

**GBYC'S FIRST NED MCINTOSH REGATTA ENTRANT -
OUR OWN WALLY JOHNSON
3-27-08**

Wally knows a little something about MerryMacs - he got his first MerryMac when he was in the 6th grade. That summer, he mowed Ned and Alice McIntosh's lawn, and along with some money he had from selling another boat, he purchased "Number 51." She was red with a tri-colored red-white-blue sail. The sail was cotton and did not last long, but, says Wally, "Dacron sails appeared and others were winning with them, especially Viki and Sherrie and Sally - and who likes to be beaten by girls at that age...?"

He never did name his MerryMac - he was "always looking for the right name but they never stuck to my small boats - and if I named it after a girl, which I was always looking for the right ONE - they may be offended when it sank."

Wally's favorite sailing experiences include his wife, Janet "sailing on a warm summer afternoon when the tide carries you home without watching the sail too hard and thinking how good life is, just my girl, my boat and a breeze..."

The most memorable "foods on board" experiences for Wally were "boat meals out of a can heated on a one burner stove in a metal box in the back of a MerryMac down Maine when I cruised the MerryMac. We did the cooking in the boat 'cause the bugs were so bad ashore." When he is not sailing, Wally enjoys swimming, skiing and reading boating books.

His advice to other MerryMac Entrants in this gala 50th Anniversary Ned McIntosh Regatta? "Follow Viki Guy, hopefully she will have me in sight rounding the buoy ahead or crossing the finish line."

Good luck to Wally and Number 51, and all our Entrants for this Gala Anniversary Regatta - see you July 19th - Fair Winds!



Marblehead, 1959



Flotilla, 1959



Wally, Marblehead, 1959



Wally and "Ohnesorge" 2007