
Birds & Worms News

Volume 6 Issue 3

August 2002



Moonlight Sail at Newport YC – July 20, 2002

What's Up?

8/17 - Moonlight Cruise
(R. Wartinger)

8/24-25 - Briody Regatta
(N. Dahl)

8/24 - GYC Hospice Regatta (E. Redmond of GYC, see article)

9/2 - Brown Jug Race
(A. McReynolds)

Since the last newsletter . . .

After a slow month of May, we have had frantic activity for the last two months. The Laser regatta had a much bigger turnout than in years past and actually made a fair bit of profit we hear (see article by Jim Cuddihee). The Democrat and Chronicle featured pictures of Dick Doherty's lighthouses and Sterling Bush's sailing class in a Day in the Life of Irondequoit feature (see photos on window or D&C website). The Lightning

regatta had big turn out and was also a big success. Many boats from this regatta and from our members were used for the Lightning Youth World Championship starting the following week. Talk about a crowded parking lot.

The LYWC represented the culmination of 2 years effort by the committee and many hours of help from club members. The media noted the LYWC with a preview article by G. Falleson (D&C) interviewing our own Logan McReynolds. R-news put together a very attractive film clip including interviews of sailors and practice race footage. Rochester's Mayor Johnson attended the kick-off ceremony and issued a proclamation regarding the event (see trophy wall in clubhouse). Very enthusiastic comments regarding the event were obtained during casual conversation with participants and officials. All connected with the LYWC can take credit for putting on a truly world class event.



The Moonlight Sail sponsored by Cruising Fleet had a wonderful night but could have used a few more participants (see article by Ray Wartinger). Too bad that the Cruising Fleet is bearing the brunt of our security problems (see next article).

Motor Theft on August 8th

The outboard motors on the back of the boats of the Cruising Fleet appear to be tempting targets for thieves. The lock on the gate to the West dock was cut and three outboards stolen in the early hours of August 8th. Ed Bell, Mike Leary, and Don Taylor were the victims. Anyone having ideas of how to prevent this in the future please get in touch with any member of the Board.

Picture Perfect Moonlight Cruise

- Ray Wartinger (Cruising Fleet Captain)

What could be better than a couple of sailboats, good friends, a beautiful sunset, a bright, silvery moon, and a steady offshore breeze? How about all that plus some unexpected fireworks! Well, that's exactly what we had for our July 20th Moonlight Cruise. Truly a night to remember!



A second Moonlight Cruise is scheduled for August 17. We'll be meeting at the club at 7:30. If you'd like to join us for this, please call (216-9637) or email me (KC2FFT@arrl.net) so I can make sure nobody gets left on the dock.

GYC Hospice Regatta 8/24 Needs Help

The Genesee Yacht Club did us a big favor by letting us use their clubhouse for the Lightning Youth Worlds Banquet. Now it is our chance to return the favor by lending them a hand with their Hospice Regatta on August 24th. This is the fourth year for the Rochester Hospice Regatta.

Money raised goes directly to Genesee Region Home Care to provide hospice services to those not able to otherwise afford them. GRHC provides hospice services in Monroe and Wayne counties.

Help is needed on both the 23rd and 24th with food preparation, clean up, parking control and race management. Help if you can. Contact Elaine Redmond of GYC at 425-3230.

50th Brown Jug - September 2nd.

This is the 50th year for this event and NYC is doing the hosting. Starts for the different fleets will commence at 1:00 on Labor Day. After-race awards ceremony and refreshments will take place at our Club. Bring an appetizer or dessert to share. Dick Doherty and Donna Sereno are making special trophies for this event. Make sure not to miss this!

Snipe Regatta 8/24,25

- N. Dahl, Regatta Chairperson

I can't believe it. The Snipe regatta that Newport will host on August 24 and 25 is as old as I am. The first sailing of this event was during the year I was born. Wow. Sixty-six and still going strong (the regatta, that is).

We expect 12-15 boats again this year for the Briody Memorial Regatta, some from as far as Ann Arbor and the Boston area. Several Canadians, too. And this year will see the first boats from the new Snipe fleet at Oak Orchard Yacht Club.

Thanks to the people from other fleets who have volunteered to run the regatta. We all are looking forward to great sailing and a lot of fun.

Snipe Fleet News

- C. Courtsal (Fleet Captain)

We are now in the heat of the Summer Series with six boats hoping to take home the silver. Currently, the Fleet's beloved Fleet Captain leads the pack, but a lot can change in the weeks to follow. At this time, half of the fleet has purchased new sails during the 2002 season, so this bodes

well for many competitive seasons to come.

Norm Dahl, Phil Morse and I visited the Snipe Fleet in Oak Orchard, NY in late June. This fleet is just as old as ours (chartered in 1937) but had quietly disappeared several years ago. They reinstated their Charter this year and have a fleet of six boats already. One of their current boats is mentioned as a very fast boat in Newport Yacht Club's summary of the 1940 sailing season! We hope to attract some of their sailors to our Briody Regatta.

Speaking of the regatta, the Fleet thanks Jim Cuddihee and Dave Walsh for coordinating our Race Committee during our August 24-25th regatta. Please contact our regatta Chair, Norm Dahl, if you have any questions about this upcoming event.

Sailing on Wednesdays continues with Norm Dahl and Todd Calvin as our regulars. They would love other participants, so please join them on Wednesdays!

So far, the Novice Skipper Trophy and the Wednesday Series Trophy (trophies open to any NYC member) are wide open as no qualifying races have been held. If you have any questions about these trophies, let me know!

Feel free to contact me with any of your questions, concerns and compliments. See you on the water!

Hot Days of Summer are Made for Sailing

- Sterling Bush

The adult sailing classes were enjoyed by eighteen students in three sessions this year. They all had a chance to experience a variety of boats. The participants became very good tackers and gybers by the end of the course. All can right an overturned boat with ease now. Some seem to tip over on purpose just to cool off on those hot sultry days. The volunteers who loaned their boats and helped with the sailing instructions are numerous. In the Cruising Fleet: Ray Wartinger, Tom Henderson. The Lightning Fleet: John Boettcher, Bob Bush,

John Atkins, Andy Smith. The Snipe Fleet: Norm Dahl, Todd Calvin, Phil Morris. The Laser Fleet: Dean Clayton, John Boettcher, Jim Cudihee, Bob Bush. Special thanks to Ernie Schmidt for fixing the motor boat on short notice. It truly makes a club feel proud of their supporting membership. The club boats (one Lightning and two Lasers) have been upgraded with a new halyard, epoxyed adjustment section was repaired, a new shock cord and fairleads for the Lightning and with a new bailer and sail sack for the Lasers. Other adjustments will be made in the near future to keep the boats in working order.

Optimists are Lots of Fun for Juniors

- Sterling Bush

Ever hunted for gold, looked for sunken treasure, build a fort or tie the instructor up in knots?? Look Optimistically at the sailing. Learn to sail and do all those other neat things. Ahh, to be a kid again !

Well, our Junior Sailing Program did just that and more.

Our day would start out in a classroom getting the introduction of the day and an exciting theme. The Optimists all can be rigged by any of our students all by themselves. The youngest is six year old Scott Crum, who can rig his boat so fast he will be the first one in the water. He can even push the boat off the dock himself. The only lady to attend our program was Abigail Crum. She demonstrated a true gift to maneuver her boat with the wind. Mariah (American Indian for wind) would be proud of her skills. She is also the great swimmer. Our third member of the class was Ryan Atkinson. He has advanced to hiking out on the edge of the Optimist and shows great promise in Optimist Racing. Our fourth student was Brendan Courtsal. He enjoyed his newly acquired boat for the first time.

Best of all was the Laser pull around the Bay. On some of the windy days our instructors took the kids out for a spin on the Lasers. For fun the children were dragged behind the Laser like surfing from a motorboat. BIG smiles were on their faces as they came in on the Laser helping pull in the main sheet or sitting on the bow of the boat. All of these youngsters are from the Lightning or Snipe Fleet and have had some experience in a larger boat. Sharing the experience of sailing with others is an event worth remembering the summer season. WHAT DID YOU DO THIS SUMMER?

Exposed on the Parade Route

- Sterling Bush

The Memorial Day Parade and the Fourth of July Parade were great exposures for the Newport Yacht Club. The Lightning sailboat was decorated in patriotic colors for both of these parades in Irondequoit. The white banner with the blue letter of NEWPORT YACHT CLUB proudly flowed in front of the car which pulled the boat. Yes, Bob Bush has been behind the steering wheel for two years as Sterling arranges the parade entry and decorations for the boat. Lots of photographs were taken of the grandchildren and children of Jean & Dick Doherty and Ryan Atkinson, son of Deb Wight & Landy Atkinson. The club's name was in many of the newspapers and television stations this year and I hope it continues to help promote our membership as well as expose the name for website searches. Come join us next year and help decorate a boat, ride or hold the banner and march down Titus Avenue with all the music and people waving at you.

Lightning Report

- J. Atkins (Fleet Captain)

Sailing has been hit and miss this summer for various reasons, but Fleet 77 had a very successful Regatta. By changing weekends with the Keuka fleet, we were able to schedule racing on the lake and host Central New York Districts. The last time we

hosted districts was around 1980 according to Howard. Not only did we schedule lake racing both days, but also we were actually able to get to the lake on both Saturday and Sunday. The weather was beautiful but the winds were very light. The regatta saw 28 boats attend which also made it a very successful regatta financially with the fleet donating nearly all of the profit to the Youth Worlds regatta. Not only were there teams from Central New York that competed for the championship, but also a team from Nyack, a few teams from the Lake Erie District, and two teams from Cleveland. The Race committee was composed of Bob Bush as PRO, with help from Bill Farmer, John Atkins, Al McReynolds, Bill Vaughn and Jim Cudihee. Bob Dodge from Sodus also lent a hand. If I have left someone out, I apologize. Bill Farmer was a great help in providing not only the committee boat but also the windward mark set boat and also his time, guidance and friendship both days. Without his generosity we could not have held the races on the Lake. Thanks again, Bill. Jed Dodge of Sodus won the regatta. Dick Hallagan from Newport was fourth.

2002 Lightning Youth Worlds In Review

- J. Atkins

The week after the Lightning Regatta Newport hosted the 2002 Lightning Youth World Championship, as everyone should know. We are still working on the finances so there is no report as yet on that. 13 teams from five countries participated in the Championship, Brazil (2), Chile(1), Ecuador (3), Greece (2) and USA (5). One of the highlights of the regatta was the opening ceremony. After much debate among the committee members it was decided not to charge for this event, which was the right thing to do. It was great to see the turnout of not only Club members but also others from Central New York. Mayor Johnson attended and presented a plaque to Commodore John Boettcher. Jim Carson, the present VP of the ILCA Youth

Worlds, as well as Larry MacDonald, the originator of the Youth World Championship back in the early 70's, attended. Dave Harman did a spectacular job as MC, welcoming each nation in its native language. Each of the Committee spoke on a different subject, welcoming each team. The speeches were followed by a great dinner, which included donations of food from some of our local Irondequoit Restaurants. We hope that you and your family can support these sponsors when you are thinking of going out to dinner.



Sailing started with a practice race on Sunday afternoon before the opening ceremony. Monday saw the start of the racing for the championship. We were able to stay on schedule with two races per day, although we did have to delay on Wednesday morning. The wind had picked up on Tuesday evening from the Northeast and by Wednesday morning there were 3 - 5 foot rollers coming directly into the channel. It was during this time

that one of our whalers decided to give us engine problems, but Jim Tompkins and the Canoe Club came to our rescue with the loan of one of their whalers. As a result we were able to complete the championship on Wednesday afternoon, finishing late. This delayed the Awards banquet until after 9 PM, but it was worth it to finish on time, allowing the teams to go touring on Thursday.



The Brazil team of Thomas Sumner, Pedro Soares and Mark Pineda won the Championship, with the USA (Vermont) team of Eric and Karl Johnson and Kate Brush Runner-ups.

I am sure I have left a lot of detail out of this, but you have to start somewhere. I do wish to thank all that participated in making this regatta so successful. The feedback we've have had has all been extremely positive, including one parent that was very appreciative of not having alcoholic beverages on the grounds during the event. It was nice to see that this was noticed although we did not stress this among our members and guests.

Newport Laser Regatta, June 8, 2002

-J. Cuddihee

23 sailors from 8 clubs enjoyed a challenging day of racing on Lake Ontario. Races 1 and 2 were in a SW wind beginning at 12-15 knots decreasing steadily as a shore breeze struggled to develop. The third race began in a NE breeze of 6-10 knots and dropped to nearly nothing as it quickly backed to the NW. A light north wind established itself for the 4th race and the ride back to shore.

Congratulations to Tom Hart, the regatta winner and top junior, who had an excellent day with three firsts and a fourth.

Mark Sertl took second place and top Master with one first, two thirds and a fourth. John Pearce was third and top Open racer with three seconds and a fifth.

Sincere thanks to the Race Committee: Bob Bush, John Atkins, Al McReynolds, Bill Vaughn, Norm Dahl and Ray Wartinger. These folks set and reset four different courses to provide challenging and fair racing conditions throughout the day.

Newsletter Contributions

Next newsletter will be sometime in late September. Got something of Club interest? Send you contributions to J. Boettcher (platt@eznet.net)