



Thunderbird Sailing

December 2006

Invader wins NW Regional Championships

Fifteen Thunderbirds made their way to beautiful Port Townsend Friday September 1, 2006 on a sunny day with a light North wind. Eight boats came from the Seattle Fleet, two boats each from the Tacoma and Everett Fleets and one boat each from Bellingham, Victoria B.C and Port Townsend. Most of us gathered for a dinner in town and many skippers went to bed early to be sharp for racing Saturday. At the 10 AM skippers meeting regatta chair Dale Dunning introduced Jeb Binns the Race Committee Chairman, Rob Sanderson the Port Townsend provider of the race committee boats and Joe James the judge in charge of protests. Joe explained that he was serving because Thunderbird alumni Ed Von Wolffersdorff had some medical problems and could not attend. Dale thanked Jim Konigsfeld and Alyssa Farber for there organizing of the shore activities and Kemp Jones for getting the trophies made. There were no changes to the provided sailing instructions. All birds with their crews proceeded out in the bay for the scheduled 1100 hours scheduled start.

We had outstanding boats competing. Rev a two time International Championship boat and winner of several regional championships with new skipper Gerry Roloson driving and former International President David New crewing. Raptor a two time International Championship boat bought a few years ago by current skipper Ken Lane. Predator the Australian built boat which won the 1995 International Championship in San Francisco bay with builder driver Bruce King is was skippered by Craig Burnell co-owner,. Cool Breeze #1060 (the former Kulane) was 2nd to Rev in last year's Regional's in Victoria, BC. was skippered by new owner John Edwards.

After about a 45 minute wait for wind to come in the first race was started in a light North wind. Top Seattle boat Predator got free of the fleet and won the first race followed by Falcon, Rev, Barbaree, Thatuna, and Cool Breeze. The Second race was won by Barbaree followed by Invader, Falcon, Raptor, Rev and Cool Breeze. It was tricky picking the best tack for the most pressure and best heading which resulted in changing positions going up the weather legs. Raptor won the last two races of the day and all boats headed to the moorage. Beer was available near the dock ---\$5 for a bottomless cup at *Lil This Lil That* restaurant adjacent to the moorage where a catered dinner of Halibut or beef was available. Some of us were

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International Organization

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Newsletter Contributions are Welcome

Articles, photos, letters to the editor, from racers and cruisers are what makes it all work.

Contributions are welcome in any form. Mail them to the editor's home or email.

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Re: 2007 International Thunderbird Championships

Thunderbird Fleet Four I would like to host the 2007 International Thunderbird Championship. They propose the event be at the Royal Victoria Yacht Club around July 4th with racing to be held in the vicinity of Cadboro and Oak Bay. More details to come later.





From the Helm by President Wendy Loat

Well, we've booked our flight out to Victoria for the International Championships. As I type this in Toronto, it is a balmy 60 degrees F (or 15 C for us Canadians). Of course, they are shoveling SNOW on the west coast, ha, ha.

I shouldn't laugh. Our turn will most definitely come, and sooner than I would like to imagine. I'm sure I'll regret my amusement in mid-January.

I know, though, that I won't regret my decision to participate in the Internationals in Victoria. Scheduled to begin July 1, the event's organizers are already planning with the goal of trying to top the fabulous event put on by Fleet 5 in 2005. I wish them well, but it sure will be tough to beat that Boston hospitality.

2006 saw another successful T-Bird rendezvous at the Center for Wooden Boats, and I look forward to reading all of the gory details. The Vancouver fleet also held their own rendezvous, and I am hoping they'll think about joining the festivities in Victoria in July.

I note from the forum that there are all kinds of postings from new T-Bird owners, and there was a good discussion about purchasing a set of three-D plans in Australia. I fear what puts many people off of T-Bird sailing is finding a beat up old boat that someone is giving away, then discovering you have to spend a fortune in time and money before she can hit the water. I remember the year after I bought Looney Tunes. We had done a great deal of work, but launch was coming and so I threw a coat of paint over the hull which was still in bad need of faring. A friend told me I shouldn't launch the boat looking like that. My response was "I bought this boat to sail on, not to work on". My advice is, as always, to find the right balance between work and play. Tunes was (and is) sound, she just wasn't pretty before Nick came along and made her the envy of the fleet. Now he informs me that she may have lost her status as the prettiest boat in Fleet 10, but I don't believe that just yet. Perhaps I'm in denial.

My point is, however, that these boats are a whole lot of fun once you get them in the water. They are meant to be sailed. They handle all conditions magnificently. So get on out there and enjoy!

Tribute to Dale Dunning

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Dale Dunning for his dedication to the International Thunderbird Class Association.

Dale took over the website some time ago, and did a bang-up job. In 2003 he stepped in as President of the ITCA, while he was chairing the organizing committee of the 2003 International Championship Regatta held in Seattle that same year. After serving three years as ITCA President, during which time we approved a major rule change with respect to the spinnaker size and pole, Dale took on the final year of the term of the Vice- President, and is pretty close to having the roster ready for publication.

Dale, on behalf of all of the members of ITCA, thank you for your hard work. I've no doubt I'll see you in Victoria in July.



**2006 North East District Championships** by Wendy Loat

2006 saw Fleet 10 with a new person at the helm. John Morris, long time T-Bird owner (he's owned three over the years) missed the meeting last winter so became president of the fleet. John's brain isn't wired the same as the rest of us, so we knew that things would be different.

John decided to "open" a Fleet 10 Museum at this year's Districts, held at Ashbridges' Bay Yacht Club. We were all asked to contribute "artifacts", not the least of which included Fleet 10 Thunderbeer ("plywood aged") as well as photos showing many of us younger and much thinner. The years haven't been overly kind... Roger Renaud was appointed curator, and probably had the largest number of items to donate.

The event was combined with the club's "Open Regatta", and the weather gods cooperated with wind and sunshine. After a glitch on the part of the mark boat, which resulted in one of the volunteers dipping into the mid-September waters of Lake Ontario to free the mark anchor line from the prop of the boat, the racing got underway. 2001 International Champion Oliver Lennox-King was slow off the mark as he hadn't raced since early June, but he and his brother Roland, along with Julie Hughes, wouldn't forget how to win for very long! Diane Reid picked up the pattern of the tricky northwesterlies ahead of the rest of us to win the first race, Breakaway, owned by Roger Renaud, but helmed for this event (and, in fact, the weeknight racing series) by one of the Club's top Junior Sailors, a 16 year old named Derek, finished second with Looney Tunes recovering from a bad first leg to finish third.

The second race saw Oliver and company aboard Strange Device return to their winning form – at least, we saw them for awhile before they disappeared over the horizon. Drew Robertson in Full On managed a second place, and Looney Tunes was again third.

The winds continued to be gusty and shifty in race three, but there would be no catching Strange Device. The rest of us were fighting for the second place scraps, this time taken by David Holmes and crew of Rattle Ya Dags, with Diane and Paul Reid and the Thang crew finishing third. By the end of Day one, Strange Device had a stranglehold on first, with That Damn Thang second, and Looney Tunes third. Only five points separated third and sixth places.

Day two saw interesting north easterly winds. Interesting, because the gusts were 20 knots and the lulls were, well, almost nothing. Up on the high side, down to the low side – oops – back up – no, down again. As the day wore on, the lulls got bigger and bigger, and the puffs fewer and less powerful.

One thing was constant – Strange Device continued to show nothing but her transom to the rest of the fleet, although Tunes was really close in a couple of races. Everyone thought that SD had to be a faster boat than the rest of ours, really, Oliver couldn't be that much better a sailor than the rest of us, could he? Well, err, yes, he could. In the fifth race, we sailed upwind beside him for about two thirds of the weather leg.

Continued on the next page



**2006 North East District Championships** continued from prior page

. We realized that the rest of the fleet had gone right, so we departed to join them knowing we couldn't catch Oliver in the regatta anyway, so we tacked away. Although we had been dead even all the way up the leg until we tacked away, when we next crossed tacks a few minutes later, Oliver was at least 100 yards ahead of us.

When the regatta was over, Strange Device in the hands of the Lennox-King brothers was way ahead of the rest of us. The scrap for second place wound up with Looney Tunes taking it, and Rattle Ya Dags making a brilliant comeback to third place overall in the regatta.

We went back to shore, and our Fleet Prez arrived with a large dock cart filled with cold beer. Burgers were cooked, and the stories were told. It had been a tremendously fun regatta, from the opening of the museum until the last beer was finished. Bad news for the Fleet since then... Oliver has "fallen in love" with his T-Bird again, and vows to be out there racing once he finishes sailing with Roland across the Atlantic next spring.



North West Thunderbird Regional's— photo by Sean Trew



**Invader wins NW Regional Championships** continued from page 1

wondering where we stood in the scoring but had to wait until Sunday morning to get a copy of the standings. After a great dinner and a few drinks most of us went to bed in preparation for tomorrow's contest.

A few minutes before nine the Falcon crew was scrubbing the bottom with a PVC pipe apparatus with indoor/outdoor carpet attached. A copy of Saturday's scores was passed out to each skipper. The sailing instructions allowed one throw out if 6 or more races were sailed. The Saturday scores without a throw out

were: Rev 14, Falcon 15, Invader 17, Raptor 18, Barbaree 21, and Predator 24 with the rest of the boats having over 30 points. To us on Falcon it seemed that any one of these top six boats could win. We decided to sail as best we could and not try to hold any boat in particular back. After more than an hour wait for the wind to come in we got off the first race in a light North wind. Invader passed Falcon on the last run and held on to get first in the 5th race followed by Falcon, Cool Breeze, Predator, Thatuna and Rowdy. Marty Godsil did a great job of sailing Invader Sunday and won the next two races taking a significant lead over the entire fleet in winning the championship. Marty thinks his Ulman main and Genoa are the cat's pajamas but somehow this writer thinks we will all find more competition from proven skippers and other sail makers at the 2007 International Championships.

After putting our racing gear away we all joined the raffle and prize giving on the lawn at the moorage. Alyssa Farber had various people pull tickets from the hat to get raffle prizes which included:

From North Sails---New sail discounts and discount on sail repairs plus two ditty bags to carry racing gear.

From Quantum Sail Design Group---New sail discount and discount on sail repairs plus two Quantum hats.

Seaview Boat Yard---Haul out

From Sandy Pratt---Two 11x14 inch photos of a 43 boat start of a 1975 TBird World Champ race plus a 1983 and 1987 memorial International Regatta shirt.

From the Wooden Boat Foundation/Northwest Maritime Center for Wooden Boats a free admission ticket to their show next week.

Please make purchases from our sponsors.

Sean Trew of Pacific Fog took photos of our racing Saturday and Elizabeth Becker of seaport-photo took pictures Sunday. All of these should be on their respective web sites.

Continued on the next page





Invader wins NW Regional Championships continued from prior page

Racing Awards were passed out to skipper and crew as follows:

- 5th place Ken Lane in Raptor
- 4th place Craig Burnell in Predator
- 3rd place Gerry Roloson in Rev
- 2nd place Sandy Pratt in Falcon
- 1st place Marty Godsil in Invader

A special thanks to Dale Dunning for his leadership as regatta chair. He hired Jeb Binns, CYC race committee chairman to do our regatta and got Rob Sanderson to supply race committee boats. Dale also wrote the Notice of Race, provided the graphics for the program and trophies and salvaged the sailing instructions from a previous Port Townsend regatta which required only minor modification.

See page 14 for total results



Marty Godsil receiving the perpetual trophy from Dale Dunning



**Center for Wooden Boats Rendezvous and Regatta Results
August 4-6**

Regular Racer Class

Place	Boat	R 1	R 2	R 3	R 4	R 5	R 6	R 7	R 8	Total
1	1255 Predator	8	2	3	1	3	1	3	4	25
2	9 Fandango	5	1	1	14	2	2	7	1	33
3	1244 Invader	3	4	8	13	5	3	1	2	39
4	20 Water Torture	4	6	5	2	9	5	5	5	41
5	1177 Falcon	1	3	10	5	7	6	2	10	44
6	60 Barbaree	6	7	4	4	6	8	9	8	52
7	542 Thatuna	7	8	2	11	4	12	4	9	57
8	1008 Swan	10	13	6	3	12	7	6	3	60
9	840 Rowdy	2	5	11	9	11	10	11	6	65
10	953 Hussy II	12	15	12	6	1	9	8	12	75
11	262 Kalua	9	11	16	7	8	14	12	7	84
12	1006 Aozora	15	10	14	8	16	4	13	11	91
13	332 Coco Solo	13	14	9	10	13	13	10	13	95
14	974 Valkyrie	14	12	7	12	10	11	14	15	95
15	333 Cloud Dancing	11	9	13	15	14	16	16	16	110
16	1015 Nutter Butter	16	16	15	16	15	15	15	14	122

Occasional Racer/Cruiser Class

1	567 Pangloss	3	3	1	1	2	2	4	2	18
2	453 Air Fair	1	2	2	2	5	6	6	6	30
3	431 Feather	4	4	4	3	1	4	1	3	24
4	621 Intrepid	6	6	6	6	6	1	2	1	34
5	1194 Lila	2	1	3	5	5	6	6	6	34
6	979 Freebird	5	5	5	5	5	3	3	4	35





CWB Regatta photo by Dan Carey



Craig Burnell removed jumper struts and wires damaged by a collision while returning to the start line after being over early.





Photo taken at a recent Fleet 27 'curry night' at the Royal Perth Yacht Club. The happy Thunderbirders are: A-R back row: Helen Baker (Blue Thunder), Chris Semmens (Condor), Ross Weber (Falcon), Sigrid Semmens (Condor), front row Jim Baker (Blue Thunder), Ben Blake (Thunderstruck), Aileen Porteous (Falcon), John Wager (Falcon)

John Wager bought the totem pole in this photo at Stanley Park in Vancouver in 1967

Photo provided by John Wager





2007 Annual General Meeting January 27, 2007 12:00 pm

The 2007 Annual General Meeting will be held on January 27th at 12:00 pm at the College Club in downtown Seattle Washington. The address is 505 Madison Street.

The College Club will be serving brunch starting at 11:00 am. The cost is \$12.00. If you are planning on having brunch before the meeting please contact Dale Dunning at Dale@wallstreetclothiers.com so that the club can plan accordingly.

Free parking is available underneath the College Club. Enter from 5th Ave.

AGM Agenda

Call to order WL

Minutes of the last meeting—published in the February 2006 ITCA Newsletter

Business arising from the minutes

Reports

President
Vice President
Treasurer
Secretary
Measurer
Fleet Reports

New Business

Amendment to the Constitution, Section 8.4. (see page 12)
Amendment to the Constitution , Section 6.2

Other Business

Election of Vice President

Adjournment





Constitution changes are here presented for your voting.

A two thirds majority of the votes cast are required to any change in the Constitution.

The changes are the addition of the italicized underlined words.

Change to Section 6.2

Yes

No

Changes to Section 8.4

Yes

No

Changes to section 8.4

6.2 Quorum, Attendance and Voting at Meeting. Ten Voting Members present in person shall constitute a quorum for any Association meeting. Voting may be in person or by ballot, but the International Secretary must receive ballots prior to the meeting. Voting Members, and Active Members who are owners of Thunderbird yachts, shall have one vote for each matter before an Association meeting. A majority vote will decide all questions unless otherwise specifically provided in this Constitution. When voting on specifications, co-owners shall jointly cast one vote for their yacht. *Voting by electronic means may be arranged at the discretion of the Board of Governors for a decision by the membership.*

8.4 Sail regulations . No more than one main, one jib, one Genoa, and one spinnaker may be acquired every other calendar year, regardless of ownership, except that one additional sail of each type may acquired once during an ownership of a yacht. *In addition one sail of each type may be purchased after each 10 years of owning the boat.* A new sail which is given to the owner, free of charge as a replacement for a defective sail, is not considered to have been acquired provided that the defective sail is not used thereafter. Sails which have been lost or destroyed accidentally may be replaced outside this quota. An unlimited number of used sails may be acquired provided that they have a minimum of two seasons of use at the time of acquisition as determined by the fleet sail measurer. No more than 2 (two) main sails, spinnakers, working jibs, and 3 (three) genoas may be carried on board during a race. Sails may not be burrowed except in Championship events where the number of participants per Fleet is limited. In this case, sail numbers must represent either the skipper's yacht number or the yacht number on which they are being used. Reefing shall not be used to effect an under-sized headsail. Only those sails illustrated on the plan may be used in this specified position to a maximum of three sails being used at once. Putting sail(s) into or taking sail(s) out of the anchor well is not permitted





New PHRF NW Measurement Protocol by Sandy Pratt

PHRF Northwest has a new measurement protocol for sails. This requires remeasurement of main, largest headsail and largest spinnaker and requested submission of data by October 31st, 2006. Craig Burnell ran a measuring session at the Corinthian Yacht club where ten Thunderbirds had their sails measured to this protocol for next seasons competition.

The main differences are: On the mainsail we used the distance between the black bands rather than measuring the luff and foot. We measured and recorded spinnaker girth at $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{3}{4}$ heights rather than just taking the maximum girth. Genoas were measured headsail luff head to tack and headsail perpendicular to clew. All other measurements were similar to previous PHRF or Thunderbird Class measurements.

Seattle Fleet members are anxious to see how Thunderbirds will rate to other PHRF boats in 2007.

Fleet Reports at the Annual General Meeting

Fleets are requested to submit an annual report at the Annual General Meeting January 27 either in person or via email to the International Secretary at s.r.pratt@comcast.net. Send in a report even if a fleet is not active where you sail.

Sean Trew



NW Re-
gional's photo
by
Sean Trew





Thunderbird Regional Championships at Port Townsend over Labor Day Weekend										
Regionals Results										
Place	Boat	Race 1	Race 2	Race 3	Race 4	Race 5	Race 6	Race 7	Final Score	
1	1244 Invader	T.O. 9	2	4	2	1	1	1	11	
2	1177 Falcon	2	3	7	3	2	7	T.O. 10	24	tie breaker
3	447 Rev	3	5	2	4	8	T.O. 11	2	24	
4	1255 Predator	1	9	5	T.O. 9	4	2	4	25	
5	1236 Raptor	12	4	1	1	T.O. 12	4	8	30	tie breaker
6	60 Barbarie	4	1	T.O. 10	6	9	3	7	30	
7	1060 Cool Breeze	6	6	8	8	3	T.O. 8	3	34	
8	542 Thatuna	5	T.O. 13	12	5	5	5	5	37	
9	1008 Swan	7	8	6	7	7	T.O. 12	9	44	
10	20 Water Torture	8	7	9	10	T.O. 10	9	6	49	
11	262 Kahlua	10	11	3	12	11	6	T.O. 13	53	
12	840 Rowdy	11	10	T.O. 14	13	6	10	11	61	
13	974 Valkyrie	13	12	11	11	15	T.O. 15	12	74	
14	333 Cloud Dancing	14	14	13	14	13	14	T.O. 15	82	
15	448 Tzieu	15	15	15	T.O. 15	14	13	14	86	



Regional's photo by Sean Trew





Wednesday night on Lake Washington photo by Dan Carey



Regional's photo by Sean Trew





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