

Lighthouse Regatta
Fond du Lac Yacht Club on Lake Winnebago – Fleet 442
Fond du Lac, Wisconsin
June 6–7, 2015

Pos	Sail #	Skipper	Crew	Crew	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	Total
1	15493	Richard Walsh	Terry Cono	Chris Straton	4	5	1	2	3	15
2	15158	Peter Orlebeke	Kim Orlebeke	Kayley Orlebeke	3	6	6	1	2	18
3	13901	Michael Laing	Christopher Laing	Krystal Dorn	1	4	10	5	1	21
4	15390	Todd Wake	Kristine Wake	Doug Wake	5	1	2	3	12	23
5	14878	Ross Bailey	Julia Baily	Cam McWherter	6	2	7	4	7	26
6	14938	David Styx	Mark Wessel	Amy Simonson	7	7	4	6	8	32
7	13817	Brian Phelan	Mari Martin	Doug Olson	2	10	8	7	6	33
8	15042	Tim Baccus	Mike Baccus	Mike Elmergreen	9	3	5	9	9	35
9	15406	Alex Cox	Caleb VanderPloeg	Marek Dennhardt	10	8	9	10	5	42
10	15064	Jason Bemis	Jon Ribich	Ben Brotz	8	11	3	11	10	43
11	14880	Craig Pomeroy	Crystal Pomeroy	Joan Nocenti	11	9	11	8	4	43

[Photos from the Lighthouse Regatta!](#)

2015 Lighthouse Regatta, Fond du lac, WI

Every year I look forward to the Lighthouse Regatta at Fond du Lac. For us and the other Thunder Bay Fleet 279 teams it usually marks the beginning of the season and an opportunity to see some familiar faces. As my regular crew Alex Cox is one of this year's recipients of a boat grant boat I found myself short two crew members 2 weeks prior to this regatta. Things always have a way of working out in the crew department. When my sister was not able to attend Terry Cano her bowman was quite willing to crew. Chris "Newfie" Stratton was also eager to come with us on a road trip. With this team what could go wrong?

So planning for this event is actually quite easy with Chris and Terry and it kinda goes like this. Ok we will meet at the Lake Aire Bottle shop in Duluth and pick up all necessary provisions. Planning done.

Saturday morning "Newfie" woke up swimming with the carp in Lake Winnebago. It is still a mystery how that happened. We think perhaps that someone through him a stick. We headed out to the course on a very glassy looking Lake Winnebago. Terry and Chris must have thought that we would drift the day away under postponement. That is the only way I can explain that the amount of water and beer that was on board. Although the lake looked completely calm we soon realized that there were plenty of puffs that were not making a ripple on the lake. The race committee worked hard to start a race as there really was nice wind but it just was not on the water. No one on our boat has ever raced in 3 to 10 knots of wind without having the wind show on the water and we needed some sort of plan. I think it is safe to say that this plan never really developed. We raced the first 3 races in this trying and shifty condition and were lucky to stay close with the top boats. Finally after race 3 the water started to turn blue but there were still many large shifts. Going into the 5th race we found ourselves 1 point behind Todd Wake and family. Todd appeared to be doing exactly what he needed to do to win day 1 and possibly the regatta. When he finished next to Micheal Laing we only heard 1 horn and realized that one of them was OCS. This was a lucky break for us. The results seem to speak for themselves 5 races and 4 different boats have a 1st place finish. With one race to go this regatta appeared to be up for grabs and would come down to the races on Sunday.

Sunday greeted us with lots of wind and rain. The race committee opted to cancel for the day.

As always Fond du Lac put on a great event both on the water and off the water. Saturday's dinner was as great as always. The members of the Fond du Lac yacht club always show great hospitality. They even took us out on the town to play "skee-ball" on Saturday night. This eventually led to many stories as well as our sweet motorhome sleeping accommodations.