

Maine Lobster Boat Racing Newsletter

2014

Annual Awards and Dinner Banquet

Newsletter #7

Join us at the Banquet Saturday!



I have heard from many along the coast that they thought the 2014 racing season was one of the best in years. It all boiled down to the new boats and some of the regulars. The new boats came in, stirred the pot and created some excitement that had been waning over the last couple of years. The one that really caught everyone off guard was Roger Kennedy's WHISKEY-TANGO-FOXTROT (WTF). We all knew she was coming, but she certainly sparked excitement when she won every race she competed in, and not just in her class. Then WILD WILD WEST showed up with new power and at the end she was nearing the speed of WTF creating some real close finishes. Then there was Carl Gray's TURN THE PAGE in Class H. In the Gasoline Classes was Shawn Alley's LITTLE GIRLS and Bruce Engert's THUNDERBOLT. LITTLE GIRLS had been repowered over the winter and was showing great speed, but at Rockland, the second race of the year, her engine came unglued. He repowered, unfortunately with less horsepower, but still was a strong competitor. THUNDERBOLT competed at Boothbay and Searsport and did well in 2013, but this year she was a real contender for the top spot especially with the woes of FOOLISH PLEASURE. However, there is no question that FOOLISH PLEASURE is the fastest boat, but unfortunately she only showed up for two races as engine issues caused them consistent problems. They have promised to be back next year, also with LORNA R. All the boats competing this year for the top spot were about the same in speed and created great racing.

Already we are hearing some rumblings for next year. Some boats are for sale, some getting a face lift, and others new engines.

We lost three races in 2014 and all three hope to be back for 2015. The tentative calendar is:

JUNE

- 13 Boothbay Harbor Lobster Boat Races
- 14 Rockland Lobster Boat Races
- 28 Bass Harbor Lobster Boat Races

MLBRA Sponsors

JULY

- 4 Moosebec Reach Lobster Boat Races
- 11 Searsport Lobster Boat Races
- 12 Stonington Lobster Boat Races
- 19 Friendship Lobster Boat Races
- 26 Harpswell Lobster Boat Races

AUGUST

- 8 Winter Harbor Lobster Boat Races
- 9 Merritt Brackett Lobster Boat Races
- 15 Long Island Lobster Boat Races
- 16 MS Harborfest Lobster Boat Races

OCTOBER

- ?? Awards Banquet & Dinner, Where???

Saturday (October 25) is the Awards Banquet at the Hollywood Casino at Bangor, hosted by the Winter Harbor Lobster Boat Races. First up will be the annual meeting of MLBRA at 4 PM, where rules, classes, officers and other issues will be discussed. The executive committee did not feel that there would be many changes. There has been discussion on dividing Diesel Class M and eliminating the upper limit in Gasoline Class D. There has also been a discussion on forming an oversight committee that would be charged with enforcing the rules.

Following the Annual Meeting will be Happy Hour at 5 PM with dinner (Prime Rib, Stuffed Haddock and Chicken Cordon Bleu) to follow at 6 PM. After dinner the awards will be handed out.

For dinner reservations call Keith Young at (207) 963-4000.

For Hotel room reservations call: Hollywood Casino – 1-877-779-7771 or right next door Fireside Inn & Suites 1-877-934-7374.

