



# The Pennant

13 August, 2018

Newsletter of the Cayuga Lake Cruising Fleet

## And the winner is...

The Latitude series drew to its end yesterday – followed by a wonderful end-of-season-BBQ (thank you FC Rick! And also to the others who brought food or came out!). And the winner of the series is... Ha! Ha and ha ha! Well, I have a good idea, but, actually, I just write the newsletters so maybe you'll have to wait until next week to know the final results.

Ah, but I can spin a tale of the day with plenty of extraneous detail! Like, for example, the weather! The weather predictions were basically bunk. I don't want to say 'as usual' although you'll note that today's weather was radically different than what was predicted yesterday... Heck, today's weather was predicted this morning – there's at least that! Yesterday's weather predictions were wrong even as they were happening! Those said there should have been wind from the North the entire day – up and down and whatnot but 4-8 kts and always North.

So we all showed up at the Yacht Club at 1PM and the winds were blowing at a few knots out of the South. We all looked at that and threw up our arms! The Fleet Captain asked for a delay in calling the course. Well, after that delay the winds were still a few knots from the South so a course was called – we'd sail to the A latitude.

The air was only ~70F but the humidity had to have been around 135% as it sure felt hot out. All the more so during the (thankfully brief!) moments of full sun. As for winds, well... They did get the predictions right with regard to the winds! At least, from 3 to 5 PM it seems that we had winds from the North at 4-8 kts. The deal is, however, that our Latitude races start at 2. And... At 2 the gentle breeze from the South seems to have fallen to not much.

*Snitch* and *Trevelyan* found some whisper of a whisper of a zephyr of something and were "shooting" (gently!) up the West shore. *Quetzal iii* found some whisper of a whisper (etc) and were "shooting" up the East shore.

Ah. Of course. *Snitch* (Feavearyear J/24), *Trevelyan* (Stephens Corsair 28) and *Quetzal iii* (Durkee Cape Dory 28 helmed by Witherups) were the racers mentioned thus far. We also had *Invictus* (Bonniwell Catalina 30 helmed by Lloyd), *Fantasy* (Alsen Tanzer 25) and *Little Wing* (Russell Catalina 320) along for the ride. Oh! We also had *Mehitabel* (Fewtrell J/24 – with special guest crew)!

And we had something like not much wind for some time. Most of the boats started close hauled close in to IYC. *Quetzal* started with her chute up close to the East shore. It was sad, for a while, for *Quetzal* watching the other boats pull away but then the breeze picked up from the East and *Quetzal* tore past most of the other boats – pulling nearly 2 kts of SOG for minutes at a time.

Then we turned. No, wait, then *Snitch* turned (they really had shot all of the way up on West shore). Then the rest of us turned. And back we went. Only now we had something of the wind forecast. At least, now it was coming from the North – mostly. It took nearly an hour to get to the turn around and then nearly an hour to get back. A nice race, indeed, regardless of light winds! I hear that the other boats were all aflutter over the finish of (the last three boats) *Invictus*, *Quetzal* and *Little Wing* who were all within 100' of each other crossing the finish line. But finish we did and in the order I just gave.

Rumor has it that *Snitch* took the race and *Invictus* took the series – tied for points with *Trevelyan* but with one more win. Of course, as you well know by now, I just write the newsletters! We'll wait for official scoring to come in and we'll congratulate whichever boat got whichever position!

### Big party, I mean race, next weekend!

Well, it will be a big party, too, darn it! This is the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Red Jacket Regatta! So... Saturday we'll race up to RJYC and then we'll party with them! We'll sleep on our boats and in tents and whatnot and then sail back! (Well, we will! You can drive or swim or motor or fly up. And/or back. No worries!)

This year there will (hopefully!) be some Red Jacket folks sailing up with us! Sailing up as in on our boats! But, what will they do??? Well, they'll give you an extra 12 PHRF points per crew member (within reasonable limits)! And they'll keep you company and whatnot!

But what's my starting time??? It is a Bermuda start, after all (that means that the handicap is run such that the slowest boat leaves first and the fastest last – and when we get to the finish line the first boat to cross wins the race)!

It's a good thing that you ask! Well, to register for the race (and hopefully Red Jacket crew members!) you should email Liz – the Assistant Fleet Captain! She will be able to assign us all starting times and (hopefully!) some RJYC crew members (which will affect our starting times)! Please email Liz ASAP to say that you're racing your boat up! Please let her know how many RJYC folks you could take with you! You can reach her directly at Liz Clark [lizclark00@gmail.com](mailto:lizclark00@gmail.com). And... We've just gone ahead and pegged the "official" 8 AM start time to the PHRF of 237 (the highest PHRF of a boat that is guaranteed to show). Now... If you know your PHRF and aren't taking any RJYC people with you then it's easy to figure out your starting time! It's simply 8 AM +  $[(237 - \text{your PHRF}) * 22.5 / (24 * 60 * 60)]$  seconds. I mean, Liz will just give you a time – email her :)

The rules will be the same as usual (plus the RJYC member PHRF adjustment) and Liz will shoot you a copy after you tell her you're racing. If you're a boat and need crew let us know! If you're crew and need a boat let us know! We'll try to hook folks up! Rick and Liz will let us know as soon as they do how many extra RJYC crew we'll have!!

Have a nice week and see you on the water and at RJYC!

Charles Witherup

CLCF Secretary

[CLCFCrew@Gmail.com](mailto:CLCFCrew@Gmail.com)

<http://www.CruisingFleet.org>