



The Pennant

30 July, 2018

Newsletter of the Cayuga Lake Cruising Fleet

As the Latitudes near their end

As the summer series of latitude races nears its end, I heartily encourage you to:

- Sign up now for food for the Red Jacket Regatta (regatta August 18, sign up for food before next weekend is over! More info below!).
- Race in the 50 mile night race with us! You should bring your boat to IYC around 5PM on Friday August 3 for a race start of 6PM!

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Ah! Rules! Rules and rules and rules... What were the rules, again, for the Latitude series? Ah! Rules! Well... We might have forgotten to publish a fresh set of rules... Although... They may well be posted on the bulleting board at the South Pavilion... And a paper version with the proper dates and scoring is surely as good as an electronic version with the wrong ones!

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We sincerely hope that you've enjoyed the summer series so far! We've had some quiet races, some that were just fine and one heck of a screamer. Turns out that this week was more of the former than the latter but not so much that you'd know it ahead of time!

Well, I mean, you'd know that it was not likely to be a screamer but the forecasts (really, all of the ones I saw, darn it!) showed wind right through and always from the same direction. "From the same direction" is generally a good sign! And "the forecasts" is another as well. Alas! Oh, alas...

The weather was great when we arrived at the Yacht club – 70s and sunny, blowing 6-8 from some northerly direction. Great for some sailing! Your ever-intrepid Race Committee (oh yeah – me again!) called for going to the D latitude! I was voted down by every skipper present and we 'compromised' on their choice of C.

Tim was there with *Invictus* (Catalina 30), Bill had *Little Wing* (Catalina 32), Eberhard had *Fantasy* (Tanzer 25), Susan had *Quetzal iii* (Cape Dory 28), Richard had *Trevelyan* (Corsair 28) and David had *Snitch* (J/24). There were a few small crew changes like Keith helming *Trevelyan* (Richard was just back from honeymoon and was, ahem, asleep at the wheel for much of the race) and me abandoning the ladies on *Qiii* to sail with Tim...

So, the race... Well, first off let me congratulate *Little Wing's* crew on defying expectations – they *can* finish one of those races where you just bob around! Next I should probably congratulate *Snitch* on their race – they found wind where none of the other boats could and seemed to shoot right up the shore. Oh, and they didn't lose any crew overboard, either. And

they finished some very long time before anyone else! Congratulations *Qiii* on sticking with things for as long as you did! It really, literally and honestly, had to have taken over an hour and a half for you to cross the starting line! Good job, *Fantasy*, on sticking with it and finishing – even with the 4 hours it took you!

We started with rather less wind than when we showed up. More along the lines of 3-4 kts. That seemed to hold, kind of, for a while. The boats more to the West side of the lake were moving along at nearly 3 kts boatspeed for 35 minutes or more. The East side of the lake is another story – part of which you’ve already heard. Indeed, *Quetzal* went East for the start and clearly did not cross the line in the first half hour. While all of the way to the West *Snitch* didn’t seem to stop at all...

Invictus, seeing *Snitch* scoot along so well, popped a chute to tack backwards in the direction that should lead earliest to *Snitch*’s windline. There was some success in this tactic in that *Invictus* moved and in the intended direction. There were still 15 solid minutes in all of this part where there was no wind and the only boat moving forward appeared to be *Snitch*.

As *Snitch* had already crossed her A latitude by this point I took the (worsening) weather into account and shortened the course to the B latitude (B as in Beneficent or just plain Beautiful). “Worsening” as in “getting ever quieter” (although, what’s quieter than not blowing?). We could see a sailboat coming down the lake from above Myer’s – flying her spinnaker fully and proudly! We could also do the mental math... So... Winds from the North... Full sail... Must be blowing at least 5. That boat is at least 3 miles away... It will take that wind well over half an hour to get to us!

But it did get to us eventually! And most of us went to our latitudes (and *Qiii* crossed the starting line and went up the lake some!) and we came back. *Snitch*, *Little Wing* and *Fantasy* were all becalmed (at different times) near the finish line while *Invictus* and *Trevelyan* seemed to (just barely) be able to keep sails full enough to cross without that final indignity (although *Invictus* was only actually moving for 1h10 of the last 2 hours of the race so there was plenty of becalming – just not at the end). *Qiii* got becalmed (again!) before reaching her latitude and the crew decided to go for a mid-race swim before motoring back.

Finish order was *Snitch*, *Invictus*, *Trevelyan*, *Little Wing* and *Fantasy*. Results so far in the series are:

Rank	Boat	PHRF	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	Total	Nett
1st	Fantasy	195	3	1	4	4	5	17	17
2nd	Trevelyan	33	4	8.0 RET	2	1	3	18	18
3rd	Invictus	162	1	8.0 RET	1	9.0 DNC	2	21	21
4th	Quetzal III	237	2	2	5	5	7.0 RET	21	21
5th	Snitch	168	9.0 DNC	8.0 RET	9.0 DNC	2	1	29	29
6th	Little Wing		9.0 DNC	8.0 RET	3	9.0 DNC	4	33	33
7th	Mehitabel	168	9.0 DNC	9.0 DNC	9.0 DNC	3	9.0 DNC	39	39
8th	Ripple		9.0 DNC	8.0 RET	9.0 DNC	9.0 DNC	9.0 DNC	44	44

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Rules, rules, rules! The rules, from last year, for the series, call for two throwouts after 6 races. So these standings could be a bit different after the next race! In fact, right now it seems like it will be a good battle between *Invictus* and *Trevelyan* for first place in the series. But, hey, I could be wrong! We'll see in a few weeks, won't we!

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We will see when we have an end-of-season BBQ to celebrate the end of the series! August 12 after the races! The Fleet provides grillables and some beverages and you come with some food to share and we all have a golly good time!

Race Friday Night!

Reminder – there's a race Friday night! Shoot me an email if you need crew or a ride and I'll see what I can find for you! It will be dark! It will be an adventure!

Sign up for Red Jacket! Please! Now!

Reminder – you need to sign up for Red Jacket food with the Red Jacket Fleet Captain! Race August 18! Food: chicken BBQ! And you could always race up! Take a RJYC member on your boat with you for ballast! Have fun!!!

Anyway, **please** register for food with Trevor – the Fleet Captain at Red Jacket – for your meals *before August 4!* Terb@stny.rr.com 607-725-3072. Race up, sail up, motor up, drive up. *It will be fun.* Honest!

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And congratulations *Invictus* on having such a fine looking and well performing crew!

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<http://www.CruisingFleet.org>