

Keukla Lake Regatta
Keuka Lake - Fleet 252
Hammondsport, New York
June 3-4, 2006

Pos	Sail#	Skipper	R1	R2	R3	R4	Total
1	14949	Landy Atkinson	1	4	1	3	9
2	15250	Dan Pope	3	2	3	1	9
3	15272	Mark Grinder	2	1	4	7	14
4	14849	Clay Murphy	5	3	2	4	14
5	15165	Alan McReynolds	6	5	6	2	19
6	15276	Phillip Lange	9	6	5	5	25
7	14397	John Atkins	7	7	7	DNS	32
8	15255	Dick Hallagan	4	DNF	DNS	DNS	37
9	14465	Dick Tuttle	10	DNF	DNS	6	38
10	12008	Matt Richter	8	DNF	DNS	DNS	41

Our Keuka Regatta story starts Friday morning with a call from my usual middle crew Jillian Stokes. She told me she had been injured racing Lightnings Thursday night at Newport YC and was unable to put weight on her left leg and therefore unable to crew at Keuka. I put out a "crew needed" announcement on our CNY Lighting District mailing list and received a response from Peter Cunningham, a Keuka YC member and long time Lightning sailor who has now switched to scow sailing. I of course gratefully accepted and it was - off to the races.

When we arrived at Keuka YC, there was a light rain and good breeze on the water. Although the weatherman predicted clearing in the afternoon, light rain would be the prevailing condition for the day. Clay Murphy was a little late arriving because he had stopped to help Matt Richter (also in route to the regatta) who had a flat tire on his Lightning trailer. With a little help from all the other sailors in the parking lot, everyone got ready on time. As we headed out to the race course, the wind had built up a bit and was pretty steady from the NW branch of Keuka Lake.

Bobby Wilder, the Keuka YC Race Committee, quickly set a nice windward / leeward course and got us going. We had 10 Lightnings on the start for the first race. A group of 5 boats set up near the pin end and the rest of us were spread out from the middle to the committee boat. We got a clean start and were moving along about even with the group at the pin. We then sailed into a puff and Peter casually mentioned something about laying the mark. It turned out that with the new wind, the group starting by the pin had over-stood and we were lined up perfectly. Mark Grinder who had gone right after the start had gotten into the new wind about the same time we did, but we managed to round the weather mark first. Mark was on our tail the rest of the race, but we managed to hold on for a first.

Conditions for the rest of the races stayed about the same; wind from the NW branch 6-12 mph with 10-15 degree oscillations. We tended to play in the center of the course for all the races and watched boats going to the sides alternately making big gains or losses. We couldn't see any big advantages to the sides, so just tacked on shifts staying near the middle of the course. Peter and Gordon Wright, my forward crew kept me well informed of what was happening on the race course and kept us heading toward new wind. With the exception of one spinnaker hoist in the the 2nd race where we had a major hourglass in the chute, crew work was flawless.

After racing everyone hung out in the clubhouse to warm up by the fire. It is odd to think of needing a fireplace in June! Special thanks to Kim Cunningham for great lunches, Robin Gillette for registration and chase boat, Peter Maier for setup and Peter Gamba for organizing the whole regatta. Keuka YC is a great place to sail.