printing it in the program.

I would also like to start collecting phone cards to send over seas to the military. We need to show our military that no matter how we feel about the war, we support them and wish them safe return to their homeland and families. I will start collecting them at the March meeting and up until the Memorial Day celebration. If you prefer, you can donate \$10.00 and I will get a card in your name.

We are in need of volunteers to help with committees, events or just give us your ideas. If you are interested, please let me know or send me your ideas and I will pass them on to the proper person/committee. **Our Club IS what we make it!!!**

Approximately 90 days until boating season!



### Interlake Update By Chris Beal

My name is Chris Beal (Boat #1292) and I have taken over the role of Fleet Captain for the LSYC #17 Interlake fleet for the 2008 season.

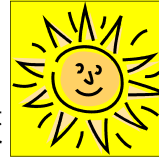
I am already looking forward to warm summer breezes out on the lake. Hopefully Aeolus (wind god) will be kind to our fleet this year. Last year he brought rain, too much breeze or the threat of severe weather for the Thursday series.

The Interlake #17 fleet will be hosting an Open One Design Regatta on July 19<sup>th</sup>, Saturday only. This will be an Interlake Traveler Series Regatta. Being the site for the 2009 Interlake Championships LSYC may get a little more draw from surrounding Interlake fleets for this year's event. The event is open to other classes and LSYC is contacting other fleets; Stars, Lasers, Thistles, Jet 14's to see if we can bolster the turnout. The event will be open to fleets with a minimum of three sailboats. If there is another one design fleet that should be considered please contact me.

We will have a meeting prior to the General meeting on March 15<sup>th</sup> to discuss ideas for improvements for 2008. Some things to think about are Interlake rig, sail trim tips and tricks, course recommendations and race length, increasing Interlake Fleet membership, participation for Week Night and Weekend Sailing, and discussing whether we should sail on Wednesday or Thursday night. I look forward to seeing you at our meeting.

If you would like to chat about some ideas for improving the 2008 season I can be reached by email: [chris.beal@oh.rr.com](mailto:chris.beal@oh.rr.com) and by Cell: 440-554-2918.

**Christopher I. Beal**



### SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

Welcome to the Sunshine Committee. Our objective is to keep all members of LSYC updated on all newsworthy items concerning our members. Some of the things that we hope to relay to all members are not only illnesses and deaths, but also graduations, marriages and achievements of our members and families. Our hope is that this will prompt us all to call or send cards that will let them know that they are in our thoughts and prayers.

In this issue of our newsletter we have only sad news to pass along to you. Ed and Marilyn Andres are currently battling Stage 4 Bladder Cancer. Marilyn has had 2 surgeries to make chemotherapy and radiation possible. The chemotherapy and radiation will start on Monday, February 25. This will be a very tiring time for both of them. Also, Ed is having a trying time with his Gout. We also need to think of Ray and Colette Peters. On Tuesday, February 12, Colette fell in her driveway and broke her arm in 3 places. Lots of pain still, but we all hope that it will start to heal soon.

I am including addresses and phone numbers of these members, so let them know that you are thinking about them .

Marilyn Andres  
11887 Indiana Hollow Road  
Grafton, Ohio 44044  
440-458-8539

Colette Peters  
Jonathan Drive  
Strongsville, Ohio 44149  
440-238-6176

Please feel free to contact me with news for the Sunshine Committee at: 440-365-6511 or [dkkom@alltel.net](mailto:dkkom@alltel.net). All information will be approved by member prior to publishing.

FROM THE AFT  
BRIDGE  
RC ROY HOLLOWAY

On February 16th, the club held its second annual **Gutter Boat Races & Party**. We had a great turnout with about 35 people either racing or cheering on their favorite boat. This year Trustee Chris Beal won the highly coveted perpetual trophy. Chris narrowly beat a field of strong competitors as most boats were heavily modified. If you plan on competing next year, it would be wise to bring some scotch tape, right Chris? Thanks to VC Darryll Headley, Kim & Chris Merkle and all for another great event.

On Sunday February 24th, LSYC held its second seasonal brunch at the **Rose Cafe** located in the newly renovated Lakeview Park facility. About two dozen members and friends enjoyed really great food and a magnificent view of the lake. It is a beautiful facility serving brunch on Sundays and breakfast and lunch during the week. The Rose Cafe will also be the location of this year's *Change of Watch* in early November; we'll definitely include their prime rib on the menu. Thanks again to Kathy LaValley and Brad Balmert for choosing and hosting this event.

**Dates to mark on  
your calendar:**

**Saturday, March 15<sup>th</sup>:** LSYC will have its first **General Membership Meeting** of the season with a St. Patrick's Day dinner to follow. The General membership meeting will start at 4:00 p.m. and the St. Pat's dinner will follow at 5:30 p.m. (reservations are required). Eileen and I will

be hosting the dinner, which will include corned beef, cabbage, potatoes and assorted desserts.

A separate flyer is being prepared; reservations can be made by contacting either Bobby Rhodes or me at [www.roycat28@yahoo.com](mailto:www.roycat28@yahoo.com) (440-877-9888 evenings).

**Saturday, April 12<sup>th</sup>:** Will be the club's spring cleanup. If the weather turns foul, the alternate date is the following Saturday, April 19<sup>th</sup>. VC Darryll Headley will be posting volunteer sheets. There will be hot food afterwards and most likely a chili cook-off.

**Like Spaghetti & kids?** Plan on attending LSYC's Youth Sailing program's 4<sup>th</sup> annual spaghetti dinner at WYC (located at Spitzer Riverview Marina) on **Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup>** from 5-7p.m. Watch for details of this fun event and important fund raiser.

Another reminder that **Cruise Week** will be from July 19th through July 26th. As in the past, Merle Dusek and Mary Chapman are planning some great destinations at the "islands" and in far-off Canadian ports; details to follow.

Once the season starts, we'll be developing an informal "**cruising board**" where members can post their travel plans to invite other boats to come along.

Think Spring... about 60 days  
to launch!

*Continued from Page 1 —Commodore's Corner*

As a trustee of LSYC this year, Chris is active in the racing programs. He and Kim have been very active in the organization for all regattas at LSYC since I have known them. Kim has done everything from collecting donations, making up race packets, registering participants and working the race committee.

Kimmie is always eager to help. She has cooked for the I-LYA hospitality room that LSYC has had for years. She is in charge of the race committee for the weekly big boat racing and our regattas. She has done art work for programs, designed t-shirts for special events and worked events. I have never known her to say no to anyone asking for help at LSYC.

Chris, besides holding several positions on the board, being on the marina construction committee, has also been very active in the Cleveland Sailing Association and this year is Vice Commodore of CSA.

Next time you see Kimmie and Chris, please be sure to say THANKS FOR ALL YOU DO! We appreciate you both.

## International Order of the Blue Gavel

February 3<sup>rd</sup> 2008 was the International Order of the Blue Gavel's Presidents Ball for District 7. Each year the Blue Gavel honors its new district president at the Presidents Ball much like our Change of Watch. Besides the Blue Gavel's membership the Ball is open to all members of Yacht Clubs that make up District 7. Pictured are the President of the IOBG Auxiliary our own Rosemary Sukis and yours truly John Sukis the IOBG District 7 Secretary. Guests from the Westlake Yacht Club were Commodore Bob and his Lady Di and from LSYC Past Commodore Regina Shaw and Dave Hoffman.



A good time was had by all who attended. President Tony Caruso was well roasted by his Lady Ottalee. Ottalee had some really good material and I am sure Tony was feeling the heat. The Ball was held at the Double Tree Inn in Independence on Rockside Rd.

LSYC has the benefit of having a two tiered Blue Gavel. First the LSYC Blue Gavel was first established as the Long Range Planning Committee to provide some foresight and direction for the future of the club and is now made up of the past commodores of the club. The Blue



Gavel is available to the current commodore as an advisor to assist the commodore as a group who has been there done that. The commodore has a great responsibility and you know what they say "it's lonely at the top" and our Blue Gavel helps to ease that lonely feeling when needed.

Secondly, our Blue Gavel is now organized as the Lorain Chapter of the International Order of the Blue Gavel District 7. We can now expand the network of resources available to the club by having this chapter involved with International Blue Gavel. It allows our past commodores to expand their reach and knowledge and bring it back to the club. It allows LSYC to be better recognized in the north coast boating community thru such

other organizations as I-LYA, GCBA and the Yacht Clubs of the north coast from Sandusky to Erie Pa from Cleveland to just north of Columbus.

The Lorain chapter will meet in April at Fridays at Tiedemann and I480. District 7 will have its Blue Blazer Social Thursday March 27<sup>th</sup> at 7PM in the Penthouse at Bratenahl Place. This event is put on by the executive board of District 7 as a recruiting social to introduce the Commodore and Vice Commodore of area clubs to the IOBG and encourage them to join. This year the event is open to all members of the District 7 membership and I would like to extend that invitation to any of our past commodores of LSYC, LYC and LSC. If you have any interest please give me a call 440-570-4921.

I hope this gives you a little insight into what the Blue Gavel is and hopefully as the Secretary of the IOBG District 7 I can help to make the club a little better and recognized as a premier club on the north coast. I will try to keep you informed on what is happening in the Blue Gavel and I will keep District 7 informed on what is happening at LSYC.

Watch for the next update.

**PC John P. Sukis**  
Secretary IOBG District 7



**At The  
HELM  
2008  
COMMODORE  
FRAN BURIK**

Vice Commodore:	Darryll Headley
Rear Commodore:	Roy Holloway
Fleet Captain :	Andy Wilson
Treasurer :	Ron Rychel
Scribe:	Tim Yanda
Trustees :	
Chris Beal	Tom Gibbs
Chris Merkle	Merle Dusek
Operations And Business Manager	Bobby Rhodes
Fleet Surgeon	Craig Chapple, M.D.
Historian	Paul Burik

**Interlake Sailor Gets GOLD CUP!! -  
Chris Beal**



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*In This Issue*

**LORAIN SAILING & YACHT CLUB  
IS A MEMBER OF  
(ILYA) The Inter-Lake Yachting  
Association & (GCBA)  
Greater Cleveland Boating Association**

Introducing the New "Sunshine" Committee—Blue Gavel Committee—Gutter Boat Results