

2007 BOTTOMS UP THISTLE REGATTA

August 5, 2007

Sixteen Thistles visited Lake Murray Sailing Club for the 37th annual BOTTOMS UP Thistle regatta. The boats arrived from Jacksonville, Atlanta, Birmingham, Knoxville, Charlotte, and Raleigh for the scheduled five race series. Historically this event has been scheduled for the second week-end in June, and usually we have been fortunate to have good wind..... Sometimes a little too much, which provides the opportunity to hand out “The Bottoms Up” trophy for the first boat to go bottoms up. 2007 provided light winds, and close racing with three races on Saturday and two on Sunday for a total of five. Mark Gise ably coached by his brother Scott showed his light air skills with 3 firsts dueling with Paul Abdullah throughout the five races. Places, 3rd, 4th, and 5th was tight racing with only 3-points separating the three boats after five races. Vlastimil Kunc and Scott McCormack managed a 1st and 2nd in the last race to move into 3rd and 4th place overall.

Since there were no capsizes this year or significant sailing events,, Paul Abdulla from Jacksonville (the 2006 holder of the coveted Bottoms Up trophy) got to pass it on to Bryan Anderson just out of the money in 6th place.

Saturday night everyone enjoyed a great southern barbecue dinner form Farm Boys in Chapin, plenty of cold refreshments, music, and a few of the young, strong, and foolish braved the late hours for a long party with plenty of “tall tales” to go around.

Many thanks to the Flying Scot fleet who ran the race committee and did a great job with the existing conditions.

THE FINISHES

<u>Place</u>	<u>Skipper</u>		<u>Home Location</u>		<u>Total Points</u>
1.	Mark Gise	-	Lake Norman	-	9
2.	Paul Abdullah	-	Jacksonville	-	11
3.	Vlastimil Kunc	-	Knoxville	-	24
4.	Brad Russell	-	Knoxville	-	25
5.	Scott McCormack	-	Atlanta YC	-	26
6.	Bryan Anderson	-	Lake Norman YC	-	31
7.	Loy Vaughan	-	Birmingham YC	-	33
8.	John (Bud) Sweet	-	Lake Murray SC	-	43
9.	Steve Peterson	-	Raleigh, CSC	-	50
10.	M Gavin McCormack	-	Atlanta YC	-	50
11.	Kevin Sheehan	-	Raleigh, CSC	-	53
12.	Jim Roberts	-	Atlanta YC	-	55
13.	Jack Mahaney	-	Oconee SC	-	56
14.	Bob Lockwood	-	Lake Murray SC	-	67
15.	Rich Sweet	-	Lake Murray SC	-	71
16.	Mike Szabo	-	Lake Murray SC	-	73

The Gise brothers gave everyone a lesson on how to handle the light and variable conditions, and we LMSC sailors, being the good hosts we are sent the trophies home with the visitors. Hopefully, everyone had a good time, and will come back in 2008.

Bob Lockwood