50th Annual Red Flannel Regatta Chicago Corinthian Yacht Club - Fleet 5 Chicago, Illinois September 21-22, 2013

Pos	Sail#	Skipper	Crew	Crew	Club	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	Total
1	15390	Wake,Todd	Wake,Kristine	Doug Wake	Sheboygan YC	2	2	2	1	2	1	3*	10
2	15480	Faude,Bill	Corkell,Mary	Jared Drake	CCYC	1	1	4*	3	3	2	2	12
3	15493	Walsh,Richard	Cox,Alex	Ben Vannieowenhuizen	Temple Reef Sailing Club	6*	5	1	2	1	6	1	16
4	15475	Coppens,Jeff	Moriarty,Ian	Evan Hoffman	Misson Bay Yacht Club	7	3	5	4	5	8*	4	28
5	14760	Siegle,George	Gibson, William	Steve Jenkens	Lansing Yacht Club	4	6	13*DNF	5	10	3	8	36
6	15332	Considine, Patrick	Corkell,Tim	Lindsey Duda	CYC	5	7	3	10*	4	10	10	39
7	15158	Orlebeke,Peter	Orlebeke,Kim	Cole Orlebeke		8	4	9*	6	8	4	9	39
8	14938	Stix,David	Simonsen,Amy	Steve Diaz	CCYC	9	10*	6	7	6	7	7	42
9	15200	Klaban,Tom	Klaban,Marie	Brian Klaban	PYC	3	8	8	8	12*	11	6	44
10	14880	Pomeroy,Craig	Pomeroy,Crystal	Tim Hodkiewicz	Windjammers	10	9	13*DNS	13 DNS	7	5	5	49
11	14499	Cox,Brian	Henry,Phil	Matt Klymenko	Temple Reef	11*	11	7	9	9	9	11	56
12	14857	Steffenson,Doug	Holton,Brandon	Bob Pomykala		12	13*DNF	13 DNS	13 DNS	11	12	13 DNS	74

RaceOfficer: Bruce Thompson



50th Red Flannels Regatta

This year's regatta was attended by Lightning sailors from far and wide. From Las Vegas to Thunder Bay to our friends from the Michigan District. In addition to great sailing on Lake Michigan there was some serious Lego building going on amongst the younger members of the Lightning tribe. The weather was cooperative with moderate temperatures, sunny skies, and a fresh northerly breeze that persisted all weekend. This provided classic Chicago sailing, big washing machine chop, shifty winds and some big holes. If you have not sailed there before imagine sailing a Lightning through a misshapen mogul field! It was a challenge for all of the teams.

Our trusty PRO was Bruce Thompson. He has been running this regatta longer than any of us can remember. Without his dedication the Red Flannels would not have carried on for all of these years. He is a fixture on the Chicago waterfront and we all owe him a debt of gratitude. Bruce and his team managed to run seven races in pretty crazy conditions. This year his name will be engraved on the trophy in recognition of his efforts. We believe the regatta has been run 50 times over the past 65 years. Thanks to Bruce it is still going strong!

We had a couple boats from the neighboring Michigan District. Tom, Marie and Brian Klaben from Pontiac Yacht Club and George Siegle from Lansing Yacht Club. Locals Bill Gibson and Steve Jenkins crewed for George and finished in 5th Place. Bill and Steve are excellent sailors and we cannot understand why they sold their boat, maybe they can right that wrong by next summer.

The Michigan District is important to the success of next year's NA's in Sheboygan and we hope they will show up in force!

Jeff Coppens, from Las Vegas, Mission Bay YC, Hong Kong, Crested Butte, I don't think he even knows where he is from right now, was there as part of his return trip home from the Worlds in Italy. Ian Moriarty from St Louis and Even Hoffman from California filled out the rest of his team. I can't begin to explain how this all worked out but we were glad to have them at the regatta. They sailed well and finished in fourth place.

Richard Walsh (Honorary member of the MWD) and his crew Alex Cox and Ben Vanieowenhuizen led the Thunder Bay contingent. For Richard it was go big or go home in this regatta. He went for a few corners and was way ahead or sometimes a bit too far behind. He finished in a close 3rd place. Sailing against Richard is almost as fun as listening to his stories from the north woods of Canada.

Bill Faude, Mary Corkell and Jared Drake finished second. Many thanks to Bill for providing housing to serveral teams. The real hero was Bill's wife Julie who took care of a pack of Lightning Kids who are not quite old enough to sail in the regatta but an important part of the overall event. Bill sailed very well. He won the first two races when the breeze was the strongest. Bill will agree that the biggest factor in this was Mary's hiking.

I sailed with my son Doug and my wife Kristine. They had to work very hard to balance the boat going upwind in the chop and were still sore a couple days after the racing. I think I may have been a bit of a Captain Bligh giving orders on where to pltheir weight every second or so. I was not smart enough to figure out what the wind was doing and pick a side so we decided on conservative starts, staying on the lifted tack, sailing towards the pressure (could not usually see it), sailing fast and just grinding. Using that strategy didn't win a lot of races but it didn't get us way behind either. Most of the fleet was near the front at some point and we had fun trying to work our way to the front. Bill and Richard sailed great and it was anyone's regatta until the finish of rsix. Did I mention there was no regatta fee and that the Chicago Corinthian Yacht Club has the cheapest drinks in the Tri-State area? Come join us next year!

Todd Wake



Todd, Kristine & Doug Wake - 2013 Champions