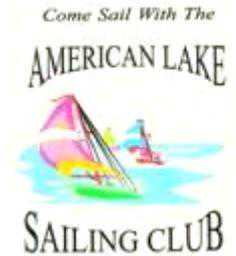


February 2010



Clifford's new San Juan 21, *Oasis*

Frank's Place

With the New Year came much optimism and great anticipation for our humble club's upcoming race season. As race day approached it was evident that a good turnout was in the offing. If only Mother Nature would bless us with fair winds and dry conditions. Alas, she turned on us and the opposite was true. With no real movement in the air except the light drizzle all day long moving around the lake was slow if not impossible. Still, the sailors were upbeat and cheerful throughout the day. With much socializing and interest in *Oasis*, Clifford's Mark II San Juan 21 the day was fine overall.

Since the winds were near non-existent our course was shortened to include the two closest buoys to the Cap'n

Cook float. As race number one unfolded it was obvious that there would be a "traffic jam" at the 1st mark. Inevitably, some incidental contact was made by two, three, even four boats. And since their movement was so slow it was impossible to avoid this contact. No harm no foul was the way things turned out. As for race two the wind really died and no one seemed to be able to make the 2nd mark. We all roll-tacked, sculled, or whatever to get back to the Cap'n Cook. Therefore, I voided the results from #2.

Totals follow for the day.



Pile up at the windward mark in race 2

January Race Results

			Race 1		Race Day Totals	
<i>Skipper</i>	<i>Boat's Name</i>	<i>HCP</i>	<i>Corrected Time/Position</i>	<i>Over all Score</i>	<i>Over all Position</i>	<i>Monthly Score</i>
Clifford	Oasis	99.1	24.92 / 2	2	2	90
Scott	Wild Juan	99.1	30.60 / 5	5	5	60
Frank	Bye Gone	103	27.62 / 4	4	4	70
Andy/Rodney	Missfit	102.2	25.39 / 3	3	3	80
Layne	Firefly	98.1	20.34 / 1	1	1	100
Rod	Elvira	101.1	DNF / 6	6	2	50



The entire fleet spread out in the first race

Layne in *Firefly* managed to win race #1. What? A dinghy beats a keel boats in light air? Go figure. We'll all be gunning for him in our next race which is Feb. 27th. Same time as usual. Perhaps our unseasonably warm, calm, winter will end and some real weather will take over. We can only hope. As usual Carolyn timed us and took photos and miscellaneous snacks were available.

Special thanks to Scott Fennel who installed some new dock cleats earlier in the month and to Andy for providing the scrap guitar body wood which I fashioned into cleats.

Remember to renew your membership if not done so already.

Also, new designs for our club burgee will be discussed before the next races. Bring your rendition/creation sample with you to discuss with our members or?? Should we make more of the old style? Think about it!

From the ~~Middle~~ Head of the Pack

With all the nice spring like weather early in January, I figured that our race day weather would end up being crappy. Sure enough there was plenty of rain and little wind. Gena always thinks that I'm crazy for going sailing on such rainy days. A long time ALSC member, Ken Wheeler, sent me this Peanuts comic, below, which he localized to put in the newsletter and seems very fitting for the day.



When James and I arrive at the Fish and Game boat launch there wasn't another car in sight...I've never seen the place so deserted. If only the launch would be like that in summertime. We got our morning workout taking turns paddling out to Cap'n Cook. At the dock, I was surprised at the number of "blockheads" that showed for the races. Six boats were all anxious to race on a rainy, no-wind, crappy day...that dedication to the club and despite the lousy weather we all had a good time. It sure was nice to see Clifford and his wife, Ramie, out in their newly restored San Juan 21, *Oasis*. He did an excellent job restoring *Oasis*.



After hanging around at the dock for an over an hour, waiting for the wind to build, we decide that it wasn't going to get any better. Frank set up the shortest course we've ever sailed... from the start/finish line to the closest 5mph marker to the north of Cap'n Cook... then up to the closest 5mph marker south of Cap'n Cook.

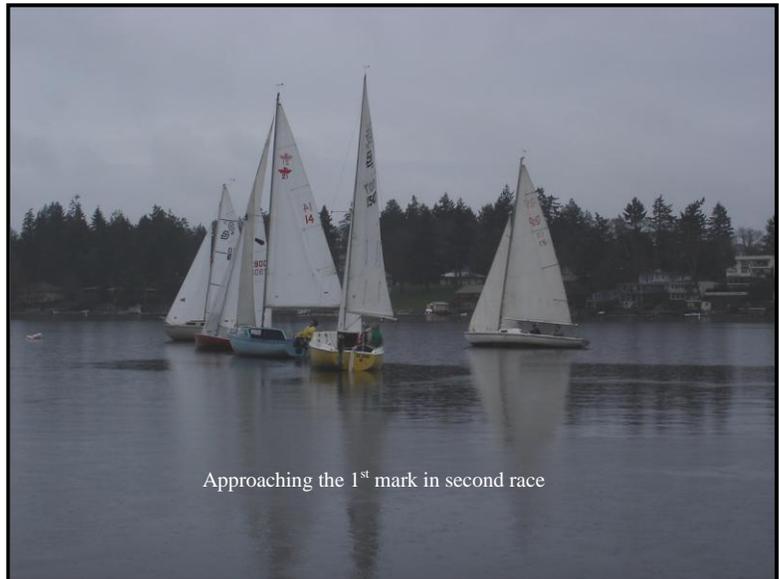
Before the race started Rod, sailing *Elvira* (sporting a new chicken horn on the bow pulpit) mentioned that he didn't have any crew with him that day. I was happy to offer up James. I could easily sail *Firefly* single-handed and losing the 150 lbs would help with boat speed in the no-wind conditions.

At the start of the first race Frank in *Bye-gone* and the rest of the fleet got jammed up near the pin end. Poor Scott in *Wild Juan* didn't hear about the last minute course change was still

trying to get into position for the start and ended up in the log jam at the pin end of the line. I realized that I was going to be at the line way early and started to do another circle near the middle of the line and somehow avoided the log jam and got a clean start and remain in the lead though out the race (forcing me to change the title of this column). Scott in *Wild Juan*, who I think crossed the start line last, came up strongly and passed most the fleet after the first mark only to sail into a dead spot which was costly. Clifford also came from the back of the pack and had *Oasis* sailing well in the light conditions and took second place behind *Firefly*.

In the second race, *Firefly* got off to an awful start. I was the boat across the line. About half down the first leg, I switch over to a port tack and *Firefly* took off beating everyone to the first mark. Andy and Rodney, sailing *Missfit* like a Laser with both them hiking hard leeward to keep the sails filled, got tangled in first mark causing yet another log jam. After that, as Frank said in his report, the wind just faded away to nothing and all the boats just gave up and finished the course any way possible.

After a cup of hot chocolate back at Cap'n Cook to warm up we decided to call it a day. For the first time all day the wind decided to blow and *Firefly* made it back to the Fish and Game launch quickly. There was still only one other boat trailer in parking lot. We packed up *Firefly* and drove home with the heat blasting the car to warm up.



One of the things that my wife hates about my sailing in the rain is all the wet sails. I do not have a garage at my house, so when ever I come home with wet sails I end up drying them in the living room which she hates. But to make her feel better about all the wet sails, we decide to use the gift certificate that *Firefly* received for winning boat of the year to Famous Dave's BBQ that night. James and his wife, Karleene, joined in and we ate tons of ribs which were tasty after a day of sailing.

I would like to say thank you for all the compliments that I've been getting for the newsletter. For the most part I enjoy writing it, putting them together, doing my small part to help the club.

Hopefully, our next races on February 27th will bring us better sailing weather. So, I encourage everyone to come out and join us in all the fun for our next races. We still manage to always have fun at these races no matter how bad the weather is...so come rain or shine.

Layne

January Race Photos





**Next Race February 27th
11:00 AM**

Come Join in on the Fun!!!

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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/ALSC/index.php>