

## **United States Vintage Model Yacht Group 2019 National Championship Regatta**

**Insert photo here: Horizontal 9348.jpg. "M Class skippers and their boats"**

### **Regatta Report**

**By John Stoudt, Commodore, Chester Springs Model Yacht Club**

**Photos by Judy Bonanno**

The first recorded model yacht sailed on the Serpentine in Hyde Park in 1851 as documented in *The Illustrated London News*. Since then model yachting has been a sport in England, the United States, and worldwide. In the US there are well over three hundred clubs sailing nearly 40 different classes of model yachts. The American Model Yachting Association and the United States Vintage Model Yacht Group (USVMYG) are national organizations that support these classes. This year the USVMYG celebrated its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a National Championship Regatta. This was sponsored by the Chester Springs Model Yacht Club (CSMYC) at the Tel Hai Camp and Retreat Center, 1101 Beaver Dam Road, Honey Brook, PA 19344.

Twenty seven skippers from Delaware, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Virginia registered their beautiful model yachts. Sixty one boats were registered this regatta.

The CSMYC regatta committee was made up of Tom Alessi, Richard Bardsley, Kirsten Becker, Martin Blumenthal, George Hotton, Tim Good, John Kathman (race director), Steve LaBrenz, Joe Paradine, Ivor Walton, and Tom Werner (CSMYC vice commodore). Beth Lippincott assisted with scorekeeping throughout the regatta.

There were four photographers/videographers supporting the event with their expertise. Judy Bonanno (still and video), Jim Flach (still), Bobbie Frankenfield (still), Tim Good (still and video), Jason Kinzel (drone still and video footage). Their photos and videos can be found on the Chester Springs Model Yacht Club Facebook page.

There were two silent auction items at the banquet. A beautiful stained glass piece by George Hotton (club member) depicting a sailing ship. The other item was a complete Marblehead kit (excluding electronics) made available through the kind generosity of the following individuals Scott Todd of Blue Crab Model Yachts (hull), Rod Carr of Carr Sails (suit of sails), Steve LaBrenz (ballast), The Little Boat Builder (parts and wood for construction), Ivor Walton (planked deck), USVMYG (plans), Roger Cousineau of Model Yacht Fittings (gooseneck and vang)

Food was provided lake side in the form of refreshments and lunch both full days of sailing. There was a Friday night picnic and a Saturday evening banquet. Special awards were given at the banquet including a distance traveled award to Colin Parker who came up from Duck Key, Florida. John Henderson received the PITA award for always asking the tough on any project he

undertakes for the vintage group. Cliff Martin had a special from Graphics Plus of 25 copies of the new issue of Model Yachting issue 197 to fill the void and his storage locker. Ken Young received a Tushy Cushy to help make his ride home more tolerable. There were a number of door prizes that added to the fun.

The venue was the beautiful lake at Tel Hai Camp and Retreat Center in Honey Brook, PA. It is a wonderful place to sail model yachts and is well maintained by the camp staff. Howard Moss and his staff were wonderful to work with and very supportive. The camp kitchen staff provided the picnic on Friday evening. Special thanks go out to the staff at Tel Hai from all that participated in the event.

There was a European connection at this regatta. There were two Marbleheads of European origin sailing in the traditional Marblehead races. Mad Hatter a wonderful British design was built by John Henderson on Chestertown, MD. It was a site to behold with its fully curved hull and deck. Joe Paradine was sailing John Stoudt's Italian boat Brusotti. This boat was brought over by an Exxon executive in the mid 1950s and given to a boat yard owner on Cape Cod. It was only the hull, keel fin and bulb; and was completed by Stoudt.

An original piece of artwork was prepared by Candace Stoudt for the regatta. It is a mixed media piece depicting the location, various boats sailed, 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration and other details. Copies were made by the USVMYG printer and distributed to every participant, volunteer and others. It is a companion piece to the one presented at the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration.

The regatta results are:

**Marblehead** - Saturday, September 28 (1:00 pm) and Sunday September 29 (9:00 am) - Varied winds 6 to 10 mph, with gusts to 15 mph, partly cloudy.

**Insert M Class Photo Here: 0078.jpg. "M class boats heading to windward"**

#### Traditional Marbleheads

<i>Place</i>	<i>Skipper</i>	<i>Score</i>	<i>Sail #</i>	<i>Design</i>
1	Domenick Bonanno	37	79	Madcap
2	Rick Laird	40.8	32	Madcap
3	John Stoudt	63	97	Tritonia
4	Rob Dutton	64	67	Peony
5	John Henderson	68	104	Mad Hatter (British)
6	Joe M. Cieri	85 (BP)	316	Broom 4.5
7	Tom Alessi	94	777	Madcap
8	Bill Sysyn	94	333	Peterson
9	Colin Parker	99 (BP)	1149	Norumbega
10	Ivor Walton	114.6 (BP)	240	Madcap
11	Nick Mortgu	121 (BP)	00	Tritonia II
12	Steve LaBrenz	137 (WD)	86	Cheerio II
13	George Hotton	138	84	Madcap
14	Richard Bardsley	164 (BP)	149	Madcap

15	Ray Plepys	187 (BP)	24	Double Ender
--	Don Stuart	(DNC)	123	Norumbega
--	Ken Young	(DNC)	83	Madcap

**Insert photo here: Horizontal 9527.jpg. “John Henderson tuning Mad Hatter”**

#### High Flyer Marbleheads

<i>Place</i>	<i>Skipper</i>	<i>Score</i>	<i>Sail #</i>	<i>Design</i>
1	Herb Dreher	20 (BP)	96	Sunwind
2	Cliff Martin	24	1040	Magic Dragon
3	Joe V. Cieri	41	316	Sunwind 2.5
4	Joe Paradine	55	197	Brusotti (Italian)
5	Jeff Beck	65 (WD)	103	Naskaeg
6	Martin Blumenthal	79 (BP)	309	Rusticator
7	Jim Linville	(DNC)	1	Riptide

#### Classic Marblehead

--	Melinda Bugg	--	2279	Blackwatch
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**Insert photo here: “Now that is a lot of sail”**

**Skipjacks (Pepper Langley Design) - Thursday, September 26 (1:00 pm)** Light to moderate wind with occasional light rain.

<i>Place</i>	<i>Skipper</i>	<i>Score</i>	<i>Sail #</i>	<i>Design</i>
1	Ken Young	9	83	Pepper Langley
2	Rob Dutton	23	53	Pepper Langley
3	Domenick Bonanno	27	22	Pepper Langley
4	Mike Cavanaugh	29.6	108	Pepper Langley
5	Steve LaBrenz	30	56	Pepper Langley
6	Colin Parker	42	49	Pepper Langley
7	Nick Mortgu	46 (BP)	7	Pepper Langley
8	John Stoudt	54 (BP)	97	Pepper Langley
9	George Hotton	58 (BP)	60	Pepper Langley
10	Richard Bardsley	73 (BP)	58	Pepper Langley

**Insert photo here: “Schooners at the windward mark”**

**Schooners and Unrestricted Boat - Friday, September 27 (9:00 am)** 4 to 8 mph winds, partly cloudy.

<i>Place</i>	<i>Skipper</i>	<i>Score</i>	<i>Sail #</i>	<i>Design</i>
Under 50” Schooners; non – scale (fin and bulb)				
1	Ivor Walton	17	240	Sharpie
2	Rob Dutton	18	53	Sharpie
3	Melinda Bugg	19	204	Terrapin Sharpie
4	Mike Cavanaugh	32	88	NC Sharpie
5	Tom Alessi	36	777	Sharpie

Under 50” Schooners; scale (fin keel)

1	Joe M. Cieri	26	11	Alden Schooner
2	Ken Young	34.4	31	Gloucesterman
3	Domenick Bonanno	47	507	Grenadier
4	Nick Mortgu	49	22	Brilliant

**Insert photo here: “Rainbow and Valmore crossing paths”**

Over 50” Schooner; Scale (fin keel)

(NPA)	John Stoudt	11	309	Valmore
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Unrestricted Class Boat

(NPA)	John Henderson (UR)	13	NA	Rainbow
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**Insert photo here: “V36s just after the start”**

**Vintage 36** - Friday, September 27 (1:00 pm) and Saturday, September 28 (9:00 am) Light air on Friday with light to moderate wind on Sunday, partly cloudy to sunny.

<i>Place</i>	<i>Skipper</i>	<i>Score</i>	<i>Sail #</i>	<i>Design</i>
1	Cliff Martin	26	34	Comet
2	Jim Linville	51	51	Riptide
3	Herb Dreher	60 (BP)	50	Comet
4	Joe V. Cieri	67	316	Starlet II
5	Domenick Bonanno	70	179	Peterson
6	Nick Mortgu	78	7	Chico II
7	Rob Dutton	94	53	Contagious Magic
8	Ken Young	112 (BP)	83	Starlet
9	Richard Bardsley	114	49	Chico
10	Tom Werner	115 (BP)	5 yellow	Sharpie
11	Rick Laird	126	23	Yankee III
12	John Stoudt	144 (BP)	5 blue	Chico II
13	Mike Cavanaugh	145 (BP)	88	Chico II
14	Bill Sysyn	154	133	Peterson

(BP) – Boat Problems

(DNC) – Did Not Compete

(NPA) – No Place Awarded – fleet too small

(WD) - Withdrew

Awards were given to the first three places in each event. In the fin keel under 50” schooner class only two were awarded. There were three appreciation awards presented to John Henderson (Rainbow), Melinda Bugg (class M), and John Stoudt (Over 50” schooner – 81’ overall boat). These recognition awards are an effort to encourage getting more vintage model yachts “out of the closet” and on the water.

**Insert photo here: 4859.jpg. “Awards awaiting the final numbers”**

The Earl Boebert Craftsmanship Award was presented to the skipper/builder for the most beautifully crafted model yacht in various classes.

- Marblehead – John Henderson, Mad Hatter Design
- Schooner – Ivor Walton – North Carolina Oyster Sharpie Design
- Skipjack – John Stoudt, Pepper Langley Design
- Vintage 36 – John Stoudt, Chico II (AJ Fisher Design)

The Marshall Croft Sportsmanship Award was awarded posthumously to David S. Brawner who epitomizes the intent of this award. David became a supporter of the vintage boats about five years ago when he served as race director for the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary event of the USVMYG. We are forever grateful to have had someone like David provide leadership and an example of sportsmanship to our cherished past time. David may the wind be in your sails!

More regatta details and photos/videos may be found at:

The Chester Springs Model Yacht Club Facebook page.

Chester Springs Model Yacht Club - <https://sites.google.com/site/csmyclub/>

United States Vintage Model Yacht Group - <https://usvmYG.org/>

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