

# Maine Lobster Boat Racing Newsletter

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Friendship

Newsletter #5



Gary Gentner's LIL' LISA MARIE and Dana Beal's RIGHT STUFF battling it out in Diesel Class G.

FRIENDSHIP - I have a lot more appreciation for those that come from any distance to compete in the lobster boat races. On Saturday I hoped to take CINDY JEN [34' Clinton Beal, 1964; 292 Chevrolet] to Friendship for the races, but Penobscot Bay was fogged in. With no radar I decided it would not be prudent to go. I had already put a car in Friendship so it was off to Friendship and retrieve the car. Came back, sea trialed the boat and in changing the filters Travis Otis found the fitting going into the carb was stripped. Exhausted all options for a replacement part, last option JB Weld. Since CINDY JEN cruises at 12 knots it would take just under four hours to make the run. Ed Upham volunteered to take the boat to Friendship as I needed to be there at 0800 for sign ups.

What a great day for racing: hot and hazy, but with a nice cool sou'west breeze. When sign-ups were finished we had 52 boats, but where was Heather Thompson's GOLD DIGGER [Wayne Beal 36; 675-hp Scania] and Cameron Crawford's WILD WILD WEST [West 28; 1,050-hp Isotta]? We had a half dozen classic wooden lobster boats show up, along with a couple of new ones; some very close races and a couple of unfortunate engine issues. The hit on the prize float and in the registration gift bag was the roll of toilet paper.

There was just one entrant in the first race of the day, Work Boat Class A (Skiffs 16-feet and under with outboards up to 30 hp, Operator 18 years and younger), Jennifer and Emily Noyes' JENILY [Corson 14; 30-hp Johnson], which ran the course by themselves t a speed of 30.1 mph. In Work Boat Class B (Inboards, outboards or outdrives, 31 to 90 hp) it has been a competition between father and son and today the son, in ZIPPIN' TOO [Corson 15; 90-hp Nissan] took the win over his father's ZIPPIN' [Corson 14; 60-hp Johnson]. Third went to Frank Bennett's MISS DIANE [Lund 18; 90-hp Honda]. Always the dominate boat in Work Boat Class C (Inboards, outboards or outdrives, 91 hp and up) is Dave Johnston's CASCO MISS [Eastern 22, 250-hp Honda], but today he got a real challenge from Ron Pottle's DELUSIONAL [Corson 18; 175-hp Johnson], which just did not have enough to keep up with CASCO MISS.

There were four boats in the five Gasoline Classes so they were run down together. The question was in Gas Class C (V-8, 376 to 525cid, 24 to 29 feet) where Lindsay Durkee's BLACK DIAMOND [Holland 32, 454 Chevrolet Holland 32, 454 Chevrolet] would compete with Jim Lee's ROAR [32' Clinton Beal, 1960; 454 ci Chevrolet] as they were the only two in the same class. As



**The first close race was between Ron Pottle's DELUSIONAL [Corson 18; 175-hp Johnson] and Dave Johnston's CASCO MISS [Eastern 22, 250-hp Honda].**

they came up the course BLACK DIAMOND was leading the way with ROAR back a couple of boat lengths. She was followed by Michael Clayton's J. T. BEAN [34' Vinal Beal, 1959; 350 Mercruiser], who was the winner of Gas Class B 9 V-8 up to 375 cid, 24 feet and up), and still further back was CINDY JEN, which won Gas Class A (4 & 6 cylinder 24 feet and over). There were no entrants in Gas Classes D (V-8, 376 and over, 28 feet and over) and E (V-8, Over 525cid, 28 feet and over, superchargers/Turbos).

There were no entrants in the first Diesel Class, Class A (Up to 235 hp, 24 to 31 feet), but there was two on the line for Class B (Up to 235 hp, 32 feet and over). On the line was Don Drisko's MERGANSER [33' Calvin Beal Jr.; 230-hp Yanmar] and Adrien Phaenephom's NEVER ENDING [36-foot Lash, 1978; 220-hp John Deere]. When the flag dropped MERGANSER jumped out into the lead and never looked back with a speed of 28.3 mph. So far this year Roy Fagonde's LAST DESIGN [E. Libby, Jr., 31; 300-hp Caterpillar] and Stephen Osgood's VENOM [Mussel Ridge 28; 300-hp Sisu] has faced off twice with each winning a race. The question was who was going to come out on top today? As they came up the course they were close, but it looked as though LAST DESIGN had the advantage. However, about 200 yards from the finish he slowed and went dead with smoke coming from under the shelter. VENOM went on for the win and then returned to tow his advisory from the course. Second went to Sam Lash's BEVERLY JOYCE [RP 31; 265-hp John Deere]. There was just one entrant, Ryan Maloney's MALONEY TRADITION [37 Osmond; 330-hp] in Diesel Class D (236 to 335 hp, 34 feet and over) so he ran down with Diesel Class E (336 to 435 hp, 24 to 33 feet), but still got first in his class. Class E had two boats, Dan Sawyer's HIGH VOLTAGE [AJ-28; 400-hp Yanmar] and Ed Shirley's MISS KYLEE [Holland 32; 430-hp Cummins], which had gone head to head twice with each getting a win. When the flag dropped HIGH VOLTAGE slowly edged out in front with MISS KYLEE on his stern and they finished one-two with HIGH VOLTAGE getting the win. Third went to Randy Durkee's AUDREY MAY [Holland 32; 425-hp Cummins]. Three boats were on the line for Diesel Class F (336 to 435 hp, 34 feet and over) and no one had anything for Winfred Alley's AIDEN MARINER [Calvin Beal 34; 425-hp Cummins] as she led the way to the finish. Second went Josh Audet's KARAMEL [Jim Beal-34; 380-hp Hyundai] and third was Craig Stewart's CARL & CO. [Wayne Beal 36; 405-hp Cummins]. Dana



**Lindsay Durkee's BLACK DIAMOND [Holland 32, 454 Chevrolet] won Gasoline Class C and the Gasoline Free-for-All.**

Beal in RIGHT STUFF [Libby 34; 500 hp Cummins] has been fighting off the high powered 28s in Diesel Class G (436 to 550 hp, 28 to 35 feet), but would he today? It was another close one, but as they neared three-quarters way RIGHT STUFF pulled into the lead with Gary Genthner's LIL' LISA MARIE [Mussel Ridge 28; 550-hp Iveco] losing ground as RIGHT STUFF went on for the win. Third went to one of the new boats, Keith Simmons' HEATHER'S BOYS [Mussel Ridge 28; 450-hp Duramax], which was just launched from Friendship Boat Works. There was just one entrant in Diesel Class H (436 to 550 hp, 36 feet and over), Travis Otis' FIRST TEAM [Northern Bay 36; 410-hp Sisu 645], which came down with Diesel Class I (551 to 700 hp, 28 to 35 feet). In Class I there were just two boats Jeremy Beal's MARIA'S NIGHTMARE [Mussel Ridge (ex-Wayne Beal) 28; 600-hp Cummins] and Chris Smith's MISTY [Crowley Beal 33; 650 hp Scania] and it was MARIA'S NIGHTMARE getting the win. There were no entrants in Diesel Class J (551 to 700 hp, 36 feet and over), but three lined up for Diesel Class K (701 to 900 hp, 28 feet and over). Jeff Eaton and LA BELLE VITA [Northern Bay 38; 750-hp FPT] made their first appearance of the year, but just did not have enough to get by Andrew Taylor's BLUE EYED GIRL [Morgan Bay 38, 900-hp Scania]. Third went to Ronald Hall's HEIDI MACKENZIE, JR. [Mitchell Cove 35; 705-hp Caterpillar]. There were no entrants in Diesel Class L (901 hp and over, 28 feet and over), but there were five on the line for Diesel Class M(A) (40 feet and over, up to 500 hp). The boat to beat in this Class has been Chris Pope's OLD SCHOOL [Holland 41; 380-hp Cummins], but he had some unknown competition. Would one of them be able to get by him? OLD SCHOOL quickly got the lead, with Michael Cushman's RYLEEFINN [Osmond 42; 500-hp Hyundai] in his wake. They finished one-two with third going to Alan Knowlton's SEA URCHIN [Young Brothers 45, 425-hp John Deere]. Unlike Downeast where Diesel Class M(B) (40 feet and over, 501 to 750 hp) has so many entrants and needs to be split up into heats, we had just three boats on the line. Eric Beal's KIMBERLY ANN [Calvin Beal 42; 750-hp FPT] had a rough time at the Moosabec Races when his throttle let go in the finals, but just did not have enough course to catch up. Today he had no problems and flew up the course at 36.6 mph. Second went to Matt Sheppard's ALEXSA ROSE [Morgan Bay 43; 750-hp John Deere] and third was Eric Harjula's NOAH & LILY [RP 40; 750-hp John Deere]. The dominate boat in Diesel





**One of the classic lobster boats was Jim Lee's ROAR [32' Clinton Beal, 1960; 454 ci Chevrolet], which placed second in Gasoline Class C.**



**Don Drisko's MERGANSER [33' Calvin Beal Jr.; 230-hp Yanmar], another classic, won Diesel Class B and Wooden Boat A.**

Class N (40 feet and over; 751 hp and over) at Friendship is Keith Simmons' ISAAC & COLBY [Wayne Beal 46, 1,400-hp MAN], but he could have a challenge from Eugene Harrington's brand new boat SALT SHAKER [Mussel Ridge 42; 1,000-hp MAN]. It was close, but ISAAC & COLBY won by a boat length. Third went to Jeromy Simmons' AVERY & ALDEN [Calvin Beal 42; 900-hp Scania]. One of the missing boats was WILD WILD WEST, who we hoped would come and break the Diesel Record of 60.6 set at Bass Harbor in 2016. I was told they were probably waiting to do it at Winter Harbor. The same person who said this added that they had found a lot more speed! With no WILD WILD WEST there were no entrants in Diesel Class O (Non-working boats, any length, any horsepower).

There was a special race this year sponsored by Mid Coast Diesel called the Hyundai Race for those powered with Hyundai engines. Four boats were registered, but just three came to the line. The winner was KARAMEL with a speed of 25 mph.

Next came the Fastest Friendship Lobster Boat Race and this was pitting ISAAC & COLBY and SALT SHAKER once again. As these two came up the course it was obvious that this was close and as they neared the finish line it looked like they were bow to bow. The judges were on the line and the call was ISAAC & COLBY by a mere two feet. Fortunately someone had the forethought to video the finish line and this showed what the judges had called. Third went to AVERY & ALDEN.

In the Gasoline Free-for-All BLACK DIAMOND smoked poor CINDY JEN.

Five boats came to the line for the Diesel Free-for-All, but there was no MARIA'S NIGHTMARE. So the odds on favourite was BLUE EYED GIRL with the question being who would get second. BLUE EYED GIRL did not disappoint the crowd and neither did the battle for second, which went to KIMBERLY ANN just beating out LA BELLA VITA.

There was no question that MERGANSER would be the top boat in the Wooden Boat Race A (up to 35' 11") and she would be followed by ROAR and then J. T. BEAN, which is just how the top three finished. The only boat in Wooden Boat B (36 feet and over) was NEVER ENDING.

The top three boats in the Diesel Free-for-All lined up for the Fastest Lobster Boat Race. When the flag dropped there was some confusion and a restart was called. Even though they did



**Second in Diesel Class B was Adrien Phenephom's NEVER ENDING [Lash 38, 1978].**



**Jake Dugas' GUILTY PLEASURE [Mitchell Cove 32] took third in Diesel Class E.**





Second in Diesel Class F was Josh Audet's KAMEL [Jim Beal-34; 380-hp Hyundai]. She would win The Hyundai Race.



Andrew Taylor's BLUE EYED GIRL [Morgan Bay 38, 900-hp Scania] was the boat to beat this day. She won Diesel Class K, Diesel Free-for-All and the Fastest Lobster Boat. His best speed was 46.3 mph.

not stop and came across the finish line the race committee asked if they would like to run it again, which they agreed to. So back down they went, lined up again, and got a good start with BLUE EYED GIRL getting the win followed by KIMBERLY ANN and LA BELLE VITA.

It was a great day out on the water while those ashore sweltered in the heat. Now it is on to Winter Harbor on 8 August, which is always a great time. Hope to see you there!

## FINAL RESULTS

### FRIENDSHIP LOBSTER BOAT RACES

19 July 2020

#### WORK BOATS UNDER 24 FEET

**Race 1 - CLASS A Skiffs 16-feet and under with outboards up to 30 hp, Operator 18 years and younger:** 1) *Jenily*, Jennifer and Emily Noyes (30.1 mph). **Race 2 - CLASS B Inboards, outboards or outdrives, 31 to 90 hp:** 1) *Zippin' Too*, Jacob Noyes (42.8 mph); 2) *Zippin*, David Noyes; 3) *Miss Diane*, Frank Bennett; 4) ---, Craig Luce; 5) *Salty Dog*, Wyatt Simmons; and 6) *Quahog*, Alden Simmons. **Race 3 - CLASS C, Inboards, outboards or outdrives, 91 hp and up:** 1) *Casco Miss*, Dave Johnson (46.2 mph); 2) *Delusional*, Ron Pottle; 3) ---, Derck Earley; 4) *Melody Marie*, Chris Achorn; 5) ---, Myron Wotton; and 6) *Lobster Catcher*, Wyatt Simmons.

#### GAS POWERED WORK BOATS 24 FEET AND UP

**Race 4 - Gasoline Class A - 4 & 6 cylinder 24 feet and over:** 1) *Cindy Jen*, Jon Johansen. **Race 5 - Gasoline Class B - V-8 up to 375 cid, 24 feet and up:** 1) *J. T. Bean*, Michael Clayton. **Race 6 - Gasoline Class C - V-8, 376 to 525cid, 24 to 29 feet:** 1) *Black Diamond*, Lindsay Durkee (30.6 mph); and 2) *Roar*, Jim Lee. **Race 7 - Gasoline Class D - V-8, 376 and over, 28 feet and over: No entrants.** **Race 8 - Gasoline Class E - V-8, Over 525cid, 28 feet and over, superchargers/Turbos. No entrants.**

#### DIESEL POWERED WORK BOATS 24 FEET AND UP

**Race 9 - Diesel Class A - Up to 235 hp, 24 to 31 feet: No entrants.** **Race 10 - Diesel Class B - Up to 235 hp, 32 feet and over:** 1) *Merganser*, Don Drisko (28.3 mph); and 2) *Never Ending*, Adrien Phaenephom (11.6 mph). **Race 11 - Diesel Class C - 236**

**to 335 hp, 24 to 34 feet:** 1) *Venom*, Steven Osgood (37.8 mph); 2) *Beverly Joyce*, Sam Lash (16.2 mph); and DNF) *Last Design*, Roy Fagonde. **Race 12 - Diesel Class D - 236 to 335 hp, 34 feet and over:** 1) *Maloney Tradition*, Ryan Maloney (22.5 mph). **Race 13 - Diesel Class E - 336 to 435 hp, 24 to 33 feet:** 1) *High Voltage*, Dan Sawyer (37.8 mph); 2) *Miss Kylee*, Ed Shirley; 3) *Audrey May*, Randy Durkee; and 4) *Guilty Pleasure*, Jake Dugas. **Race 14 - Diesel Class F - 336 to 435 hp, 34 feet and over:** 1) *Aiden Mariner*, Winfred Alley (34.8 mph); 2) *Karamel*, Josh Audet (23.4 mph); and 3) *Carl & Co.*, Craig Stewart. **Race 15 - Diesel Class G - 436 to 550 hp, 28 to 35 feet:** 1) *Right Stuff*, Dana Beal (40.8 mph); 2) *Lil' Lisa Marie*, Gary Genthner; 3) *Heather's Boys*, Keith Simmons; and 4) *Last Date*, Walker Simmons. **Race 16 - Diesel Class H - 436 to 550 hp, 36 feet and over:** 1) *First Team*, Travis Otis (27.3 mph). **Race 17 - Diesel Class I - 551 to 700 hp, 28 to 35 feet:** 1) *Maria's Nightmare*, Jeremy Beal (47 mph); and 2) *Misty*, Chris Smith (26 mph). **Race 18 - Diesel Class J - 551 to 700 hp, 36 feet and over: No entrants.** **Race 19 - Diesel Class K - 701 to 900 hp, 28 feet and over:** 1) *Blue Eyed Girl*, Andrew Taylor (45.2 mph); 2) *La Belle Vita*, Jeff Eaton (36 mph); and 3) *Heidi Mackenzie, Jr.*, Ronald Hall (31 mph). **Race 20 - Diesel Class L - 901 hp and over, 28 feet and over: No entrants.** **Race 21(A) - Diesel Class M(A) - 40 feet and over, up to 500 hp:** 1) *Old School*, Chris Pope (25.4 mph); 2) *Ryleefinn*, Michael Cushman; 3) *Sea Urchin*, Alan Knowlton; 4) *Paige & Adrienne*, Jacob Watt; and 5) *Knotty Lady*, Dustin Delano. **Race 21(B) - Diesel Class M(B) - 40 feet and over, 501 to 750 hp:** 1) *Kimberly Ann*, Eric Beal (36.6 mph); 2) *Alexsa Rose*, Matt Sheppard; and 3) *Noah & Lily*, Eric Harjula. **Race 22 - Diesel Class N - 40 feet and over; 751 hp and over:** 1) *Isaac & Colby*, Keith Simmons (35 mph); 2) *Salt Shaker*, Eugene Harrington (33 mph); 3) *Avery & Alden*, Jeromy Simmons; and 4) *Taylor Nicole*, Frank Guptill. **Race 23. Class O. Non-working boats, any length, any horsepower: No entrants.**

**Race 24 - Hyundai Race:** 1) *Karamel*, Josh Audet (25 mph); 2) *Ryleefinn*, Michael Cushman (20 mph); 3) *Knotty Lady*, Dustin Delano; and DNS) *Paige & Adrienne*, Jacob Watt.

**Race 25 - Fastest Friendship Lobster Boat:** 1) *Isaac & Colby*, Keith Simmons (35.7 mph); 2) *Salt Shaker*, Eugene Harrington; 3) *Avery & Alden*, Jeromy Simmons; 4) *Heather's Boys*, Keith Simmons; and 5) *Taylor Nicole*, Frank Guptill.



Jeff Eaton recently launched his LA BELLE VITA [Northern Bay 38; 750-hp FPT] and took second in Diesel Class K, third in Diesel Free-for-All and third in Fastest Lobster Boat.



Keith Simmons' ISAAC & COLBY [Wayne Beal 46, 1,400-hp MAN] got the win in Diesel Class N and by just a couple of feet the win in Fastest Friendship Lobster Boat.

**Race 26 - Gasoline Free for All:** 1) *Black Diamond*, Lindsay Durkee (36.3 mph); and 2) *Cindy Jen*, Jon Johansen (15 mph).

**Race 27 - Diesel Free for All:** 1) *Blue Eyed Girl*, Andrew Taylor (46.3 mph); 2) *Kimberly Ann*, Eric Beal (35 mph); 3) *La Belle Vita*, Jeff Eaton; 4) *Alexsa Rose*, Matt Sheppard; and 5) *Karamel*, Josh Audet.

**Race 28 – Wooden Boats, up to 35' 11":** 1) *Merganser*, Don Drisko (28.7 mph); 2) *Roar*, Jim Lee (23 mph); 3) *J. T. Bean*, Michael Clayton; and 4) *Cindy Jen*, Jon Johansen (14.3 mph).

**Race 29 – Wooden Boats, 36 feet and over:** 1) *Never Ending*, Adrien Phaenephom (7.5 mph)

**Race 30 - Fastest Lobster Boat:** 1) *Blue Eyed Girl*, Andrew Taylor (46 mph); 2) *Kimberly Ann*, Eric Beal (35 mph); and 3) *La Belle Vita*, Jeff Eaton.



Just launched from Gilbert Simmons' shop was Eugene Harrington's new boat SALT SHAKER [Mussel Ridge 42, 1000-hp MAN]. She got second in Diesel Class N and just lost to Keith Simmons' ISAAC & COLBY [Wayne Beal 46, 1,400-hp MAN] in the Fastest Friendship Lobster Boat Race by just a couple of feet.

## **REMEMBER TO** **SIGN UP FOR YOUR** **MLBRA MEMBERSHIP**

For those interested in being a member of the MLBRA, you need to sign up and pay \$50 to be counted for the year-end awards. You still need to do three races to qualify and we only count your best five finishes. However, if we lose any more races this may be changed. This also gets you a dinner at the awards banquet at no charge. Please catch up with me at the next race or mail a check to: MLBRA, P.O. Box 710, Winterport, ME 04496



The bottom is clean! Caught in the wakes of the bigger and faster boats in the Fastest Friendship Lobster Boat Race is Keith Simmons' HEATHER'S BOYS [Mussel Ridge 28]. She was just launched from Friendship Boat Works and is not quite finished.