

## MC Scow Southwest Regatta Report

Fleet 32 had it all planned out for a great weekend. Parties, food, live music, unique trophies. The weather was super nice, highs in low 80's and the lows in the 60's. Gorgeous sunshine. The wind, not so great.

Friday night started with great party, a "Wine Experience" wine tasting and potluck dinner at the home of Charlie and Nancy Keithline. Their house overlooks our sailing area with an excellent view of about 4 miles each way. If there was ever a place to call in wind shifts to a boat racing, this would be the place. Everyone had a great time at the party.

A high pressure system moved in and sat on us Saturday and Sunday. We lost a few boats to the forecast, but sometimes that is just the way it goes. We were all ready to race on Saturday but the crummy wind forecast had us eating lunch early. Bill Draheim came up to deliver a batch of Gus Sails, so we had an impromptu Q&A/discussion of all things MC. Tactics, strategies, sail design, and current tuning information was all touched on. Thanks Bill for your time and energy for us.

Some sucker breeze showed up in the early afternoon and 6 or 8 boats went out and were lucky to make it back to the docks. Later in the afternoon the RC made the wise call to cancel for the day. It was not a long wait for the Cook Your Own Steak Dinner. The entertainment was Papa Foster & His Creole Gumbo, a NOLA style piano horn fusion band. Great food and sounds for an all around enjoyable evening.

A determined group of sailors and RC got out and did two races Sunday morning to get the regatta in. The wind wasn't ideal, but it was there. Race one was a W-1-1/2. Jon Crump went left, caught a lefty and got around the weather mark while the wind died as everyone else approached. Drew Ziegler, Ray Kuntz, Mark Marling, and Danny Ziegler were all relatively close as they rounded in that order. Ray and Drew went more down the right side on the run, while Mark and Danny went further left as the wind got better. Gary Schroeder and Harvey Baker did a whole lot of catching up on the run too. On the final beat to finish, Jon's huge lead evaporated as he took a huge starboard header get off the right side of the course. Ray was really sailing fast and went on to win the race. Danny snuck in on Jon at the bitter end to take 2<sup>nd</sup>. Race 2 started off in what looked like better wind. Everyone scrambled to where ever they could find darker water. Jon once again got into the lead by sailing in the best wind. On the downwind the wind began to die and by the time the top half of the fleet made it to the leeward mark it became a complete and total drift off. Harvey and Mark went left a third of the way up and got a little bit more pressure after they tacked back to port. Mark went on to win the race followed by Drew and Harvey.

We were all glad to get some time on the water in and everyone had a great time even though the conditions were not stellar for sailboat racing. Thank you Terry Rainey and the RC; they did a great job with the wind they had to work with. Special thanks to those who traveled from four other Clubs to Tulsa for the weekend. Y'all made the regatta special as usual!

Danny Ziegler