

Toilet Bowl – 2008

The 40th annual edition of the Toilet Bowl Regatta at Cazenovia's Willow Bank Yacht Club commenced at about 10:00, on Saturday, August 16. The price of gas and other important regattas in the Northeast contributed to a somewhat more muted enrollment, this year, but 19 stalwarts competed.

Light to medium and shifty winds on Saturday limited the group to only four races on the old Gold Cup courses which were well set by our perennial Race Committee (Chairman Ray Cudney and Second Guesser Peter Bushnell). Ian Cook took the day with two bullets and two deuces over last year's front runners Chuck Rudinsky and Kirk Reynolds, respectively. Local sailor Federico Meira sailed a perfect third race to gain a first.

Saturday night provided the usual festivities, replete with beer, lies, grilled tenderloin, great hors d'oeuvres, salads, veggies, desserts, more beer and more lies. Much credit was owed to the Finn wives who made certain no one went hungry, and, as always, to Steve Burrell who manned the grill. The usually taciturn Art Diefendorf gave a brief talk on the history of the Thunder Mug, recalling winners and notables in the past who included several National, North American and Olympic medal winners.

Sunday morning brought better, if not less shifty, air allowing for an additional three good races which allowed Cook to solidify his grip on first. Rudinsky, 2nd, edged Reynolds, 3rd, (as he did last year).

Rear Commodore Rich Hartt took home the Master's medal; John Miller won Grand Master; Federico Meira, Great Grand Master; and Gus Miller took home the Legend medal (appropriately adorned with a black ribbon). Special medals were awarded the Race Committee for their many years of service, and to Vice Commodore Alix Shaw, who gamely raced a Finn for the first time, and who was the only woman finnster on the course.

The local oldsters were hopeful that Cazenovia's geographic and timely nearness to Kingston would swell their numbers next year.

Results:

PLACE	NAME	SAIL NO.	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	T
1	Ian Cook	9	1	(2)	2	1	2	1	2	9
2	Rudinsky	40	2	1	5	3	(5)	2	5	16
3	Kirk Reynolds	1063	(5)	4	3	2	1	4	4	18
4	Nicholson	7	3	3	(6)	5	4	3	3	21
5	John Miller	1157	6	5	4	7	5	6	(9)	33
6	Ian Bostock	3	10	(14)	8	4	6	7	1	36
7	Meira	1026	4	(11)	1	9	8	9	6	37
8	Gus Miller	1095	11	(17)	12	6	7	5	7	48
9	Burrell	1146	7	9	10	8	9	8	(11)	51
10	Diefendorf	111	9	7	7	(12)	10	11	8	52
11	Campbell	117	8	6	9	11	13	(15)	13	60
12	Bill Smith	1128	(12)	8	11	10	11	10	10	60
13	Johnson	1139	14	(16)	14	13	12	13	12	78
14	Rich Hartt	11	(20)	15	13	18	17	12	15	90
15	Dave Bull	941	(17)	13	17	16	15	14	16	91
16	Alix Shaw	973	15	10	18	17	14	(20)	20	94
17	John Dzioba	1111	13	12	15	14	(20)	20	20	94
18	Kevin Mann	742	18	(19)	16	15	16	16	14	95
19	Mickey Lake	128	16	18	(20)	20	20	20	20	114