

Marblehead IOD Fleet Report for AGM 2018

The best news from Marblehead is the number of new owners to join the fleet over the past couple of years. We have maintained a racing strength of 10 boats in race week, which is one more than the Etchells and usually one or two more than the Etchells on any given Saturday. As always, the greatest challenge to fleet growth is the scarcity of moorings in the main harbor. The fleet incorporated a few years ago and have applied for five moorings to support IOD participation. But the wait list is still long, and it will be years before we can actually claim these moorings as our own.

We welcomed Danielle Ames and Jeff Lawson as guests for Race Week crewed by their three children! She hasn't lost her touch. She was sailing *Pompano* whose new owner, Petter Etholm, is starting a new business, which hasn't allowed him to get out yet on a Saturday. We can hope for success for the business which will allow him to get on the water more regularly.

Joe Schwartz brought *Desperado* back from Portsmouth again for Race week and the Corinthian Classic, which the fleet voted to include in our championship scoring for this summer. Two days' pursuit racing against a fleet of 48 boats was a welcome change of pace from orange triangles, even though only Sunday's race had wind to complete racing. We took pleasure in beating the schooners, *Altair* at 104' and *Columbia* at 140'.

Marc Migliazzo is getting the lovely bright finish sail #1 moving ever faster this year under the name *Vagabond*. Bruce Dyson returned from a European sojourn in the Dragon Class to drop *Gypsy* into the water for Race Week and get Bill Widnall tuned up for the Worlds, beating him by 3 points for the series.

The rest of the usual Marblehead fleet have been hard at it each Saturday. The crew members are shifting into leadership roles on *Kungsornen* which Herb has given them. [Alejandro won the annual Crew Race.] Greg Mancusi-Ungaro is sailing his wooden boat this summer generously making *Elektra* available to Hannah Vincent and her team of MIT sailors. Rachel Morrison is the regular on the helm of *Tango*. Timmy Dittrich has *Sagacious* near the front of the fleet most days. These are the folks you will meet next June.

The Marblehead Fleet looks forward to welcoming “the world” next June 15-22 for the World Championships. Another four boats, inactive this summer, are hopefully lined up for the event. Our goal is 16 boats on the line. Greg Mancusi-Ungaro serves once again as Regatta Chair. We expect to house competitors in private homes as in the past. There will be a suitable number of social events at both the Corinthian and Eastern Yacht Clubs.

As I step back from the IOD scene after 40 years racing around the buoys, I value the many friends I have made among our twelve fleets around the world and our newest fleet in Manhattan. It is sad to go down my email list and note how many names have died. As a World Class past president and class historian, I have valued the work of Executive Committees past and present. It’s easy to lob criticism at these volunteers from a distance. It’s far more difficult to steer the ship with actual knowledge of the issues. Many thanks to Charlie Van Voorhis and his predecessors for the long hours and creative thought they have provided the class to help keep us strong and active.

Respectfully submitted,

Herb Motley, Fleet Captain