

Scowabunga - 2012

It was the best of times and..... After several years of great wind and 5 race series, we only got in two races but Privateer Yacht Club lived up to the legend of throwing great Regattas. Did I mention the Key Lime Meringue pie? Each piece stood about 3 inches tall. The filling and Meringue were totally mixed together. It had been frozen and was really cold. It really wasn't meringue exactly. I wonder if Jan would publish her recipe in MC Tell-Tales. Oh well I digress. When we came in from sailing, while waiting to hoist out, Chris Cyrul greeted everyone on the dock with draft Yuengling. Thank you Chris!

First race on Saturday had a nice long weather leg, Spencer Wiberley (MBW) lead, followed by Pete Gregory (MBW), Chris Cyrul (PYC) and Steve Sherman (MBW). It was a home town meeting at that mark. One wonders where all the professionals came from. It was pretty much that order at the gates. But it didn't last long. The leaders went left. Others followed, but going right toward shore paid off big. Rob Seidelmann rounded in 18th place. We are not really sure about that as he was so far back we weren't even paying attention. Rob came from nowhere by banging the corner and Saturday night led the Regatta. If you want to know how to make a big comeback in MC's go to work for Skip Morehouse. Skip did not come down this year as he was recovering from a hip replacement earlier in the week. Get Well soon Skip. Rob was followed by Jean-Pierre Bordes, Craig Eaton and Steve North.

MC's from 8 different clubs participated. Boats came from as far away as Connecticut.

We almost got in a second race on Saturday but "No Races will be started after....." ended that thought. The Race instructions have been modified for 2013 eliminating that sentence. If there is wind and light we sail.

After appetizers, Frozen Margaritas (Thank You Bob Wynkoop), Markers Mark on the rocks (Thank You Chris) and more Yuengling. Fleet 82 put on another great grill your own steak dinner with baked potato, salad and all the fix-ins. I had one margarita too many and really can't tell you much about the rest of the evening. I do know the sailors finished off the first keg of Yuengling but not the second.

So now it's Sunday morning. The gals in the kitchen fixed eggs, big homemade biscuits, grits, gravy, bacon, sausage, coffee and OJ, your typical Southern breakfast. (There was no more key lime pie, I checked). The wind filled in on the club side of the lake and race number 2 was underway. The fleet pretty much hit the upwind mark at the same time. Even though the gates were across the lake everyone elected to stay on the club shore in the wind as long as they could. Only Sherman headed across the lake getting into the stronger wind on that shore. Pete Gregory, new to the MC, but a great Thistle sailor, led at both marks. On the last leg Pete covered Rob forcing him into an area of no wind and then tacking off for the finish line. Amy Larkin and Barry Kline rounded the downwind mark almost simultaneously. Sherman held back and outside and was able to cut inside as Amy and Barry left the mark wide. Sherman tacked immediately going back up the shore he had just come from. He also thought a Pontoon boat on this side of the lake was the finish line. The finish line was actually clear across the lake. But as luck would have it the fleet went to a pocket of light air and Sherman who now was over standing the finish line rode in on a steady breeze for third place. Meanwhile "Lucky" Rob picked up a shore breeze and rode over Pete.

David Varnell sailed two very consistent races for 4th overall with Amy coming in 5th.

Top master award went to Kurt Stadele and the Grand Master award went to Mike Neidig. Our NOR passes the age awards onto the next highest finisher who does not rank in the top five trophy places.

Starting with last place, each sailor chooses from a table of 30 prizes donated my McLaughlin Boat works. As an added surprise, T-shirts were later sent to each participant.

Steve Sherman
(MBW): McLaughlin Boat Works

