

2009 Whittemore St John Regatta

The 2009 Whittemore St John Regatta at the Quassapaug Sailing Center (QSC) followed a very rainy week in New England. The regatta was held a week or two before its normal date due to the early Nationals. 16 Teams arrived at Quassy to sail on cool over cast June weekend.

A strong easterly died as we prepared to race – not a good sign. The race committee of Tom St John, Ryan Murphy and Mary Beth Morrison were optimistic and signaled an Olympic course. The resulting race was very long with many drastic changes of position as the breeze died and refilled. Quassy locals Mike Elser and Cam Cannings lead most of the race despite constant challenges by Joel Zackin and Jen Matty and others.

A very welcome break for lunch followed! In the afternoon the RC reduced the course to triangles and we saw some very spirited and close racing with Pedro and Mimi leading at the end of the day.

Many of us were treated to the rear sight of a mother Northern Water Snake and her brood, four or five babies, coiled in pile in the brush near the RC dock. Northern Water Snakes are not venomous or aggressive and will only bite if threatened or handled. Mostly the just wish to be away from people. They eat a diet of fish, insects, frogs, and toads. <http://www.ct.gov/Dep/cwp/view.asp?a=2723&q=325770>

Following a great dinner of Ziti and chicken parmigiana, we were entertained by Danny the Magician on the porch of the club. The party broke up early for Quassy, but a spirited game of ‘Apples to Apples’ was dominated by Dorothy Waskow despite the attempts of the Harry and Sally Levinson to always pick each other’s cards.

Heavy rains attempted to route the sleeping campers, but Sunday morning met us with a very light Northerly and heavy looking clouds. Today’s race committee of Dave Rogers, Matt Erickson and Mary Beth Morrison came completely prepared with Bloody Marys. The breeze started to build and they optimistically signaled an Olympic course. Like the first race on Saturday, the breeze went very from very light to a little stronger many times during the long race. Bob Coyle and Jen Rousmaniere later said they were ‘playing the east shore’ but it looked to the rest of the fleet they were real estate shopping, or inspecting the docks on the east shore. What ever they were doing over there seems to have worked. They lead at the first mark and all those that followed! Peter and Keri Wolcott were second and the Levinsons were third. Regatta leaders Pedro and Mimi had a disappointing 9th.

The last race of the regatta saw a little more consistent breeze (not much more consistent!). The RC went easy on us with a triangle. Pedro and Mimi showed us their championship style and walked away with the race and the regatta

In typical Quassy style, after the boats were away the Easterly kicked back in at a very steady 8-10 knots!

Awards were presented to all the competitors for sailing well and having fun and to the RC and Volunteers that feed us! This year’s awards were QSC glasses with sail plan of a

snipe. We hope everyone has had as much fun participating as we had hosting the regatta.
Special thanks to Shelia Elser and all her volunteers for feeding us all weekend!

Don't Forget Board of Governors Regatta at QSC on August 29-30!!!!!!

2009 Whittemore St John Regatta results

Team - WstJ 2009	Club	Total	
1 Pedro Larson & Mimi Berry	30304 MYC	12	
2 Joel Zackin and Jen Matty	29111 NHYC	15	
3 Bob Coyle and Jen Rousemaniere	28542 CPYC	20	
4 Harry and Sally Levinson	29842 WBC	21	#1 Father Daughter Team
5 Mike Elser and Cam Cannings	29867 QSC	23	
Peter Wolcott & Harry Waskow			
6 & Kerri Wolcott	30606 QSC	26	Top Married Team
7 Jack Gannon & Lisa Lyons	30526 WBC	29	
8 John Lally and Keri O'Brien	30470 WBC	35	
9 Kelly and Art Rousemaniere	29499 WBC	38	Top Junior Skipper
Daryl and Harry & Dorothy			#1 Father Son/Daughter Team
10 Waskow	29645 BB	39	
11 Bob and Jane Panza	29964 QSC	48	#2 Married Team
12 Pierce and Haley Wolcott	28656 QSC	50	2nd Junior
			#1 Father Daughter Team
13 John and Grace Lees	27733 WBC	56	
14 Larry Pellet and Kara Morris	30195 NHYC	65	
Kevin Elser and Laurance			
15 Cannings	26743 QSC	70	3rd Junior Team
16 Thad Burr and Maura Berry	28199 QSC	73	