

EC-12 Friendship Regatta IV at Menno Haven, Chambersburg, PA

May 3, 2014

Location: Reflection Lake on the Penn Hall Campus of Menno Haven Retirement Communities, Chambersburg, PA Host Clubs: White Rose MYC and the State College MYC

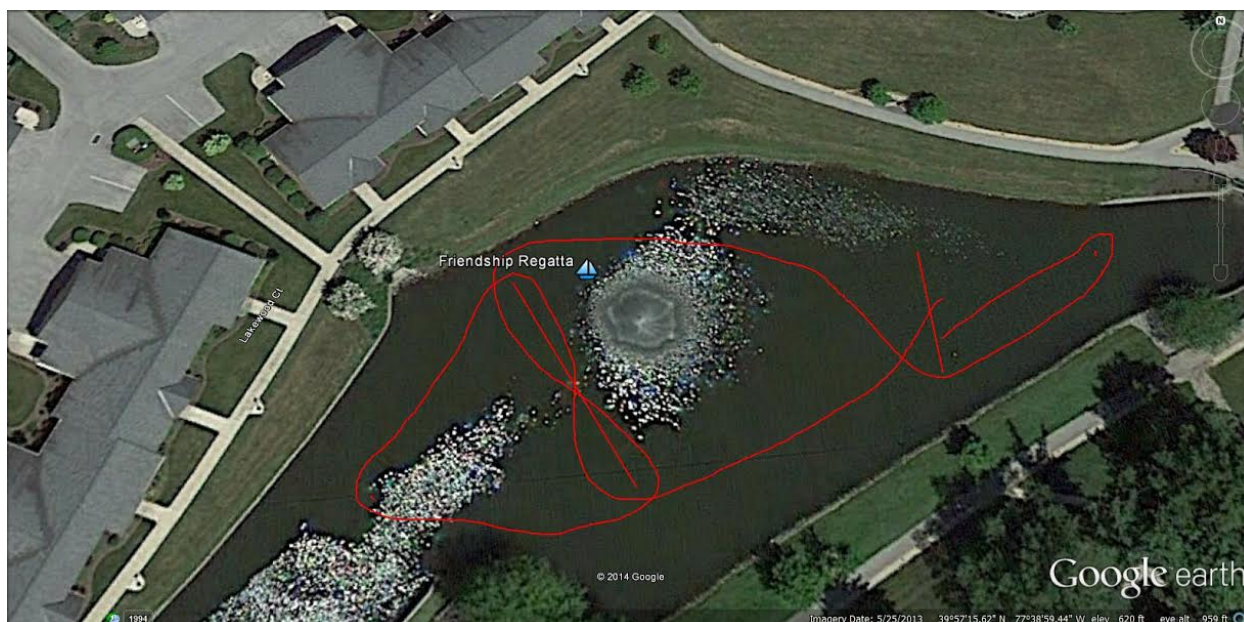
Winds: WSW 4-8, gusting to 13 mph Races completed: 20

Race Committee: Race Director, Fred Maurer; Score Keeper, Anne Cavanaugh; Volunteer Clyde Williams; Menno Haven Coordinators: Helen Keckler and Mike Cavanaugh.

Place Skipper Sail # Points

- 1 Walter House 821 36
- 2 Mike Cavanaugh 2008 43
- 3 David Littleton 2108 50
- 4 John Kircher 2076 57
- 5 JimHermann 1732 80
- 6 Bud Wolfe 1751 91
- 7 Tim Lutzko 1993 154
- 8 Harley Fisher 1750 165

A beautiful spring day opened with cool, calm conditions throughout boat set up time. Then as the warm sunshine brought the temperature up the wind filled in nicely from the WSW ranging from 4 to 8 mph most of the day, with occasional gusts into the low teens.



Reflection Lake is in a shallow bowl, less obstructed to the SW . Fred Maurer set his course windward/leeward along the axis of the lake with the start/finish line at the leeward end. At the widest section of the lake he put two marks, roughly paralleling the start line, as far apart as the lake allowed. These marks defined a figure 8 to be entered clockwise going to windward and counterclockwise after rounding the windward mark on the leeward leg. This made the course about 300+ yards. The only fly in the ointment was when the fleet became spread out and the leading boats met others coming in the opposite direction.

The nearly ideal breeze allowed a total of 20 races, with two throw outs. After 10 races Dave Littleton led by 3 points, followed by Walter House, Mike Cavanaugh and John Kircher. Walter House then put together a 5 bullet string and never looked back.

The continental breakfast included miniature muffins, bananas, fresh pineapple chunks, and grapes. The hot coffee, tea and ice water was available all day. Box lunches consisted of turkey wrap, chips, apple and cookies. All served under the gazebo overlooking the lake by Menno Haven food service people.

There are five 'regulars' for the Friendship Regatta: Jim Hermann, Bud Wolfe, Harley Fisher and Fred Maurer (this year's RD). Our novice skipper this year was Tim Lutzko, retired Coast Guard, former sailing instructor and racer; but R/C racing is his new hobby. Dave Littleton and John Kircher are regular 'visitors' to the Keystone state from the Maryland Model Yacht Club. And Walter House, this year's winner, drove up from Vienna, Virginia to set the standard for the day.

The snapping turtles went away hungry again this year, despite one skipper's mishap at the water's edge. There was an impressive turnout of Menno Haven and Chambersburg spectators, including at one point 14+ wheel chairs lining the far side of the lake. The bright yellow t-shirts with the two club burgees and commemorating

Menno Haven's 50th Year were popular with the skippers. Blue faux marble plaques similarly decorated were awarded to the top three finishers, along with the appropriate AMYA chevrons.

It was a delightful day with camaraderie ashore and competition on the lake. By about 3:30 everyone was on their way home, distances ranging from 85 to 100 miles.

Special thanks to the many Menno Haven employees who saw to the details: from the height of the grass to the fresh coffee: the Grounds Crew, Food Services, Life Enrichment, Gift Planning, and Marketing.

The Race Committee ensured all went well: RD, Fred Maurer; Scorekeeper, Anne Cavanaugh; Volunteer, Clyde Williams; and Menno Haven facilitator/ coordinator Helen Keckler.

