



The 2011 Mutineer National Championships is in the books. This year's event was held in Grapevine, Texas. Thirteen teams from 10 states participated. Five teams competed in the Gold Fleet with eight teams in the Silver Fleet. The Mutineer Class Association celebrated the 40th Anniversary of the Mutineer at this event. The theme was "Bring em' Home to Texas".

Participants started arriving on Monday, June 27th. Things started moving rapidly Tuesday with measuring/weighing and afternoon practice races. The Skipper's Meeting was held Tuesday night followed by the traditional Cheeseburgers in Paradise cookout. Rey Garza was the Grill Sergeant.

Wednesday was the first day of racing. The PRO got off five races. The winds started mild but built into a fantastic sailing breeze as the day went on. The temperature was hot hovering around 100 degrees, but so was the racing. After a full day on the water the teams returned to shore for a Texas BBQ. Again Rey ruled the grill preparing Texas Style BBQ Brisket, BBQ Chicken, Beans, Slaw and the list went on and on. All participants shared a great meal and fellowship.

Thursday's conditions were a repeat of Wednesday's – hot and breezy. The PRO got off six races. The teams were tired but very satisfied after this fine day of competition. No official social events were planned for Thursday evening and some participants (me) called it a very early night.

Friday the teams were refreshed and back out on the race course early. Unfortunately the fine sailing conditions that had been enjoyed all week were gone. The flags fell limp as the teams bobbed searching for wind. Finally at 12:30 P.M. the PRO abandoned racing and the teams were towed in.

The teams spent Friday afternoon packing up their boats and trading stories.

The awards ceremony kicked off Friday evening with a traditional Tex-Mex meal which was delicious. Then it was time for the awards. First were the special awards:

Rear Admiral – Dave Rowe

Farthest Travelled – Dave Rowe

Oldest Sailor – Fred “Silly Boy” Madden

Youngest Sailor – Garrett Bell

Most improved – Charles Bell

Best Restoration – Jim Davis for Radio Flyer

The Garza Award – Chad Harris – you must to MNC to learn about this award

Sportsmanship – Lisa Adams and Helena McDonald – Lisa and Helena abandoned a race to lend assistance to a capsized boat

And now the official results:

Gold – 1st Ernie and Carol French, 2nd Gib Charles and Michael RuWitch, 3rd Bob DeRoeck and John Allison.

Silver – 1st Brent Mueller and Scott Queen, 2nd Brad and Cameron Osborne, 3rd Chad Harris and Martin Casanova.

Congratulations to all of the sailors who participated.

All agreed it was a great week of learning, racing and socializing. The folks of the Grapevine Yacht Club did an outstanding job and we heartily thank them. And a special thanks to the PRO Mark Smith.

It is time to start making plans for MNC 2012 which will be held at the Ware River Yacht Club in Gloucester, Virginia.