

Burgee – June 2011

Pesky Winds and Racing

By Diane Banyard

Inter-club on April 14

The Luffing Lassies hosted the last inter-club of the season on April 14. The Bitter Ends, the Salty Sisters and the Dinghy Dames joined us on a beautiful but light wind day. Due to those pesky 4 mph winds out of the ESE, we were only able to complete two races. Kimberly Duplissey and Gail Seidman competed for the Lassies in the Pram fleet while Jo Dzina and Lisa Dodds raced in the Sunfish fleet.

In a competitive finish, all four participating clubs had winners. For Pram fleet, Ann Carroll of the Bitter Ends won first place, Kathy Ahern of the Salty Sisters won second place and our very own Gail Seidman of the Luffing Lassies won third place. Congratulations to Gail in her very first year of sailing with the Lassies. For Sunfish fleet, Bonnie Sevier of the Dinghy Dames captured first place, Beth Anderson of the Bitter Ends won second place while Terry Malcombe of the Dinghy Dames won third place.

As usual, no inter-club is complete without a fabulous luncheon and awards ceremony afterwards. Thanks to all the Lassies who helped make this a fun day of sailing and friendship, especially the Race Committee and the Social Committee.

The Florida Women's Sailing Association (FWSA) Championship Regatta

The Lassies were also busy this past month practicing for the FWSA Championship Regatta to be held May 13 in St. Petersburg at the Salty Sisters. Is it a good or bad omen that the Regatta is on Friday the 13th? By now we all know the results, but at the time this article went to print, the results were a mystery.

The Lassies are planning on sending three boats (but, hey, its sailing, so things can change). Competing in Sonars, Ursula Olson will skipper the fabulous crew of Mariella Doyle, Fran Mericle and Gillian Whatmore. With all the hard work making the Sonar aptly named "Victory" sea-worthy, Ursula and her crew have put in countless practice hours here in Sarasota Bay. Let's hope the blood, sweat and tears pay off in St. Pete.

Competing in Rhodes, the Lassies are sending two teams. Joan Johnson will lead the crew of Jib Browning and Cathy Cartier while Jane Owens will lead Lisa Dodds and Dottie Schell. The Rhodes teams were busy practicing up in St. Petersburg and have a funny store to share. One week, the Salty Sisters were

down one Rhodes boat. Undeterred, our two teams of resourceful Lassies just jumped all together onto one Rhodes. With the wind roaring, our five Lassies ventured out for some good practice. Unfortunately, the booming voice of the Harbor Master interrupted the fun when he hauled them in for having too many people on the boat. Still undeterred, our fearless Lassies dropped off two team members (at the pier, not in the water) and ventured out again only to be called in for too high wind. Finally calling it a day, our Rhodes Lassies of Joan Johnson, Jib Browning, Jane Owens, Lisa Dodds, Gail Seidman and Fran Mericle joined the Salty Sisters for a great lunch. After all, as much as we love sailing, we also love an afternoon of food and friends.

Good luck to our Luffing Lassies on May 13 at the FWSA Championship Regatta!



