



# The Pennant

12 July 2014

## Newsletter of the IYC Cayuga Lake Cruising Fleet

### 50 Mile Night Race, Friday/Saturday July 11/12

Three boats sailed in this race: Tim Bonniwell's Catalina 30, INVICTUS; Richard Stephens' Corsair 28, TREVELYAN; and Andrew Gil's Ranger 33, VESANIE, skippered by Charles Witherup. The start was on Friday at 7:00 p.m., the first boat finished shortly after 8 a.m. on Saturday morning, and the third boat arrived some three hours later. Here are the detailed race results:

Boat	T-on-T	FT	ET	CT
INVICTUS	0.8978	10:14:02	15:14:02	13:40:37
TREVELYAN	1.0980	08:04:10	13:04:10	14:21:00
VESANIE	0.9091	11:16:20	16:16:20	14:47:35

And here is Charles Witherup's race report:

The 2014 IYC-CLCF 50 mile night race was, of course, epic. That's how all of these big races are, right? Not only was it epic, this year there was competition (reminder: last year only one boat was in the competition after the first 5 hours)!

The forecast included things like: Hot start at 80F. Cool night around 50F. Winds ranging from 0Kts all the way up to 6Kts and clocking in every direction of the compass for the first 14 hours of the race. Nice and clear with a nearly full moon. It was a pretty inauspicious start, I must say, as it took us (on VESANIE) 15 minutes after the start of the race to get to and cross the starting line (note to self: motor to closer to the starting line) - a distance of under a tenth of a mile.

Hours and hours passed with very little wind. I won't say "no wind" because when it's been no wind (see the end of last year's race) you have a tendency to do 360s in the middle of the lake and you have a lot of trouble keeping the pointy end going in the right direction. No, there was wind. It was just really, really light wind. My faithful crew, however, wasn't having much of it and I was informed that we had 7 hours from the starting time to make it to Milliken or we'd bail on the race. As luck would have it, the winds did pick up and we made Milliken in 6 1/2 hours!

Of course, the winds didn't just pick up a little, they picked up a lot. And then some more and a bit more. They were, however, kind enough (for the keelboats of the race) to decide to come from straight down the lake. To put this in some kind of perspective for you, we sailed dead down from before Sheldrake Point all of the way to 51A. While my crew slept I ran that leg (1/4 of the race!) wing-and-wing in around 2 hours (I will post the GPS splits to Facebook tomorrow and those will surely make a liar of me, but, please, believe me when I say that this section was a very quick and straight shot up the lake). I hear that INVICTUS flew a light-air spinnaker for this leg. I

imagine that TREVELYAN tacked back and forth up running their asym as they are wont to do.

Worth noting is that the light and very light predictions for wind didn't seem all that accurate at this point. Our anemometer wasn't showing numbers I believe but I hear that on INVICTUS they saw 16Kts (and gusts over 19). Doesn't really sound like a great time to fly a light-air but when there's no distance left in which to correct things, hey, just go with what you have up and hope for the best! Seems to have worked out well enough this time (with skillful sheeting applied so as to spill enough extra wind to keep the spinnaker from totally overpowering the boat).

And we rounded and headed back... A long slog against the wind back... Not a long slog like just sitting there and bobbing around but long like not being able to just shoot down the lake like we shot up it.

Luckily the wind came down from its peak so things were manageable - even shorthanded - but it was still quite lively out for most of the trip back. And it was still epic. Epic as in just awesome sailing. A nice breeze (around 10Kts?) with enough variation in it to keep you awake - adjusting and fidgeting to try to squeeze just a little more speed out.

### Third Latitude Race, Sunday, July 20

The skippers' meeting will be at 1:15 p.m. at the South Pavilion of the Ithaca Yacht Club. The start is at 2:00 p.m.

See you at the South Pavilion.

### Red Jacket Race and Dinner, Saturday, August 23

See attached flyer. Kathy Perry, the person who is organizing the dinner, would like to know as soon as possible how many of you will be attending the dinner and what your menu choices are. So, please contact Kathy as soon as you have decided to do the Red Jacket Race or to just come to the dinner: [KATPER@ROCHESTER.RR.COM](mailto:KATPER@ROCHESTER.RR.COM)

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