

2016 - A Great Year for TVMYS EC12 Fleet

Our EC12 Fleet experience good growth this year of over 10% with the addition of three new skippers: Chris Archer, Fred Niles and Kent Burgess. Also, three skippers: Don Yokel, Jim Rutherford and I bought new boats. Both of these actions represent good health for the fleet and a good outlook for the coming season.

Our fleet continues to get stronger and more competitive within the State of Florida. Nine of our skippers, over 1/3 of our members, undertook the expense and effort to travel to away regattas and represent TVMYS. The regatta goers were: Alan, me, Brain Engle, Liz, Dan Pearce, John Santoro, Jim Rutherford, Judy Clarke and Kent Burgess. And, Alan is set to win the Florida cup having won three regattas so far in the circuit. Two other members, Jim Merello and Don Thompson participated in our Halloween Regatta at Ashland Pond.

I think the Saturday Trophy, donated by Alan, has been a great success too. It has increased attendance and been great fun at the pond.

I would be remiss if I were to overlook those unsung heroes who show up every Thursday and Saturday, seldom win a race, but contribute so much to our fleet, our thanks to Sal Sario, Jim Kelly and Don Yokel. Jim Kelly, Sal, Dan Pearce and Jim Rutherford have been ambassadors for the fleet – quick to engage spectators and to get them interested in sailing in an EC12. And I also wish to recognize Dan Pearce for his contributions as our boat broker keeping our and other fleets healthy by always having used boats ready for sale. Dan also does a lot of repair and support work for our Club. Joe Devine has been sailing well too, and we need to thank him for providing his dinghy at regatta time.

Looking outward, our fleet has also been the hosting fleet for several other regattas. TVMYS hosted the Laser Nationals, and the MicoMagic Nationals.

Though our boat is the largest, most expensive and most complex of the three within TVMYS – it represents a challenge unlike that of the other fleets. We are very fortunate to have a strong group of suppliers for hulls, sails, spars, etc., that keep us on the water. Thanks also to Alan for always being there to coach us, repair our boats or build us new boats as desired. I'm looking forward to this fall when we start our new year and we'll all have more opportunities for competition and fun sailing our EC12s.

John Goldsworthy, Fleet Captain