

OKANAGAN WOMEN'S REGATTA

The tenth annual Okanagan Women's regatta took place on the weekend of July 7-9 under a hot Okanagan sun. It all started Friday night when we met in the lower level of the clubhouse for appies (all prepared by **Cathy Appleby**) and conversation. The lower level had been transformed into an oasis with patio furniture and beautiful flower containers from Swan Lake (thanks to **Pam St Pierre and Pamela Miller**) where we could sit and visit. After reviewing the twelve boats that registered for the regatta - six from Vernon and six from Kelowna, they were separated into two fleets - five in the coached fleet and seven in the non coached fleet. Now it was time to see if all our practising on Thursday nights would pay off!

Saturday morning the wind was very light but it did build and the race committee was able to run 6 races before calling it quits for the day. Most of the time, things went smoothly but we did have a couple of boats that missed the start of the races. **Mystique** thought they had time to go for a swim between races and ended up missing their start. **Tangerine**, got a twig caught between the hull and rudder so that by the time it had been removed, their fleet had started. Saturday night we were treated to a delicious buffet cooked by our own Corinne and staff. **Jay** and staff kept the sailors hydrated after the long hot day Then we partied to the sound of the **McKinleys**. They know how to get us up on the dance floor. We were so focused on running the regatta that we didn't notice the smoke slowly creeping into the valley from the fires near 100 Mile House. One of our Vernon skippers - **Nancy Murphy** - on Phoenix was coming home from up north and was one of the last five vehicles to make it through the fire zone before the highway was closed.

Sunday started with little to no wind that grew to a light breeze only to die away by noon so only 3 races could be held. By the end of the weekend, 3 Kelowna boats dominated the PHRF fleet while 3 Vernon boats headed the coached fleet. Wy Wurrie, a Santana 525 from Kelowna helmed by **Marsha Hales** and crewed by Bev La Casse, Aline Vance, and Shelley Bakker emerged the winner of the PHRF fleet. **Cathy Appleby** helming on Ayesha with crew Edie Doerksen, Del Welsh , Jen Martz and coached by Don Craske won the coached fleet. Thanks to **Peter Hirshmilller, Doug Fleming, Dan Cook** and **Colette Laplante** for manning the race committee boat. Thank you to **Jim Dillabough** for the wonderful pictures here and on our webpage. Thank you to my regatta committee -**Cathy Appleby, Karen Fleming, Pamela Miller, Pam St Pierre and Kate Stefanuk** -couldn't have done it

without you. A big thank you to Nancy Murphy for donating the grand prize of a 4 hour Helicopter Wine tour by Innovative Aerospace Services and won by Shelley Bakker on Wy Wurrie.

Top 3 positions in both fleets were as follows, full results can be found on the club's webpage:

	PHRF fleet	Coached Fleet
First	Wy Wurrie	Ayesha
Second	Razzle Dazzle	Mystique
Third	Always Something	Gypsy Soul