



The Pennant

1 July 2020

Newsletter of the Cayuga Lake Cruising Fleet

So, hey, things are looking pretty decent in the Fleet these days

I mean... This past weekend 12 boats showed up. For a “normal” Fleet race 12 is a pretty good number. It’s a pretty awesome kind of number. It’s divisible by a lot of different numbers, for example, like, six of them. 50% of the numbers leading up to it! That’s pretty awesome. For a number. And it’s many more than I’ve seen in Fleet races in the years I’ve looked at in the last 20 years of archives. Yes, yes, of course. I did not look at every year. But I did look at 2000 since I was trying to figure out a PHRF for *Phoenix* and we have many more boats competing in normal races than they did in 2000. So, hey, sure, people talk about the 70s and having 6,642 boats on the line. Well, great, but that was the 70s. For recent memory we’re doing really well to get as many boats out there as we are!

And... Sailing is great! Competing isn’t just sailing “to win” – it’s also sailing to sail! Yes, I know, winning is nice. But on our boat we are not winning and we are still having fun and we are still racing and we’re going to continue to do so and we hope that you will as well.

50 mile night race begins July 10

Please (please!) let me know if you’re thinking about sailing a boat and are short of crew or if you want to crew but don’t have a boat yet.

Or, to step back one very small step, if you prefer, starting in the late afternoon of Friday July 10 (at, perhaps, 5 or 6 PM) we will hold our annual 50 mile night race. Now, it’s called a 50 mile race because it’s reasonably close to 50 statute miles in length. It’s called a night race because most of it will happen during the night time for most boats. Yes, yes, if it’s the right wind then *Trevelyan* will do most of her run in daylight. Well, that’s one boat! I have heard that other (multiple!) boats with PHRFs in the 200s might be doing the race this year. These boats are likely to spend a fair bit more time in the dark than *Trevelyan* will – regardless of wind conditions.

And, again, regardless of wind conditions, etc, please contact me as soon as practical if you need crew or need a boat to sail on for the race – I’d like to arrange to have as many boats out there as we can get! And if you could take another person or two on your boat but don’t need them you can still let me know – we never know ahead of time if we’ll be short of boats or short of crew. I will do my best to get people in contact with one another and to get as many boats on the water as I can!

Virtual Mark Race Sunday July 5

July 5 (and July 19) we will hold a Memory-Map Summer Virtual Mark Series race. You need to know your PHRF rating for these races so that you know where to sail to on the lake! You also need to have the list of your virtual marks so that you really and truly know where, exactly, you need to sail to on the lake. If you still don't have your rating or the list of rounding locations then you really should contact me before this race so that we can work things out. Knowing where you're going feels rather an important thing to me to know when you're in a sailboat race.

The other (an other?) important thing about virtual mark races is that your finish place is determined directly by the order of finish across the line. Thus it is important for you to convey your position relative to the other boats on the line to our Scoring Committee. You could write to yourself, if you were the Scoring Committee this past weekend, that the winds were lovely and that you sailed quickly and crushed all of the competition as if they were, say, bugs.

Which brings us to last weekend's sailing

Oh! We sailed this past weekend! We raced, even! And twelve boats came out! We showed up at noonish to feck all for wind or even a slight breeze from the South and we were quite unhappy with the situation, let me tell you. We were unhappy because the forecasts were for 8ish knots from the NNW for most of the day. Well, the Fleet Captain trusted the forecasts more than the actual presentation and called for a race to a virtual mark at distance C (6 nautical miles made good for the reference sailboat which, in this case, is a J/24). Mind you, boats with higher and lower PHRFs sail lesser or greater distances, respectively, than said J boat.

And sail lesser and greater distances we did. Oh, did we ever.

Let's see... *Phoenix*? Yes, she sailed. Six miles? I don't really know, frankly. I do recall that she showed up at the line a bit late – on the order of five minutes late. And she took off in the opposite direction of the course – with her chute up! Some time later, as we were back at the dock, she was still out and still heading to the South. From IYC it appeared as though things weren't going as well as they could. Indeed, it looked like she was running out of lake and that the wind was picking up. We could see that she didn't have her main up and this may have contributed to what they saw on the boat which was that the spinnaker halyard wouldn't release. Please, do not worry your little heads too much because clearly *Phoenix* made it back home safe and sound. Still... You can, as I do, wonder how they managed to pull this feat off! It was probably just through superior sailing skills 😊

Who else was out... Let's see... We saw *Gail Storm* on the water and with a full complement of crew and all! She was, alas, still lacking the "boom" department. But she came out!

There was also *Adelante* on the water. She started with her genoa up, what with the light winds of the hours prior to the race. But when the winds switched North and kicked up she decided to swap out the headsail for a jib. As some point during this maneuver I apparently didn't hear that she ran aground on the point. But, listen... I don't know much about it all. I don't recall seeing her during the actual racing bits so maybe it happened in some way resembling something I've recounted. Hard to say – even harder for you who didn't even

have hearsay on which to base your opinions!

Slippery Fish... They still don't have a boat name! No, hmm. I mean, they went out to race! And they raced! I heard on this one that they somehow missed their rounding. Well, I don't really know what all of that entails but I am able to provide a list of the virtual marks in multiple formats for anyone who wants them. And... And I didn't get back relative finishing positions for this boat, either. Alas. But, again, I heard that they missed their rounding so it seems easy enough to miss the race under those conditions. So... Listen! Again! I'm happy to share your virtual mark rounding locations with you! Yes, you will need a GPS to know where you are when rounding but you can probably even get your phone to make a mark for you and to show you where to turn. Miracles of modern technology and all, right?

Trevelyan had Keith up the mast for an awfully long time before the race. Still, he was probably up there installing some new fantastic wind-powered speed thing. Because, hey, clearly that's why they won, right?

Bacchae is one of the new boats joining us on the water this year. She's a Swedish Rival22 – a one-design racer from the 70s, if I recall that correctly. She's low to the water and long and sleek as Cup racers of years gone by... She did have a few little issues after the race including losing electronics and even motorized propulsion but those issues have been remedied and neither of them could affect how beautiful she looked on the water, regardless. We hope that Maaike and Jurriaan will continue to race with us throughout the rest of our sailing season!

The Ford *Galaxy* had an issue with her asym, from what I hear, as well. I don't actually have any juicy details other than, "it was the first time we flew it" and "it got twisted up". Either or both of those could just be me misremembering things, of course, but who's going to correct me if I'm wrong, really? Seriously, I write the emails you get so just take my word for it – the new Ford boat is *Galaxy* (until someone tells me otherwise) and they had a spinnaker issue, darn it!

And *Trevelyan* won the race followed by the J/24s who turned in their finishing places, *Mojito*, Q3, *Fantasy*, and *Bacchae* and *Galaxy* (or *Galaxy* and *Bacchae*). It feels like there was a lot of attrition, here, and yet, hey, at least 8 and maybe 9 boats finished so that's still pretty awesome for how many boats we've had out regularly in the past 10 years.

Summer Series Standings

After one whole race the Summer 50/50 series is really a tight one! Well, sort of! I mean, there are 3 boats within a couple of points of first place!

Rank	Boat	PHRFTOT	R1	Total	Nett
1st	Trevelyan	27	1.0	1.0	1.0
2nd	Mehitabel	168	2.0	2.0	2.0
3rd	Snitch	168	3.0	3.0	3.0
4th	Mojito		4.0	4.0	4.0
5th	Quetzal III	237	5.0	5.0	5.0

Rank	Boat	PHRFTOT	R1	Total	Nett
6th	Fantasy	195	6.0	6.0	6.0
7th	Galaxy		7.0	7.0	7.0
8th	Bacchae		8.0	8.0	8.0
9th	Adelante		13.0 DNF	13.0	13.0
9th	Phoenix		13.0 DNF	13.0	13.0
9th	Gail Storm		13.0 DNS	13.0	13.0
9th	Slippery Fish		13.0 DNF	13.0	13.0

Now... *Slippery Fish*... If you sailed as far as your virtual mark and you know where you finished relative to the other boats you might score, say, a 9 instead of a 13. And if you or *Galaxy* change your boat name any time I'd be happy to try to get it into the newsletter and occasionally spelled correctly!

And... The Scoring Committee reminds us, again, that for these races it's important to get:

- Name of your boat
- Boat finishing ahead (general observations are helpful, if you don't know exactly which boat)
- Boat finishing behind
- Time of finish
- Time you reached your turnaround point (if you didn't finish)
- Send to rs@memory-map.com

When we get to buoy racing that may change a tiny bit but that won't be coming for weeks yet!

What's coming in the schedule?

So the Summer 50/50 series is on, now. And that will be 3 days of MMSVMS races and 3 days of successively shorter/faster/harder? buoy races to help prepare boats for the Fall racing series which is all buoy racing.

Thus the schedule for the rest of the month looks like this:

- July 5 MMSVMS (virtual mark) race
- July 10 (Friday) 50 mile night race
- July 19 MMSVMS race
- July 26 50/50 buoy races

Day races have skippers' meetings at 12:45. Night race tbd!

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