



The Pennant

21 August, 2018

Newsletter of the Cayuga Lake Cruising Fleet

Errata/corrections/addenda on the last Pennant

So sorry! It's been pointed out that I forget things last week or got them wrong or something like that. I'm, thus, happy to announce that *Quetzal iii* won the last Latitude race and handily took the series as you can clearly see in the, now final, results:

<http://www.cruisingfleet.org/Results/2018Latitude.html>

For the sake of history and to ease the suffering of future Fleet Secretaries I must admit that the previous paragraph is largely bunk other than the fact that full and final results are posted on the Fleet website now. Oh, and that I forgot to mention that *Mehitabel* had a spinnaker halyard kerfuffle just prior to the start of that Latitude race and that her crew forced the helm (a sprightly lass of a mere 69.98 years) up the mast as punishment.

Please report any other errors or omissions you may discover in the Pennant and I will be more than happy to distort your messages to create more literary and dynamic tension in these otherwise dry missives.

Get Your Red Jackets On! Erm. We got our yellow jackets on! And went to Red Jacket!

More importantly, this week anyway, we held a Regatta! Why, we had the 40th anniversary Red Jacket Regatta from IYC to RJYC! And we had wind! And we had competitors! And we had drama! What more could you ask for???

The race began with a Bermuda start thus with the highest handicapped boat departing first thus with *Fantasy* (the Alsen Tanzer 25) leaving IYC at around 7:50. Except that there was some kind of miscommunication and misunderstanding and whatnot since that wasn't the highest PHRF boat. Ah well! The other boats left at something resembling their PHRF-adjusted starting times so you had, following in order, *Quetzal iii* (the Durkee Cape Dory 28 helmed by Witherups), *Invictus* (the Bonniwell Catalina 30 helmed by Llyod), *Mehitabel* (the Fewtrell J/24 helmed by a sprightly lass of barely 70 years), *Jokers and Clowns* (Heck yeah! John Hrustich's Viper 640 – crewed by what were, apparently, a few sprightly young Hrustich lads! I hope they felt welcome and will come back and race with us again!) and, of course, *Trevelyan* (the Stephens Corsair 28).

Now... The race... Well, this race there was wind. It was calm and gentle at maybe 6kts from the North close to 8AM. The winds gradually built the further North we got and then the rains came down good and hard for an hour or so starting around 10:30. We weren't suffering in the cold as it was nearly 70 out and the winds were still light enough at that point. As the day wore on we dried and the winds grew until we were in around 14kts from the North. Given the long fetch to the North once past Taughannock there was a decent

swell to deal with but those waves seemed to go OK as long as we were on the tack where we were powered up and pointing into them. And the winds slowed some and then sped up again but always, oh always, right on the nose.

[These Bermuda start races are always good for us in that we actually get to see the other boats as they race! Sure, they all eventually overtake us, but we're in sight of them for most of the race. Just something to think about for you and your boat next year. I mean, if you think you're going to be out there all alone for the whole race it just isn't true! Sheldrake is a good first distance race to try – it's only 12 miles and also features a Bermuda start. A good second distance race to try is this one – the Red Jacket Regatta. You get to go up to the top of the lake and take a breather before coming home!]

And the boats finished... *Trevelyan* took line honors (and the race) followed by *Mehitabel* and *Invictus*. After the podium boats we had *Fantasy*, *Jokers and Clowns* and then, lastly, motoring and after the latest finish time allowed, *Quetzal*. Official results, scoring and standings in the season can be found here:

<http://www.cruisingfleet.org/Results/2018LongDistance.html>

Party with Red Jacket!

After the race we had some surprises, drinks, dinner and games with RJYC. The first surprise came with the reception for *Mehitabel* as Saturday was Clare's 70th birthday. We had party favors on board and greeted Clare on shore wearing leis and small hats...

We enjoyed a few drinks in the Red Jacket bar (nice cash bar – big selection and great prices) and then had BBQ chicken with the local club members. A contingent of IYC members and friends made their way up, too, and joined us all in the meal. After dinner came the second surprise during which we presented Red Jacket with the original jacket (a red one) embroidered with the names of boats having won the race. It is nicely packaged in a shadow box featuring the jacket, the burgees of IYC and RJYC as well as a commemorative plaque in honor of the 40th anniversary of the regatta.

Then we went to the lawn for a few RJYC vs IYC games. RJYC took "baseball cornhole" by a score of 2 to 1 and then IYC posted an unprecedented lightning fast win in lawn sailing. We look forward to competing again next year. And next time we'll get them at baseball, I'm sure.

We look forward to sailing up the lake with RJYC boats and members next year, too. And this time we mean it – they'd better come up with us! I heard that we'd have not one but two of their boats and plenty more crew. I sure hope it happens!

The ride home

4 of our boats docked for the night, *Trevelyan* anchored out and *Jokers and Clowns* drove home on a trailer. I believe there were 6 or 7 tents of crew members strewn across the Red Jacket grounds for the night while those of us not in tents slept on our boats.

We sailed away from Red Jacket early Sunday morning. *Trevelyan* quickly disappeared in the distance and *Invictus* and *Quetzal* had a friendly single-handed spinnaker race which was great fun until the winds kicked up and clocked East. We (carefully!) dropped our

chutes, had a water pistol fight then continued on homewards at a good clip on a close reach. The winds dropped to 0 (zero. Nada. Nil. Zip. Nuthin) so we motored in the direction of the GIANT BLUE CONCRETE VORTEX OF DOOM. Well, the winds were basically 0 for the two hours that it took us to motor there at full throttle (of course it did. It doesn't have DOOM in its name for no reason). Shortly after passing the VORTEX the wind came up enough to sail home.

Upcoming!

The next few Sundays will have Fall Series races! Two races a day, skippers' meetings on shore at the South Pavilion at 12:30, first starts at 1:30.

Saturday September 22 is the Day 50 Mile Race! You know you want to test yourself against yourself, the weather and some other boats!!! Start thinking about sailing your boat up or crewing on a boat that will sail up!!! It's always a great race!

Media

3 or 4 boats have posted pictures from the regatta to the Fleet's Facebook wall. You might consider joining the Facebook group so that you can see those! Maybe seeing how awesome it is will inspire you to come out and join us on the water! Just ask to join the group:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/CayugaLakeCF/>

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