

# Scotch Bonnet 2008

37th Scotch Bonnet Light Race – Genesee Yacht Club – Lake Ontario – June 13-15



## For Immediate Release:

The Genesee Yacht Club is once again proud to sponsor one of the most engaging sailboat racing traditions on Lake Ontario. The race starts Friday evening, June 13<sup>th</sup> off Rochester, New York.

SBLR is the second oldest and second longest invitational regatta on Lake Ontario. Each year, sailors from around the lake come to Rochester and the GYC not long after the ice has melted to participate in one of a very small handful of long distance racing events on the lake. We depart Rochester on a Friday evening, cross Lake Ontario through the night, round the old Scotch Bonnet Light island off the coast of Canada, and return across the lake the next day – sometimes a 24 hour race. In the middle of the lake, full winter gear is often required, and all form and shape of sailing conditions are routinely encountered, from driving wind, rain (in fact I seem to recall hail), and waves – to a dead calm, surrounded by a fog and dark which feels like another planet. Still, each of the last 9 years I've participated in the event I've experienced some of the best sailing of the year. One year, for example, after a heavy beat to Wautoma (in which much of the fleet dropped out), then doldrums over to Canada, I've come back across the lake on almost a single tack, with the sun shining and the wind building throughout the day. In my experience, the bigger the challenges SBLR puts in front of us, the bigger the rewards are. It is unequivocal.

As challenging as SBLR can be, I want to remind all cruisers this year that this is also a great opportunity to get across the lake (twice!) in the company and safety of a large fleet. Rounding out the event's social agenda are the Thursday welcome dinner, the Friday sailor's brunch, the Saturday reception at the club, and most of all the Sunday picnic replete with band, good food, and plenty of \$1 Heineken's this year thanks to Heineken USA.

All offshore-capable monohull and multihull sailboats are invited to enter. If you do not have a with a valid PHRF-LO certificate, we can measure your sails and sell you one, or we can just create a temporary certificate for the race at no charge. PHRF divisions will be formed for both spinnaker and white sails (Genoa Only). The spinnaker divisions will first sail west to the Wautoma Shoals buoy, north to Scotch Bonnet Island, and south back to Rochester - a total distance of 82 nm for the race. White sail divisions will sail from Rochester across to Scotch Bonnet Island and back, a total distance of 74 nm.

Please visit our web site at <http://www.geneseeyc.org/SBLR> which includes easy to use online registration.

NOTE: We have just received updated information from U. S. Customs & Border Protection (C&BP) on their requirements this year. Please visit our web site for complete details. The short version is that, while requirements on documentation have tightened slightly, boats and crews will not in most cases be required to check in on return to Rochester.

We hope you can join us!

Sam Weiner  
2007-2008 SBLR Chair  
[SBLR@geneseeyc.org](mailto:SBLR@geneseeyc.org)

Genesee Yacht Club  
<http://www.geneseeyc.org>

**KEY DATES/TIMES**

Wednesday, June 11

..... 8:00pm..... Deadline for registration at regular rate.

Thursday, June 12

..... 6:00-9:00pm..... Commodore’s Welcome Dinner for out-of-town crews.

Friday, June 13

..... 9:00am-1:00pm.... Brunch for out-of-town crews.

..... 2:00pm..... Deadline for late registration.

..... 2:00-5:45pm..... Skippers' check in at GYC.

..... 6:00pm..... Skippers' meeting.

..... 7:30pm..... First warning signal.

Saturday, June 14

..... 10:00am-4:00pm.. Complimentary sailors' reception.

Sunday, June 15

..... 12:00-3:00pm..... Picnic with live music at GYC.

..... 3:00pm..... Awards presentation.

**SCOTCH BONNET LIGHT – LOCATION: 43 53.902'N, 77 32.6'W**

The above string, when pasted into Google Earth, will locate the island

**The Genesee Yacht Club (GYC)** was established to encourage yachting and sailing, to further the arts and sciences pertaining to seamanship, piloting, and navigation, and to provide and maintain suitable clubhouse and dockage facilities for use of the members by cooperative effort at minimum expense.

Since 1934 our members have contributed their time and talents to the construction and maintenance of our facilities, and the organization of our race programs, social events and every other aspect of the club. Nothing happens without it! Working and socializing with other members builds friendships and instills satisfaction in our accomplishments while keeping our costs under control.