

SEPT - 2008: St. Clair Solo Wrap-up Report

The 2008 GLSS St. Clair Solo regatta was successfully held on September 27th under ideal conditions, both on shore, and on the water. The **Great Lakes Yacht Club** in St. Clair Shores, Michigan graciously opened their marina and facilities again for the 22 race entrants. Both the skipper's meeting and Big Al's Steak Roast were held at this awesome venue.

The sailing conditions could not have been better. The most common description of the weather, heard amongst the sailors was "incredible." The skies were partly cloudy, temperature 65 degrees, winds from the NNE at 10-15 knots, and waves 1-3 feet. In the past, the race has experienced numerous fishermen around the marks and trolling across the rhumb line; fortunately, it was not a concern this year. The race featured 20 boats that made the start line, noticeably down from the typical 30-40 boats in the past.

The St. Clair Solo has also become an informal reunion of GLSS members. Some members raced while others simply stopped by to chat or take in Big Al's Steak Roast. The overall atmosphere was truly festive. Special thanks go out to **Tom and Barb Munson**, who provided tireless support on virtually every aspect of race management. **Mike Mahar** provided countless hours of pre-race support that was greatly appreciated. **Wally McMinn** provided his services on the committee boat and his wife **Ann** contributed her expertise in support of the Steak Roast. **Jeff Golding** displayed his culinary skills to perform some culinary magic. Numerous other GLSS members stepped up in many ways to help make this event successful in every aspect.

The Solo enticed two newcomers to race this year. The enjoyment and enthusiasm they gained from this event creates a much greater promotional platform for the GLSS than any flyer or webpage could ever deliver. The special camaraderie at the St. Clair Solo (and kick-butt weather) is what keeps GLSS members and non-members coming back, year after year.

I hope to see you next year: SEP-26-2009

Steven Stoll
St. Clair Solo 2008, Race Chairman