



The Pennant

17 September, 2019

Newsletter of the Cayuga Lake Cruising Fleet

Fifty more miles on the odometer

Those “weather liars” – you never know when they’re going to mix things up and tell you the truth weeks in advance. I’m sure that it’s just to throw you off. Everything they tell you is intended to keep you entirely off balance.

Off balance. Ha. Sideways. Leaned over. When going, for example, upwind in a keelboat. On a windy day.

But, seriously, 10 days before this year’s Day 50 Miler the forecast called for 11 gusting 17 out of the South. Sure, sure, the forecast varied up until race time but the variants always called for good wind and from the South. The highest wind forecast I saw was Thursday evening, two days before the race, when I saw 18 kts gusting 41. The lowest was close enough to the forecast 10 days out. And the actual? Well, it was somewhere between the low and the high and was thus absolutely awesome for a fifty miler.

So, right, Saturday we had fifteenish gusting perhaps 25 coming from the quadrant centered on the bottom of the lake. It was barely 60 in the morning with hints of rain in the air but it all felt really quite pleasant on the downwind leg up the lake. By the time we cleared 51A it was partly sunny and in the 70s – quite pleasant for the beat home.

Trevelyan screamed away from the start under her chute, rounded in around 2 hours and finished around 4 later. *Invictus* started with double headsails, switched up to her chicken chute just to see what it would be like to broach, rounded in 3 ½ hours and finished 5 hours later. *Quetzal III* started with her chicken chute, switched to her big chute 2/3 of the way up, rounded after 4 and a bit, tore her #1 and finished 7 hours later. *Penny Rover* started 15 minutes late and sailed the whole thing under dual foresails and gaff-rigged main (as is her wont). She rounded 4 ½ hours into the race and nearly finished 8 hours later.

Like how I slipped “and tore her #1” and “nearly finished” in there? Yes, well, whatever. *Qiii* tore her #1 tacking. Maybe on a spreader? Who can say? It looks like it’s maybe a 3’ tear and probably right on a seam so it won’t be a big deal to fix. As for “nearly finished”... OK, so, the winds went to whisper quiet right around 7:20. For *Qiii* this was a little problematic as she was up at **Near Maplewood**. For *Penny Rover* this was a lot problematic as she was up near Crowbar Point. *Qiii* ghosted across the finish line 10 minutes later. *Penny Rover* ghosted across the middle of the lake an hour after the becalming.

The Race Committee invoked the nuclear option and took a quick survey of the skippers... No one minded allowing *Penny Rover*’s time to count as a finish time even though she hadn’t technically sailed the course (she crossed the lake well outside of the finish line). The feeling held by all, I’m sure, was that it’s awesome to see more boats on the water and we don’t want to discourage people from coming out and joining us by having rules so incontrovertibly strict as to something something something something. Sorry about that, I

got lost in my own mind-numbing rhetoric for a second! What I meant to say is that we want to encourage sailing and sailors, darn it! It feels like holding boats to strict rules isn't always the way to do that.

Anyway, boats finished! And the most important part of that is that *Quetzal III* gets to be on the podium for the Long Distance Series! The rest is just history but I'll share it with you regardless, I suppose. I mean, if I didn't then I'd catch grief so I might as well!

Results are, of course, online, as always. In the location of reference – the Fleet website. Follow links to results and then to the Distance Series:

<http://www.cruisingfleet.org/Results/2019LongDistance.html>

Day 50 Results:

Rank	Boat	PHRFTOT	Finish	Elapsed	Corrected	Points
1	Trevelyan	33	14:00:45	6:00:45	6:42:13	1
2	Invictus	174	16:49:12	8:49:12	7:55:07	2
3	Penny Rover	312	20:22	12:22:00	9:19:31	3
4	Quetzal III	237	19:31	11:31:00	9:30:43	4

And Distance Series Results:

Rank	Boat	PHRFTOT	Sheldrake 22-Jun	Night 50 12-Jul	Red jacket 24-Aug	Day 50 14-Sep	Total	Nett
1st	Invictus	174	3	2	3	2	10	10
2nd	Trevelyan	33	2	13.0 DNC	1	1	17	17
3rd	Quetzal III	237	6	5.0 RET	7.0 RET	4	22	22
4th	Arcadia	222	7	5.0 RET	4	13.0 DNC	29	29
5th	Ripple		8	13.0 DNC	5	13.0 DNC	39	39
6th	Keith's Weta	165	13.0 DNC	1	13.0 DNC	13.0 DNC	40	40
7th	Mehitabel	168	1	13.0 DNC	13.0 DNC	13.0 DNC	40	40
8th	Adalente	168	13.0 DNC	13.0 DNC	2	13.0 DNC	41	41
9th	Penny Rover	312	13.0 DNC	13.0 DNC	13.0 DNC	3	42	42
10th	Little Wing	183	4	13.0 DNC	13.0 DNC	13.0 DNC	43	43
11th	Shawondasee	216	5	13.0 DNC	13.0 DNC	13.0 DNC	44	44
12th	David West		9	13.0 DNC	13.0 DNC	13.0 DNC	48	48

Pretty awesome that we got *Ripple* out twice (Red Jacket was Steve's longest lake sail ever on this boat, from what I hear). Pretty awesome that Keith took a first on a Weta. Pretty awesome that *Quetzal III* extended her run of distances races (now up to a very impressive number in a row, I'm sure) and finished on the podium (ha ha. Thanks Mik for not sailing *Arcadia* in this last race and for helping crew our boat!).

There are upcoming events

Fall 5 & 6 will be next weekend, for example! September 29 is an open white sail (non spinnaker) regatta! Stay tuned for more details but plan on coming out!

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