

Halyards in the Breeze

Spring Anticipation

Days are getting longer ice is all gone
No ice cream or popcorn yet to be found
Walkways are filled & shorts can be seen
The docks are all in but the sailors only dream
Safety boats are ready as are the white drums
All that is needed is for the moorings to be done
In all good time each scow will appear
As the lake warms up to start a new year
It won't be long now before the first gun
All summer long with the wind rain & sun
All in the grand Lake Harriet tradition
As its been done since the yacht club began

Ice Breaker Regatta

Mothers day weekend brings out all the fans
Extra boats arrive from all over the land
They gather for a speech to set the right mood
Out for one race & back for some food
Up go the sails with new energy & vigor
Back to the course for another endeavor
After the last gun and all is complete
Off to a party for those who compete
A good nights sleep we be back at the lake
A few will arrive almost too late
Two more tries then all take a rest
There'll be trophies for those who did best

Typical Weekend Races

They all gather while the sun is way up high
And again while the minister views the skies
Shuttled to the moorings they ready their ships
Off with the covers & attach all the clips
Sail to the flags & wait for the gun
All around the balls then around the drums
Seems they sail many a pattern
Passing the buoys each in its turn
One final gun & the flags are all down
Back to the dock some have a frown
Time out for a swim or only a treat
Some will stay around for a post race retreat

Social Activities

Here after work just can't get enough
A little less formal & the works not as tough
Volunteer judges rarely start on time
Even a new skipper they'll do just fine
Some days two races just can't get their fill
Followed by a picnic way up on the hill
Special races just for the crew
To get recognition so long overdue
Even go out while the sun drops in the West
Not to race but to watch the sun set
Boats loaded up with people & food
All come together in a much different mood

Fall Depression

Sailors and spectators all gather here
Hoping for good weather fall colors so near
Warmer clothes are worn by the few that still walk
Moving much faster but there's still time to talk
In just a short time the last race of the year
Then off to the storage maybe even a tear
The docks all come out & drums put away
Up go the signs to warn stay away
Shorter lines common just that last box
Shutters will be lowered and the doors will be locked
As in all years past there will be gray in the sky
And it won't be long before the snow starts to fly

Chorus

On your marks at the flags & wait for the sign
The zig zag ride takes such a long time
All around the big ball then around the small
Boats so much flatter the sail stands so tall
A real sharp turn makes the sail swing fast
Help is close by to give a hand with a mast
Do it again a few times 'round
Til the gun fires & all the flags come down
Do it again a few times 'round
Til the gun fires & all the flags come down
All the flags come down
All the flags come down