



LIGHTNING
Class
ASSOCIATION

1950
YEAR
BOOK

LIGHTNING CLASS ASSOCIATION



YEAR BOOK

1950

Russ Luchtenberg, Editor

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Lightning Class Association

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YOUTH AND THE LIGHTNING



"Frolic II" at the Internationals—25 MPH wind. Skipper—Jim Amy, son of our Treasurer, Alfred V. Amy, Jr. Crew—Charles Nager, Jr., and Jack Yates of Larchmont Yacht Club.

FOREWORD

There are two groups of Sailing Enthusiasts, whom I would like to commend, for the enthusiasm they have rendered in helping to build the Lightning Class into one of the largest and fastest, small one design Racing Classes, in the world today.

The first group comprise the Juniors. Every boy, who lives near the water wants to sail a boat. Those fortunate enough to be near a Yacht Club, get the opportunity through Junior Sailing instruction, or crewing on friends' boats, to learn the rudiments of sailing. This is a fine healthy sport for the youngsters, it develops self-confidence and the spirit of fair play.

Once the youngster acquires some sailing knowledge, he wants a boat of his own, to race in local competition. This is an important step. All the members of his family are parties to the decision of what best to select. Dad, Mom, brothers and sisters become interested. They would like a boat which would accommodate the family for day cruising, as well as a fast one for racing. This is where the Lightning fits into the picture, as it answers the entire family's requirements and is the safest small boat afloat.

The second group comprise the Seniors, who missed the opportunity to sail in their younger days. Dad, moves out of town and becomes interested in the activities of a Yacht Club. This sport interests him and he wants to learn how to sail. Junior wants a boat, the two age groups blend into a mutual desire for sport.

At this particular moment the Lightning is the practical selection. Dad, Junior and Sis join the local Racing Fleet and the thrill of competition in Racing begins.

Experience is the only reliable teacher in racing competition. Many a family group, will learn the hard way, but time and experience develop the skill required to stay up with the leaders.

This is the spirit we hope will continue on through the years to come, with Happy Memories of Wind, Sun and Spray.

Sincerely,

LeRoy Amy

President.

OFFICERS OF THE LIGHTNING CLASS ASSOCIATION

PRESIDENT—LeRoy Amy
10 Linden Ave., Larchmont, N. Y.



Roy, has now been elevated to the Office of President, after serving as Secretary and Vice-President for the past two years. He is well known to Lightning skippers through his capable efforts in editing Flashes and the 1949 Year Book. He was also District Sec'y, of the Southern N. Y. & New England District, Commodore of the L.I. Sound Squadron and Captain of Larchmont Lightning Fleet 32. He sails No. 1856 "Racer" in Long Island Sound competition, with his teen age daughters Alice & Estelle, qualifying for the Championship Division. When not sailing, in addition to L.C.A. Executive duties, Roy is engaged in the Real Estate business in New York.



VICE-PRESIDENT—Russ Luchtenberg
190 Stanberry Rd., Columbus 9, Ohio



Russ is one of the old timers of the organization, having attended most of the important events of the Association since 1942. He has served on many of the committees and is at present Editor of the 1950 Year Book. In addition to this honor, he was re-elected Commodore of the Ohio-Indiana District and has been Captain of his Fleet 43. In his spare time, when not sailing on Buckeye Lake, Lake Erie or any other water, he manufactures and sells equipment for Water, Power and Sewage plants.



VICE-PRESIDENT—Ed. B. Overton
The Colonial Inn, Fairhope, Alabama



Ed. B. Overton has held more yachting honors along the Gulf Coast than any other yachtsman. He is a past president of the Gulf Yachting Ass., was commodore of the Mobile Yacht Club for eleven years and is now captain of Fleet 135 and commodore and champion of our Louisiana-Alabama District. He has raced many classes but says Lightnings are his favorite. He now has a new Lightning named Prancer. Ed. is a life member of the Mobile Yacht Club. He is the owner and operator of the Colonial Inn and is also in the real estate business.

VICE-PRESIDENT and CHIEF MEASURER—
Walter E. Swindeman, Jr., 2828-1111th Street



Walt, our new Vice-President and Chief Measurer, is one of our best equipped members for this exacting job from actual experience in Lightning construction. He has an uncanny skill in tuning and skippering a Lightning to make it go, as can be attested to by his top-spot performance in the 1946 and 1947 Nationals. Walt is ever ready to help a brother skipper improve conditions, and when not sailing or engrossed with Association duties, is occupied with the sale of electrical appliances and sporting goods, as owner of the Edgewater Appliance Company in Toledo.



VICE-PRESIDENT—Magnus Pedersen
16-2nd Avenue, Nyack, New York



Pete, our congenial gypsy sailor, and winner of many important regattas, including the Atlantic Coast Championship, is never content unless he has a tiller in his hand or is at least talking about it. He is commonly known as our roving jeweler, attending many regattas in the East, Middle West and South. Make it sound interesting and he'll be there—and usually "in the money" too. Pete is Nyack's prominent jeweler as well as their famous sailor.



VICE-PRESIDENT—Carl J. Ackerman
4011 Sequoia Street, San Diego 9, California



Carl has owned and sailed boats of some kind, since he was a student in Eastern High School, Washington, D. C., and spent all his spare time while attending the University of Maryland sailing on Chesapeake Bay. In 1941 he was called into the Army as a reserve officer and sent to Hawaii. Having no boat there, he built Lightning No. 673 called "Tutu" and sailed her on Pearl Harbor until the Japanese came. He was transferred to the mainland in 1943 bringing "Tutu" to Washington. Later he was sent to India and stored his boat in Baltimore until his return, when he had her shipped to San Diego, where he is now employed by the Government as an Electronics Engineer for the Naval Electronic Laboratory at Point Loma. He is a member of the Coronado Yacht Club, Coronado, Cal.

SECRETARY—Wayne Brackett
Moulthrop Avenue, North Haven, Conn.



Wayne is well known to all Lightning sailors, as one of our top-notch skippers. With over ten years sailing and racing experience, Wayne came to the Lightning Class in 1945. In "Flame" No. 1379, he has participated in every International Championship Regatta since joining the Association placing well up among the leaders. He organized the Branford Yacht Club Fleet in Branford, Conn., and is Chairman of its Regatta Committee. He is also on the Executive Board of the Eastern Connecticut Yacht Racing Association. Wayne is in the printing business and will be close to his job, in editing "Flashes" for the coming year.

TREASURER—Alfred V. Amy
30 Mayhew Avenue, Larchmont, N. Y.



Al, who has contributed much time to L.C.A. details from behind the scenes in the past, now as Treasurer has charge of our budget. As Secretary and Acting Captain of Larchmont Fleet 32, he handled all details and arrangements for the 1949 Atlantic Coast Championship Regatta, held on Long Island Sound. Al and his sons, Jim and Al Jr., in "Frolic" No. 3579, have been leaders in Championship competition on L.I. Sound. Jim at the age of 14, competed in the 1946 Internationals and placed 15th at Miami last Fall. Al is associated with his twin brother Roy, in the Real Estate business in New York.

HONORARY COMMODORE—Karl Smither
170 Greenaway Rd., Eggertsville 21, N. Y.



Karl, has now been elevated to President, via the Office of Treasurer and Vice-President, on the way. We are fortunate in having one of our most colorful top-notch skippers at the helm of L. C. A. for his steady hand on the tiller, will direct the operations of our ever growing organizations to the best interests of all members. When not sailing, in addition to L. C. A. details, Karl is kept busy with his two Smither Pharmacies in Buffalo and Eggertsville.



Olive "Sully" Cain

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY—
Mrs. Olive S. Cain
Bank of South Haven Bldg.,
South Haven, Mich.

At South Haven, Michigan, the Executive details of our constantly growing organization are competently handled by our Executive Secretary, Mrs. Olive Sullivan Cain, known as "Sully."

C. L. NICHOLSON
Commodore

This man was the father of the Lightning Class Association and its first President. He organized the Association, gave it its first boost into the world of yachting. For his unselfish work and devotion to the Class, he was elected Honorary Commodore for life.



E. GORDON CRONK
Vice-Commodore

As the Association's first Secretary-Treasurer, Gordon deserves credit for much of the original publicity about the Lightning. In recognition for his work, members of the Association elected him as Honorary Vice-Commodore for life.



HON. L. STAUFFER OLIVER
Vice-Commodore

The first Chief Measurer of the Lightning Class Association assumed responsibility for establishing our high Lightning standards. Judge Oliver filled this position skillfully for the first two years of the Association's existence and then served as President for two years. A grateful membership elected him Honorary Vice-Commodore for life in 1943.



Former National Officers

Gilbert L. Wolfe	Vice-President	1940
John L. Koehne	Vice-President	1940-1941
Russell J. Nall	Vice-President	1940-1942
Robert F. Hart, Jr.	Vice-President	1942
Mortimer E. Graham	Vice-Pres. & Chief Measurer	1942
George R. Joslyn	Vice-President	1942-1943
Henry L. Schimpf, Jr.	Vice-President	1942-1943
A. J. Webb	Vice-Pres. & Chief Measurer	1943-1944
Dr. A. C. Dumke	Vice-President	1944
Ted Siferd	President	1944
	Honorary Commodore	1945
Dwain E. Weaver	Vice-President	1945
	Vice-President	1943
Len Ladenburger	Secretary-Treasurer	1944
	President	1945
	Honorary Commodore	1946
James H. Trenary	Secretary-Treasurer	1945
	President	1946
	Honorary Commodore	1947
William Stubbins	Vice-President	1947
Alexander Dougan	Vice-President	1947
	Vice-Pres. & Chief Measurer	1945-1946
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	Honorary Commodore	1948
Richard Carr	Vice-President	1947
	Honorary Vice-Commodore	1948
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	Honorary Commodore	1949
Arthur Burtcher	Vice-Pres. & Chief Measurer	1947-1948
	Honorary Vice-Commodore	1949
Dr. W. W. Jennings	Vice-President	1949
Park S. Hedley	Vice-President	1949
W. A. Grimm	Treasurer	1949

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 William Reifert, 4773 296th St., Toledo 11, Ohio
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 Edward P. Willard, 4309 Bleigh St., Philadelphia, Pa.
 Lawrence Smith, 50 Eagle St., Greenville, Pa.

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Ralph G. Kenney, 41 Lippitt Ave., Riverview, R. I.

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 J. Lewis Foster, P. O. Box 1005, Wichita Falls

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 Morris Thomas, 2225 S. Aldrich St., Milwaukee, Wis.

Officers

Your duly elected national officers serve you and your Association without pay and have no financial interest directly or indirectly in any firm or corporation building boats, manufacturing boat fittings and equipment, supplies, or making sails. Your Association solicits advertising only from firms we believe to be entirely reputable. We do not, however, assume any responsibility or in any way guarantee these products.

LIGHTNING CLASS ASSOCIATION

POLICY

To promote and develop Lightning Class racing under uniform rules, governed by this Association, and to rigidly maintain the one-design features of Lightning Class sloop, as designed by Sparkman and Stephens, Inc., which plans are known as 265.

To cooperate with all other yachting organizations and to demand in return observance of the rules of the Lightning Class.

To keep the Lightning Class within the financial reach of the man of moderate means without handicapping ability or encouraging neglect in conditioning yachts.

To rigidly maintain a strictly one-design Class, in order to positively insure that all Lightning Class races held under the auspices of this Association be to determine the skill of the skipper, and to eliminate all variation in construction of the yachts. Everything in the Constitution, By-Laws and all building restrictions is intended to insure competition between boats of identical design and the spirit of the Constitution, By-Laws and building restrictions is to this end.

JURISDICTION

The Association has jurisdiction over all Lightning activities. Its Class rule govern all sanctioned Lightning races regardless of by whom held. Its Constitution, By-Laws and Rules are binding upon all members and Fleets and all registered Lightning yachts must conform to its official plans and specifications.

ATTENTION OWNERS, BUILDERS AND SAILMAKERS

The Lightning name and emblem as applied to sailboats has been registered with the U. S. Patent office and the Lightning Class Association is granted exclusive use thereof. No boat may properly be sold or entered in any race as a Lightning or at any time display the Lightning emblem upon its sails or otherwise, unless the number tax or royalty on such boat has been paid to the Association by the builder or owner thereof. For the benefit of owners or prospective owners the Association proposes to take whatever steps necessary to protect both the Lightning name and emblem from any unauthorized use.

ROYALTIES AND REGISTRATION

The Association will refuse to issue a number or grant a measurement certificate to any yacht on which the royalty has not been paid or which was not built by a recorded owner of Official Lightning Class plans. The fee for each and every boat built is \$15.00 which includes the assignment of a registered number, blueprints and the book entitled "Building the Lightning."

Every Lightning built is recorded by the Association and a complete registry of owners is maintained. All changes in ownership or sale of new boats by builders and dealers must be recorded with the Secretary of the Association.



A \$1.00 royalty must be paid by sail makers on each sail made, as evidenced by the above label securely sewn thereon. The colors in this label are red and black lettering on a white background. This label, as evidence of payment of royalty is required beginning with 1948 sails. These labels may be purchased from South Haven for \$1.00 each less 2% for cash with order.

PLANS

Plans are not transferable. They are sold subject to the terms and conditions of the notice thereon. Plans and specifications are subject to annual revision only as provided in the Constitution and By-Laws. It is the policy of the LCA to make no changes which would give more recent Lightnings any advantage over the first Lightnings built. The responsibility of keeping advised as to these annual revisions rests with the purchaser of plans and specifications. Never copy another Lightning.

CONSTITUTION - BY-LAWS - RULES SPECIFICATIONS

The Constitution, By-Laws, Specifications of the Lightning Class Association are contained in a special pamphlet available to all members—builders and yachting organizations.

MEMBERSHIP

Each and every Lightning owner should be an active member of the Association. Our modest dues are a very small amount to pay for the many benefits received from such a membership. You are not only helping to support your own Association that is doing everything possible to enhance and protect your investment in your Lightnings but you will receive numerous publications of interest and benefits (which alone are worth the investment). Only members are permitted to enter sanctioned Lightning Class races and receive the official Yearbook and special Lightning Class publications.

Every crew member or person sailing and interested in Lightnings but is not an owner should be an Associate member. The Yearbook (which is sent to Associate and crew members as well) alone is worth more than this membership costs, not to mention our other publications.

L.C.A. Headquarters

A complete file of Lightnings and LCA members is maintained in our office. All new registrations, changes in ownership or address, inquiries and requests should be mailed to Mrs. Olive S. Cain, Bank of South Haven Bldg., South Haven, Mich. Dues may be sent there, also, although many Fleet Secretaries assist the Association by collecting and remitting dues for their Fleet members.

Our Champions

1939—BAY HEAD YACHT CLUB BARNEGAT BAY—BAY HEAD, N. J.

Champion—John S. Barnes of Skaneateles, N. Y. (Fleet 1) in "Ay-Ay-Ay" No. 35.

Runner-Up—John C. Hirst of Mantoloking, N. J. (Fleet 3) in "Anyhoo" No. 102.

1940—RIVERSIDE YACHT CLUB LONG ISLAND SOUND—RIVERSIDE, CONN.

Champion—John S. Barnes of Skaneateles, N. Y. (Fleet 1) in "Ay-Ay-Ay" No. 35.

Runner-Up—Carl Dixon of Riverside, Conn. (Fleet 7) in "Feather", No. 242.

1941—SKANEATELES COUNTRY CLUB SKANEATELES, N. Y.

Champion—John M. Stern of Buffalo, N. Y. (Fleet 12) in "Thunderbolt", No. 680.

Runner-Up—David G. Cluett of Lawrence, Long Island (Fleet 2) in "Linnett", No. 131.

1942—SOUTH HAVEN YACHT CLUB LAKE MICHIGAN AT SOUTH HAVEN, MICH. (FIRST SPECIAL WAR TIME REGATTA)

Champion—David G. Cluett of Lawrence, Long Island, N. Y. (Fleet 2) in a local boat drawn by lot.

Runner-Up—Walt E. Swindeman, Jr. of Toledo, Ohio (Fleet 42) in "Yankee Doodle", No. 800.

1943—BAY HEAD YACHT CLUB BARNEGAT BAY—BAY HEAD, N. J. (SECOND SPECIAL WAR TIME REGATTA)

Champion—Karl Smither of Buffalo, N. Y. (Fleet 12) in a local boat drawn by lot.

Runner-Up—John W. Orelup of Short Hills, N. J. (Fleet 3) in a local boat drawn by lot.

1944—BUFFALO CANOE CLUB LAKE ERIE, POINT ABINO, ONTARIO, CANADA (THIRD SPECIAL WAR TIME REGATTA)

Champion—Theodore Maher of Riverside, Conn. (Fleet 7) in a local boat drawn by lot.

Runner-Up—Karl Smithers, of Buffalo, N. Y. (Fleet 12) in a local boat drawn by lot.

1945—RIVERSIDE YACHT CLUB LONG ISLAND SOUND, RIVERSIDE, CONN. (FOURTH SPECIAL WAR TIME REGATTA)

Champion—George R. Barnes of Skaneateles, N. Y. (Fleet No. 1) in "Westerly".

Runner-Up—Karl Smither of Buffalo, N. Y. (Fleet 12) in a local boat drawn by lot.

1946—SKANEATELES COUNTRY CLUB SKANEATELES, N. Y.

Champion—Walt E. Swindeman, Jr., of Toledo, Ohio (Fleet 42) in "Yankee Doodle" No. 800.

Runner-Up—Karl Smither and Robert Crane of Buffalo, N. Y. (Fleet 12) in "Thermis Twice", No. 588.

1947—TOLEDO YACHT CLUB TOLEDO, OHIO

Champion—Walt E. Swindeman, Jr., Toledo, Ohio, (Fleet 42) in "Yankee Doodle" No. 800.

Runner-Up—Karl Smith and Robert Crane of Buffalo, N. Y. (Fleet 12) in "Thermis Twice" No. 588.

President's Trophy Winner—Robert H. Siemer of Williamsville, N. Y. (Fleet 59) in "Salt Shaker" No. 1676.

President's Trophy Runner-Up—George A. Wasserburger of Pontiac, Mich. (Fleet 54) in "Aqua Leta" No. 838.

1948—BUFFALO CANOE CLUB POINT ABINO, ONTARIO

Champion—Richard H. Bertram of Miami Beach, Florida (Fleet 130) in "Dodge-Trophy" No. 2891.

Runner-Up—Walt E. Swindeman, Jr., of Toledo, Ohio (Fleet 42) in "Yankee Doodle" No. 800.

President's Trophy Winner—Karl Smither and Robert Crane of Buffalo, N. Y. (Fleet 12) in "Thermis Twice" No. 588.

President's Trophy Runner-Up—J. R. Ludlow Wray of Philadelphia, Pa. (Fleet 91) in "Nipper" No. 3704.

1949—MIAMI, COCONUT GROVE & BISCAYNE BAY YACHT CLUBS MIAMI, FLORIDA

Champion—Richard H. Bertram of Miami Beach, Florida (Fleet 130) in "Sue", No. 2891.

Runner-Up—Bob Graf of Buffalo, New York (Fleet 12) in "Rampage", No. 467.

President's Trophy Winner—Dr. Herbert Virgin, Jr. of Miami, Florida (Fleet III) in "Flame", No. 3880.

President's Trophy Runner-Up—Felix Ross of Miami, Florida (Fleet 130) in "Tavana", No. 4411.