United States Sunfish Class Association
October 20, 2020

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Another image from the Sunfish "Way-Back" machine.
See another vintage photo from Sailing World at end of newsletter.
Important Regatta Update

2020 Midwinters: New Host/Date

It was decided by the USSCA Board that Bay Waveland Yacht Club will host the 2020 Midwinters for the US National Championship on Nov. 13-15. The first start will be at 1300 on Friday, November 13 with a last start no later than 1530 on Sunday, November 15. The Notice of Race is available here (ins. link) and registration is open on Regatta Network here (ins. link).

Because of the short timing and COVID travel restrictions, this regatta will not include an official Masters component however trophies will be awarded for Masters categories.

If you can sail in this year’s Midwinters, please register as soon as you possible or email to Regatta Chair Eugene Schmitt (eugene@urbanproperties). Also contact Eugene if you are interested in a charter boat. Come to Bay St. Louis, MS, for one of year's last opportunities for some competitive racing!
EIGHT BELLS: DICK TILLMAN

November 27, 1936 – October 14, 2020

By Vicki Palmer

The sailing world has lost a true champion. Dick Tillman died at his home in Syracuse, IN, after a courageous battle with bladder cancer.

Dick’s last Sunfish event was the U.S. Masters Championship held on Lake Wawasee in Syracuse, IN, September 11-13, 2020. He was registered to sail but wasn’t feeling well enough to race. He still hosted many out-of-towners at his lakeside home, however, and enjoyed watching the competition from his motor boat with daughter Laurie while they chatted with the current ISCA President, Rich Chapman, between races. (Right)

Dick served as our International Sunfish Class Association (ISCA) President from 2002-2006 and was later named a Lifetime Member for his years of dedication to the Sunfish Class.

Dick was also a US Sailing member for more than 30 years and its Director for three years (1999-2002), chairman of the Single-Handed Championship Committee for seven years, commodore of the Snipe Class International Racing Association (1971), sailing representative to USOC Athletes Advisory

Great Grand Masters of 2016: John Meyer (2nd), Dick Tillman (1), George Scehrist (3). Photo Gail Turluck
REGATTA REPORTS

Sunfish U.S. Masters Championship
Wawasee Yacht Club, Syracuse, IN
September 11-13, 2020
By Vicki Palmer

Five Age Category Winners; Greg Gust Wins Overall Champion Award

The roadways and flight paths to Syracuse in northern Indiana were congested with 44 competitors from 16 different states who tested their skills on Lake Wawasee, Indiana’s largest natural lake. And the winners were:

Top Five Overall Winners

1 – Greg Gust/GM
2 – Dan Norton/M
3 – Rich Chapman/M
4 - Dave Slavinski/AM
5 – Paul-Jon Patin/M

Senior Grand Master/SGM (80+)

1 - Michael West, North Shore YC, Highland Park, IL
2 - Dick Tillman, Melbourne YC, Melbourne, FL

Great Grand Master/GGM (70-79)

1 – Brad Wagonon, Wawasee YC, Syracuse, IN
2 – Leland Brode, Lake Bluff YC, IL
3 – David Hanselman, Eagle River, WI

Grand Master/GM (60-69)
1 – Greg Gust, Rush Creek YC, Rockwall, TX
2 – Bob Findlay, Wilmette Sailing Association, Lake Bluff, IL
3 – Greg Eiffert, Paupack Sailing Club, Tunkhannock, PA

**Master/M (50-59)**
1 – Dan Norton, Devils Lake YC, Hudson, MI
2 – Rich Chapman, Lake Bluff YC, Libertyville, IL
3 – Paul-Jon Patin, Sayville YC, Forest Hills, NY

**Apprentice Master/AM (40-49)**
1 – Dave Slavinski, Lavallette YC, Point Pleasant, NJ
2 – Victor Bloede, Rush Creek YC, Rockwall, TX

[Full Results]
The folks at the Wawasee Yacht Club extended a warm welcome to everyone. Housing, food, boats, and Sunfish camaraderie provided in abundance! Along with top notch race committee work, no one could have asked for a more fun regatta with enough challenge on the water to keep the adrenalin flowing.

During a moment of silence at the Wawasee Yacht Club, a memorial was dedicated to Linda Tillman, a long-time Sunfish sailor and Lake Wawasee resident, who passed away February 28, 2017. Because of Linda’s many contributions to their Club and especially Sunfish sailing, this event was the perfect moment to recognize Linda in a special way. In 2017 the Sunfish Class honored Linda’s memory by naming the First Place trophy for the Women’s Sunfish North Americans the Linda Tillman Trophy. Her memory carries a strong tradition of female competitive sailing and dedicated volunteer work. Linda was a true champion who will never be forgotten.

The Wawasee Yacht Club is noted for its spirit of volunteerism with so many who helped Chairperson, Brad Wagnon, organize and run this event. Included is the excellent Race Committee work done for all races, even practice day races! A HUGE thank you to everyone!

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**Amanda Callahan Wins Mid-Atlantic Region Championship**

Sailed the September 26-27 weekend out of the Ocean Gate Yacht Club in NJ, 26 Sunfish sailors vied for the 2020 Mid-Atlantic Championship. After five races, it was Amanda Callahan (Portsmouth, RI) sitting atop the leaderboard with a total of six points after a score line of 1-(4)-1-1-3. In second, a mere three points off Amanda’s pace, was Dave Slavinski from Point Pleasant, NJ. Completing the podium was Chris Williams from Philadelphia, PA, with 15 points.

Thanks to the event and race committees at OGYC for putting on such a good show under today’s trying conditions.

**Results**

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**2020 Southwest Regional Championship**

September 19-20

Reported by Steward Draheim
It was a beautiful weekend at Rush Creek Yacht Club outside Dallas, TX with temps in the low 80s and plenty of sunshine. The front that brought the cooler temps also brought challenging breezes from the East at 8-12 mph but with frequent, large shifts off the windward shore. On Day 1, Stewart Draheim took advantage of sailing on his home waters claiming three bullets out of the four races, but young James Brock sailed exceptionally well finishing right behind Draheim in each race and taking the bullet in race #3. Lucy Brock and Annie Lancaster dueled it out for third in the tough conditions but Lucy came out just ahead with a 4, 5, 4, 3 to Annie’s 5, 4, 3, 5 to end up in 3rd and 4th, respectively, for the day. Carl Foerster showed he picked-up a thing or two from his father, Paul Foerster, to end the day in 5th overall with a score line of 3, 3, 7, 6.

Day 2 brought even shiftier conditions making the racing even more challenging. Stewart was able to put up two more bullets to win his fifth consecutive Southwest Regional Championship. Lucy brought her A game and put up a 3, 2, nearly catching Stewart in the final race, but her younger brother James kept the pedal to the metal to finish the event with a 2, 3 and finish 2nd overall. Not bad for his first ever Sunfish Regatta! Annie and Carl kept their cool to hold on to their 4th and 5th spots, respectively. Congrats to all the sailors on taking on the challenging conditions. A special thank you to Rush Creek Yacht Club for making this event possible and running fantastic races. We’re glad to be back on the water!

Race Results

1, Stewart Draheim, 5
2, James Brock, 9
3, Lucy Brock, 16
4, Annie Lancaster, 21
5, Carl Foerster, 25
6, Mike Brown, 25
7, David McCary, 31
8, Cheryl Gondran, 43
9, Luke Foerster, 44
10, Rodrigo Favela, 53
11, Rick Keffer, 53
12, John Smedley, 53
13, Mary Medina, 53
L to R: David Hamilton, RCYC Commodore, Stewart Draheim, James Brock, Lucy Brock
2020 Cattail Regatta

Jolly Roger Sailing Club, Toledo, Ohio
August 30, 2020
By Gail Turluck

This year’s Cattail Regatta was postponed from June to late August as a two-day regatta then a one-day regatta, all due to concerns with the COVID-19 pandemic. Jolly Roger Sailing Club elected to hold the event in the Ottawa River rather than on North Maumee Bay on Lake Erie to simplify everything.

The first race was started in light, puffy ENE wind with some current coming downstream, northeast to southwest. The wind got lighter and nearly non-existent. Tom Katterheinrich got the best start, hugged the right shore to be in less current and more puffs, and outdistanced everyone on the three-mile course. Donald Fritz was about midway between Tom and Gail Turluck. By the time all the Sunfish finished, the wind had died. There was a wait for the last few other boats from other classes. While doing so, a fresh breeze of about 6 knots came in out of the East. The Sunfish were changed to the small one design course. Race two was sailed once around. Gail Turluck claimed the start and never looked back, with Donald Fritz second and Tom Katterheinrich third.

Going into the last race, there was a three-way tie, so the race was for all the marbles. At the start, Gail just eked out ahead getting the boat end start, caught a puff and took off. Tom was making the most of puffs, trying to catch up. This race was twice around and stayed close with Gail finishing first, Tom second, and Donald third.

There were Lasers, Interlakes, Optimists, 420s, and Catalina 22s racing. The club did a great job keeping everyone safe with tables and chairs outside, the club was only open for bathroom use with one-way traffic, and awards outside and distant. They plan to return to normal for 2021.

2020 OktoberFast Sunfish Regatta

October 3-4, 2020
Hueston Sailing Association

The wind wasn't supposed to show up much but it changed its mind and came anyway to Hueston Sailing Association's OktoberFast Sunfish Regatta on October 3-4 at sunny but chilly Hueston Woods near Oxford, Ohio.
Wisconsin LaCrosse's **Mark Kastel** won half of the eight races over the two day event and won the championship by five points ahead of local Sunfish darling **Laura Peters** who only got one bullet but a slew of seconds and thirds.

HSA's **Bill Molleran** won two of the three races on Sunday and lifted himself out of a third place tie on Saturday and within three points of Peters in the final tally.

Eighteen boats started the contest amid fall colors round the lake shore as warm sun and chilly gray clouds alternated minute to minute. Handsome homemade and superbly crafted trophies were produced by Sunfisher **Rose Schultz** and chili and hot vegetable soup chased the chill of temperatures that hovered in the low sixties.

1. Mark Kastel (LaCrosse) 1 2 1 1 (3) 2 1 2 11
2. Laura Peters 3 1 3 (4) 2 3 2 2 16
3. Bill Molleran 2 3 4 (5) 4 1 4 1 19
4. Mike Stratton 5 4 (6) 2 1 6 3 5 26
5. Tom Katterheinrich (Lake St. Marys) (15) 9 2 3 14 5 6 6 45
6. Gail Turluck (Michigan Gull Lake Sailing) 4 (11) 5 6 6 11 7 7. 46
7. Don Fritz (Toledo Jolly Roger) 8 (19DNF) 7 8 13 3 4 5 4. 49
8. Megan DeArmon 13 6 (17) 11 12 7 9 8. 66
9. Charlie DeArmon 6 7 13 13 10 8 11 (15). 69
10. Bill Sanderson (Mohican Sailing - Lucas, OH) 7 10 8 10 5 13 (16) 16. 69
11. Rose Schultz 11 5 12 9 (16) 12 10 12. 71
12. Kevin DeArmon (17) 12 16 7 8 9 8 11. 71
13. Brendan Draper 10 8 10 (14) 9 14 12 9. 72
14. Amy Marks . 9 15 9 12 15 16 13 (18). 89
15. Stephen Cook 12 13 14 17 7 (18) 15 17. 95
17. Brett Hart .14 14 15 17 17 15 (18)13. 103
18. Dominiek Everaet DNC DNC DNC DNC DNC 10 14 10 110
Louisville! (The River) Pumpkins! (Trophies) Racing! (In Sunfish)

-Mike Stratton

It was supposed to be wet, wild, and windy on the Ohio River this past weekend, but the wet got cancelled (mostly) and so did the wild and windy. Instead, we had two good days of moderate winds - one sunny and cool, the other cloudy and warmer.

Three of us from Hueston Sailing joined three others from out of town and helped make up a fleet of 29 boats at this Louisville Sailing Club's annual Sunfish Pumpkin Regatta.

The first day saw a three hour tour on the Ohio River with five long upwind/downwind races in a good breeze. On Sunday, when it was supposed to rain hard and have wind gusts near 30 mph, we got a sprinkle just before race time at 10:00 and the wind stayed in the Saturday range of 5 to 12.
Hiking? Yes, but not enough to wear anyone out even though it was five more races and three more hours.

Mark Kastel, like he did at our own OktoberFast just a few weeks ago, dominated this regatta just as he did last year. The Wisconsin Whizz won nine of the ten races and was only behind at the leeward mark before the finish in three of them and beaten to the windward mark only three times. Point wise he was way ahead with those nine bullets but the racing was much closer than the scores indicate.

In the first race on Saturday he had to catch local sailor, 20 year old Abby Binzer, on the final leg. He rounded the leeward mark the wrong way in race 7, dropped four boats but still finished second. And in race 8 Yours Truly led the entire race ... until the last 50 yards when a tack to cover went awry and a near capsize dropped me back into second. I guess I panicked.

After day one, the top five were Mark, our own Laura Peters, local Scott Binzer, myself, and Tom Katterheinrich. After the first race Sunday, all five were in the top five again, but then, things started to change.

Binzer faded with an 8th and a 6th after finishing strong the first three races. Our Laura had a day like I had Saturday, finishing one race Sunday in sixth and another in seventh before recovering to fend off Binzer and Katterheinrich.

That left the door open for others to move up, although Kastel could have had a couple of really bad races and still won the event. He didn’t. He was helped somewhat by the good sportsmanship displayed by his competitors. After rounding the windward mark in the lead in one race Sunday, he apparently forgot that the offset was still part of the course. Laura shouted out his mistake to him even though she could have taken the lead herself at that point had she said nothing.

In Race 7 Kastel rounded the leeward mark the wrong way with four competitors on his transom. Gail Turluck alerted him to the error and he quickly unwound the string and circled again. He caught three of the four boats that had passed him by taking a risky tack that paid off.

Louisville Pumpkin Regatta Race Results

1. Mark Kastel Lacrosse WI 1 1 1 1 1 1 2 1 1
2. Mike Stratton Hueston Sailing 5 6 7 2 3 2 2 5 2 36
3. Laura Peters Hueston Saillng 3 3 2 5 2 4 4 7 6 4 40
4. Scott Binzer LSC 4 2 4 4 5 3 3 5 8 6 44
5. Tom Katterheinrich Lake St. Marys 6 5 3 7 4 5 6 3 5 47
6. Joe Collins LSC 8 7 6 8 8 7 13 4 1 3 63
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5th-Tom Katterheinrich with regatta chair Eugene Cox.

3rd-Laura Peters
2nd-Mike Stratton

1st-Mark Kastel

Gail M. Turluck Photography

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