

The Pennant

27 March 2010

Newsletter of the Cayuga Lake Cruising Fleet

The New Season

As the last patches of snow disappear and all kinds of birds start tweeting and chirping and twitterpating, we sailors are getting eager to be out on the water again. And some of us are more eager than others. I actually saw a Hobie pushing out from East Shore Sailing the other day when temperatures were in the 40s.

Last Saturday, we had our annual organizational meeting to set the course for the season (Minutes of the meeting on next page). First the bad news. Because we wound up in the red last season, we will have to raise the dues for returning skippers by \$ 25. But the good news is that dues for new skippers remain at \$ 100 and for crew at \$ 10. More good news is that we are planning to run more points races than last year: 11 races in the Spring Series, 6 races in the Latitude Series, and 11 races in the Fall Series.

The Latitude Series in the summer will again be open to non-members, and so will be the other summer events: The races and raft-up parties to Taughannock and Sheldrake, the Water Balloon Battle and Sailathon, and the Red Jacket Race and Dinner.

Please talk up these summer events with non-member skippers that you know and invite them to join the fun. Some of them might like what we are doing and become members.

Work Parties

The work party to prepare the marks for launching is on Saturday, April 10. The work party to put the marks in is on Saturday, May 17. If you can spare the time, please bring heavy work gloves and join us. The fun starts around 10 a.m. on both days.

New Mark

Since the Grey Barge has been taken away, we plan to put a new mark approximately half way between where the Barge and the Ladoga mark used to be. The co-ordinates of this season's racing marks will be published right here in the PENNANT as soon as the marks have been deployed.

Hope to see you at one of the work parties.

Eberhard Alsen
CLCF Secretary
ebalsen@twcny.rr.com

Minutes of the Organizational Meeting, Saturday, March 27

Members Present: Eberhard Alsen, Tim Bonniwell, Austin Duvernoy, Clare Fewtrell, Craig Nichols, Richard Stephens.

1. Proposed Schedule of Events

- a. The idea of moving the races from Sundays to Saturdays did not find sufficient support. However, in order to allow the Laser people to race on Sunday mornings, we decided to move the starts for the keelboat races to 2:30, with the skippers' meetings at 1:45.
- b. It was decided to give the Thursday evening (practice) races another try, with starts at 6:30.
- c. The race calendar e-mailed out by Fleet Captain Richard Stephens was modified in a few details. The most important changes are that the dates for the Spring Series races 5 thru 11 have been changed, that a race and raft-up has been added for Father's Day, that a water balloon battle and sailathon has been added for the day after Womin Swimmin, and that two races have been added to the Fall Series (See revised calendar, next page).

2. Mark Locations

We will be putting the marks in the same locations as last year, except for a new mark to replace the Grey Barge which no longer exists.

3. Sailing Instructions

The only change in the sailing instructions is that penalty turns will be 360 degrees (instead of 720) and that penalty turns must be made as soon as safely possible after the rule infraction.

4. Summer Events

The latitude races will again be open to non-members, and so will be the fun events: The Taughannock and Sheldrake races and raft ups, the Sailathon, and the Red Jacket Race.

5. Recruitment

Eberhard will place Cruising Fleet information in our permanent bulletin boards at the Yacht Club, at Johnson's. at Sailing Services, and at Mrs. Ford's Marina. Austin will place a large Cruising Fleet sign at Cornell's East Shore Sailing Center.

6. Budget/Membership Dues

Since the fleet lost money last year, it was decided to do two things to try and break even this year. (a) For the end-of-the-series parties, the fleet will no longer provide beverages but only the food. (b) The skippers' dues will be raised from \$ 225 to \$ 250. Dues for new skippers will continue to be \$ 100, and dues for crew members will also remain at \$ 10.