



# The Pennant

16 July, 2018

Newsletter of the Cayuga Lake Cruising Fleet

## “I went in sober and I came out drunk!”

Let me tell you a tale of yet another Sunday race where it was, really, rather warm. And the forecast? For the entire week before the race? Awful. High 80s and no wind. It didn't matter the forecast model you were using, none of them showed speeds of greater than 5mph at any point during the day and the afternoon forecasts showed nothing from every direction.

So weren't we surprised to awaken Sunday morning to see a forecast of 5kts from the NNW. Wait, what? Everything they'd been saying the entire week was bogus? Ah well! I guess we'd just have to live with it!

Your intrepid Race Committee, dashing, strong, handsome and humble as he is, set a course for Latitude C! Oh, hey! Uh. RC. Yeah. That was me again. Somehow it feels like I've run half of the races this year... (Well, it is, in fact, all part of my nefarious plan to take over the world, don't you know?) Listen, it doesn't matter if it's the actual truth and all that I've run half of the races because it feels that way. Good enough?

We were missing a few boats this weekend for various reasons. I'm not entirely sure how big of an impact the (awful) early forecast had on decisions to compete, but we were down to five boats for this week's start. There were Bill and Tim's Catalinas – *Little Wing* and *Invictus*, respectively. We had Richard's Corsair, *Trevelyan*. Eberhard showed up with his Tanzer, *Fantasy* and I was there with our Cape Dory, *Quetzal iii*.

Part of the original forecast was right – it was sunny and high 80s! And the part of the forecast from the morning of was right – winds were generally 5 or 6 kts from the NNW – reaching maybe 8 for 10 or 15 minutes in there, dropping to maybe 4 for some other 15 minutes. And, really, it turned out to be a very pleasant day of quiet sailing. OK, maybe that's not what you're looking for in a race (you want it to be screaming, right?) but it was very nice and certainly better than not having wind (or not sailing!).

Tim was out solo so when we saw his (absolutely abysmal) first tack we feared the worst for him. He was just floundering around – sails flopping and who knows what else going on? Well, actually, we do – because he told us afterwards. Among other things he'd run his sheets wrong when changing his headsail so he couldn't sheet in after tacking. Oh, and he was also in the way of *Fantasy* so had to do some additional maneuvers to get out of their way – all while rerunning his sheets.

And then we beat and we beat and we beat to windward... Each shore would give us a fantastic lift and thus each tack sent us back in the wrong direction... And we turned! And we popped our chutes! It might have taken Tim a few minutes to get his under control as, again, he was solo... But he did. And eventually we all did. And we held a little parade home!

Tim and *Invictus* took line honors and the race with a lot of time and distance to spare. Richard came screaming out of nowhere to take second. And then things got interesting! *Fantasy*, sporting a symmetrical chute and running ever closer to dead down was slowly gaining on *Little Wing* who flies an asym and was thus tacking downwind 30 or more degrees off the wind... *Fantasy* inching closer and closer up to the line... From our perspective, well, you couldn't tell anything. From ashore and right at the line, however, it was clear enough as the crowd hollered out – "It's *Little Wing* by foot!" Well, if they say so! Oh, and eventually we finished, too.

Then we rafted up and swam a bit. And might have had a Dark and Stormy or two. And the bartender might have had trouble measuring those properly in water bottles thus leading to the heading for this section...

Series results through a week ago are online now! As are the current standings in the distance series:

<http://www.cruisingfleet.org/results.html>

Unofficial standings are more like this:

		R1	R2	R3	Total
1st	Fantasy	3		1	4
2nd	Quetzal III	2		2	5
3rd	Invictus	1		8	1
4th	Trevelyan	4		8	2
5th	Little Wing	8		8	3
6th	Ripple	8		8	8
8th	Snitch	8		8	8

But, again, I don't do the scoring... This is close enough early in the season, right?

### **Night 50 Race Moved AGAIN!**

I know – I can hardly believe it, either! But the Night 50 Mile Race has moved back to the original weekend! I'll get some Sailing Instructions approved for posting on Sunday but the new (new) new race date is **FRIDAY AUGUST 3**. The race will begin at **6PM**. It's open to all sailboats – you don't need to know your PHRF ahead of time, you don't need to be at IYC for the skippers' meeting (which will be held 5-5:15PM at the IYC South Pavilion). You just need to show up ready to race!

*If you want to race but don't have a boat get in touch with me and I'll hook you up with the skippers who are racing. If you have a boat and want to race but don't have crew get in touch with me and I'll hook you up with crew I know would like to race. If you have a boat and crew and want to race get it touch with me, too!* It's nice to know who to expect for races!

This is NOT a full-moon race! The moon won't be up until after midnight! Be safe and legal out there (nav lights on, someone on watch, etc) and have fun!!!

### **Latitude races the next two Sundays! Skippers' Meetings at IYC at 1PM!**

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