

Rebel Rouser

Lake Eustis, FL, March 4 - 5, 1991

Story by Jim Gray

The annual Rebel Rouser Regatta at Lake Lanier Sailing Club brought sailors from Florida, Alabama and Georgia together to test sailing and foul-weather endurance skills and to tune up for the Nationals here in September. Since March, every weekend at Lake Lanier has been cloudy and rainy and this regatta weekend was no exception. But, with spirits undampened, and little else, two races were sailed Saturday and two Sunday in 5 - 10 knot breezes from the east. The regatta was immediately followed with sunny skies!

Joe Merkel, RC leader, set good Olympic courses but with the wind shifting as much as 69° the committee was busy resetting the marks three times before the final race.

Winn Story and Willi Lenkeit were once again the prime contenders for the right to have their name engraved on the Rebel Rouser Perpetual trophy. Picking up where he left off after last years regatta, Winn Story came from behind to win the first race over Jim Gray by four feet with Willi's son Michael third. Willi, Bill Nolan and Winn mastered the rain and shifting wind to finish the second race in that order. The third race turned into a dash for the dock as lightning showed up to spoil the fun.

Sunday's racing began at 9:00 am with a heavy cloud cover. Winn led the way in the third race, catching wind which he kept all to himself to finish with a comfortable lead. The youngest sailor, Gregg Chinik, showed his skill by finishing 4th in this race. Burl Murphy from the newly formed Dixie Sailing Club (Montgomery, AL) had a great 5th place. Michael Lenkeit led father Willi across the line in the last race Sunday.

Hats off to Frank Keenen who, despite not feeling well, finished 5th overall and won the Grand Masters trophy.

Sailor	Affil.	Boat No.	Race				Points
			1	2	3	4	
1 Winn Story	LLSC	487	1	3	1	4	8.5
2 Willi Lenkeit	LLSC	1211	7	1	2	2	11.75
3 Jim Gray	LLSC	602	2	4	3	5	14
4 Michael Lenkeit	LLSC	536	3	6	12	1	21.75
5 Frank Keenan-M	LESC	1088	6	8	6	6	26
6 Bill Gilmer	LLSC	840	5	5	9	9	28
7 Bill Nolan	LLSC	1261	8	2	7	12	29
8 Bill Crum	LESC	1068	9	7	8	7	31
9 Roger Hammons	LLSC	494	4	10	10	11	35
10 Bob Kwasha	LLSC	816	13	9	17	3	42
11 Burl Murphy	DSC	583	14	11	5	13	43
12 Doug Rogers	LLSC	617	10	12	13	8	43
13 Gregg Chinik	LLSC	485	15	15	4	10	44
14 Caesar Bruschi-M	LLSC	839	12	14	11	14	51
15 Frank Vandall	LLSC	1190	11	13	14	15	53
16 Charlie French	DSC	1322	11	13	14	15	53
17 Pete Smith-M	LLSC	524	DNF	DNF	16	DNF	67

GRYC Spring Regatta

Reeds Lake, Grand Rapids, MI
May 18 - 19, 1991

Story by Paul Richards

I very seldom go to regattas with a crew and this was no different. On Friday night the wind blew 12-28 all through the night. I hoped it would blow itself out. Saturday morning it was still windy with a forecast of 10 to 20 mph. I had a decision to make right away. After conferring with Jim Gluek I decided it would be wise to go with a heavy air sail (good choice). Just about everyone had crew on board at the starting line of the first race, even the 180 to 210 pound sailors. I'm 170+. The temperature was down around 55° and everyone was in foul-weather gear.

Shortly before the first start I discovered two things right away. First, it was a very gusty and shifty wind and second, it was going to be tough to hang with the boats with crew. My strategy was going to be to stay away from the pack and react to the shifts.

On the first leg I was in good shape as we approached the windward pin, although I had felt out of control most of the leg. I was fiddling with the controls when I got hit by a blast and couldn't get the sheet uncleated. Rather too quickly I found myself with one arm and one leg on the hull and the other arm and leg clinging to the edge of the cockpit, praying I could save it. I did, only to come about and do it all over again on the other side! Fortunately I saved it, and didn't get wet. Tom Wurster sailed by to see if all was alright, asking, "Was I having a stroke!" Well, needless to say I lost a few boats. We all know the feeling of being out of control. I salvaged a 14th that race and attributed it to lack of control due to the conditions.



Back-L to R-Brian McMurray, Hugh Headrick, Andy Terzes, Emily Dunning, Glueks, Paul Richards, Tom Wurster, Bunny Milne. Front-Dave Kistler, Eric Hood, Jason Hood, Chad Hough, Scott Luce, Curt Bradley, Amy Eggert.

After that race I decided the key to sailing in these conditions (they persisted into the three races Sunday morning) was to gain control of the boat. I had to get my head out of the boat and watch the puffs and shifts, and be able to handle them when they hit. I (continued on page 3)