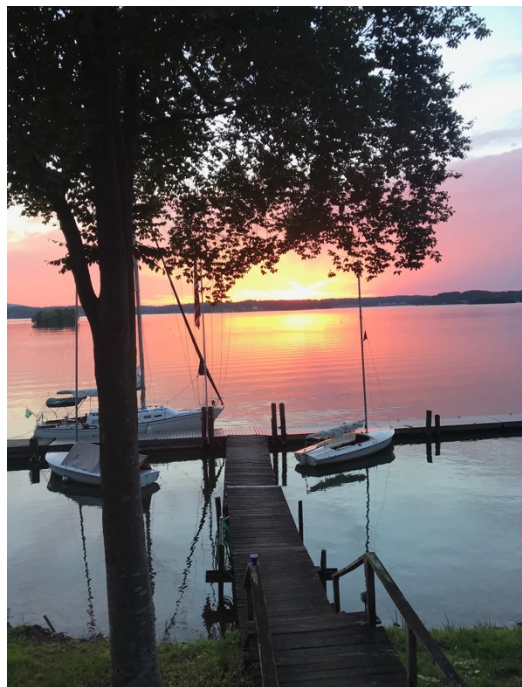


SSA Lightning Members Place 2nd in the Moonshine Regatta Smith Mountain Lake VA April 20-21, 2024



Lightning District Racing officially started last weekend with the 12th Annual Moonshine Regatta, hosted by the VISA Yacht Club in stunning Smith Mountain Lake, VA. The club once again rolled out the red carpet for the four Lightnings and 12 Wayfarer boats that joined the Moonshine Regatta this year. Even though we had a much smaller turn-out this year, that did not detract from the incredible hospitality and joy of this regatta.

If you were wondering about the name, it is called the Moonshine Regatta because Franklin County Virginia is known as the Moonshine Capital of the World. One of the highlights of this regatta is the opportunity to sample the homemade moonshine - handcrafted by local resident expert who took over his Grandfather's still. The jars of Apple, Plum, Banana and Original were set out on the tables to

sample the authentic brew along with the dinner on the deck. Even people who "do not touch the stuff" try the samples and are amazed at how smooth "real" moonshine tastes. The awards are mason jars (with lids to fill with any left-over samples to remember the regatta). The regatta will be held the same weekend next year, April 19-20, 2025. **Please be sure to add this event to your regatta list!**



Saturday was picture perfect, sunny, low-70s and nice breeze, with a persisting shift all day. The RC did an amazing job of "resetting" the course before each race and, as a bonus, we got to experience new challenges and a new vista each windward leg! The first race, Team Buczkowski/Lane started strong and had a strong first place finish. This was all the encouragement Team Wardell needed to shift into high-gear and take back the lead and then Team Buchanan had a photo finish 1st on race 4. It was competitive racing, and the scores were 1 point apart for the top three boats. Sunday had steady winds, but the rain had started and the radar was showing heavier rain in the afternoon. It was a group decision to abandon racing on Sunday to let everyone pack up the boats with a light drizzle and get on the road early.



Lightnings are known for family racing and this regatta proved to be another example supporting that statement! All four boats competing had 2 family members on the team including: 2 husband/wife teams, one father/son team, and one grandfather/grandson!

Congratulations to first place team: 15205, Bob Wardwell, who sailed with his Grandson Sam and College friend Diego. Not only was this Diego's first regatta but 1st race, but 2nd time ever being in a sailboat! Second place went to SSA boat 15126, Team Buczkowski/Lane who joined forces to compete this year. Third place was Team Buchanan 14485 and Fourth Place was Team Beauchamp 13738.



Visa 2024	Moonshine Regatta	Lightning								
No	Boat number	Race 1	Race 2	Race 3	Race 4	Race 5	Race 6	Race 7	Total points	Average score
1	15205	3	1	1	2				7	1.75
2	15126	1	2	2	3				8	2.00
3	14485	2	3	3	1				9	2.25
4	13738	4	4	4	4				16	4.00



Photo Notes

- Photo 1: VISA View at Sunset
- Photo 2: Racing on the Lake
- Photo 3: SSA Team As You Wish...
- Photo 4: Downwind Drag Race
- Photo 5: 1st Place Team Wardwell
- Photo 6: 2nd Place Team Buczkowski/Lane
- Photo 7: Wayfarer Class