**Growing Membership and Increasing Participation**

**Welcome!**

### Panel

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Club/Role</th>
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</table>
| Steve Prime           | SteveP@Gowrie.com             | Vice President, Gowrie Group  
Also past Membership Chair  
Ida Lewis Yacht Club, Newport, RI |
| Taran Teague          | jtteague@aol.com              | Annapolis Yacht Club, Annapolis, MD  
Membership Development  
Past Membership Committee Chair  
US Sailing Treasurer |
| Brian Asch            | BAsch@annapolisyc.org        | Annapolis Yacht Club, Annapolis, MD  
General Manager |
| Barry Whittall        | BarryWhittall@att.net         | Commodore, Santa Cruz Yacht Club  
Santa Cruz, CA |
| Robbie Benjamin       | Robbie.M.Benjamin@gmail.com  | Past Commodore, Ida Lewis Yacht Club  
Newport, RI |
The Annapolis Yacht Club is a full service year round yacht club that provides high-quality programs for its 2000 members. These include sailboat racing, cruising for sailors and power, a vigorous 12 month junior sailing program, fun and educational winter activities, social events and first class dining and banquet facilities.
Ida Lewis Yacht Club, Newport, RI, has the enviable position to have a full membership, currently with a significant candidate pool for new members. We have had to stop accepting new applications for membership because of this large backlog of great candidates currently waiting for membership. There are a number of reasons to explain this situation.
Growing Membership and Increasing Participation

Barry Whittall  
BarryWhittall@att.net  
Commodore, Santa Cruz Yacht Club  
Santa Cruz, CA

Santa Cruz Yacht Club
Santa Cruz, CA

Santa Cruz Yacht Club’s Demographics:
100 (One hundred) Junior and Scholastic Program (8-21 years of age)
64 (Sixty-four) Corinthian members (21-35 years of age)
440 (Four hundred and forty) General members.

The Santa Cruz Yacht Club is the home of the ultra light displacement boats (ULDBs-Bill Lee & Ron Moore,). With a casual atmosphere, convenient location and ideal year-round weather, the Club sports an array of dinghies, a Club owned Regatta Committee Boat and various support boats (FJ’s, Lasers, El Toros’).

Visit us at www.scyc.org for our monthly calendar of events and activities.
Growing Membership and Increasing Participation

Growing Membership
Growing Membership and Increasing Participation

Taran Teague
jtteague@aol.com
Annapolis Yacht Club
Annapolis, MD

The first records of AYC indicate an initial membership of 30 when the Club was started in 1886. By 1959 membership had risen to 1000 and the Club properties were expanded. Today, Annapolis Yacht Club is at a full membership of 2000, with a waiting list in progress.

Our mission continues to be supporting a wide range of boating activities and to provide a suitable clubhouse and facilities for the recreational and social use of its members.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Membership Category</th>
<th>Age Range</th>
<th>Initiation Fee</th>
<th>Annual Dues</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Junior Associate</td>
<td>7-18</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
<td>$184</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior</td>
<td>16-20</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
<td>$461</td>
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<tr>
<td>Junior</td>
<td>21-25</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>$923</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior</td>
<td>26-29</td>
<td>$6,000</td>
<td>$1,847</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intermediate</td>
<td>30-35</td>
<td>$6,000</td>
<td>$1,847</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regular</td>
<td></td>
<td>$9,500</td>
<td>$1,847</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Growing Membership and Increasing Participation

Annapolis Yacht Club
Annapolis, MD

AYC is aware that some well qualified prospective members may be new to the area or not know a current member who can sponsor them for membership. The Club has been very effective with the Membership Development Committee which assists individuals through the process. Contact Howard Brooks at membership@annapolisyc.org

If a boater wants to learn more about becoming a member they are invited to a Happy Hour at the Club to meet the Membership Development Committee.
Growing Membership and Increasing Participation

Annapolis Yacht Club
Annapolis, MD

The Annapolis Membership Development Committee reviews our By-Law and makes recommendations to the Board to insure our membership process and categories are up to date and appropriate for today’s qualified prospective and existing membership. In 2012 we streamlined the membership approval process to approximately 45 days.

The Club realizes that the only way for new members to join and become a part of our special community is through the efforts of our membership. We encourage our members to step forward and sponsor new members.
Growing Membership and Increasing Participation

Annapolis Yacht Club
Annapolis, MD

From a General Manager’s Point of View...

Growing Membership

Brian Asch
## Growing Membership and Increasing Participation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Member categories Ida Lewis Yacht Club</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Junior Sailing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Young Adult up to age 27</td>
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<tr>
<td>Young Adult (age 28-32)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Young Adult (age 33-34)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member (Family)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sr. Member (Family)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

After two years as a subscriber member, conversion to regular membership is two years dues. (Initiation) Young Adults receive a 10% credit toward their conversion fee for each year they are a YAM.
Growing Membership and Increasing Participation

Ida Lewis Yacht Club
Newport, RI

Best source of new members:
From your current members

Create opportunities for non-members to get to know your club:

• Our Junior Program is open to children of non-members. Great source of new members in the 35 – 50 age range.
• As guests of our members for Grill Nights
• Adult Sailing
• Get-Togethers
• After racing on Wednesday and Thursday night, all racers, including non-members, are invited back to club
Growing Membership and Increasing Participation

Ida Lewis Yacht Club, Newport, Rhode Island

YOUNG ADULT MEMBERSHIP

We have actively pursued a membership of young adults under the age of 35 with various ideas including of course, reduced dues. This is the generation that we are all trying to keep as part of our membership for the future of the sport and our clubs.

REDUCED CONVERSION FEE

Our conversion fee (to become a regular member after two years as a subscriber), is two years dues. A Young Adult converts to Regular member status at age 35. However, a Young Adult gets a 10% credit per year that they have been a Young Adult toward this conversion fee.

REDUCED DUES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Young Adult (up to age 27)</th>
<th>$250</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Young Adult (age 28-32)</td>
<td>$350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Young Adult (age 33-34)</td>
<td>$450</td>
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</table>
Growing Membership and Increasing Participation

Santa Cruz Club, Santa Cruz, CA

Juniors $60
Corinthian
21-25 $150
26-30 $275
31-35 $375
Regular $500
Initiation $1,000
Non-Resident $275
Initiation $250
Honorary Free
Life Free

Fifty-percent of the Corinthian's annual dues will apply toward the regular membership initiation fees, in the Santa Cruz Yacht Club, to a maximum of 75% of the current fee.
Growing Membership and Increasing Participation

Santa Cruz Club, Santa Cruz, CA

Shining a “beacon” on growing a club’s membership through an in-depth review of specific membership data; e.g. age groups, sailor verse non-sailor, family involvement, present and future activities and projects as well as membership engagement.

Why did Santa Cruz Yacht Club select its intermediate (Corinthian) age membership bracket of 21 to 35 year olds?

In what group would you like to see growth of membership and/or participation?
Growing Membership and Increasing Participation

Planning and organizing

This is an inclusive and long-term commitment for any club and a thread that must run all events and activities. This quote by James Rorimer from the book The Monuments’ Men captures the essence of success whether you are speaking of the sustainability and preservation of art or a group of people. "A good start is a willingness—even eagerness—to work beyond the call of duty, a sense of fair play, and a recognition of opportunities before and when they arrive. In other words, it is important to find a course and steer to it!"

A excellent reference Book: “Saving Sailing” by Nickolas D. Hayes
Growing Membership and Increasing Participation

Santa Cruz Club, Santa Cruz, CA

- Starting point: Identify your target group, what are the characteristics of this group, needs, wants and best medium of communications. Develop a process for gathering input from your stakeholders, i.e. Program Directors, Staff Commodores, members at large, community and local university.

- The outcome of these meetings and brainstorming activities generated goals, objectives and a long-range 3-5 year plan. Policies and procedures for this specific group were fleshed out, i.e. a check out system for Lasers, a new member process for this age group and new member follow-up procedures (Mentor Program), and a specific protocol for volunteers to participate at various events, services and activities.
Growing Membership and Increasing Participation

Santa Cruz Club, Santa Cruz, CA

Rethink what would make a person or family want to join the membership.

“Why should we join this Yacht Club?” i.e. social place to meet, great bar, sailing opportunities with cruisers as well as providing crewmembers within the racing world, offering power/sail instructional components, increase networking channels, reduced/modified membership fees, and focus fund raising to support your goals and members.

One example is we are currently exploring the purchase of “Club Racing Boats”.

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Growing Membership and Increasing Participation

Santa Cruz Club, Santa Cruz, CA

Next Steps:

• Year one: Planning and generating ideas through structured meetings to create and implement sailing instruction programs for new sailors while restoring and developing a Laser fleet for their practice and use - “build it and they will come.” This evolved into structured “Friday Evening” Laser races and “Second Sunday” Laser races.

• Year two: Focused on guiding individuals into the best positions to assist, encourage and take on leadership roles within the Corinthian group as growth continues. A Mentoring Program supported and bridged the Corinthian membership to the General membership. Through regular meetings, an organizational model of a 3-5 year plan began to take shape. Development and ownership of a website, creation of new traditions, awards, Corinthian Flag Officers and events and activities specific for sponsorship by this age group emerged. Additionally, these events and activities were of high interest and attractive to families, friends, and the General members.

• Year three: Letting go! Fostering, modeling and coaching the nugget of leadership and self-governing within the group and their Board began to gain strength; Corinthian Flag Officers, their various Directors and Coxswain for Laser Fleet continue to grow and plan for the future.
Growing Membership and Increasing Participation

Santa Cruz Club, Santa Cruz, CA

Benefits to Club at large:

• A larger pool of crew-increasing the number of boats participating in regattas, more cruisers on the water, sponsored activities that through evaluation and feedback continue to be successful and bring members into the Club on an on-going basis, i.e Team Racing.

• The boating knowledge base in all areas has increased and is shared through a Winter speaker series offered free over the course of 8-week period.

• Topics range from safety to specific skills and experiences for seasoned, immediate and new sailors as well as those who might become interested in the sport.
Growing Membership and Increasing Participation

Increasing Participation
Growing Membership and Increasing Participation

Ida Lewis Yacht Club, Newport, Rhode Island

VOLUNTEERISM

We encourage volunteerism and participation for all our members. We feel that part of the reason to be a member of a club is feeling you are part of the organization, and the best way to do that, is to join in, meet fellow members, and contribute to the future of the club.

Our membership process requires that our new subscribers must volunteer and become active in our club, and have a period of two years to demonstrate their commitment to volunteer, at which time they are invited to become regular members.

Why do we encourage and require VOLUNTEERISM?
Growing Membership and Increasing Participation

Ida Lewis Yacht Club, Newport, Rhode Island

**VOLUNTEERISM requires PARTICIPATION**

Reasons to encourage volunteering… and the positive impact on the club and membership

- It builds a stronger membership
- It makes members feel an ‘ownership’ of their club
- It gets members involved
- It is a great way to get to know other members
- It is fun
- It builds camaraderie
- Volunteering is an overall great experience
- It makes people want to join your club
Growing Membership and Increasing Participation
Ida Lewis Yacht Club, Newport, Rhode Island

VOLUNTEERISM requires PARTICIPATION

But do not forget recognition for volunteering…
Every year, we have a wonderful party at the end of the season for all our volunteers.

Commodore’s Award
The Commodore presents a Commodore’s Award to an individual, member or staff, who has done something above and beyond the call of duty at ILYC. This is not awarded every year, but is only awarded when someone does something that should be recognized.

Race Committee Recognition…
Awarded annually at the annual meeting to a member of ILYC who, by their participation, has made a significant contribution to the Ida Lewis Yacht Club Race Management Program.
Volunteerism and Service to the Club

- Identify a theme of “outreach”, “collaboration”, and “inclusiveness” that will focus your energy in a particular direction and touch all aspects of the Club’s operation. Addressed “sacred” territories, kingdoms, etc.
- Acknowledgement and Awards for specific groups: example Corinthian Yachtsman and Yachtswomen, Junior Program-special Club jacket for completing identified criteria,
- Formed an “Outreach Committee”: the charge is to develop systems, activities, and an inclusive atmosphere throughout the membership.
Growing Membership and Increasing Participation
Santa Cruz Yacht Club, Santa Cruz, CA

Volunteerism and Service to the Club

• Created a harbor map that identified Club members’ slips on specific docks and used this for promotion and communication of Yacht Club events.

• Aggressive recognition of Club members by name, in articles, website, Facebook, and at special events specific to what they have contributed and the benefit to the membership and/or Club.

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Growing Membership and Increasing Participation

Annapolis Yacht Club
Annapolis, MD

The Board recently formulated an expansive Long Range Plan based on surveys and town hall meetings to determine what the membership wanted. This plan will ensure that AYC remains sustainable and successful for future generations.

Developing a Waterfront Activity Center/Sailing Center, enhancements to our Clubhouse, expansion of family-oriented activities, maintaining our membership and heritage were determined to be priorities for the Club. The Plan was approved by the membership in 2013.
Growing Membership and Increasing Participation

Annapolis Yacht Club
Annapolis, MD

Activities for all: sail and power cruising, world class dinghy and big boat racing, junior sailing and family events.
Growing Membership and Increasing Participation

From a General Manager’s Point of View...

Increasing Participation

Brian Asch
Growing Membership and Increasing Participation

Ida Lewis Yacht Club, Newport, Rhode Island

COMMITTEES and ACTIVITIES

Again, participation of our members is the key to our success. But you have to give members an opportunity to volunteer.

Of course, we have many of the same committees and activities as most yacht clubs, but we have encouraged members to pursue new activities (that meet our mission) and plan events that other members will enjoy.
Growing Membership and Increasing Participation

Ida Lewis Yacht Club, Newport, Rhode Island

COMMITTEES…

Management Committee
Membership Committee
Entertainment Committee
Race Committee
Regatta Committee

COMMITTEES…

House Committee
Junior Sailing Committee
Newsletter Committee
Cruise Committee
Club Store Committee
Growing Membership and Increasing Participation

Ida Lewis Yacht Club, Newport, Rhode Island

COMMITTEES and ACTIVITIES

Other COMMITTEES...

- Club History Committee
- Long Range Planning Committee
- Trophy Committee
- Ida Lewis Distance Race Committee
- Website Committee

And activities for everyone...

We have also offered a number of events year round to get our members on the water. These events have also been a great way for our membership to invite friends who they consider good candidates for ILYC membership to get to know other members of our club.

At every event, be sure to have a roving photographer to document the event for newsletter material, annual meeting material, and website.
Growing Membership and Increasing Participation
Santa Cruz Yacht Club, Santa Cruz, CA

COMMITTEES and ACTIVITIES

Building relationships through committees and activities strategies:

• Modified membership dues schedule and adjusted initiation fee for the Corinthian. Discounted the General membership initiation fee.
Growing Membership and Increasing Participation

Santa Cruz Yacht Club, Santa Cruz, CA

COMMITTEES and ACTIVITIES

Building relationships through committees and activities strategies:

- Committees and activities helped to bring skill sets into the Club; conception of a new Club Website, social networking formats such as Facebook and tapped into members culinary skills. Some Corinthians also became sailing coaches for the Junior Program thus establishing relationships to sustain, bridge, and grow both programs.
Growing Membership and Increasing Participation

Santa Cruz Yacht Club, Santa Cruz, CA

COMMITTEES and ACTIVITIES

Building relationships through committees and activities strategies:

• Keelboat Instruction and experiences: One-design classes (Santa Cruz 27s, Santanas’, Big Boats,) offered various boating and sailing experiences for interested new members creating a larger pool of available crew.
Growing Membership and Increasing Participation

Santa Cruz Yacht Club, Santa Cruz, CA

COMMITTEES and ACTIVITIES

Building relationships through committees and activities strategies:

• Adding Friday Night Laser Racing and Second Sunday Dingy Racing promoted a Laser Fleet that attracted new members while teaching basic sailing skills complimented with food and debriefing sessions.
Growing Membership and Increasing Participation

Santa Cruz Yacht Club, Santa Cruz, CA

COMMITTEES and ACTIVITIES

• Develop partnerships with community organizations, businesses: University of Santa Cruz and the Santa Cruz Sailing Foundations that put a welcoming face on the Yacht Club through the sponsorship of Community activities i.e. Lighted Boat Parade and “Good of Yachting” scholarships.
Growing Membership and Increasing Participation

Ida Lewis Yacht Club, Newport, Rhode Island

COMMITTEES and ACTIVITIES

Have a paddleboard class...
And purchase paddleboards which members may take out

Organize a kayak trip...

Have a paddleboard class...
And purchase paddleboards which members may take out
Growing Membership and Increasing Participation
Ida Lewis Yacht Club, Newport, Rhode Island

COMMITTEES and ACTIVITIES

Establish your own signature race… we have the Ida Lewis Distance Race which will celebrate its 10th anniversary this year.

Race Committee Opportunities

Spend a day on a Race Committee boat with someone, and you really get to know them.
Growing Membership and Increasing Participation

Ida Lewis Yacht Club, Newport, Rhode Island

COMMITTEES and ACTIVITIES

Fishing Tournament

Adult Sailing
Growing Membership and Increasing Participation

Ida Lewis Yacht Club, Newport, Rhode Island

COMMITTEES and ACTIVITIES

- Junior Program Opportunities
- Pot Luck Dinners
- Gutter Boat Races
- Children’s Entertainment during Grill Nights
- Golf Tournaments
- Invite other Yacht Clubs over for a “Get Together”
Growing Membership and Increasing Participation

Ida Lewis Yacht Club, Newport, Rhode Island

YEAR ROUND ACTIVITIES

Ida Lewis Yacht Club is a seasonal club, opening in May, closing in October.

However, we have created a year round series of events to keep our membership active. It has given our membership the feeling that they belong to a year round club, although we utilize other venues during the off season.

The other positive from these Ida “Get Togethers”, which we do every other Friday night in the winter, is the response from the venues. They are thrilled to have us. We have a cash bar, and the establishment supplies free appetizers, and often, offer a dinner special for our members.

Our members love it as it gets them out in the winter, and when the club opens in May, we have a few more of these “Get Togethers” at the club to get the membership down to the club using their club.
Growing Membership and Increasing Participation

Ida Lewis Yacht Club, Newport, Rhode Island

ACTIVITIES FOR EVERYONE and YEAR ROUND ACTIVITIES

Entertainment Committee

The club is closed mid October through mid May

Ida “Get-Togethers”

O’Brien’s Pub

Clarke Cooke House, The Candy Store

LANDING

New York Yacht Club

Asterisk Restaurant & Bar

Yesterdays

Canfield House Restaurant & Pub

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Sailing Leadership Forum 2014
**Growing Membership and Increasing Participation**

Santa Cruz Yacht Club, Santa Cruz, CA

**COMMUNICATION**

**Promotion of communications and sustaining of interpersonal relationships:**

- Mentoring Program: linking General members with Corinthian members to address particular interests, goals, sailing etiquette and the culture and history of the Club.

- Added of more informal “meet and greet” and “reception” activities to our calendar and social schedule.

- A Corinthian reported to the Yacht Club Board, at the Annual General Membership Meeting and at the Installation apprising each as to their status, upcoming events and activities as well as appreciation for the gained support and direction when needed.
Growing Membership and Increasing Participation

Santa Cruz Yacht Club, Santa Cruz, CA

COMMUNICATION

Promotion of communications and sustaining of interpersonal relationships: (continued…)

• Provided different types of sailing experiences on different classes of boats by connecting current racing members with eager new members.

• Actively meet and greet new members with follow-up through personal conversations, invitations to experiences and the development of interpersonal relationships through networking around common interests i.e. collaborating on the purchase of additional lasers, club boats, rebuilding of the Club’s website and as specific website for the Corinthian’s.
Growing Membership and Increasing Participation

Ida Lewis Yacht Club, Newport, Rhode Island

COMMUNICATION

We utilize all methods of communication: email, newsletters, website, Facebook, and mail. We have found a combination of all of them work the best.

- **Constant Contact** has given us the ability to send out last minute invites and announcements of events our membership may be interested in. We also send out quick reminders of events that mailed invitations have been sent out; or to announce a new event with very little lead time.
- **The website** allows us to give information and a place to check times and dates.
- However, our membership seems to like an old fashion **mailed newsletter**, too. And all special club events are announced with a **mailed invite**.
Growing Membership and Increasing Participation
Ida Lewis Yacht Club, Newport, Rhode Island

COMMUNICATION

Typical newsletter...

Monthly calendar on website with links for information on each event...

Constant Contact...
Growing Membership and Increasing Participation

Ida Lewis Yacht Club, Newport, Rhode Island

FLAG OFFICERS and BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Encourage the participation of your flag officers, your board, and committee chairs: Support committees and attend all events.

Santa Cruz Yacht Club, Santa Cruz, CA

Commodore Clan
Growing Membership and Increasing Participation

Your Opinion Matters

Please “check-in” to this session on the Sailing Leadership Forum app and complete the session survey

Or

Complete one of the yellow survey forms in the back of the room and drop in the box

Thank you for attending this session