



56th Annual Hoosier Regatta

Wawasee Yacht Club
Syracuse, Indiana
October 2 & 3, 2010



Place	Sail	Skipper	Crew	Fleet	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	Total
1	10638	Bill Faude	Jody Stark & Ernie Dieball	Chicago	1	1	1	1	1	5
2	14895	Larry MacDonald	Maggie MacDonald & Kevin Robinson	Buffalo CC	3	6	3	2	3	17
3	15251L	Rob Linden	Cory Schoenherr & Megan Walter	North Cape	4	3	6	9	2	24
4	14249	George Sipel	Jeff Hagman & Chris Snyder	North Cape	2	2	2	3	DNC/20	29
5	14323	John McCree	Colin Williams & John Hillman	Bay City	6	10	10	4	5	35
6	15259	Brad Wagnon	Bryan Bahler & Kevin Cox	Wawasee	8	4	5	7	11	35
7	14937	Matt Princing	Jennifer Princing & Jenny Princing	Tawas Bay	10	13	4	5	4	36
8	15251P	Debbie Probst	Jenna, Tanner & Abbie Probst	Wawasee	7	5	7	6	12	37
9	15391	Mike Welch	Paul Lee & Steve Varnum	Pontiac	5	7	9	14	7	42
10	14613	Jeanne Ehrenberg	Amy Simonsen & Matt Peters	Chicago	12	9	8	11	10	50
11	15202	Bill Buckles	Dick Tillman & Bob Fritsch	Edgewater	13	12	12	8	6	51
12	15213	Jeff Schmahl	Michael Schmahl & Brady Wright	Wawasee	9	DNC/20	DNC/20	12	8	69
13	13851	Stuart Webster	Tony Leppert & Kiersa Brenner	Wawasee	15	11	11	13	DNF/20	70
14	14835	John Selby	Kevin Keller & Andy Allen	Wawasee	17	15	16	18	9	75
15	13278	Pete McGinity	Ken McGinity & Dan Claxton	Indianapolis	16	14	15	15	15	75
16	13910	Bill Allen	CJ Szeplaki & Vic Szeplaki	Wawasee	14	8	14	DNF/20	DNC/20	76
17	13657	Mike Franceschini	Cliff Miller & Jim Orr	Indianapolis	DNC/20	16	13	16	14	79
18	15299	George Buckingham	Fred Buckingham & Brooke Buckingham	Wawasee	11	DNC/20	DNC/20	10	DNC/20	81
19	14449	Dale Krcek	Mary Gemberling & Frank Wilder	Pontiac	18	17	17	17	13	82



My love for the Hoosier Regatta hosted by the Wawasee Yacht Club on beautiful Lake Wawasee has been well documented. I have said that without exception, it is my favorite annual event in all of Lightning Sailing. And after this year's event, that remains as true as ever. The club building is beautiful. The boat park is gorgeous... green grass much nicer than my lawn will ever be. Under the hoist there is warm water with sand at the bottom, which is perfect for standing in while you wait for the attentive volunteer to swing the hook over to you. Speaking of volunteers, there is an amazing array of some very nice people lending their time every year. There are people making and serving food. There are people feeding the fire in the legendary stone fireplace. There are people bringing Hot Buttered Rums to every sailor as they get off the water after sailing on Saturday. In short, there are lots of people who want you to have a very good time...and each of them seems to know exactly what they're doing. You literally don't have to do much for yourself except remember how to hold a fork, a beer, a raffle ticket and the tiller from the time you pull into the parking lot on Friday night until you get back behind that wheel on Sunday. If you don't have fun at Wawasee...if one look up at the bright blue Indiana sky on Saturday afternoon doesn't shift your perspective and make you thankful for your blessings as a Lightning sailor, I don't even know you anymore.

Lots of this is attributable to Jeff Schmahl who leads the organizing authority. I'm not going to give him too much credit, because the regatta is such a tradition at Wawasee that it probably feels like the regatta can run itself. But you should know that outstanding as it is, the regatta evolves a little every year. This year's best innovation was Saturday brunch. Have you ever enjoyed a comprehensive hot brunch including egg dishes, cereal, fresh fruit, various coffee cakes, coffees, cakes etc. at a regatta? Have you ever enjoyed a meal with your friends on a Saturday morning so much that you're stuffed and convinced you've already gotten your regatta fee's worth before you've even been to the skipper's meeting? Then you've never been to Wawasee. The other big innovation this year was a major enhancement to something called "The Program". This is essentially a 40-45 minute monologue delivered by Jeff Schmahl. "The Program" is held after the hot buttered rum and the beer and wine and after the Saturday night dinner, but before the after dinner beer and wine and before the bowling or the annual obligatory trip to the Frog bar. "The Program" is where Jeff proceeds to thank everyone (almost individually) for attending the regatta. He goes to great lengths to know who everyone is and does homework to know how many past champions are back for another crack. "The Program" includes a raffle drawing, which is plainly rigged so that anyone under 13 wins something cool.

"The Program" is full of self-deprecation. It is a labor of love for both he who delivers it and we who put up with it. "The Program" is at least 15 minutes too long and is probably itself worth the regatta fee. I'll let you know next year when I fully intend to show up to the regatta without my boat.

You've been around the mainsheet block a few times. You know that the person writing the regatta report is normally one of the people on the boat with the lowest score in the event. And yes, our team did win. But winning the regatta was the least important part of the weekend. Here's what was more important:

- Maggie MacDonald, age 10 won second place.
 - I got to leave work early on Friday and pick up Kevin Robinson and Jody Starck at Midway airport in Chicago and spend the 3-hour drive just spending time with them.
 - Debbie Probst had no idea Jody was coming and you thought those two were close.
 - Jody and I got to sail with Ernie Dieball who is a genius flying the spinnaker and setting up a boat and keeping his shoulder in place and at being a very enjoyable person to sail with.
 - We were privileged to again be able to stay with Adam Probst's (Debbie Probst, the recent winner and 2010 holder of the Adams Cup's husband) mom Katie's house. Note: the maroon room on the second floor of the house has the most comfortable bed in all of international yachting.
 - Rob Linden and his crew did the boat grant program proud by being very nice people to be with...and hard people to beat.
 - Larry MacDonald left some stuff on his bed at home.
 - By attending the event, Larry and Jody extended "The Program" by an additional 7 minutes. Afterall, "The Program" wouldn't be "The Program" if former World Champions, Rolex Yachtswomen of the year and Current North American Champions did not receive proper introductions--now would it?
 - George Sipel and team had 14249 right in the thick of things until its vintage boom broke possibly ushering in the 15249 era?
 - John Hillman said the Hoosier regatta was his first regatta ever. And he joked that given how cold and windy it was on Sunday, it was also going to be his last.
- If that is true John, you sure know how to pick them. If a person could go to just one regatta in their whole life and chose the Hoosier, they couldn't and wouldn't feel even the least bit cheated.

Thanks WYC. See you next year.

Bill Faude