



LSYC Newsletter

February 2019

Upcoming Events

February 13 at 19:00 WYC Board Meeting

February 16 at 18:00 Spaghetti dinner LBEF fundraiser

March 4 LSYC Board Meeting at 19:00

March 16 at 18:00 Membership meeting for Merger Vote and St. Patrick's Day Celebration Location TBD

Commodore's Report: Joe Spainhourd



After a week's weather delay, the Chili Cook-Off was finally held, preceded by a question and discussion presentation of the proposed new By-Laws for a merged club. The meeting, with both LSYC and WYC members in attendance, went well and there were only a few questions and comments.

There will be a few minor tweaks in the wording for clarification, but all seemed satisfied with the proposed By-Laws.

I did detect a few rumblings, but I chalked those up to the eleven pots of chili simmering in the background making one and all ravenous. Just like grain spirits contained in a charred oak barrel for several years turn into something special, chili when aged a week in a snow drift melds into a wonderful concoction. "Votes" for the best chili were purchased at one dollar per vote. In all, \$60.00 was raised to help offset heating costs. The results were: Claudia Kasper in first with 15 tickets submitted, followed closely by Nancy Case with 14, and tied for third were Jon Peter and myself with 6 tickets each. I purchased some tickets and voted for several different submissions I sampled except my own. It's true, no good deed goes unpunished.

Next step for the Administration Committee is to look at club and ground rules. LSYC has rules in place that revolve around marina safety. WYC has rules revolving around having a liquor license. While most are mutually exclusive, there could be some in conflict that will need to be resolved.

We are still in need of a Fleet Captain. As stated before, this position should not be responsible for everything. Each fleet, Stars and big boats, should have their own fleet captains and responsible for their own races and race committees. The Fleet Captain is in place as a backup, overall coordinator, and to resolve conflicts.

We have also signed a sublease with Westlake Yachting Club. This detail gives them an address so they may change the location of their Liquor License. This process will take some time as it winds its way through various agencies. We are still hopeful this will be completed around May 1st.

Merger Update

March 16 at 18:00 has been set for a membership meeting to vote on the proposed merger and new By-Laws. This will be immediately preceding our St Patricks Day celebration. The meeting will be brief, so be on time if you want to vote. Note that only Active and Honorary members with current dues paid are eligible to vote. Since WYC members are invited to the St. Patrick’s dinner, voting will be by ballot. When you arrive, we’ll check your name against the roster, and give you a simple ballot: “Approve the published merger agreement and adopt the new By-Laws: Yes or No.” No other business is on the agenda. An official meeting notice will be sent out shortly.

Note that WYC had previously authorized their board to negotiate the merger agreement, so WYC will not need to conduct a member vote on the issue.

The LSYC and WYC boards have selected their respective board members that will continue on the new board:

From LSYC	From WYC
Don Kaspar	Tim Brunk
Jim Morse	Rick Case
Jon Peter	Ed Rico
Dwight Sablack	Norm Scholl
Joe Spainhourd	Kevin Welch

The next steps will be for this “new board” to sort out the initial terms for these board members, varying from one to three years in order to set up proper staggering of terms for future elections. The “new board” will also determine the initial officers for the club after the merger. The goal will be to achieve a level of parity between the clubs, so that for instance, if the new Commodore is from one club, the new Vice-Commodore is from the other club, etc.

Both boards have approved the final drafts for the merger agreement and new By-Laws. Only two minor changes were made as result of the comment period: 1) The board will be required to set annual dues by October 1 for the following year so dues will be set before dock contracts are due for renewal; 2) there was an editorial change to the description of dock contract payment plans. You can find the full text here:

www.lsync.info/Hidden/ByLaws-FinalDraft.pdf

www.lsync.info/Hidden/MergerAgreement.pdf

New Club Name

On January 18th a survey was sent out to all current active and lifetime members of the Lorain Sailing and Yacht Club and the Westlake Yachting Club. This totaled 130 individual email accounts. In the first 24 hours there were 32 responses. Over the next few days, more were received but only at a volume of one or two per day. A second chance email survey was sent out January 27th only to those emails that had not responded previously. Eight more responded in the first 24 hours.

The survey was closed February 4th. In the 2 weeks the survey was open, 46 members responded or 35% of the active and lifetime membership. The results are:

	First Choice	Second Choice	Total
Lorain Harbor Boat Club	50%	37%	87%
Lorain Boat Club	17%	35%	52%
Black River Boat Club	26%	13%	39%
Lorain Black River Boat Club	7%	13%	20%

Thank you all for participating in the survey. Based on the survey results, both boards have resolved that the merger agreement specify “Lorain Harbor Boat Club” will become the name of the club after the merger, as soon as all the paperwork can be filed.

Spaghetti Dinner for Lake Erie Boating Foundation (LBEF)

The spaghetti dinner scheduled for February 16 at the Club, is a fundraiser for the Lake Erie Boating Education Foundation. LBEF is a 501(c)(3) foundation with a mission of promoting boating education in our area. The Club supports, and works closely with LBEF for programs such as the Sea Scouts, and Spirit of America. As the Club’s education programs open to the public expand (First Sail, Adult Sailing Classes, Junior Big Boat Sailing) the administration of these programs will likely be transferred to LBEF.

Note that as a 501(c)(3) foundation, donations to LBEF are tax deductible. If you would like to support LBEF’s efforts with volunteer time or a monetary donation, please contact Ryan Pinter or Don Kaspar.

St. Patrick's Celebration March 16 at 18:00

This is always a fun event and a good fundraiser for the club. Claudia Kaspar is again heading this up, and promises all your favorite traditional Irish foods! Just to name a few: brown sugar and mustard glazed corned beef, Guinness beef stew, potatoes, carrots, and homemade soda bread. Dessert donations appreciated! Tickets will be \$25 each.

Location is to be determined: we might be able to start construction on the bar renovations by then, and if you were at the Chili Cook-Off, the turnout made it almost crowded- what a good problem to have! So watch for the announcement with the location details.

As mentioned above, the special membership meeting to vote on the merger will start promptly at 6:00pm and will only take a few minutes, so dinner won't be delayed long. You don't have to stay for the dinner in order to vote, but you'll miss out on some good food and fellowship if you don't. (And of course WYC members are invited to the dinner)

Vice-Commodore's Report: Dwight Sablack



Well it finally happened. Winter came to Northern Ohio. And a bitter cold it is, too. This will be the second year that Pequod will be left uncovered. Not that I didn't try, but last year the expensive tarp lasted about a week and a half. This year we had a better approach. However, the whipping winds had their way and eventually chewed through it. Maybe next year we can get together and coordinate with somebody to shrink wrap multiple boats all in one day; that would make the job efficient and more profitable and resulting in a benefit for all. I believe there would be enough of us to make it a worthwhile venture. I do not like leaving that old boat out to freeze and thaw inside its cracks.

A review of the facility has found the docks are holding up much better than in years past. However, we have three docks that were previously unaffected have lost their floats and are partially submerged. Personally, if we had the means, the money, and/ or the technique I would rather we pulled them every winter. I feel the beating they take as the ice shifts around in the marina is costly and the reason for much of our rather quick wear and tear. For those who haven't seen it, The Chronicle showed the power of ice moving down Vermilion River last week. That happens to a lesser extent at LSYC, however, it happens.

Well, the good news is that there is ice fishing and ice sailing going on in Sandusky Bay. So if you can suffer the cold, and you need your fix, I suggest you go check it out. I have not heard reports about the fish harvest yet. But sailing off of SSC has begun and hoping to get at least a couple of weeks in before it goes away. Anybody interested in trying ice boating let me know. I will work it out in my schedule to show you the ropes.

That is all for now. Wishing everybody safe and warm travels this month. Hopefully, just 2 more months until "project season".

Cruising Opportunities

It's cold, and boats are covered in ice, but it's not too early to think about cruising when summer finally gets here. WYC meets up with Point Yacht Club (Sandusky) at the Huron Boat Basin June 7-9, and possibly at Middle Bass July 26-28. Contact Amy Brunk if you are interested in joining them. LSYC's traditional cruise to the Islands is set for the week of July 13. Contact Jim Morse for more information.

And there are rumors of a group of sailors planning a trip to Leamington in August- see Wes Scott if you are interested. Remember to make sure your passport is current, and you have your DTOPS sticker well in advance of any Canadian trip. An I-68 or Nexus card can make the border crossing very easy, but you need to start the application process soon to have it for this summer.

LORAIN SAILING AND YACHT CLUB 108 Alabama Ave, Lorain, Ohio 44054 www.lsync.info
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Board of Trustees Activity

As with the last few months, much of the board meeting was occupied with merger details described above, but did address some additional business not directly related to the merger.

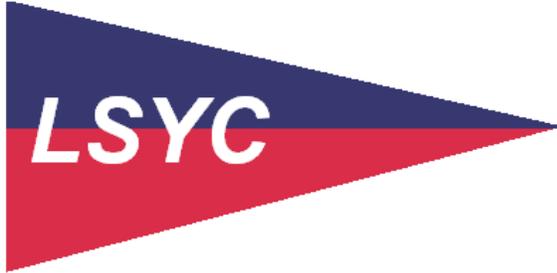
The dock loan refinance offer from Northwest was approved by the board via email voting in January, and is now working its way through the Port Authority for their approval. We expect that approval next week. This refinance will reduce our monthly mortgage payments, provide some cash for immediate use, and perhaps more important, goes for a longer term that eliminates the large balloon payment that would come due in a few years under the original loan. At the banks request, the board has passed a resolution that "The Club intends to exercise its unilateral option to renew its lease for two five year periods."

Two more members renewed their dock contracts in January. Cash flow remains tight, but the need for deficit spending is pushed back a few months. There was some discussion about finances after the merger. With a doubling of membership, the club's income increases while operating expenses remain nearly the same. There is the expense for the bar renovations in 2019, so we won't see improvement until 2020.

Joe, Jon, and Bobby attended a seminar on the new EPA rules for pressure washing boats last month. We will need to make changes so that we can capture the water and keep residue that is washed off the boats from running back into the river or lake. We will not be able to pressure wash boats until this gets resolved, but we don't usually do that until we haul boats in the fall so there is a little time. The board will take this up again after the merger.

With the construction going on in the spring, the board decided the ODNR fishing seminar scheduled for late March, and the Club open house scheduled in April will be postponed until September.

There was a motion passed to authorize Joe to investigate increasing the number of instructors and students covered under the Club's liability insurance to accommodate the Junior Big Boat program.



Commodore	Joe Spainhourd
Vice-Commodore	Dwight Sablack
Rear-Commodore	Karen Pleban
Treasurer	Jim Morse
Secretary	Jon Peter
Board Member	Don Kaspar
Board Member	Steve Chapman
Club Manager	Bobby Rhodes

Submit items for the newsletter to Jon Peter at jtpeter@att.net in rich text format (.rtf) by the 25th of the month.



Lorain Boating and Education Foundation
LBEF is a 501(c)(3) foundation with a mission of promoting boating education

Saturday, February 16, 6:00 p.m.

*Spaghetti, Meatballs, Homemade Garlic Bread,
 Salad and Dessert
 \$12.00 per person*

Wine Available for purchase

*Please RSVP To Bobby Rhodes
manager@lsyc.info by Thursday, February 14th*

LORAIN SAILING AND YACHT CLUB / 101 ALABAMA AVENUE, LORAIN