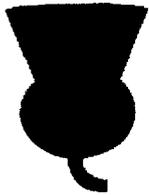


JIB SHEET

Volume 1, Issue 10

August 2005



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Upcoming Events

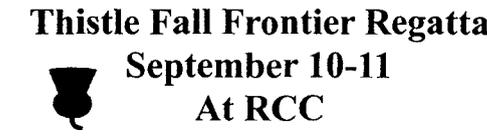
Get involved in one of these fine events coming up! We are a volunteer club.....this is what makes us so great! Let's show the visitors what a first class organization we are.



CLAMBAKE!

• **Save the date**
September 24

Look for the flyer in your mail



Thistle Fall Frontier Regatta
September 10-11
At RCC

Need volunteers and hors d'oeuvres

Plan on coming for dinner (Roaster Turkey) Saturday night whether you are sailing or not

Contact Bill Dexter at 244-0884

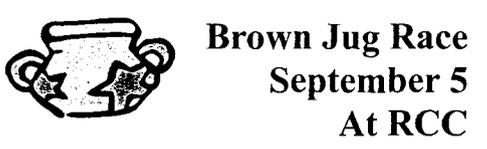


Upstate Sunfish Regional Championships
September 17-18
At RCC

Need volunteers and hors d'oeuvres

Plan on coming for dinner Saturday night whether you are sailing or not.

Contact Roy Wiener at 422-5797



Brown Jug Race
September 5
At RCC

Need volunteers and hors d'oeuvres

Contact Mark Weider at 473-9346

Junior Sailors really do have more fun!

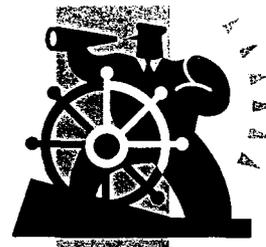


FROM THE COMMODORE

Mark Weider

All those 90-degree days that we didn't get over the last few years have finally showed up! What a great summer.

We just got back from the Thistle Nationals in NJ. 80 boats and 90+ degrees everyday. Congratulations to Mike Ingham, sailing with his lovely wife Delia and John Baker from Seneca, on his 4th National Championship. Steady, consistent sailing with no mistakes proved to be the winning formula. Congratulations to Doug Kaukeinen (world class Jib Sheet Editor), Joe Kaukeinen and Deirdre Santos on finishing 6th. More details elsewhere.



Commodore Mark
Our Master and Commander

Open House – This year we decided to try the open house on Saturday June 18. Now, everyone did not do his or her part about getting someone to come out, but we did all right and even had a couple of “looky Lous” drop down. The atmosphere was relaxed with several club members providing boat rides, club tours and an occasional hot dog. I think the format was great and we can make it better next year with more participation and promotion.

Mallard's Landing Erosion – The subdivision at the top of the hill that has contributed sediment to our settling pond has made some improvements since last year with all lawns seeded and growing, the street and driveways paved, and addition of stone to the top of the ravine to try to slow the runoff. However, these efforts have still not resulted in adequate protection of the ravine. The big storm events are still causing the stream to cut into the streambed and are filling our sediment basin in less than a year. Jere Willsey and I are in contact with the Town of Irondequoit to make sure that this problem is not passed on to RCC as a continuing expense. Last year the developer paid for equipment to dig out the basin but once the developer turns the project over to the Homeowners Association, they may not be so willing to share in the cost. Stay tuned.

125th Anniversary Celebration – As reported before, next year is RCC's 125th anniversary and we are planning on putting on a party for all current and former club members. Based on lists used for the 1992 Homecoming event put on by Carol Fritz we are starting to compile a new master list. The 125th anniversary party would be sometime next year (August 2006?). I'd like to have a planning meeting with all interested volunteers on Wednesday August 31 at my house to set the date, review the list, prepare the initial notice, and work out things like format, events, publicity, budget etc. Please let me know if you can help (473-9346, mweider1@rochester.rr.com).

Brown Jug – The Brown Jug race is the annual around the bay Labor Day race that is open to all types of sailing craft and skipper/crew combinations. We alternate hosting this event with Newport Yacht Club and this year it is our turn. Let's make it a good turn out and please bring extra goodies for after racing. Strange things have happened in this race – Mike Ingham won in his Tornado catamaran even though he did a few extra laps, and Eric Gesner won in his thistle singlehanded!

Remember to hug and kiss your Race Committee!

FROM THE VICE

Gary Skillman



Saturday, November 12th
REMEMBER THIS DATE
 (Better write it down)



The VICE does it all!

This is the date for the Year End Banquet. It's been a wonderful year of sailing and we certainly have a lot to celebrate at the final event of the year. I had a lot of good feedback about last year's party, so I booked the same place, the Hospitality House in Penfield. Hope you all can make it. There will be more information later on the menu and the costs.

But we still have lots of partying to do before the year end. Don't forget the.....

CLAMBAKE

Saturday, September 24th



Bill Dexter, who did such a wonderful job last year has agreed to run the event again this year. All you clam lovers, I think I hear your lips smacking already.

And even before the clambake, we should be thinking about the Brown Jug on Labor Day, Monday the 5th of September. We sponsor it this year and are responsible for laying out a double quantity of hors d'oeuvres. . Last year Newport put on a fine show and we need to match that and go one better.

Thanks to everyone for showing up and on time for crash boat assignments. We only had one incident where we may have been short on Sunday, but pulled that one off. Please double check the schedule and make sure of the assignments for the rest of the year. There is a Crash Boat Schedule posted on the bulletin board at the club. Let me and your fleet captain know of any changes in advance.

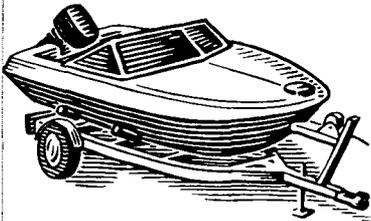
END OF SEASON BASH

Sunday, October 10th

Finally, we have one more party at the end of the sailing season. The End of Season Bash is held on the last day of sailing on October 10th . It will be similar to the Ice Breaker. Everyone brings great appetizers, and the club supplies the punch. I need a volunteer to run this event. Contact me at the club one of these Sundays, or give me a call. It's really no big deal, and you get to learn how to make the Mt Gay rum punch that everyone loves.

HARBOR MASTER'S REPORT

Mike Conklin



There is not much to report from the harbor. Stuff breaks It gets fixed then more stuff breaks. I would like to say thank you to Joe Kaukeinen. He has fixed many problems before I even get a chance to think about them. So again thank you Joe.

LITTLE HANDS DEMONSTRATE INCREASED DEXTERITY



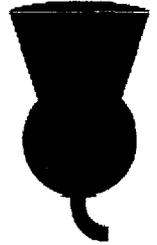
The newest generation of sailors down at the club have begun to be spotted at and around and under the hors d'oeuvre table on Sunday afternoons. Little berry stained faces that just manage to peek over the edge of the table and sandy little crumb covered hands reaching for the ubiquitous cracker suggest that there may indeed be a "happy hour gene" that has yet to be identified by the scientific community... Then again, maybe Jim Tompkins has been sneaking in a few helpful lessons to these little ones! Regardless, its really a joy to watch the "babies" growing up down on the bay!

Sue Rose
Vice Commodore

THISTLE NEWS

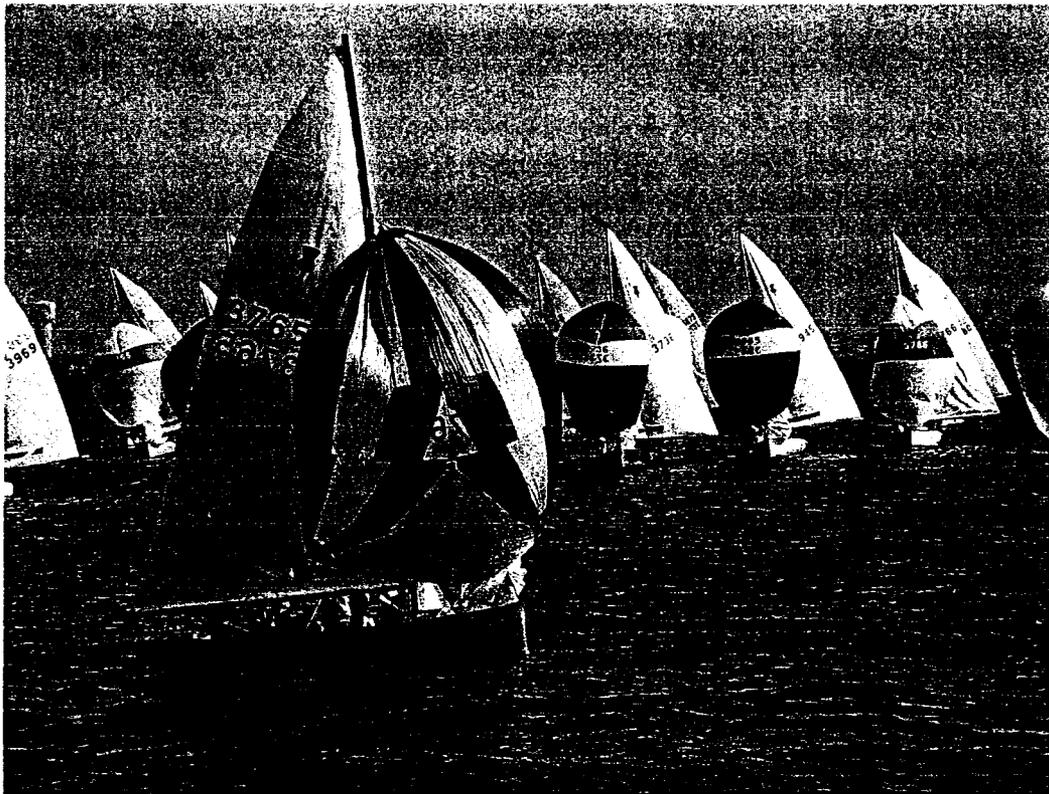
Bill Dexter

Congratulations to Mike and Delia Ingham with John Baker on winning the 2005 Thistle Nationals! This is the fifth time that Mike has won the annual event. Doug and Joe Kaukeinen with Deirdre Santos finished sixth, Eric Goethert with Bobby and Linda Bryant finished tenth. Seven boats from RCC made the trip to Lavallette, New Jersey to round out the eighty-boat fleet. Conditions were light with breezes not exceeding 10 knots. The expected sea breeze took a vacation for the week and made for challenging conditions. But the parties were great and the Jersey shore proved to be a perfect venue for the Thistle Nationals. Congratulations to all the teams! It's an honor to have our club represented by such great sailors.



The Thistle fleet is holding its annual Fall Frontier Regatta on September 10 - 11. Members are invited to join us for the Saturday night party and turkey/corn dinner. The price for dinner is \$10 per person and \$5 for children under 12. Join us for cocktails and appetizers at 4:30, dinner at 7:00 pm.

I still need people to help with crash boat and dinner for Fall Frontier please call Bill Dexter at 461-2422. I am also looking for volunteers to help with the Clambake on September 24.



Race 4 at Thistle Nationals

Niagara Frontier Thistle District Championships Doug Kaukeinen & Deirdre Santos Reprinted from the Bagpipe article

Ingham Wins 2005 Niagara Frontier District Championships

The hot and humid Rochester spring just would not let up during the Niagara Frontier District Championships held at the Rochester Canoe Club June 11-12. This did not deter the twenty-one Thistle teams that showed up, nor did the bay full of weeds and motorboat chop. A great time was had by all and the Race Committee, headed up by Phyllis Kaukeinen, did their usual stellar job. They managed to get five races in on Saturday, despite the fickle Irondequoit Bay winds.

The winds Saturday morning consisted of a few southeast zephyrs streaming down the bay. Determined to get some racing in, the RC attempted to start the fleet in 0-2mph of breeze at 11:00. A few boats were obviously in disbelief of the RC's ability to start on time since they were nowhere near the starting line. It wasn't Doc Gates OR Willie Wilson...the usual suspects. As luck would have it, the aggressive fleet reeled off two general recalls, allowing two of the three late boats to make it on time.

Race 1 was a windward-leeward twice around and a true test of patience, determination, and mental stability. It was the beginning of the common theme of the day...wind shear. The astute skipper/crew teams would sail towards what appeared to be a vein of wind, only to be dumbfounded by the lack of pressure in these regions. Meanwhile, boats in calm, smooth water would be heeling over with pressure above the water's surface. With his typical light-air savvy, Bill Wilson took the bullet (so much for the mental stability test) while Kaukeinen got by Ingham and Stehle near the finish for second. Recognizing the amount of pain and suffering inflicted upon the fleet, the RC wisely broke for lunch.

After lunch, the wind finally started to switch around to the North, Northeast and fill in. This is the typical Irondequoit Bay "thermal" experienced in the spring and summer. However, it was spotty and the wind shear theory continued. The RC started the fleet at 2:30 in a triangle, windward-leeward. After an abysmal port tack start, the Kaukeinen team blew an outhaul, sounding like a gunshot on the racecourse. Luckily a backup was tied in place, but overhand knots have no place on a boat! By the end of Race 2 it was down to the last knot and tape that held it. Ingham won by a landslide (see photo of why) and the rest of the top bunch of Bryant, Hanson, Kaukeinen, and Wilson rounded out the top five. Most impressive was Dave Hanson's ability to sail so flat with just himself and Steve Rozella. It was later stated by Bill Wilson that the bulging veins on 616 were visible from several boat lengths away.

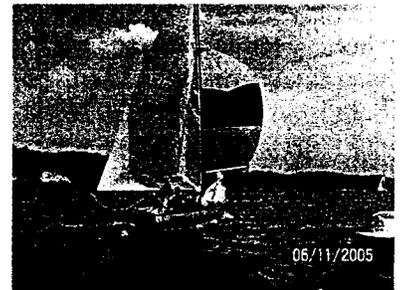
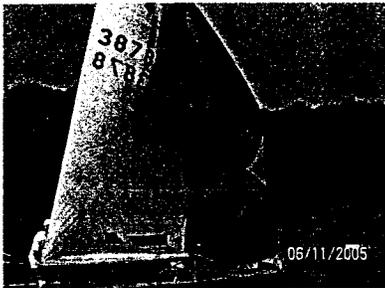
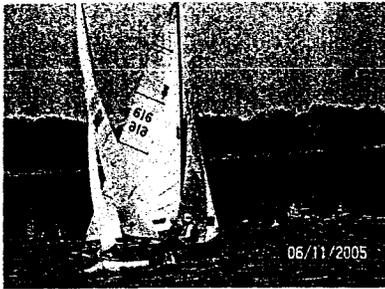
Race 3 was a windward-leeward twice around. The same top boats mixed it up with Ingham winning again. Ingham's true boat speed secret was later revealed during an impromptu experts' roundtable held on Sunday. Adding to the wind shear theory, Mike commented: "As we passed through a glassy spot on the water, I looked back and noticed wind ripples forming behind our wake. I think that as the boat passed through the colder air above the water it mixed it up, thus causing us to make our own wind." There you have it-- Ingham goes sooo fast because he breaks wind while racing. No wonder John and Joy let him steer...so he is behind them at all times.

And now back to serious racing. Kaukeinen finally had a start near the pin in Race 4, the windiest race (wish that shim was in), finding a nice left phase and went on to win. Ingham broke more than wind this race and had to send Baker to the back of the boat to facilitate repairs during the second beat of this triangle, windward-leeward. It was now getting late, teams were tired, and the food and Heineken were calling. But with reports of an impending windless Sunday morning, the RC started a fifth race. It was a windward-leeward affair and Wilson ended the long day with another win. The evening was brought to a close in style with the typical RCC hors d'oeuvre spread, drinks, and catered buffet dinner. It was a chance to socialize with long time friends and talk about future Thistling plans. Unfortunately rain spoiled plans for a bonfire.

Sunday was just as hot and steamy as Saturday, only with zero wind. We passed the time watching Arn Lager build a Thistle rail with a fancy jig that he designed...very impressive. Arn is restoring 2341, Neil Armstrong's old boat. Ingham also conducted the expert roundtable. In addition to hearing from hotshot skippers, Mike had the crew of the top five boats go before the group. It was very enlightening to hear the crew roles on different boats and what a typical conversation would sound like during racing. The wind never arrived, so the regatta ended at 11:30. This allowed for a leisurely swim, satisfying lunch, and awards. Instead of the usual trophies for the top five only, T-shirts were given to all sailors...a refreshing idea. Hope to see everyone at Nationals.

NF Districts Photos & Results

Photos Courtesy of Gary Fritz

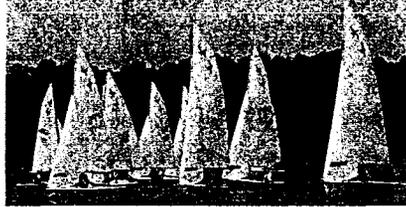


Rochester Canoe Club 2005 NF District Championships June 11, 12, 2005 Series Summary

Pl	Sail	Crew	From	1	2	3	4	5	T
1	3894	Mike Ingham, John Baker & Joy Martin	RCC	3	1	1	2	3	10
2	3765	Doug Kaukeinen, Joe Kaukeinen & Deirdre Santos	RCC	2	4	3	1	2	12
3	3908	Bill Wilson, Carol Wilson & Aaron Holland	SYC	1	5	5	6	1	18
4	3812	Bobby Bryant, Linda Bryant & Jimmy Barnash	RCC	6	2	2	3	5	18
5	616	Dave Hanson, Steve Rozella & Brad Swett	Grand Isle	13	3	4	4	6	30
6	3687	Sam Ingham, Tim Donovan & Leslie Howitt	RCC	5	6	13	8	4	36
7	3848	Jonas Kelly, Chris Kelly & Roy Ingham	OSC	12	12	8	5	9	46
8	3730	Jim Tompkins, Patty Tompkins & Gary Hartman	RCC	10	9	6	10	11	46
9	1400	Bill Dexter, Rob Dexter & Libby Dexter	RCC	8	10	11	7	12	48
10	3510	Mark Weider, Mike Fortner & Tracy Weider	RCC	11	7	15	11	7	51
11	3775	Don Stehle, Bill Weikert & Ted Plenge	RCC	4	14	9	16	10	53
12	3947	Dave Hudson, Trudy Hudson & Sara Cooper	SLSC	18	13	7	9	8	55
13	3836	Dave Murray, Leah Murray & Davey Murray	SYC	7	11	12	13	16	59
14	3878	Doc Gates & Tim Eagan	RCC	9	8	17	20	14	68
15	66	Dan Fien, Chris Dexter & Ellen Pfeffer	RCC	15	15	10	18	22\DNS	80
16	3364	Chris Connelly, Rich Connelly & Mike Conklin	RCC	19	20	14	12	17	82
17	3832	Gary Skillman, Sue Rose & Katy Ballesty	RCC	16	17	19	15	15	82
18	2920	JT Fahy, Lucy Lauzon-Fahy & Sean Gallagher	SLSC	17	18	20	21	13	89
19	3916	Dan Patsos, Alex Patsos & Nick Patsos	OSC	14	21	21	14	19	89
20	3896	Jim Gindling & Luke Bonney	SYC	22\DNS	16	16	19	18	91
21	2887	Bill Bradburn & Rick Howitt	RCC	20	19	18	17	20	94

JY NEWS

Ralph Simpson



JY15 Fleet 77 UPDATE



I'm on the road again ... this time for vacation although I packed up and hit the road with Rhiannon within 24 hours of flying back from a work related visit to Portland, Oregon. Looks to be some great river sailboat racing in that neck of the woods along with plenty of choices of micro brewed refreshments. I told my boss I need to go back soon to better sample the sailing and the beer. I suppose I could handle a bit of business related stuff too.

I am typing this up after scribbling down a few notes while basking on Crescent Beach along the south shore of Nova Scotia. From one coast to the other ... the beer is great here too! Crescent Beach is on a protected inlet of the Atlantic Ocean and the waters do warm up enough to see the odd person swimming. Not to be confused with Crystal Crescent Beach closer to Halifax which was our beach of choice during my High School and College years. That beach is more exposed to offshore currents and one tends to turn blue in less than a minute if you venture into the water. Best to enjoy the beauty and the stress reducing sound of the surf from the warm sand. A cooler of ice cold Alexander Keith's India Pale Ale at hand (like mine right here) can keep the body cool without turning you blue from thermal shock. Life is good!

Earlier today, Rhiannon and I stopped at LaHave River Yacht Club near Bridgewater (our current vacation home base about an hours drive from Halifax). We timed things perfectly to catch the 10 min warning gun of the first race in a week long annual schooner racing regatta. The Race committee of three stood by a flag pole next to the clubhouse while jointly raising flags and firing a propane fueled gun as the start sequence progressed. I counted 15 schooners from about 40 to 100 feet in length jockeying for pre-start position on the river. The starting line ran from the race committee flag pole to a small lighthouse on the opposite river bank. It was clear the pin (lighthouse) half of the line was favored as the flag pole half of the river was full of moored boats. It was quite a sight to see these boats charge to windward, headed downstream to the ocean. Locals said the typical course they would be sailing is 12 to 15 miles. Two of the smaller schooners had the best start but they were overtaken quickly by the 100 footers with about 10 sails flying. You know it when one of them takes your wind!

OK, on to some JY news. The fleet just completed our 2005 regatta at RCC the weekend of July 16-17. We had 12 JY's racing with one "out of town" entry from the far north-western reaches of Rochester Yacht Club. It was a pleasure to have Barb Harmer's brother and niece (John and Hanna Fields) charter one of our boats and race with us. Despite on-again off-again thunderstorms, a fantastic volunteer crew of race committee and mark set boats facilitated nine competitive races for us over the weekend. We held a successful racing clinic combo happy hour on Saturday afternoon, taking advantage of an early finish due to approaching thunderstorms. Dinner was a tastefully cooked BBQ, hot off the RCC monster grill. Regatta results are shown below and check the RCC website for a link to some great pictures. Thanks to all who participated and especially the volunteers from outside our fleet who were instrumental in running a successful regatta where everyone had fun. Thank you Phyllis, Pat, Barb, Jan, Jim, Rich, Mike, Tom, Jere, Margret, John, Stephen, Chuck, Tom, Mimi. Please knock me on the side of the head for an apology if I missed anyone.

Continued on next page.....

JY NEWS Continued

As fleet captain I have been doing a little work on recruiting and fostering some new talent into the RCC JY Fleet and I am happy to announce some success. We are ecstatic to welcome the up and coming Husband and Wife team of Robb and Mary Kate Brown. Proud owners of a new "used" JY from Gordon Wandtke. Things could not work out better to get a great couple linked up with a boat already at the club and help move it from "inactive" to "ready to race"! Other new recruits showing promising talents include Tom Groff, Jordan Garbarino, Greg Lombardo and Carl Bucella. I am hoping they can help bring a few new JY's into the fleet later this season or next season. What do you say guys?! It has been great fun having you race with us so don't stop now!

Racing knowledge transfer has also been an area I have focused on this season. I have been mixing skippers and crew up a bit this season when possible to foster some cross training between/within the fleet and new sailors. The clinic we held during our regatta has spurred interest in more of the same so we hope to try some short mini clinics after Sunday racing. Focus on a topic or two relevant to the day's races or something to that effect.

Don't think the rest of the fleet has not been busy also ... Hank and Tracy Sesselberg helped arrange orders for new sails and centerboard gaskets. Vince Fasanello fabricated a sail bag tagging process and materials – enough for other fleets to use also (check the sail loft, on the chairs to the right of the door). Neil Armstrong has been taking tender loving care of our club JY (no wonder Sue loves him so). Kevin Lofftus maintains an excellent account of our race standings and backfills for me as co-captain for board meetings when the planets are not aligned correctly. The entire fleet pitched in to organize and run our regatta. Thanks everyone! You make a fleet captain's job easy.

A friendly reminder ... the JY North Americans are September 9-11 at Niantic Yacht Club in Connecticut. Let's have a good showing from our fleet. I have contacted my brother who lives near Stamford to come race with me again. We teamed up at the 2002 North Americans in Stonington and had a great time!

Look at the following url's for details:

<http://www.jyca.org/> (JY Class Association website)

<http://www.nbyc.org/> (Niantic Bay Yacht Club website)

As always, my door is open so please give me some input on anything related to the JY Fleet. At a minimum I will listen and say "thank you".

Keep the wind in your sails and a smile on your faceSlainte from Nova Scotia!!

Ralph

RCC JY15 REGATTA July 16-17 2005

~~X~~ = drop worst finish

PLACE	SAIL #	STEERING	CREW	# 1	# 2	# 3	# 4	# 5	# 6	# 7	# 8	# 9	POINTS	BEST
1	2445	Hank Sesselberg	Tracy Sesselberg	2	3	4	1	3	1	2	2	3	17	1
2	1	Per Westesson	Tom	1	4	5	2	2	3	1	1	13	19	1
3	1955	Neil Armstrong	Sue Armstrong	7	7	1	3	1	4	5	3	2	26	1
4	1959	Kevin Lofftus	Serena Lofftus	5	2	2	4	6	2	7	4	6	31	2
5	1960	Ralph Simpson	Carl Bucella	8	1	3	5	8	5	3	5	5	35	1
6	1956	Gary Fritz	Jordan Garbarino	3	6	6	6	5	7	4	6	1	37	1
7	2251	John Fields	Hanna Fields	6	5	8	7	4	10	6	8	4	48	4
8	2444	Dan Blasdell	Jean Blasdell	10	8	7	8	7	6	8	7	7	58	6
9	341	Barb Harmer	Katie Harmer	4	10	10	9	9	9	9	13	8	68	4
10	1921	Roy Wiener	Susan Wiener	9	9	9	10	10	8	10	9	10	74	8
11	1855	Arn Lager	Tom Groff	11	11	13	11	11	11	11	10	9	85	9
12	741	Dave Dombroski	Kent Crosier	13	13	13	13	12	13	12	11	11	98	11

SUNFISH NEWS

Roy Wiener

Ahoy Sunfish Fleet. We have had an excellent spring season, with generally good wind, lots of boats on the line, and very competitive though friendly racing.



Upstate Regionals at RCC
September 17-18

Simon Stampe won the spring series, with Mike Fortner second, Per Stampe third, and Frank Colgan a very close fourth.

We have also had some excellent regatta results. Simon and Per attended the Sunfish North Americans in Delaware and both did extremely well. Steve Smeulders came in second out of more than 40 racers at the New England Regional.

And, RCC made up the entire fleet at the Pultneyville Regatta!

The highlight of the rest of the season will be the Upstate Regional Sunfish Regatta, hosted by RCC on September 17-18. We should have a large fleet and look forward to members of the Thistle and JY fleets competing with us as well as visitors from the entire region.

Of course, we will need lots of volunteers to help with planning, meals, awards, race committee, and mark boats. Please let me know if there is any job you are interested in doing; (rw Wiener@rcpg.com).

Have a great summer on the water!

Roy

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Pat Tompkins



My first inkling of a good membership year was at RCC's opening spring picnic. Three new interested families attended, complete with offspring, and subsequently came to the work day as well! They are now among the new members we welcome into our midst.

Rob & Mary Kate Brown, Chloe (2), Emily (6mo.) Rob and Mary Kate are relative newcomers to sailing (though he has previously crewed on Lightnings), but were eager participants in the "Crew U" program earlier this season. They have since become the proud owner of a JY-15 (bought from Gordon Wandtke) and have begun racing in the JY fleet.

Chuck & Heather Garbarino, Jordan (15), Caitlin (13) Garbarinos own a Sunfish as well as a 30 ft. Pearson sailboat which they dock at Newport Marina. Both Jordan and Caitlyn have attended RCC's Junior Sailing program, and Jordan has been actively crewing in the JY fleet. Chuck was recently a willing volunteer at RCC's JY-15 Regatta as well.

Tom & Julianne Groff, Abby (2), Jake (9 mos.) The Groff's are quite new to sailing (they moved here from Arizona), but are very enthusiastic participants in the club scene. Tom has crewed with Eric Gesner in the Thistle, shared the tiller on a club JY-15 with Arne Lager at the recent regatta and steered again in club racing. The entire family has participated in several pot luck suppers with a welcome influx of great new recipes from Julianne. Update your directory: (H) 265-0829, (W) 544-0450, (email) tgroff@rochester.rr.com

Ted & Tammy Plenge, Jagger (7), Morrison (3) Ted has already been active in club racing as the very capable middle crew on Don Stehle's Thistle. He is also very interested in continuing the restoration of the club Thistle 2839 (formerly owned by Murray Russell). And, hopefully, we will soon have another enthusiastic junior sailor (or two) among us.

Kristin Skarie Kristin was taught to sail by her Dad in a styrofoam Snark, and then learned about "real" boats last season when she began crewing at RCC with Peter Gregory and Don Stehle. Minor surgery early this year has kept her from crewing, but she is eager enough to volunteer her help on race committee and has participated there on recent Sundays --- much appreciated. She is also looking forward to getting back in a boat. Update your directory: (H,W) 425-1506

We extend a most sincere welcome to all of the above new members of the RCC family! Just as a reminder, if you see someone at the club who isn't familiar, introduce yourself and make them feel at home. And, if you haven't stayed for "Happy Hour" or Sunday's pot luck lately, you are really missing a good time and really great food!

RCC HISTORIAN Leo Balandis

We Can Outrun It!

Those could have been the last words of up to 165 sailors in 55 boats including myself when a horrendous storm hit the 1988 Great Lakes Thistle Championship on Lake Ontario. Fifteen of those boats were from Rochester Canoe Club, sponsor of the event held at Rochester Yacht Club. It was before the start of the Sunday race on July 17. Saturday had started with SW winds 20 MPH gusting to over 25 with 2-4 Ft. waves, leading to capsizes and broken equipment. The temperature hit a record 96°F, with a chance of thundershowers that didn't develop. I did not sail Saturday, refusing to go out under those conditions with an inexperienced crew that never sailed with me before. After one of them jumped ship, refusing to return on Sunday, Carol Robinson, President of the Thistle Class Association, offered to crew: an offer I couldn't refuse.



Leo hard at work digging into the archives!

Warm, moist air was moving east, to be followed by a weak cold front; winds were forecast W 12 to 23 MPH, with waves 2-4 Ft. and a 50 % chance of thunderstorms. That sounded like yesterday, but the wind was lighter than that when we sailed out of Irondequoit Bay on the way to the race course, perhaps a mile or two offshore from Durand Beach. It was the lull before the storm. We saw Thistle 2653 heading back in the bay, which enabled us to report them as "not missing" after the storm. Most boats were coming out of the river, 4 miles west. We were about halfway there when a flash of lightning appeared on the west horizon. "We can outrun it!" I said, intending to make it to the river, but the storm was moving very fast and was soon upon us with wind exceeding 50 MPH. Officially, the weather bureau at the airport recorded a 45 MPH gust at 10:13 AM, but that was inland. Now the goal was to get off the water and survive. We wrapped my steel lifting bridle around the mast and dropped it in the water to ground it, lowered the mainsail, and raced for Durand Beach with jib only. Carol had more experience than me sailing with jib only, so I gave her the tiller and took over the jib, while my other crew balanced the boat in the gusts. Lightning was now upon us with deafening crashes, and we screamed instructions over the howling wind. I couldn't hear for 2 days afterward. Several other boats ran onto the beach with us in pouring rain amid multiple lightning strikes and huge waves as a dark cloud enveloped us. A large cabin cruiser also washed ashore. Visibility was zero as 1.72 inches of rain fell in an hour. Floods and power outages occurred on shore. Chaos reigned.

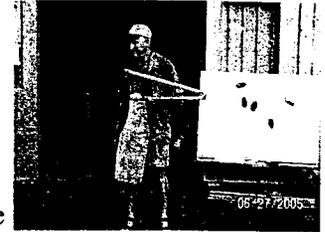
Members of RYC picked us up in cars and returned us to the clubhouse where a boat count was in progress to insure that no one was left out on the lake. Other RYC members in large cruising boats helped in rescue operations on the water. A few boats made it back to the yacht club basin on the river by turning back before they even saw lightning in the distance. Some said the sky looked an ominous green, but few thought that nobody should have gone out in the first place, and it wasn't me: I had the offer I couldn't refuse! Those that didn't make it back to the basin docked in the river; anchored in the lee of the east jetty; ran onto the beach; or rode it out under anchor offshore with waves breaking over the bow. Some capsized trying to beat the storm by keeping sails up, even spinnakers. One boat that capsized both days had inadequate flotation, sank to the gunwales, and was towed twice. The weather soon cleared and the sun came out. Boats were retrieved, and I sailed leisurely back to RCC alone on a pleasant afternoon.

It was amazing that lightning struck no boat on those 25 Ft. metal masts. Nobody was injured except, perhaps, the esteem of the race committee head. When he saw the storm coming, he reportedly said that it was just a cell, and they would ride it out - and proceeded to go below and take a nap. Other race committee members got seasick as the waves built up. Although the race never started, memories are mixed on whether any signal was given to abandon it, but one must remember that the decision to race or not, or even to go out on the water, lies with individual skippers, and nobody stuck around to see what the race committee would do. Seventeen years later, many who were out there still remember it as the worst storm they were ever in. It could have been their last.

July 25, 2005

Junior/Adult Sailing Lessons 2005 Doug Kaukeinen

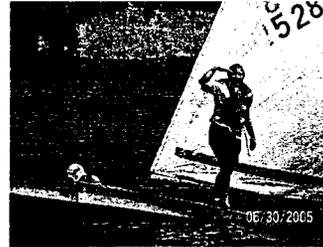
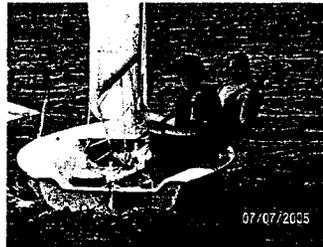
The 2005 Junior Sailing lessons will go down as one of the most memorable and successful years on record. I have lost count, but I believe this is our 12th year of the program! By successful, I mean that we again got some new RCC members as a direct result of the program. Also, we were blessed with the most polite, hard working, and eager sailors that we have ever had. Except for the race clinic, we were filled up to the max, so once again the program had a positive cash flow. Week 1 was June 27—July 1 and consisted of beginners in the morning and intermediate in the afternoon. Week 2 was July 5-8. This was adult beginner in the morning and race clinic in the afternoon. I was very happy with the way we catered to individual needs during the race clinic. We had sailors at different racing abilities and in different boats. I would like to thank Joe Kaukeinen for coming down to assist the Thistle crew and Simon Stampe for assisting the JY crew. Week 3 was from July 11-15 and consisted of beginner in the morning and intermediate in the afternoon. We had many former RYC program participants during this afternoon session.



Mike explaining boat parts and steering

It was such a hot 3 weeks, so you can guess that the highlight was the numerous swim breaks we took to cool down. Participants also enjoyed the bridge and the beach that had the rope swing. I would like to personally thank Mike Fortner for organizing such a wonderful program year in an year out. There is a lot involved in running such a great program and Mike is the man! Thanks Mike. Also many thanks to our “junior” instructors: Paul Owens, Simon Stampe, and Steven Powers. It is because of their efforts that the participants get such awesome one-on-one instruction.

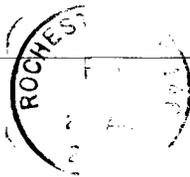
The bottom line is that we introduced approximately 60 people to the wonderful world of sailing and hopefully honed their sailing skills. It was especially gratifying for me since my 2 boys, Corey and Britt participated. I hope that this program continues.....What do you say Mike??



**NEWSLETTER OF THE
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Editor's Note Doug Kaukeinen

The Jib Sheet is published 3 times per year during the months of April, August, and December. Deadlines for writing articles for the "sheet" should be e-mailed as a Word Attachment to Doug Kaukeinen (sail@rpa.net) no later than the 1st of month of April, August, and December.

In the future I would like a variety of articles in addition to the standard board member reports.. If you have an idea about an article, by all means contact me. We are always looking for fresh ideas about the Jib Sheet. So start writing down your favorite sailing experiences and get them published in the "sheet".

I would also like to include photos, both sailing action and people pics. If you have any digital images that you would like to share, please e-mail them to me.

If you have any other comments or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 544-2159. Thanks.

Doug



From Jean Blasdell, club secretary

By now you should all have received your club directories. Look over your personal information carefully. Report any errors or omissions to Jean Blasdell at 244-2271

Mike Ingham with John and Joy on their way to winning the Thistle Districts at RCC. Flat is FAST! Repeat as many times as necessary.