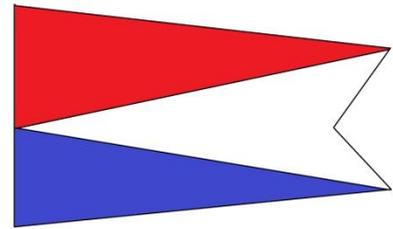


American Lake Sailing Club



Newsletter of the American Lake Sailing Club

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We all were prepared for wet weather especially after October's drenching, but no rain and light breezes made for a very nice day on the lake. We managed to get two shorter races in and afterward two longer ones in. I need to clarify the race course better at the skipper's meeting from now on. We had three cameras going so I know there are plenty of photos for Layne and Carolyn to use. Alas, Carolyn was still under the weather and couldn't take the photos herself but she does plan to make it to the Christmas/Awards Party on December 13th starting at 7:00 pm at Bill's Boathouse.

Franks Place

Yogi Berra said it best. "It ain't over till it's over." Well it's over! The 2012 ALSC racing season wrapped up with November's races and the usual boats were there. Layne in *Firefly*, Scott in *Wild Juan*, Clifford in *Teal*, and myself in *Bye-Gone* all showed up. Rod was also there and put a new winter cover on *Elvira*. Layne sailed up with a prospective new member, Mike, who's Dad just brought his Venture 21 up from Northern California. Mike is living on the lake adjacent to Harry Todd Park in Tillicum and wants to have fun on the lake while he's stationed at JBLM. Also Troy, who badly injured his knee while sailing his "new" Mutineer a few months ago, was told by his doctor that he should avoid the type of squatting that is required to sail a small boat. He contacted Clifford to help him rig and learn more about the San Juan 21. Troy may be looking to buy one of Clifford's San Juan's and sailing with us after he does tons of rehab on his newly repaired knee. Work it baby.



Speaking of the Christmas/Award Party, we'll have pizza/pot luck as well as an award presentation and a blind luck gift exchange for those who bring gifts. Remember, you can steal the other people's gifts when your turn arrives or choose another from the pile. Generally we get it all done in around two hours. I'll be taking 2013's dues from those who are interested in getting that out of the way before next year's race season begins. The first race of the New Year is on January 26th. Wear something warm and cross your fingers about the rain.

Frank



Firefly during pre-start of race #2



Bye-Gone and Teal battling over 2nd place for Boat of the Year

Layne's Race Report

A few days prior to November's races we were having all those big rain and wind storms pass through the area. As I usually do before our races, I was watching the weather reports for race day and was disappointed because all the storms were leaving the area and nicer weather was coming in but little winds forecasted. My spirits were lifted a little when a few days prior to the races I received a call from Mike, who just move into the area and was living on American Lake, had a Venture 21 sailboat and wanted to find out more about the club. I gave Mike all the information about the club and he told me that his boat is currently undergoing some repairs but he asked if there was someone who needed help crewing. I offered Mike a ride on *Firefly* which he accepted. With the light winds forecasted for the race day I decide that I was going to try my old Dacron jib instead of the Mylar one. That Mylar jib is great in stronger winds but it is so stiff that in light air it has problems holding shape and at times can be difficult to tack. I figured that I had little to lose in trying the Dacron jib. After getting *Firefly* rigged and launched I was pleasantly surprised to find that there was a little breeze on the lake which held for most of the day. As Mike and I were sailing down to Capt'n Cook I was showing him how *Firefly* was rigged and we did a practice spinnaker set.

Upon arriving at Capt'n Cook, I was talking to Frank about the year's standings for Boat of the Year award and he said that *Teal* and *Bye-Gone* were just 5 points apart for second place. Secretly, Frank was hoping that Clifford wouldn't make it out and *Bye-Gone* could easily secure second place. Just then Clifford

on *Teal* and Scott on *Wild Juan* showed up. The day was going to be a battle between Clifford and Frank. To be honest I hadn't thought about the yearend standing in a few months. I knew that in September *Wild Juan* was ahead of *Firefly* by just 10 points but after Scott missed September's and October's race *Wild Juan* was out of the race and was struggling to say in the top three. Clifford was excited about his position and he had figured out that the bonus points for attendance at the races make a bigger difference in the year end score than you how your boat places in the races.



Wild Juan and Firefly between races

In the first race of the day a short triangle course was set up between Silcox Island and Bill's Boat house. As we were setting up the course there was some discussion about not using the mark at the north end of the island because it was in lee of the island but in the end Frank said that we would use that mark. That decision would come into play later in the race. With the wind blowing from the SW it made for a fairly decent spinnaker run on the second leg which suit

Firefly nicely. At the start all the boats got off the line cleanly. Scott on *Wild Juan* made his way on the short leg to the windward mark in first place with *Firefly* following closely. On the way to the second mark *Wild Juan* who was sailing a hotter angle toward the mark with no spinnaker. *Firefly*, with her spinnaker up, was sailing a deeper angle and managed to gain the inside overlap at the second mark over taking the lead at the rounding. On the way to the third mark is where the discussion about the last mark came into play. After the rounding Scott, on *Wild Juan*, headed off towards the finish line while *Firefly* was headed towards the leeward mark. I don't know whether Scott didn't hear Frank's final course or just spaced out. I hate it when you're in the lead thinking your sailing great and the boat behind starts sailing a different course...you begin to doubt whether you're sailing the right course. This is when it is real handy to have a crew member on board who also heard the course because Mike thought that we were sailing right course. So we held our course and went around the third mark while Scott went straight to finish line. I figured either we were right and would have a big easy win and wrong and lose terribly. In the end we were right and easily took first place. In the battle for second place, Clifford on *Teal* easily beat out *Bye-Gone*.



For the third race a slight longer course was set with a leeward mark being change to east shore of the lake just north of Harry Todd Park. Mike wanted to try sailing on another boat so he joined Scott on *Wild Juan*. Again all the boats got off to a clean start. *Wild Juan* was first around the windward mark. On the way to the second mark *Firefly*, with her spinnaker flying, took over the lead. After rounding the second mark, I thought I could just jibe and keep the spinnaker up till the leeward mark. However, sailing near the shore there was some weird wind shift and I couldn't keep the kite filled and it wrapped around the jib as I was trying to unfurl it. Heading towards a dock, I quickly ran up to the bow to untangle and douse the spinnaker. Meanwhile, *Wild Juan* was sailing off toward the mark taking the lead. On the way to the finish line *Firefly* was able to gain back some ground but was never in a position to overtake *Wild Juan*. My last hope was to cut *Wild Juan* off at the finish line. Scott was on a port tack heading towards the pin end of the line and I was on starboard also heading towards the pin. I was really pinching hard hoping to gain an overlap and force *Wild Juan* to duck around me. However; pinching so high, *Firefly* was sailing slow and was never able to gain the overlap. *Wild Juan* crossed the line first with *Firefly* taking second. Again *Teal* to third place, cementing her standings for second place over *Bye-Gone* on over-all season totals.



For the second race and sailing the same course, Mike took over on the helm of *Firefly* and did a good job for his first time racing. Again, all the boats got off to a good start. This time *Firefly* made the windward mark slightly ahead of *Wild Juan* and held the lead throughout the entire race. In the end *Firefly* took first place with *Wild Juan* coming in second place. *Teal* easily beat *Bye-Gone* for third place after getting stuck in pocket of no wind for awhile at the leeward mark.

For the last race of the day the same longer course was used. Frank and Rod on *Bye-Gone* decided to sit this race leaving only three boats racing. Once again the fleet all got off to a clean start. Like in the earlier race, *Wild Juan* was in the lead at



Wild Juan on downwind leg of race #4 with Firefly and Teal in the background

the windward mark. *Firefly* with the kite flying overtook the lead on the second leg. This time going around the second mark I was able to jibe the spinnaker and keep it filled all the way until the leeward mark increasing my lead. *Firefly* was easily able to hold

on to the lead crossing the finish line about 5 minutes ahead of *Wild Juan*. Scott took second place and Clifford on *Teal* came in third. Complete results are below:

November Race Results

			Race 1	Race 2	Race 3	Race 4		Race Day Totals	
<i>Skipper/Crew's Name</i>	<i>Boat's Name</i>	<i>HCP</i>	<i>Corrected Time/Position</i>	<i>Corrected Time/Position</i>	<i>Corrected Time/Position</i>	<i>Corrected Time/Position</i>	<i>Total Score</i>	<i>Over all Position</i>	<i>Monthly Score</i>
Layne / Mike	<i>Firefly</i>	98.1	21.03 / 1	14.61 / 1	29.23 / 2	22.17 / 1	5	1	100
Frank / Rod	<i>Bye-Gone</i>	103	24.59 / 3	30.85 / 4	40.39 / 4	DNS / 4	15	4	70
Clifford	<i>Teal</i>	99.1	23.49 / 2	24.04 / 3	32.95 / 3	37.74 / 3	11	3	80
Scott / Mike	<i>Wild Juan</i>	99.1	DQ / 4	15.71 / 2	27.25 / 1	27.80 / 2	9	2	90

The last race of the season turned out to be much better than I thought it was going to be. As far as using my Dacron jib, I really liked it in the light breeze. It tacked so easily and never hung up on the mast. It also furled a lot easier and never got caught up in my spinnaker halyard like my Mylar jib does. I may end up sailing with the Dacron jib more in the future. I'm glad that Mike had an enjoyable experience on his first time out sailing with the ALSA. I'm looking forward to seeing him on his

Venture 21 in January. Speaking of January our next race and the first race of the 2013 season is on January 26th. So put that date on your calendars and start 2013 out right by going sailing. Before our first race of next year we still have to wrap up this year by having our Christmas/Award party which will be Thursday, December 13th starting at 7:00 at Bill Boathouse. I'm looking forward to seeing you all at the Christmas party and next year on lake.

Layne

November Race Photos





ALSC Christmas / Awards Party

Thursday, December 13th starting at 7:00 pm

At Bill's Boathouse on American Lake

Featuring:

Pot luck dinner (please bring a dish to share)

Awards

Optional Gift Exchange (under \$20 please)

Next Race Jan 26th, 2013 @ 11:00 AM

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Any articles, pictures, or ideas of any sailing activities you are involved in that you would like to contribute to the newsletter are welcome.

Website <http://www.sailnut.com/american-lake-sailing-club>