31 July 2011

Newsletter of the Cayuga Lake Cruising Fleet

Fifth Race of the JBY Latitude Series, Sunday, July 24

Well, we had ourselves a doozie of a drifter and almost didn't finish before the 6:00 p.m. time limit. Skies were partly sunny with temperatures in the mid 80s. The breeze, if it can be called that, was between 1 and 3 knots and came from every which way, but mostly from NW.

Five boats joined the driftathon. Among them for the first time was LITTLE WING, Bill Russell's Catalina 320. The others were the usual suspects: INVICTUS, Tim Bonniwell's Catalina 30 minus Tim; GIPSY MOTH, Charlie Mueller's Sabre 28, shorthanded as usual; FANTASY, Eberhard Alsen's Tanzer 25, with two newbies aboard; and MEHITABEL, Clare Fewtrell's J-24 minus Clare.

MEHITABEL got the best start and proceeded to do a horizon job on the upwind leg. But by the time MEHITABEL and the next two boats reached their assigned latitudes, the breeze died and it was time to hunt for isolated patches of wind that sprung up here and there. While MEHITABEL and LITTLE WING were becalmed for a while on the west shore, FANTASY found some air in the middle of the lake and managed to pull away even though she was not using her spinnaker and was going wing-and-wing. INVICTUS had gotten to the starting line way too late and was stuck in last place for quite a while. But after she turned around and set her beautiful white spinnaker, she began to reel in GIPSY MOTH, LITTLE WING and MEHITABEL. In the end, FANTASY crossed the finish line 22 minutes ahead of MEHITABEL who was followed closely by INVICTUS and LITTLE WING. GIPSY MOTH brought up the rear, having lost much time by drifting too close to Myers Point.

Self-Disqualification

In the last PENNANT, I reported that during the 4th latitude race FANTASY got in the way of another boat that was on starboard tack but that the skipper changed course and told me "Don't worry about it." I therefore did not do a penalty turn. Subsequently, I was told by two other skippers in our fleet (who did not witness the incident) that I should have taken the penalty or taken a DSQ for the race. To dispel any possible ill feelings, I hereby take that DSQ.

50 Mile Night Race, Friday, August 5

The skippers' meeting is at 5:30 p.m. at the South Pavilion of the Yacht Club. The start is at 6:00 p.m. GPS time. Turn around point is buoy 51A, 2 miles south of Union Springs. Approximate co-ordinates are 42°48.75N--76°43.70W. Skippers need to record their own finish times.

See you at the South Pavilion:

Eberhard Alsen CLCF Secretary ebalsen@twcny.rr.com

Race Results, Sunday, July 31, 2011

Latitude Race #5

Start: 2:00 Wind: NW 1-3 Course: C

BoatPlaceFantasy1Mehitabel2Invictus3Little Wing4Gipsy Moth5

Latitude Race Standings as of July 31, 2011

Boat Race	# 1	#2	#3	#4	#5	<u>Total</u>
Invictus	3	0.75	4	0.75	3	11.5
Snitch	0.75	2	2	2	*7	13.75
Mehitabel	2	*6	*7	3	2	20
Fantasy	*6	3	3	8(DSQ)	0.75	20.75
Conspiracy	*6	*6	0.75	5	*7	24.75
Gipsy Moth	*6	*6	5	4	5	26
Trevelyan	4	4	*7	*8	*7	30
Little Wing	*6	*6	*7	*8	*7	34

^{*}DNS