

November 2021

# Rebel Rabble

**We did it!** As the 2021 sailing season comes to a close we take measure of a mostly successful return to sailing. This year was still hampered by COVID restrictions and rules, but despite COVID, sailing was enjoyed once again. In some ways 2021 is little like the ending of the classic movie “Christmas Vacation”, some things still seem broken and discombobulated at the end as many people we normally see travelling were as yet unable to travel in 2021. But the regattas were sailed and the trophies given out, meals and camaraderie were shared.... Thus the sailing life has started to feel a little lighter and brighter. In this last Rabble edition for 2021 we share the fall regatta results and we wish everyone a joyous Holiday season, as we bid a fond adieu to 2021.

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## **2021 Grand Rapids Yacht Club Fall Invitational – by Scott Wright**

East Grand Rapids - September 11-12, 2021

Saturday dawned cool and quiet on Reeds Lake, but not for long... Within a couple hours nearly 300 competitors would be thrashing their way through the swim portion of the Annual Reeds Lake Triathlon. By 10:30am the roads were clear of runners and bicyclers and the sailors would begin arriving at Grand Rapids Yacht Club for the first of the big post-season clashes in the Rebel fleet.

This year's Grand Rapids Invitational Regatta, organized almost single-handedly by Keith and Gabriella Cuncell (with the help of a bevy of volunteers, who while unnamed, are no less appreciated...!) was shaping up to be a very competitive affair, with twelve boats registered, three from the always strong Lake Fenton fleet, seven from the GRYC fleet, and two boats crewed by GRYC's top MC sailors.

The first couple races Saturday, sailed in a desultory 5-10mph south-westerly that tended toward the south, was frustrating for both sailors and race committee. In the first race, the evil genius in charge of the committee boat adjusted the final leg to the finish more squarely to the southerly wind, but failed to signal the change to the fleet. There was some confusion for the sailors, but no one requested redress so the result stood. The true chaotic evil of his genius was demonstrated in that the finish line was placed under the lee of a large patch of tall trees, such that when approaching from the right or left outside the line, one was presented with something of a lift, promising a good run up to the finish. However upon reaching the proximity of the line, the wind would die almost completely... Well played sir, well played...

# GRYC 2021 Fall Invitational

Thereafter, the committee would keep the courses mostly in the middle of the lake. The end of racing on Saturday saw Curt Miller standing in first place with six points, Ed Cox in second with seven, Dave Nickels in third with ten points, and Scott Wright & Thor Sorensen in a dead heat with fourteen for fourth place.

Sunday morning saw more of the same with regard to wind (with perhaps a little east in it...) and a new committee was very late signaling the first start as they worked to figure it out.

Curt Miller (a Rebel sailor from way back...) and Ed Cox continued their battle at the top of the table and Dave Nickels would get his second bullet of the regatta in Race 5 - the only sailor to post more than one this weekend.

As always, the great camaraderie, plentiful beer, and fine location smoothed over the frustrations of competition. It's always great to have an opportunity to see old friends & rivals, and we look forward to many more.

## -Scott Wright

Place	Skipper	Crew	Race 1	Race 2	Race 3	Race 4	Race 5	Total points
1	Curt Miller	Sally Berens	1	2	3	3	2	11
2	Ed Cox	Linda Cox	4	1	2	2	3	12
3	Dave Nickels	Karolina Syrek	6	3	1	5	1	16
4	Scott Wright	Heather Chappell	5	4	5	4	4	22
5	Thor Sorensen	Otto Muller	3	5	6	8	6	28
6	Rowan O'Daugherty	Jim Sutton	8	11	4	1	5	29
7	Keith Councill	Shannon Donkin Gabriela Cuellar-	2	8	9	9	8	36
8	Tim Nickels	Hannah Nickels	10	7	8	6	7	38
9	George McCargar	Vasily Gagin	7	9	11	7	9	43
10	Jay Topping	Pat Topping	9	10	7	10	10	46
11	Mark Vorel	Josh Vorel	11	6	10	11	11	49
12	Leann Daglow	Jack McAllister	12	12	12	12	12	60





## **2021 Clark Lake Fall Regatta – by Scott Wright**

Clark Lake Yacht Club - September 18-19, 2021

Some of our fondest memories from our very early days sailing in the Rebel fleet are of the Fall Regatta at Clark Lake Yacht Club.

Sometimes known over the years as, "The Clark Lake Invitational", "The Tim Dowling Memorial Regatta", and now as simply, "The Fall Regatta" (though those other names also still apply...) it is still the one we put on the calendar as early as possible and do our best not to miss. The club's location, the beautiful old lodge, pitching a tent out in the yacht club yard, and the true camaraderie of the sailors (even from different fleets) are still the best parts of the annual Invitational Regatta.

Much has changed at Clark Lake Yacht Club. There are few Rebels in the boatyard anymore, and fewer sailboats on the lifts than we remember. Many of the friends we made there in those early days are now only seen in the photographs on the walls.

But the Clark Lake Invitational atmosphere still remains - if a little muted from that of the old days.

In its hey-day the regatta drew fleets of Rebels, Interlakes, Wayfarers, Buccaneers, Snipes, Sunfish, and/or Lasers from all over the Midwest and Ontario, and it was common to have a hundred-plus competitors standing and listening to the PRO at the skippers' meeting - fifty or sixty of whom would still be in the lodge later that evening singing karaoke or helping to dispatch CLYC's seemingly bottomless keg.

The hosts at Clark Lake are still gracious and enthusiastic. They never fail to put on plenty of fantastic food and the beer is always plentiful.

***Save the Date!***

# **2022 Rebel Nationals**

**Greenwood Lake, NJ (Awosting)**

**July 13— Arrival, measuring and welcome party**

**July 14-16—Racing, followed by awards**

**Hopefully 3rd time is the charm! We have postponed since 2020 trying to get to New Jersey for the Rebel Nationals. Let's make it happen in 2022!**

The racing this year was still as competitive as always, though only two fleets managed to assemble. Eight Rebels, mostly from Lake Fenton and Grand Rapids, with Steve Cummings holding up the lone CLYC burgee, and four Wayfarers (whose numbers are down because the Ontario contingent are unable to cross the border...).

PRO Bruce Nowak seemed to have taken lessons from the chaotic evil Race Committee at GRYC and aligned his course with the axis of the lake rather than that of the wind - at least in the first race, where a northerly shift made the final two legs a beam reach. In Race 2 he switched to a figure-eight course that evened out the problems with the north to north-east wind, but after a short break ashore, Race 3 started in a much lighter breeze. This writer, managing to get a favorable start in Race 3, sailed directly into one of Clark Lake's infamous patches of weeds and watched as most of the fleet sailed over and away from him before he was able to extricate himself.

The end of racing on Saturday saw Dave Nickels in first place w/ six points, then Scott Wright, Kevin Nickels, and Mary Reif in a three-way tie for second, each with nine points.

After a catered dinner of chicken and potatoes, this year's Saturday night at Clark Lake lacked the bands and the karaoke-ing and the Dark & Stormies of years past, but was still a beer & wine-fueled evening of euchre and laughter that will remain as one of our very fondest memories.

Sunday morning's racers were greeted with flat water and a persistent, though light south-southeasterly, and while Kevin Nickels pretty much put on a clinic with two straight bullets, Steve Cummings and Brent Nowak (returning, as it were, to the scene of the crime - having practically grown up at CLYC...) made things very difficult for Scott and Mary in their battle for third place on the table.

In the end, this year's trip to Clark Lake was another great memory to file away with those others, and we hope that we will continue making memories and new comrades & euchre partners at future Clark Lake Regattas.

-Scott Wright

Place	Skipper	Crew	Club	Race 1	Race 2	Race 3	Race 4	Race 5	Total Points
1	Kevin Nickels	Steve Middlebrook	LFSC	3	4	2	1	1	11
2	David Nickels	Karolina Syrek	LFSC	4	1	1	2	6	14
3	Scott Wright	Anne Markaity	GRYC	1	2	6	4	4	17
4	Mary Reif	Aaron Reif	GRYC	2	3	4	5	5	19
5	Steve Cummings	Lyndsie Cummings	CLYC	5	6	3	6	3	23
6	Brent Nowak	Forrest Nowak	GRYC	7	8	5	3	2	25
7	Jay Topping	Pat Topping	LFSC	6	7	8	7	7	35
8	Tim Nickels	Dustin Turnbull	LFSC	8	5	7	8	8	36

Bruce Nowak— CLYC Race Committee chairperson

*(Under-study of the aforementioned "Evil GRYC race committee" )*



# 2021 Clark Lake Fall Regatta

(a motley crew... or assorted nuts if you prefer)



## CLYC—3rd Place

Scott Wright & Anne Markaity



## CLYC—2nd Place

Dave Nickels & Karolina Syrek

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CLYC—1st Place

Kevin Nickels &

Steve Middlebrook



## Scenes from the 2021 Clark Lake Fall Regatta



## MAD SAILS

Mad Sails is a well-established sail loft located just outside Madison, Wisconsin, that is owned and run by Ryan Malmgren and his wife, Stacey Rieu. Using only high quality sailcloth, Ryan designs and builds the sails himself with a careful attention to detail that cannot be matched by overseas mass production. Despite the superior quality, Mad sails are typically less expensive than other brands. And you can't beat the personal attention provided by Ryan and Stacey!

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1/4 Page	25.00	47.	67.5	85.
1/8 Page	15.00	28.	40.5	51.

Business Cards Ads for NRCA members will be placed in four issues at a cost of \$25.00. All Rebel boat owners may advertise to sell their boats, boat parts, and sails at no cost. Other items for sale by NRCA members is \$0.15 per word.

Advertisements are solicited for placement according to the rates published in the Rabble. Ads for boats, parts, and sails will be text only in the Rabble but photos are welcome on the internet.



**For Sale** — See website for additional details and pictures:  
(<http://www.rebelsailor.com/BoatPart.html>)

**Rebel 4162 for sale** This is a Nickels Rebel that is in excellent racing condition. It is complete with good main sail, new jib, stainless center board, hiking straps, dual controls, magic box, etc. The trailer and cover are also in excellent condition. \$3,200.00 The boat can be seen at the Clark Lake Yacht Club. The lift is available for \$350.00 Contact Neil Robb 517-936-9009 or neilerobb@gmail.com

**I need to sell Minnie.** Her number is #1562 a Ray Greene, mid 1950's, and not as rough as many others I've seen purchased over the years. Her sails are perfect. The trailer is a LONG. The mast had been kept indoors over the years, but she does need sanding and paint. Floor boards are gone. Boat and trailer \$750. Lori and Tom Ridington (Morgan's kids) 757-709-3426 Boat is still in Mel-fa VA. Chesapeake Bay area

**1970 Rebel Mark 1 Sailboat** - Asking \$700.00 1 set of sails is in Good condition/used. A second set is in not so great condition but could be used for a pattern for an additional sail set, or repair. Sails are not originals to this boat. Trailer included—*Lights do not work.* Needs TLC and restoration. Fresh water boat as far as we know. Located in Colorado. Courtney Roe 970-227-6896 courtney.tobey@yahoo.com

## Humor

### Sailing technology -

Study hard this winter, there will be a test in the spring of 2022 when we attempt to reassemble our boats!



## REBEL RABBLE

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