

GREAT EGG HARBOR FLEET (99)

Central Atlantic District

Based on Great Egg Bay, Ocean City, N. J.

Fleet Captain	Lester Asplundh
Fleet Secretary	I Passthebutck Frequently
Fleet Champion	July—K. R. L. Asplundh August—Rosalind White
Runner-Up	Dennis Dutton & Dave Thurston

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
386	Hard Tack	Forrest Jobes
1494	Temptress	Robert S. Wood
1723	Black Flash	Kurt Asplundh
1732	Mischief	John P. Kelly, Jr.
1834	Tee	Dave Thurston
1923	Jubilee	Joe Thomas
2369	Lou Jim	James Bates
2454	Nip 'n Tuck	Scott Verrei
2630	Cindy	Denny Dutton
2711	Flopover	Roz White
3670	Hopalong	Fred Starling
4583	Snafu	Gloria and Jack Swope
5074	Deadeye	John Walton
5207	Skizzy	James McKinnon

The epic of Fleet 99 is necessarily riddled with inaccuracies this year due probably to the non-existent character of a fleet secretary. This paucity of fact however, in no way can diminish from the season's activities, details of which may be forgotten but whose full spirit and vivacity will continue to live on as long as the tides sweep in and out of Great Egg Harbor Bay. (This may sound overly poetic to the uninitiated, but members of Fleet 99 know all too well the slimy sandbanks implied by the tides of Great Egg Harbor Bay and may well apply noisome imagery to both the poetry and sentiment).

It will not be denied by the '99ers though, that we do have an organization, however loose and homely, held together by a nucleus of substantial personalities who return year after year to enjoy friendly competition. It is difficult to name names because one doesn't know quite where to stop when one begins to pat oneself on the back. It is a fleet consensus though that some names not go unheralded: Lester Asplundh, fleet captain; George Lejeune, who taught us all to sail; Bill Clausen, competitor and craftsman; Fisher White, fleet threat; James Bates, charter member . . . and so on. All are colorful, friendly people, and their stories should warrant more attention in these reports.

But we must move on to a few salient seasonal facts at least. Fleet 99 opened its season on the 4th of July with only a skeleton crew, but after a series of six races in July nearly a dozen boats entered competition in the August series. The Asplundh boat, "Black Flash" edged out James Bates in "Lou-Jim" and Dave Thurston in "Tee". The August series of eight races was a close battle between Rosalind White at the Tiller of "Flopover" the "Black Flash" and "Tee". The series was decided in the final race of the series.

A rocking chair skipper's race was handily won by Fisher White to round out the competition for the year on a note of novelty.

An annual Fleet 99 banquet was held at the end of August at which the prizes—such useful articles as sterling silver trays, bon-bon dishes, and candle-sticks—were awarded. A few of the season's highlights were re-lived through the miracle of color slides and motion pictures, and then the members of Fleet 99 dispersed once again to their various winter pursuits, carrying with them pleasant memories, though perhaps inaccurate ones (We hope not as inaccurate as some fishermen's memories) to tide them over their land-locked winter months, until they can relive them again in summertime 1955.

TAYLOR POND FLEET (101)

New England District

Based on Taylor Pond, Auburn, Maine

Fleet Captain	Gardner L. Brown
Fleet Secretary	LaForest R. V. Jackson
Fleet Champion	Gardner L. Brown in "Encore"
Runner-Up	Richard Winkel in "Papoose"

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
109	Be-Be	Howard Ainsworth
1195	Papoose	Richard Winkel
1611	Hijack	Laforest R. V. Jackson
2296	Regardless	Joseph Marsden
2297	Jasda	Jewett B. Newton
2650	Hoo Doo II	Spaulding Shaw
4389	Pippy	Paul D. Emery
5108	Red Witch	Dr. Warren Andrews
5550	Encore	Gardner L. Brown

In spite of the rainiest summer in years, Fleet 101 enjoyed another successful season. The damp weather delayed most of the skippers in getting their boats ready so that the June tune-up series, which is always quite informal, had very little participation.

Eight boats were ready for the regular season which always starts with the Fourth of July Regatta. Our ninth boat wasn't launched until the end of July. This was Dr. Warren Andrews' "Red Witch", No. 5108, a beautiful red job, built from scratch by the skipper. There was another change in the make-up of Fleet 101 during the winter. Gardner Brown replaced his old No. 3306, "Egaveva", with a home-built kit job, "Encore", No. 5550.

In addition to our regular schedule of races two special events were sailed on Taylor Pond in 1954. The Androscoggin County Fish and Game Association put up a trophy for Lightnings in connection with their annual Field Day. On a special course so laid out that the hundreds of spectators present could see as much as possible of the race, Gardner Brown's "Encore" finished ahead of Dr. Andrews' "Red Witch" to cop the event.

The other event was an Inter-club series with Fleet 244 from South Freeport, Maine. Four crews from each Club participated using Fleet 101 boats. The skippers used their own sails and swapped boats so that no skipper sailed his own. The salt water sailors seemed to have trouble with the shifty winds of a north-wester on fresh water and the host club won very handily. The top skipper was Dr. Andrews, with Brown finishing second. South Freeport is vowing revenge when the fresh water boys encounter the tides of the Haraseekett River.

Outside events for our Lightning skippers started with the State of Maine Lightning Regatta, July 24 and 25, which is always so well run by Fleet 14 at the Centerboard Club, South Portland. Gardner Brown's efforts finally paid off and he brought the State of Maine Trophy to Fleet 101. His "Encore" finished second in the regatta behind Sam Stowell of Fleet 227, Lake Bomoseen, Vermont, in his slick "Yankee Dandy". As the first Maine boat, "Encore" received the State of Maine Trophy. Richard Winkel, also of Fleet 101, finished third with his "Papoose" to give this salt water event a very strong fresh water flavor.

The following weekend, Brown trailed "Encore" to Marblehead for the New England District Championship. Even with Dr. Andrews on the jib sheets Brown apparently suffered stage-fright and a tenth place was the best he could do.

Also in August, Gardner Brown sailed with Henry Douglass and Harry Parker, both of Fleet 244, South Freeport, in the Senior Maine Sailing Championship. With the versatile Harry Parker at the tiller, this crew won the Marine Senior Championship in keel boats at Blue Hill, Maine. This qualified them for the New England Mallory Cup eliminations which were held on Narragansett Bay. In spite of a broken tiller in the fourth race, Parker and his crew finished second for the series.

The Fleet Championship was again won by Brown. His victory with "Encore" was his third in a row, thereby retiring the Skippers' Trophy, symbolic of the Championship. Richard Winkel with "Papoose" was second, but if Paul Emery had not had difficulty getting a crew at times for "Pippy" it would have been nip and tuck between the two for second place.

Hurricanes Carol and Edna visited Fleet 101 but we escaped without serious damage considering what happened to so many others.

Next year should be a good one for Fleet 101. Doc Andrews' "Red Witch" will be racing the entire season; Winkel's "Papoose" is getting a thorough overhaul this winter; Shaw, Newton and Emery will be making things tougher with the experience gained in 1954; and Joe Marsden will have his "Regardless" back in regular competition. Most important of all—the sun will shine and the winds will be fair.

SANTA MONICA BAY FLEET (102)

California District

Based on Santa Monica Bay, Calif.

Fleet Captain	Gerald Noll
Fleet Secretary	Wendell Harter
Fleet Champion	Marold Eyestone
Runner-Up	Wendell Harter

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
1052	Schini Moni	Frank R. Cochran
1609	LaChispa	Wendell Harter
3138	Flying Finn	Gerold O. Noll
3176	Mack I	Robert C. Morrison
3586	Beauline	Merle A. Beaupre
4631	Bye Bye	Leland L. Dobbs
5690	Vespa	Marold C. Eyestone

Fleet 102 has just completed the most active year in its history. The number of boats now active in the fleet totals seven, a new high. Not only has the fleet gained a lot of valuable instructions and experience in racing this year under the able tutelage of its champion, Marold Eyestone, but it has represented itself rather fully at guest events of other clubs. As many as five boats have trailed together the 120 miles necessary to participate in the San Diego regattas sponsored by the San Diego and Mission Bay Fleets.

Besides being obliging enough to show the fleet the way around the course by leading the way in his new boat, Vespa, at home events, Marold proceeded to show the fleet "how it's done" by winning several major regattas held away from home, including tying for first place in the California Districts. This coming season, the fleet as a whole intends to present more of a challenge to the neighboring fleets down San Diego way through the experience it has gained in the past season. The latter represents the first racing experience for five of the fleet's seven skippers. Consequently the appetite for competition is really on the upswing.

Fleet 102, based at Cabrillo Beach Yacht Club on the shores of outer San Pedro Harbor, participated in regattas held in Balboa Bay, Mission Bay and San Diego Bay. Plans are well under way to devise a means for launching our boats at Redondo Beach in order to take advantage of the excellent sailing waters afforded by the namesake of the fleet, Santa-Monica Bay. It is hoped that the coming season will witness a great deal of Lightning activity on these waters, which consist of open sea with a steady, moderate, westerly breeze.

One race in which the fleet participated as guests this season had the distinction of being started by the Secretary of the Navy. It was the Labor Day Regatta sponsored by the Newport and Balboa Yacht Clubs. Marold Eyestone outdid himself by way of demonstrating his unusual sportsmanship; he took off for the wrong mark. Though the rest of the boats prevailed upon him to get back into the race, it was some time before he and his navigator, Dottie Eyestone, concluded that perhaps they had made a mistake. As if this were not enough in the way of faux pas for one race, the lead boat, skippered by Elmer Poirier of Fleet 107, sailed right on past the next mark. The following two boats, skippered



Left to right: Paul Grumbling (Crewman for Dobbs), A. D. Miller (Crewman for Eyestone), Marold Eyestone, Leland Dobbs and Gerald Noll soberly view the remains of the rudder of Bye Bye, owned by Dobbs. The rudder broke in a bit of a blow off the Cabrillo Beach Yacht Club.

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by Wendell Harter of 102 and Ray Hodgdon of 107, were nice enough to apprise Elmer of his error—after they had rounded the mark, of course. Consequently the Fleet Runner-up managed to win over the Fleet Champion on this occasion. Even with his self-imposed handicap, Marold managed to sail from behind in the field of seven boats to finish third. He still took the series.

It is certain that competition within the fleet is going to become keener with the coming season, for its skippers have been busily improving both their skill and their boats. Gerald Noll had his sails re-cut, Bob Morrison bought a new set of cottons, Lee Dobbs is also getting new sails, Merle Beaupre bought a spinnaker and is learning how to use it, while Frank Cochran is busy studying the rules and tuning his boat. It is fully expected that the fleet will continue to grow in the coming season as it did during the '54 season.

LAVALLETTE LIGHTNING FLEET (104)

Central Atlantic District

Based on Barnegat Bay, N. J.

Fleet Captain J. Leslie White
Fleet Secretary L. A. Tripp
Fleet Champion Richard Clayton
Runner-Up Fred Slovak

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
362	Candie	Julius Hanewald, Jr.
864	Bayrader	Charles C. Stewart
383	Blitzen	Richard W. Clayton
461	White Cloud	Russo Bros.
657	One Shot	J. Clifford Heller
659	Me Too	Edward J. McGuirk
1332	Giggle	Joseph Gale
1446	Flying Cloud	Andrew Hutson, L. W. Burke and J. W. Lewis
1523	Stardust	Fred Slovak
3243	Beguine	L. A. Tripp
3509	Volkrye	E. N. Sieder
3668	Allegro	Richard W. Clayton
4877	Gwendy	Dr. F. Parker Willey
5570	Flying Dutchman	Harry R. Sindle and Dutch Sindle

Fleet 104 had another good racing and cruising season. The championship again this year went to Richard Clayton in his Allegro. However, Fred Slovak with Marie (his wife) as best female crew of the year together with a third crew member, came out from behind to be the runner-up. His boat really "went" this season.

Our outstanding boat of the season was the Flying Dutchman, No. 5570, a new boat built by Lars Olson, skippered by Harry R. Sindle with Dutch Sindle and Bob Wood as crew. This boat was sailed in five separate series during the '54 season.

The first series was the Red Bank Spring Regatta consisting of twelve races, winning six of them and taking first place in the series over June Methot. Other skippers who participated in this highly successful inauguration by Fleet No. 70 were John Tiegland, Magnus Pedersen, Charlie Allaire, Jim Carson, Dave Shay, Sam Knox, Neil Clifton, Ed Waters and others numbering up to 17 starters on occasion.

The second series sailed in was the New Jersey State Lightning Championships, held at Lavallette salting away this series with a 2nd, 1st, and 6th, successfully defending the title won with "Bayrader" last year.

The third series was the Central Atlantic District Championships, held at Little Egg Harbor Yacht Club. They placed third in this one, behind Jim Carson, and Charlie Dore, with 3rd, 4th, 1st, 3rd and 5th in this one. Our district proved to be the "hottest" district in the association this year as was proved in the Internationals, where our boats had 2nd, 4th, 6th and 8th.

The fourth series centered, Harry got back to his winning ways as he captured the Atlantic Coast Championships at Atlantic Highlands Yacht Club, getting a 1st, 7th and 3rd in this series to beat Tiegland, Marge Adams, Jim Carson, Bob Adams. Again, the C.A.D. took top honors, copping the first five places.

The fifth series, just before retirement, was the Internationals, taking second in this one behind Tom Allen, who sailed a fine series. Results were 7th, 9th, 2nd and 3rd.

So, the season's standings, 3 firsts, 1 second and 1 third. Dutch also skippered in the Metedeconk Series and Harry's sister, Gwen, sailed the boat in the Lavallette home series.

Harry also finished first in the Central Atlantic Thistle Championships at Lavallette and second in the Thistle National Championships.

Candie sailed by Bud Hanewald had more than his share of set-backs when he broke two masts this season.

All boats now at this club are dry sailed, that is kept out the water between races and most of the boats have gone to single jib leads with "Bull-dog" type jam cleats for securing them.

We held our usual cruising picnics with considerable day sailing.

Extensive changes to our yacht club facilities are now underway and by next year, we will be in a position to handle almost any sailing event.

GROTON LONG POINT FLEET (105)

Connecticut District

Based on Fisher's Island Sound,

Groton Long Point, Conn.

Fleet Captain Jon Shattuck
Fleet Secretary Andria Peacock
Fleet Champion Mark Turner in "Igo-Two"
Runner-Up Jon Shattuck in "Miss Adventure"

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
77	Papete	Pat & Pete Eddy
1319	Flame	Andy & Tom Sullivan
1325	Viking	Harold Higgins
1483	Penguin	James Lathrop
1657	XYZ	Tom Leffingwell
1883	Miss Adventure	John Shattuck
1934	Ju-D	Fred Clark
2780	Murex-4	Don Congdon
3323	Ando	Al Peacock
3580	Igo Too	Mark Turner

The Groton Long Point Lightning Fleet was not as successful as it has been in previous years. Many of the races were called off because of bad weather. The common practice was followed through in our racing. The season was divided into the July, August, Season, and Saturday Series. Special races such as the Commodore Cup, Tune Up Race, and the Long Distance Race were held throughout the summer with cups for all.

Mark Turner is still on top as Fleet Champion. His "Igo Two" and able crew members brought him victory for the Season Cup. He also received top honors for July, the Saturday Series, Tune-Up Race, and the Long Distance Race.

Our Fleet Captain, Jon Shattuck, is again runner-up for the season. His "Miss Adventure" brought him across the line for the Commodore's Cup. Jon also received a second in the Saturday Series, a second for the Long Distance Race, and a third in the Tune-Up Race.

Sailing in the "Penguin" for his second year, Jim Lathrop did a remarkable job. By giving such a showing he put many of the old hand skippers to shame. He received first place for August, third place for the Season's Cup, and third place in the Long Distance Race. If Jim continues to do as well, the "Penguin" will again climb to the top of the fleet as she was a few years ago.

Fred Clark in his "Ju-D" sailed across the line to capture a second place in the Tune-Up Race. The "Flame", sailed by Tom and Andy Sullivan, received third place for July, the July Saturday Series third place, and Commodore Cup third place.

The "Ando", skippered by Doug Peacock, came close to placing in many of the races. Tom Leffingwell joined the fleet with his "XYZ" and for his first year of sailing, did a fine job. The "Pa-pete" sailed by Pat Eddy and the "Murex-4" sailed by Don Congdon entered all the races and added their competition.

At the end of the year, on August 31, Groton Long Point had a visitor—Hurricane Carol. Many of the boats suffered damage along with the cottages. But during the winter months we hope repairs will be made so that we will be able to start out next year with an active fleet that will outshine all the other years.

EXECUTION ROCKS LIGHTNING FLEET (106)

Western Long Island Sound District

Based on Western Long Island, New Rochelle, N. Y.

Fleet Captain Hugh Byfield
Fleet Secretary James C. Hill
Fleet Champion Robert Caldwell in "Feather"
Runner-Up Larry Seymour in "Lark"

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
14	Blue Streak	R. B. Whittredge
399	Blitzen	Gordon Gould
434	Bahia	Robert De Benham
448	Mary Anne	William H. Jennings
809	Scat	David Horowitz
1141	Mink	Edward C. Cerny, Jr.
1143	Eldin	Wm. L. Ricketson
1476	Seaweed	Huguenot Yacht Club
1638	Little E	Bronxville Girl Scouts
1700	Feather	James C. Hill
1937	Carla	H. P. Truesdell
2180	Queen Mary	Russell E. Hebbard, Jr.
2190	Pur	Dr. M. A. Cassidy
2192	Charge	Richard B. Wilson, Jr.
2634	Hussy	James C. King
3035	Jaunty	Thomas B. Fenlon
3407		Thomas McKenna
3575	Lark	John L. Seymour
4104	Vee Bob	Earl Chase
4153	Mar-Jim	James N. Ross, Jr.
5638	Lady Lou	Hugh Byfield

In spite of the fact that some of the boats in Fleet 106 are primarily occupied with Y.R.A. racing, Race Committee Chairman Phil Caldwell was able to run off a good schedule of Fleet Races, including boats moored at Horseshoe Harbor. In the final standings, Bob Caldwell was Fleet Champion in "Feather", Larry Seymour second in "Lark" and Butch Wilson third in "Ajax".

Fleet 106 did well in the District Championships Bob Caldwell getting a third and Bob Chase a fifth in "Vee Bob".

Among the Y.R.A. Qualifiers for the season, Hugh Byfield had a second in "Lady Lou", "Vee Bob" was fourth, "Feather" sixth and "Lark" ninth. "Vee Bob" and "Lady Lou" were second and third respectively in the Spring series and "Lady Lou" was second in both the Summer and the Fall series.

During the 1955 season we hope to have more than the one Team race that we had last year and to promote some Long Distance racing.

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ST. PETERSBURG YACHT CLUB (109)

Southeastern District

Based on Tampa Bay, St. Petersburg, Fla.

Fleet Captain	Glenn F. Watkins
Fleet Secretary	Paul G. Andersen
Fleet Champion	Dr. James Kirk
Runner-Up	Glenn F. Watkins "Tom Boy"

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
318	Tom Boy	Glenn F. Watkins
450	Windigo	George A. Pearson
1581	Stormy-C	Chas. G. Brazier & Gail Brazier
1663	Rea	Dr. R. E. & Richard Angell
2144	Louis Brewer	Louis Brewer
2383	Vixen	G. W. Rifeley & Ruth Rifeley
2837	.....	Dr. Howard Carter
2838	Tahiti	Jane Wray
4382	Pinella	Dr. James & Katie Kirk
4670	Red Witch	Morgan Powell
5600	.....	Aaron Schontz

With a twelve month sailing season, Fleet 109 had a full year of racing. Most of the boats were fibre-glass covered during 1954 and the entire level of quality in boats and canvas was raised to a point where races were close and competition keen.

The biggest event of the year was the Annual Mid-Winter Lightning Regatta, when 58 boats started in a series of 5 races.

Tom Fallon of Buffalo, N.Y. was the winner, with Wes Wiedrick of Grosse Pointe, Mich., in second place and Herm Nichols of Fenton, Mich. in third place.

At home the Fleet was kept busy with a total of 29 races in 6 series. Sandwiched in between were the races away from home which totaled 30 races in 10 regattas.

Fleet 109 was represented at the Internationals by Dr. James Kirk in "Pinella" and Glenn F. Watkins in "Tom Boy" finishing 18th., and 26th., respectively.

Aaron Schontz chose the balmy south for his permanent residence and brought his yet unnamed boat No. 5600 to St. Petersburg, where he will display "northern" tricks in the coming season.

Glenn Watkins sold "Tom Boy" and expects to have a new boat for the Mid-Winter Regatta.

Until the end of the year the members will be busy preparing for our many and welcome guests for the 1955 Annual Mid-Winter Lightning Championship Regatta to be sailed Feb. 18, 19 and 20, 1955.

While most northern fleets are "snowed" in, we are fitting out to be in shape when we meet the "best" of some 6000 Lightnings in February 1955.

HIGGINS LAKE LIGHTNING FLEET (110)

Michigan District

Based on Higgins Lake, Mich.

Fleet Captain	Lucy Schultz
Fleet Secretary	Mike Dow
Fleet Champion	Mike Dow
Runner-Up	Alex Carlin

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
632	North Star II	Chet Dow
679	Hi Hi	Dr. H. I. Clark
1348	Long Delay	Jean Corrigan and Peg Arnold
1847	.....	Bob Jermstad
1915	.....	Millard Bingham
2460	Caprice	Dr. Arnold
2844	.....	Frank Michelson
2933	White Cap	A. B. Brand
2938	.....	Pete Loomis
3340	.....	Sarah & Lynn Burrows
3618	Sugarbeet	Arthur Buhl
4214	Windsong	Prudy Wickes
4358	.....	Ritchie Grant
4538	.....	James Redmond
4674	Nite Cap	Dave Symans
4686	Whistler	Burrows Morley
4808	Four Belles	Char, Puss, Helen & Nat Morley
4809	Flame IV	Dr. Don Brasie
4983	.....	Alden Dow
5049	.....	Glenn Osgood
5253	.....	Alex Carlin
5254	Fubar	Dr. Edwin Vary
5603	Spindrift	Lucy Schultz
5680	The Duchess	Pat Opperman



Start of the 3rd race at Higgins Lake.

1954 a good vintage year—you might say. Doc Brasie started out hot as a two dollar pistol. Then tinkered with boat—Ooops Doc—what happened? Lucy Schultz got a new Nickels & Holman—thence on she gave one and all rough time—ask Alex, Mike, Doc., Pat Opperman too got new N & H hull—poor sails hurt—so rags being recut—look out in '55.

Racing marks now in 70' to 90' depths—includes pin in front of Clubhouse. Cox-Sprague Scoring System used Cal Berry Trophy races. Sailors liked, kept Fleet bunched, interest up. Get hot, move up fast; goof off one race, bottom didn't drop out. WIN—Mike Dow PLACE—Lucy Schultz SHOW—Alex Carlin.

Fourth Invitational drew 45 Lightnings—29 guesters, 16 local yokels. Three ding-dong races brought Doc Murphy first, Herm Nickels second, Jim Schudel third, Joe Stueland fourth, and Dick Krauss fifth. Alex Carlin top HLBC skipper. Competition rugged—among others four past Michigan District and three ex-International Champs. Friday eve arrivals greeted avec touch of grog Barry coffee and Jam session by famed Michigan District Barefooted Philharmonic. First Invitational 1951 drew 31 boats, 1952 37 boats, next year up to 42, this one 45—so-o-o looks like "fifty in fifty-five."

Want fun? Competition? Come to Fifth Invitational at Higgins. Racing water? 15 square miles is all. It's blue, clear, breezy—15 fathoms deep.

Alex Carlin, Doc Arnold, Dave Symans, Buzz Morley tried luck at Tawas in Michigan Districts—luck someplace else.

Teen-agers, concave & convex, skippering and crewing now. Interest healthy and welcome.

Alex Carlin, bagpipe skurling, snags 3rd in President's Cup at Crescent—our Scotchman hotted up for this one.

Labor Day Regatta the Big One. In Lightning Cup, WIN Mike Dow PLACE Alex Carlin SHOW Doc Brasie. Higgin's Cup a free-for-all WIN Mike Dow PLACE Alex Carlin SHOW Mac McKinley in E Scow.

Barney's fine, fat Italian hand politics—Buzz Morley in as Secretary of Lightning Class.

All for '54. Look for in '55.

Kids Sailfish racing—Doc Arnold promoting—promises 20 to 25 indulgers.

Clubhouse addition at last—includes dining room, galley, ladies nose powdering room, apartment second floor. Goal—open all day, every day of season, snacks, refreshments, activities.

Starting gun chrome-plated, carriage refinished—all mounted on sassy, red re-coil board.

GREEN BAY LIGHTNING FLEET (112)

Midwest District

Based on Green Bay, Wisc.

Fleet Captain	Fran J. LeClerc
Fleet Secretary	Frank J. Vandersteen
Fleet Champion	Richard G. Evans in "Snafu"
Runner-Up	Robert Tilleman in "Still-Waters"

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
972	Squabble	The Everson Girls
2326	Snafu	R. G. Evans
2501	Slow-Poke	Dr. S. L. Griggs
2502	San Sea	Francis LeClerc
2503	Auger	Belle Burridge
2505	Baby	Carl Witteborg, Jr.
2533	Ginny Lee	Arnold Biebel
2534	Skylark	William Riley
3350	Schatzie	Carl Manns, Jr.
3616	Bloodshot	Jim Gagnon
3777	Pat-Sue	Ken Mathys
4557	Flicka	Dr. M. L. Kuhs
4999	Still-Waters	Robert Tillemann

Our Fleet enjoyed another successful season with ten to sixteen boats active throughout the local race schedule.

The members held winter meetings in January, February and March to discuss sailing rules and give lessons for the up and coming sailors. April had the group in an opening banquet combined with the giving of winners trophies for the 1953 season and the plans for the 1954 season were completed at this gathering along with setting dates for the summer schedule.

On the Fox River behind the Golden Inn was our race course for local races with boats moored on individual buoys. A hoist was erected at this site to handle the lifting in and out of boats during the year.

Races were of a handicap and class type with a Spring, Summer and Fall series of each. The handicap races were had to include the Seagulls and Thistles who also are members of our local fleet which helps to the interest of our racing season. All events are at 5:45 P.M. on Tuesday and Thursday evenings with special races on Sundays.

Richard Evans got off to a good start for the Spring handicaps by accumulating 110 points in the six race series with Bob Tillemann giving a tussle by 106 points for second, with Fran LeClerc edging Arnie Biebel for third with the same amount of points 104.

Summer handicaps had three Lightnings and a Thistle in the four places. Bob Tillemann 116 points put him in first with Dick Evans second on 109 points and a (Thistle) of Jim Millar for third on 108 points with Jim Gagnon, a usual consistent winner, in fourth on 104 points also a six race event. These series opened on the last week of May and the week in July.



Richard D. Evans in Snafu Fleet No. 12 Champ

Class events of Spring and Summer went to Dick Evans first with 113 points, Bob Tillemann second for 110 points, Jim Gagnon and Fran LeClerc tied for third on 106 points with Arnie Biebel again a fourth on 98 points. Summer was changed considerably with Jim Gagnon leading on 117 points, Evans second on 111 the same as Tillemann's third with Carl Witteborg having 102 for fourth.

Fall Round Robin Series of four races ended in a tie for first place on points but Bob Tillemann had it on final tabulation as Carl Manns, Jr., also gathered 75 for second with Evans and Witteborg 74 and 72 points for the other places.

The annual local Walter Masse Memorial Trophy race had Jim Everson winning in a (Thistle) but was closely pressed by three Lightnings of Bob Tillemann. Fran LeClerc and Dick Evans for the next three places in that order.

The fleets travelers had their usual good luck in the trophy department on foreign waters. Milwaukee Journal Regatta at Milwaukee, Wis., showed Fran LeClerc fourth and Bob Tillemann seventh for three races. P & T Trophy and Brill Series were well represented by Green Bay Lightnings. Fran LeClerc had second for his efforts in the P & T Trophy, and on next weekend Bob Tillemann took home winning trophy for Brill Series events on Milwaukee Yacht Club waters.

LeClerc and Tillemann didn't do so well in the always tough Midwest District Championships coming in with a fourteenth and fifteenth after the smoked cleared.

Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin Regatta was no Puzzle as Bob Tillemann and Dick Evans were first to round finish buoy in respective positions with rest of fleet some three or four minutes behind.

After some very keen competition with 42 boats competing, Bob Tillemann came up with a ninth at the Chicago Red Flannel Regatta held in October which closed the season for most Lightning Sailors.

Members who assisted in making our season a happy one were on committees for hoist, race schedule, entertainment and judging etc., were Fran LeClerc, Jim Ford, Dick Evans, Jim Gagnon, Marilyn Vandersteen, George Bielefeldt, Carl Witteborg and Frank Vandersteen. This group hopes all your sailors have the same cooperation in your fleets and will be seeing you come next spring.

HAPPY SAILIN'!

ST. JOSEPH HARBOR LIGHTNING FLEET (113) Michigan District

Based on Lake Michigan, St. Joseph, Mich.

Fleet Captain	Joe Stueland
Fleet Secretary	Frank Lahr
Fleet Champion	Joe Stueland in "Eega Beeva II"
Runner-Up	Frank Lahr in "Shell Back II"

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
336	Red-Head	Elmer Walsh
598	Spin Drift	Ralph Smith
959	King	Tom Lange and Bert Deaner
1322	Droopy	John DeVries
2032	Patriot	Peter Rowe
2494	Alagar	Warren Lake
2495	Viking	William Smith
2500	Demise	John Manning and Gene Kile
2511	Gwet	Jim Boothby
2512	.....	St. Joseph Y. C.
2513	Bugeye	Ed. Hoffman
2515	.....	St. Joseph Y. C.
2746	Eega Beeva	Frank Lahr
2866	Butz	Eldon Butzbaugh
5040	Eega Beva II	Joe Stueland
5764	Bob Ann II	C. V. Lawton

Our Fleet Champion this year was Joe Stueland, the Michigan District Commodore. Shellback, owned by F. Lahr beat out John DeVries' Droopy for runner up honors.

George Croasdale, our former Fleet Champion was in the service this year but Elmer Walsh and Dean DeVries both were back from the Army and promise some very tough competition for '55. Several boats changed hands this year and three new boats were added to our Fleet. Ralph Smith, with his three attractive daughters alternating as crew, survived an early season capsizing and promises to be an active sailor next season. Dr. Clare Lawton, with his new Bob Ann II, was getting close to Stueland

in our final season races and expects to do well next season. John Manning and Gene Kile with experience will do well with their very fine Lightning, "Demise".

The greatest boost for Lightning sailing came thru the activities of the St. Joseph Youth Foundation. This organization, sponsored by a few generous individuals and local industries, was organized to make available to all young people supervised water sports. The sailing end of the program saw some 60 boys and girls from 8 to 16 get experience in boat handling and sailing. Bill Campbell, a noted Star sailor, guided this work. Weekly races were sailed with the Lightning Fleet loaning 5 boats to supplement the 2 boats owned by the Foundation. The Great Lakes Junior Championship was won by a crew from this group of young people. This is to be a permanent program, and from this group we expect several new boat owners and many more interested sailors in the few years ahead.

The Fleet is already making plans, built on hopes of having the Michigan District races here next summer. The annual shake-down regatta to be held in June offers a fine chance for experience in sailing on Lake Michigan and getting used to local weather for those who plan to participate in the District races. A word of warning—bring heavy weather sails, last year three boats capsized when line squalls hit on two successive days.

SAN DIEGO BAY FLEET (114)

California District

Based on San Diego Bay, Calif.

Fleet Captain	David P. Wright, Jr.
Fleet Secretary	Teddy Ackerman
Fleet Champion	E. Harrison Amos
Runner-Up	Henry Algert

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
673	Tutu	Earl Biggen
1909	Stormy	Henry W. Algert
2420	Diablo	Bob Beck
3472	Magic Carpet	E. Harrison Amos
3614	Dipsy Doozy	Leonard Storay
3673	Chiquita	Robert & Marion Niemeyer
4938	Zoom	Ray Chenhall and Charles Allen, Jr.
5505		David & JoAnn Wright



Henry Algert Fleet 114 winning the Bob Hermann Regatta Oct. 1954

The list of boats in Fleet 114 may seem small this year but we have listed only those who are dues paying members. It makes



SEAMAN LIGHTNING

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us look much bigger to list them but pretenses are out from now on. The year 1954 has been most active despite the smaller number of boats in the racing. The swing to competing with the larger boats in handicap racing has left its mark.

Fleet 114 stages annually:

The Ken Reynard Perpetual Regatta in August.

The Bob Herrmann Perpetual Regatta, October.

The Thanksgiving Lightning Regatta weekend following Thanksgiving.

The Fleet Championship for the Dave Wright Perpetual.

The Ken Reynard racing in its 6th year was won by District Commodore William V. Pirie of the Mission Bay fleet. This perpetual is a large oil painting of a Lightning under spinnaker and which has hung above the fireplace at Coronado Y.C. However, since the deed of gift says it may go to the winners home Yacht Club it now hangs gracefully at Mission Bay Yacht Club, the first year away from home.

The Bob Herrmann in its 7th year was won by Henry Algert of sailing the Stormy. The Eighth Annual Thanksgiving Lightning Regatta was won away from home the first time by District Secretary Marold Eyestone. Skipper Marold had come after this Elmer Muhl Perpetual each year except one. Perseverance won out.

The Fleet Championship is a series of races sailed over the period of a year and the winner was Harrison Amos, which meant he got out there the greatest number of times.

The best news of the fleet was the launching of Dave and Joanne Wright's new Wright One. It is truly a thing of beauty painted a bougainvillea purple with chartreuse deck and inside paint along with ample mahogany.

We lost Carl J. Ackerman to the fleet after 13 years of racing and promoting the Lightning Class. The Glori B, which had become like Mary's little lamb to Carl and Teddy for everywhere they went the Glori B was sure to go, was sold to the Cabrillo. Beach fleet and has entered the racing with that group. We're sure that if the Glori's owner doesn't enter her in the race she will break loose and go in herself since she was born with racing in her blood and loves it.

Carl and Teddy are becoming the owners of an Herschoff 28 foot auxiliary ketch in preparation of some cruising time coming up. This brand new pride will be christened the Mocking Bird.

Visitors this year were Wally and Miki Hawkings of the Kaneohe fleet, Hawaii. They joined the group on an overnight cruise to Fort Rosecrans Cove in September.

CUBA LAKE FLEET (115)

Lake Erie District

Based on Cuba Lake, New York

Fleet Captain Albert Collins
Fleet Secretary Ward Wilday
Fleet Champion Karl Fahrner
Runner-Up C. P. Clark

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
398	Black Maria	Scott Rich and Robert Perrigo
452	S'amusez	Dr. L. F. Dietter
692	Rosemaryn	K. Van der Horst
829	Nereid	H. A. Vincent
876	.....	F. J. Jerge
1167	.....	Foss Murray
1453	Chlo-e	D. W. Miller
1693	.....	T. Latimer
1955	Roseanne	Albert Collins
2987	Frolic	C. P. Clark
3415	.....	George Holbrook
3478	White Cap	Dr. Lawrence Older
5267	Dubloon	Gerald Myers

Cuba Lake Yacht Club was busy long before the first boat was launched. A permanent club site was purchased, bulldozed, and dredged. We were hard at work to make it suitable for dock facilities. A 150 foot dock was then built, and a club house is planned in the near future.

This season started May 30, Memorial Day, with an informal race. This was followed by the Mountain Spring Series which helped the skippers with their crews to tune-up for the regular season.

Our races were held each Sunday afternoon throughout the summer with 25 to 30 boats answering the starting gun. The Lightning fleet has grown from six boats a few years back to fifteen this year and is the largest class represented.

Our skippers started this year to take in outside regattas,

these included Marble Head and Red Jacket regattas.

At this writing Robert Perrigo and Scott Rich plan to take their Black Maria to the St. Petersburg Regatta.

We had a very well organized season, with trophies presented to the different classes at a Labor Day Banquet.

One highlight for this season was a return match with Silver Lake, and this year was Cuba Lake's turn to take the honors.

ISLAND BAY LIGHTNING FLEET (117)

Based on Lake Springfield, Springfield, Ill.

Fleet Captain Ted Haller
Fleet Secretary Philip White

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
212	Parader	Godfrey C. Blackburn & H. E. Colby
2103	Melody	Charles E. Phillips
2210	Yoo-Hoo	W. F. Haycock
2475	Pegasus	Pat Doyle
2499	Ipsa Facto	Terry Webster
2553	Reva Lee	David Wilson
2589	Hi-Ho	Ted Haller
2590	Mimi	Philip White
2591	Rascal	Wm. Dellert
3632	Merry Ann	Francis G. White
5454	Highjack	John Gard

Fleet 117 was seriously plagued this year with a severe case of "No Wateritis". Our lake at the start of the season was about six feet below normal and progressed to about twelve feet by the end of the season which curtailed all racing activities for the summer. In spite of the low water however, most of the boats went in for a little pleasure sailing.

WESTERN NARRAGANSETT BAY, FLEET (119)

Based on Narragansett Bay, East Greenwich, R. I.

Connecticut District

Based on Narragansett Bay, R. I.

Sailing on Narragansett Bay, East Greenwich, R. I.

Fleet Captain Jack Houghton
Fleet Secretary Dr. Samuel Rouslin
Fleet Champion Ed Stevens, "Skidoo"
Runner-Up Jerry Williams, "Osprey"

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
3	Waluka	David, Virginia and Richard Berndt
1577	Kitonuck	William Macomber
2338	Cutstausha	Dr. Samuel and Jean Rouslin
2347	Tasa	Nathan Hale
3189	Symbol	John Heffler
3273	Windsong	Marjorie Hampson
3289	Gismo	John and Merle Houghton
3387	Zig-Zag	Ted Thomas
3390	Jinnee	William Essley
3434	Ecurb	Donald and Barbara Bruce
3452	Jabo	Robert McGarry
3488	Typhoon	Charles Phiifer
3527	Moisture	
	Monster	Robert Greene
3595	Little Dipper	Mike Iacono
3970	Skidoo	W. Edwin and Virginia Stevens
4228	Blitz	Ken. and Stuart Mason
5071	Zim Baby	Richard Krollicki
5193	Osprey	Jerry Williams
	Martha	Newport Training Station
5613	Highlander	John & David Gordon

Enthusiasm has reached an all time high in Narragansett Bay this year, with twenty Lightnings in the fleet. The Championship was based on fourteen Regattas sponsored by a different yacht club each week under the overall guidance of the N. B. Y. A.

Ed Stevens' "Skidoo" dominated the final standings; piling up a total of 100 out of a possible 108 points. Ed was under continuous pressure from the younger skippers, John and David Gordon, Jerry Williams, and Dick Krollicki. The Regatta sailed at Newport will be most remembered of all. The starting gun was fired without the R. C. posting the course designation so the skippers improvised their own course. The weather which followed proved this to be a disastrous choice—during which flat calms, line squalls, adverse tides, fluky winds, and blinding



Ed Stevens' "Skidoo" 1954 Champ

rain all plagued us and prevented anyone from finishing before sundown.

Our Wednesday night series, more of a family affair, drew about eight entries each week, for ten races. Kroflyte, Osprey and Cutshausha, took the first three places. This series was sailed from our home club at East Greenwich.

Socially the fleet was active with a chowder party at Potters Cove and a Rendezvous at Greene River as the main events. We were represented in the Connecticut District Championship Series at Stonington by Dick Kroliki and Ed Stevens. It was our first venture into inter-fleet competition and we hope to develop further along these lines.

The season ended abruptly one Tuesday morning with the tropical disturbance known as "Carol". Three boats are a total loss, two have been replaced, twelve lost their masts; three boats sold within the fleet, and two new members have just joined up.

MAMARONECK LIGHTNING FLEET (122)

Western Long Island Sound District

Based on Long Island Sound, Mamaroneck, N. Y.

Fleet Captain	Franz Pick
Fleet Secretary	Bob Marcus
Fleet Champion	Al Winslow and Sam Braun in "The Lark"
Runner-Up	Seymour B. Hordell & Eddie Jacobs in "Avenger"

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
1288	As De Pick IV	Franz Pick
3730	The Lark	Al Winslow and Sam Braun
4150	C-Mist II	Irv and Shirley Meyer
4210	La-Bebob II	Betty & Bob Marcus
4918	Avenger	S. Hordell and E. Jacobs

Fleet Captain Pick, having heard of the interest of seven local skippers in buying Lightnings for the 1954 season, asked them to sail with this fleet until they could organize their own in 1955. In addition to those listed above, the fleet raced three additional boats, the owners of which did not join the LCA this year for one reason or another.

We, therefore, had an eight-boat race just about Saturday and Sunday until mid-summer when due to the enthusiasm of the gang, this was increased to two races on each day. Competition was close and keen all summer, with fractional points separating each position at the end. Winslow, Braun, Hordell and Jacobs are to be doubly congratulated as none of them had sailed Lightnings before.

To get the feeling of competition outside the fleet, several of the skippers participated in Larchmont Race Week as well as some other YRA events. The fleet did not send a boat to the Districts.

In 1955, as "old-timers" and members of the newly chartered Greenhaven Lightning Fleet No. 260, we are hoping to really revive Lightning sailing in Mamaroneck Harbor.

RED JACKET YACHT CLUB (125)

Sailing on Cayuga Lake, Seneca Falls, N. Y.

Fleet Captain	E. R. Smith, Jr.
Fleet Secretary	David K. Elwell
Fleet Champion	David K. Elwell
Runner-Up	Frank M. Knight

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
572		R. A. Batty
2721		W. B. Smith
2986		F. M. Knight
3429		John Brady
4902		W. H. Lamb
4903		David Morehouse
4904		D. K. Elwell
4905		J. Caldwell
4906		E. R. Smith, Jr.

1954 was one of the most active years for Lightning Fleet 125 at the Red Jacket Yacht Club on Cayuga Lake. Extremely close competition was experienced throughout the entire season.

A total of 24 races were sailed. These were broken down into the Spring, Summer and Fall series. Frank Knight, in Lightning 2986, won the Spring series. Herb Lamb, Commodore of the Red Jacket Yacht Club, sailing Lightning No. 4902 won the Summer and Fall series.

An indication of the extreme competitiveness of sailing is shown by the fact that Dave Elwell, sailing Lightning No. 4904, won the season championship despite the fact that he did not win either of the three series sailed during the Summer. Final point standing for the season was as follows:

NAME	BOAT NO.	POINTS
David K. Elwell	4904	88
Frank M. Knight	2986	85
Herb Lamb	4902	84

On July 30, 31, and August 1st the 20th Annual Central New York Regatta was held at Red Jacket Yacht Club at Seneca Falls, N.Y.; home port for Lightning Class Fleet No. 125. As usual, of the 137 boats entered representing 7 classes, the largest class was a Fleet of 33 Lightnings. At the end of three days of hard racing, notable because of very heavy winds all three days, Dr. John McIntosh, Lightning No. 4879 of the Newport Yacht Club at Rochester, New York proved to be the champion of the Lightning Fleet in the Central New York Association.

On August 27, 28, and 29th Area Elimination races for the Mallory Cup were held between District champions representing the St. Lawrence Valley Yacht Racing Association, the Lake Yacht Racing Association, and the Central New York Yacht Racing Association. These races were held at Red Jacket using the boats of Lightning Fleet No. 125. These Eliminations were won by Karl Smithers, former International Lightning Class champion, who represented the Lake Yacht Racing Association. Karl went on to sail at New Orleans.

SAVANNAH LIGHTNING FLEET (127)

Southeastern District

Based on Wilmington River, Savannah, Ga.

Fleet Captain	John McIntosh
Fleet Secretary	E. W. Bell
Fleet Champion	John Baker
Runner-Up	John McIntosh

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
8	Snack II	H. L. Backus, Jr.
68	Hurricane	O. T. & James F. McIntosh
265		Henry Buckley
267	Four Winds	Sam Varnedoe
801	Skidaway	Charlton Theus
2089	Hells' Bells'	Spencer Hellekson
2285	Misty II	Paul Hellstrom
*2298		David Johnson
2619	Jezebel	E. W. Bell
3047		Thomas Oxnard
3067	Winward	
	Lady	W. W. Sprague
3152	Helena	B. F. Diamond
*3260	Winbag	Evelyn Exley
3515	Skimmer	R. O. Sprague
3681	Sea Pup	Frank Peoples
3698	Flash	John Wyly
3882	Debet	R. B. Baldrige, II
3998	Geechee Gal	J. H. Baker
4671	Wild Goose	R. G. Allen
5098	Scalawag, IV	John McIntosh

Fleet 127 can again look back to a successful season of racing, both on its local Wilmington River course, and the South Atlantic area and Florida. John McIntosh and Ross Allen were our ambassadors to Florida, going to St. Pete for the Mid-Winters in February, and to Miami for the Southeastern District Championships June 11, 12 and 13.

The fleet began its series racing in June with a somewhat reduced number of boats from the previous year, but with some changes in ownership and general improvements in the performance of some boats the quality and competitiveness of the races was excellent. A very interesting system of week-end regattas was tried, which enabled the fleet to sail a series of twelve local races for the fleet championship in addition to a very active outside schedule.

John Baker in the Geechee Gal regained the fleet championship and the beautiful Diamond Trophy, from John McIntosh who was runner-up this year. John McIntosh was the winner of the Savannah Yacht Club's three day Annual Fourth of July Regatta with John Baker second and Dave Johnson, one of our new members, in his Whing Ding a very close third in a jam-up series which was tied going into the third race between these boats. John McIntosh won the Demere Bowl, emblematic of South Atlantic Lightning Championship at Mt. Pleasant, S. C., July 22, 23, 24 with Ross Allen the Runner-up.

In addition to class racing, a series of Mallory and Sear Sup elimination races provided extremely interesting and highly competitive features which revealed the value of other activities which had been promoted largely by members of the Lightning fleet.

The first event was the club Sear or junior eliminations. The four entries had all been members of sailing classes organized by members of Fleet 127 and had learned much of their sailing in Lightnings. The winner of our Savannah club eliminations won the South Atlantic Association finals and was defeated by only 1/4 point by the Southern Yacht Club crew from New Orleans who took third in the National Finals. Both the Association and Regional semi-finals were held at Savannah in Lightnings and the fleet was proud of the fine racing afforded by the boats and of the fact that the fleet had taken the lead in organizing and handling these events which proved that the Lightning is the finest all-around boat for racing, teaching, and day-sailing available.

Senior eliminations for club and Association were also held in Savannah in Lightnings, with John Baker representing the Association in the Area IV semi-finals in Sarasota, Florida.

Members of the Fleet participated in other events such as a cruise to Skidaway Island with picnic lunch, the annual Burnt-pot Steeplechase with its usual humorous atmosphere, and team racing with other classes.

We are expecting several of our fine former junior sailors to join the fleet as Lightning skippers next summer, adding to the number of active racers and providing increased competition for the fleet.

Dixie District PATAPSKUT LIGHTNING FLEET (128) Based on Magoth River, Md.

Fleet Captain	Bert Wagner
Fleet Secretary	Bert Wagner
Fleet Champion	Herman Henschen in "Kibitzer"
Runner-Up	Bill (W. H.) Klarner

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
286		Robert Baker
		Cal Hubbard
663	Black Hole	
	Devil	William E. Klarner
967	Mox	Nolan E. White
1356		E. Preston Carter
1846	Yankee	Oliver LaDew
3088	Buckaroo	Bert Wagner
3140	Kibitzer	Herman Henschen
3565	Su Su II	C. Thomas Stott
3636	Thunder	Charles Perry
3708	Blitz	Daniel S. Lynch
4835	Shillalah	Joseph Danko
4917	Sally-K	William H. Klarner

Although the number of boats which fleet No. 128 lists on its roster increases from year to year, fleet activity is decreasing to the point where it is practically non-existent. Fleet races scheduled for the Spring of 1954 were poorly attended. The fall series was worse yet with a maximum of two boats showing up for an afternoon's sport. Oh yes, we have plenty of excuses—the family, the house, the job, the boat, and the shore.

The fleet officers this year, as in past years, have tried to attract interest with swap boat races, watermelon races, cruises, and meetings. The interest just isn't there and it hardly seems worthwhile to develop it. (Several Lightnings did get a workout in the Potapskut regatta in June and in the men's and women's Chesapeake Bay Area eliminations.) Active fleet members are going to try to stir up interest again in 1955.



"Kibitzer passing under lee of N.O.D. in Chesapeake Bay Regatta"

Attention
LIGHTNING SAILORS

ST. JOSEPH RIVER YACHT CLUB

and Fleet No. 113

invite you to the

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Our New Yacht Club and Beautiful Beaches
Welcome You and Your Families

Races Will Be On The Open Waters Of Lake Michigan

Get Acquainted At Our Shakedown Regatta, June 18, 19

Write: Lightning Fleet 113

c/o St. Joseph River Yacht Club

St. Joseph, Mich.

MADISON BEACH LIGHTNING FLEET (129)

Connecticut District

Based on Long Island Sound, Madison, Conn.

Fleet Captain	Edward Wilcox
Fleet Secretary	Sandy Poindexter
Fleet Champion	John Pettit
Runner-Up	Edward Wilcox

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
257	Eager Beaver	Edward Wilcox
360	Flossie's Folly	Phillip Judd
937	Restless	C. E. Poindexter
1010	Raja II	John Pettit
1590		John Williams
1835	Mala Hini	Richard C. Maxwell
2214		DeWitt Barlow
2407	Impulse	Donald Hessler
2408	Brush	Ted Fuller
2680	Blue Moon	H. Bakewell
3064		Robert Cairns
3283		Edward LaFarge
3523	Skeegee	Ernest Latham
5127	Follow Me	J. F. Abeel
5214		Hayden Smith
5387		David Hakewessel

In Memoriam
Edward F. Wilcox
88 North Pearl St.
Meriden, Conn.

Ed died suddenly at his home in Meriden on October 24, 1954. He loved boats and the salt water. His Lightning "Eager Beaver" was regularly the first boat in the water in the spring and the last out in the fall. During the winter, it had the garage while the car sat outside in the cold.

Ed was Captain of Fleet 129 in 1954. He was a great guy to race with, and a true sportsman to race against. We all liked Ed, and will miss his quiet humor.

Madison's largest Lightning fleet saw extremes of wind and



DeWitt Barlow and H. Bakewell Fleet 129.

weather on Long Island Sound as soon as the season began. The first official race started at 2:00 P.M. June 27, 1954 and was finally called at 6:00 P.M. because of no wind. We decided to try again the next day, Sunday, and it turned out to be a test of sailors and equipment. There were broken spars, rudders, tillers sheets and halliards, capsizings and swampings. All in all, after everyone had been accounted for, four boats managed to cross the finish line out of fourteen starters. It was a real "everyone on the high side" day.

In spite of Hurricane "Carol" bringing an abrupt end to our season, it was the greatest ever. The Juniors, now numbering seventy, were clamoring for a race every time there was a breeze. They raced out to Faulkners Island for a picnic lunch and then raced back home. Tom Holihan was first in No. 1590 and Willie Smith was second in No. 5214. The July Junior series was won by Sita LaFarge with Henry Bakewell second and Sally Barlow third. The August Junior series was won by Tom Holihan, Willie Smith was second and Sally Barlow again third.

We had a Moonlight race series which Sandy Poindexter won followed by Don Hessler, Sally Barlow, and Dick Maxwell.

The official races turned into a battle for second and third places because John Pettit, and old hand at racing but a new Lightning owner, ably assisted by his brother Lou Pettit and Lou's wife, were walking off with first place. We all tried hard to catch them and they were caught more than once, but John and his crew were consistently up there and fighting hard all the way. John was season's Champion, Ed Wilcox was Runner-up and Bob Redfern was third.

Hurricane "Carol" capsized and and dismantled all but two boats in the fleet. It completely destroyed three boats and left others in poor shape.

We all wish it hadn't happened, but from reports I have heard about orders for new boats and more people wanting to sail and race, Hurricanes may dampen our spirits in more ways than one, but not for long.

LAKE WASHINGTON LIGHTNING FLEET (132)

Pacific Northwest District

Based on Lake Washington at Seattle, Wash.

Fleet Captain	Peter J. McTavish
Fleet Secretary	Russell E. Winslow

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
1262	Holgazan	J. S. Abel & Desmond Sessinghaus
1543	Zeta	E. E. Miller
2358		R. A. Bower
2379	Ma-de	Geo. C. Martin
2437	Sub-deb	Pete McTavish
2994		Dr. Jas. W. Haviland & Dr. Donald W. Sparkman
3111		Dr. John F. Ramsey
3167		Phil E. Church
3264		Donald D. Stott
3316		Fred E. Gleason
3550	Donner	Russell E. Winslow
3722	Myra	Tom Gahan
3759		Dr. Norman Chivers
3772		Charles W. Buehler
3791	Barby J.	Bill and Bob Davidson
4064		Thomas A. Jobs
4650		Dr. John Aberle
4746		Stanley P. Johnson
5669		Harry V. Wenger, Jr.
5728		Robert Price

The highlight of the Lake Washington Lightning Fleet Season was the running of the North American Yacht Racing Union Pacific Northwest Elimination Races in June. Fleet No. 132 provided all the boats for these races and Fleet members assisted in the running of the races. A dark horse boat (No. 3550 'BLITZ') which had not been previously raced turned up as top boat in the Fleet. A close second was 1262 'HOLGAZAN'. The placement of these boats is a tribute to their builders, Jack Abel and Des Sessinghaus of Tacoma, Wash.

A large number of boat sales took place during the year. These involved approximately half the active racing boats in the Fleet. As a result, race participation was comparatively low. However, with the addition of so many new skippers, the Fleet looks forward to a more active season next year.

MANHASSET BAY LIGHTNING FLEET (133)
Western Long Island Sound District
Sailing on Manhasset Bay, Port Washington, N. Y.

Fleet Captain..... Arthur Kelley
 Fleet Secretary..... James E. Roantree, Jr.
 Fleet Champion..... Andy Connell in "Blue Cloud"
 Runner-Up..... Joan Weigold in "Mercury"

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
463	Mossback	Fred Janson, Jr.
1746	Joker	Frank J. Kelly
1881	Holly	Paul Hollenbach
2122	Scotch Mist	John J. Fitzsimmons
2391	Lit'n Bug	John Bledsoe, Jr.
2466	Bijope	William H. Miller
2672	Susan	Marge Kodet
2673		Thomas Hand
2785		Samuel Sloan, Jr.
2865	Windward	Herbert Lyall
3063	Micky	Ann McNeer
3302		Charles Harris
3356	Seth Anne	Marcus G. Christ
3492	Marie Anne	Edgar P. Dunlaevy
3507	Red Head	Thomas J. Gox
3573	Denet Chee	Marie Carment
3634	Malchy	Cedric, Dick & John Lane
3729	Nimbus	William Warden
3803	Sea Star	Ken Beckendorf
3808	Acapac	Arthur H. Buhr
4107	Two Belles	Art Kelley, Dick Dobroth
4110	Panther	Wm. Milton
4222	Sportin Life	James Forman
4249	Pinkydor	Peter H. Pinkernell
4250	Chlorophyll	George Quisenberry
4253	Joynda III	Emanuel Hayt
4604	Nonchalant	James E. Roantree, Jr.
4607	Kelpie	John Benisch
4610	Blue Cloud	W. Connell
4672		Lewis McClure
4851	Smarty	
	Pants II	Robert & J. Mackin
4916	Blitzen	Wm. & John Gallagher
4968	Eight Ball	Marvin Chandler
5002	Mercury	Joan Weigold
5147	Bottoms Up	Kenneth Haupt
5324	Brulincra	J. W. Stark
5403	Hi Life	Richard Rose
5404		Manhasset Bay Junior Y.C.
5616	Dream Boat	Mary Ellen Cooney

The 1954 season was an extremely active and successful series of races in spite of many days when the race had to be called off for lack of wind. With 39 boats registered in our fleet we usually had 14-18 starters and several times had 25 starters for a regular Saturday or Sunday race.

The season got off to a good start with three races over the Memorial Day Weekend, and the Spring series continuing through June; and Andy Connell carrying off top honors.

The July series saw 16 boats qualifying in a nine race series that got a good start over the 4th of July weekend. Joan Weigold took an immediate lead but lost out to George Quisenberry while she was enjoying herself in Bermuda. We concluded the series with a really full day of sailing: In the morning there was a six boat team race in which the Manhasset Bay Yacht Club team defeated the Port Washington Yacht Club sailing in a fresh southerly. That afternoon we had the usual Saturday race in a good stiff wind. Then that night we had a fleet beach party, but due to the heavy sailing in the afternoon Jim Roantree was the only one to sail to the beach. We had a good turnout, but it came to an abrupt end when a nasty thunder squall hit and caught Jim sails set just off shore, and capsized him. He came back to take a close second the next afternoon.

The August series started off with a five boat team race in which the Manhasset Bay Yacht Club out drifted an Independent team. The series was won by a consistent Bill Miller, but not far behind was a newcomer to the fleet, Mary Ellen Cooney in her "Dream Boat". At the end of the series we had another beach party and a night drifting contest.

Our fall series started the week after Manhasset Bay Race Week, which as you may recall was interrupted by hurricane "Edna", and our last race was held October 10th with 12 boats. Bill Miller took the top honors, followed by Andy Connell. Our

annual awards dinner was held very early this year (Sept. 15th) so that most of our members would still be at home and half of the fleet did attend.

We are proud of Andy Connell for winning the Larchmont Race Week, and for taking second at the Noroton Races and also second at the District Championship. Also we are proud of Dick Rose for winning the Bayside Regatta; and of Joan Weigold for her performance during the Manhasset Bay Race Week.

Next year should be an even better year as we build up interest in team races both within the fleet and against other fleets, and of course more beach parties.

NOROTON LIGHTNING FLEET (134)
Connecticut District
Based on Central Long Island Sound, Conn.

Fleet Captain..... Robert B. Crane
 Fleet Secretary..... William T. Howe
 Fleet Champion..... Renwick Case & Robert N. Bavier, Jr., in "Rabbit"
 Runner-Up..... Sue & Sandy Widman in "Spitfire"

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
164	Javlyn	John Haesler
1380	Alouette	Felix M. A. Noblet
2479	Bon Ami	James W. Tower
2804	Tiger Lilly	Cleveland White
3052	Pokalong	Ed King
3108	Wizard	Sam Dorrance
3391	Merry Maid	George Edwards
3806	Spitfire	Sue Widman
3885	Trim	Walter G. Crump, Jr.
3973	Pinon	William Wilson
4108	Shmoo	Kim O'Gorman
4143	Just-us	Justus Hoyt
4186	Scud	Charles E. Forsdick
4601	Flirt	Nancy Lexow
4717	Mystery	William Howe
4872	Rabbit	Renwick Case & Robert N. Bavier
4942	Cinderella Too	Noroton Junior Yacht Club
5322	Symie II	W. A. Kipp, Jr.
5339	Jimlin II	Bob Crane
5358	Four Belles	Tom Ross, Jr.

At Noroton, 1954 was the year the Lightnings took over from the Stars! Twenty-one races were sailed on ten week ends, the results showing the makings of a hot fleet.

Fleet Performances

1. With Darien Fleet No. 225 First seven to finish were Noroton Boats.
2. At the Pequot Invitation Four of first five boats were Noroton. All seven Noroton entries placed in first 14, with 31 contestants.
3. With Norwalk Fleet No. 230 First, 4th and 5th were Noroton boats.
4. At the Noroton Invitation First six places won by Noroton.

Individual Performances

1. St. Petersburg, Fla. Bob Crane represented Noroton, with a 17th out of 57.
2. Commodore's Race (Club) 1st place—Wally Crump
3. Pequot Regatta 1st place—Bob Bavier
4. Larchmont Race Week 3rd place—Noroton Jr. Y.C. (out of 80)
5. Connecticut Districts 1st place—Wally Crump
2nd place tie—Bob Crane
6. Vice-Commodore's Race (Club) 1st place—Wally Crump
7. Long Island Sound Lightning—Championship 1st place—Wally Crump
8. Men's Sailing Championship of Long Island Sound 1st place—William S. Cox
9. Norwalk Race 1st place—Sue and Sandy Widman
10. Rear Commodore's Race (Club) 1st place—Bob Smith
11. Internationals Wally Crump in the middle after losing crew overboard, et cetera!

12. Sailing Championship of
North America—Mallory
—Cup Series, New Or-
leans

2nd place—William S. Cox, skip-
per; Wally Crump, crew; Bob
Bavie, crew.

13. "One of a Kind Regatta"
sponsored by "Yachting"
at Riverside

Bob Crane represented Lightning
Class creditably, tying for 11th
when time allowed would have
placed Lightning 16th out of 27.

Whistles!

Well, the rest of us forming the 2nd division had a lot of fun
too. Sundays, Adie Kipp raced with Norwalk and walked off
with their Fleet Championship! Helpful suggestions from Bill Cox
and the other leaders speeded up several of the boats and did
much to sustain tail-end interest.

Most Interesting Race

The Hipkins Trophy Series determining the Sailing Champi-
onship of Long Island Sound and a preliminary for the Mallory
Cup Series was sailed in our Lightnings, off Noroton. With famed
sailors such as Coney Shields, Bus Mossbacher, Warner Wilcox,
Bob Bavie, Glit Shields, Skip Purcell and Bob Crane competing,
Noroton's Bill Cox took the series by a 1/4 point over Mossbacher,
and 1/4 point over Purcell. The 10th and final race proved to be
the most suspenseful seen in a long time, with a capricious four-
knot breeze scrambling the windward leg on which Mossbacher,
covering Purcell, unexpectedly rounded first. Cox rounded in 7th,
needing a 5th to win the series from Mossbacher. Mossbacher,
with the wind dying, drifted over the line first but somehow Cox
found air enough to pull up to fifth, dropped back then using
every skill at his command, glided slowly back into fifth—and the
title.

The Lightning Championship of Long Island Sound

After Noroton's Wally Crump won this event twice in
succession, Sam Knox, District Commodore, offered the suggestion
that one of the Western Connecticut Fleet 7 Clubs exchange on
the event in 1955. This was agreeable to all participating, i.e.,
Black Rock, Cold Spring, Norwalk, Pequot, Northport, Execution
Rocks, Branford, Manhasset, Housatonic Indian Harbor, Darien
Wadawanuck and Larchmont.

Acknowledgments

Flag Officers Purce O'Gorman and Tom Ross provided the
spark and drive (sometimes from the NYNH & H's 5:32),
making the difference between just a "sailing" fleet and a
"racing" fleet.

The 1955 Districts

Noroton will play host to the Fleets of the Connecticut
District once again this coming season, by which time we should
be tuned up to white-hot heat and ready for all comers. To those
who join with us, fair winds!



Wally Crump receives Noroton Challenge Cup as winner of 2nd
Annual Long Island Sound Lightning Championship. Commodore
John Clark presenting trophy, Gail Talbot and Cindy Crump
(not in photo) crewed.

MOBILE BAY LIGHTNING FLEET (135)

Southern District

Based on Mobile Bay, Fairhope, Ala.

Fleet Captain	Hoyt S. Greenbury
Fleet Secretary	Wheatley Cleveland
Fleet Champion	Edw. B. Overton in "Mauvillian"
Runner-Up	Wheatley Cleveland in "Sugar Foots"

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
3019		John R. Shinnors
3642		Grand Hotel Dev. Corp.
3649	Amber	Hoyt S. Greenbury and Hugh Cole
3651	Black Magic	Jim Parker
3802	Sugar Foots	Wheatley Cleveland
4690	Sweet Lady	H. C. Slaton
4705	Mescalero	Robert Hunter
5145	Mauvillian	Edw. B. Overton

The big event for Fleet 135 this past summer was the Over-
ton Regatta held at the Fairhope Yacht Club, on October 2nd
and 3rd. Eugene Walet, III, the North American Yacht Racing
Union champion, took first prize winning all three races. Juby
Wynn and Paul Schreck, both of the Southern Yacht Club of
New Orleans, won second and third prizes respectively. Souvenir
trophies were given to each Skipper and free breakfast was served
at the Fairhope Yacht Club on the morning of the last races and
also free rooms were furnished all participants and their families
by the Colonial Inn.

PORT CLINTON SAILING CLUB (136)

Ohio-Indiana District

Based on Lake Erie, Ohio

Fleet Captain	Edward Reifschneider
Fleet Secretary	Bill Benedict
Fleet Champion	Pinky Allan in "Bad News"
Runner-Up	Robert Englebeck in "Meat Wagon"

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
963	Chaz-Lyn	Charles Leiner
966	Qwitcher-	
	beliak	Bob Acker and Rip Perry
1004	Flying Mist	Edward Reifschneider
1059	Rover Boy	Ray Lambert
1485	Horn Pipe	Larry Imber
2526	Froken	Stens, Lowell and Barbara Peterson
2540	Gin Gin	Lee Bracken
4668	Meat Wagon	Robert Englebeck
4888	Lay Too	Jack Lay
5069	Quick Decision	Larry Hattwick
5432	Bad News	Pinky Allan
5824	San-De II	Charles DeWitt

It was a banner season for Fleet 136!

The St. Petersburg Mid-winter Championship Regatta was
attended by Bob Englebeck and Pinky Allan. We were eager to
get our fleet racing started this year so we had a spring series of
races, starting the first Sunday in May. It was a lot of work
getting ready so early but proved to be a lot of fun and a fine
tune-up for the fleet. Winner was Pinky Allan; our Fleet Captain,
Ed Reifschneider, runner-up and Jack Lay third. A Spring Series
is planned for the 1955 season with trophies for the first three
boats as well as prizes for each crew member. We welcome visitors
that would like to get in some early racing.

Englebeck and Allan then participated in the Great Lakes
Championships at Toledo. Larry Hattwick also went to Toledo
to sail in races at the Bay View Yacht Club. We started to get
up some steam when Bob Englebeck entered the Commodore
Kendall Series at the Crescent Sail Club. Bob sailed in the money
throughout the series, getting nosed out of second place by one
point, returning home with third place. Pinky Allan took a
third in a weekend race at Lake Wawasee and a second in the
Put-in-Bay Regatta.

Four boats represented our fleet in the Districts at Cleveland.
Although none of our boats placed we had a wonderful time.
We were glad to have Pinky elected to District Secretary.

The following month we were hosts at our annual Port
Clinton Yacht Club Regatta. Fifty-two Boats participated. First



Getting ready, at Regatta, Fleet No. 136 and Visitors.

place in the Lightning Class went to Dick Krauss, second to Pinky Allan and third to Ed Kennedy. This event has been growing each year and we hope it continues to do so.

Allan took his "Bad News" to the Presidents Cup Regatta where some real heavy weather sailing was experienced. Bob Englebeck and Harvey Snider sailed with Allan, and we thought this combination would surely come home with "good news", but didn't.

This year, for the first time, we held a Fall Race Series, starting with Labor Day Weekend and racing each Sunday in September. The same schedule is planned for 1955 and again visitors are welcome to participate. Prizes for first three places. Pinky also won this series, Englebeck coming in second and Lay third.

Fifty-one boats sailed in our annual Snow Flurries Series. Pinky Allan was the winner of the Lightning Class; second, Wes Weidrich, and third Cal Yaudus. This Series is one of the high-

lights of our racing season, and the weather was especially fine this year.

Again Fleet 136 took to the road with six boats going to the Snow Ball Regatta at Buckeye Lake. Englebeck's "Meat Wagon" won first place, and Pinky Allan's "Bad News" came in second! Jack Lay, third place winner in this event last year, had a rather cold and wet experience this year, but he and his crew managed to escape without pneumonia and a good time was had by all.

At this writing we have one new member, Charles DeWitt. Charlie is looking forward to the delivery of his new Olson in time to attend the winter races in St. Petersburg.

GULL LAKE LIGHTNING FLEET (137)

Michigan District

Based on Gull Lake, Mich.

Fleet Captain Sid Skellenger
Fleet Secretary Fred Coggan
Fleet Champion Rev. Ensworth Reisner in
"Holy Smoke"
Runner-Up James Coggan in "By Jimminy"

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
482	Dipsy Doodle	Frank Platt
1070	Jer Jac	John Barth
1988	Nautily	John Fisher
2036	Star Dust	Walter A. Tholen
2343	Brigadoon II	Lester L. Coleman
2901	.....	Kermit Krum
2941	Bordenscow	Al Borden
2945	Water Lou	Homer M. Elwell
2946	Breezalong	Willard G. Bryant
2947	Sum Fun	S. R. Skellenger
3133	Trade Wind	Clayton Cole
3383	Phil-O-Mar	Philip Ordway
4666	Blitzen	James W. Harrison
4744	.....	Paul Ponitz
4764	Holy Smoke	Ensworth Reisner
4410	Rover Boy	Wm. Kriebel
4911	By Jimminy	Fred W. Coggan
4977	Spare Time	Samuel D. Seearns
5187	White Cap	Edward and Tom Butcher
5602	.....	Harold Muntz

The Gull Lake Fleet completed a very successful and happy season at the Labor Day Banquet held by the Yacht Club at the Gull Lake Country Club. Trophies were awarded to the winners and runners-up in both Junior and Senior sections for June series, July series, and August series. The keen competition in our large fleet resulted in six different winners in the six first places. In the Senior section James Coggan won in June, Dr. James Harrison in July, and Rev. Ensworth Reisner in August. The Junior section winners were Richard Howson for June, Otis Ingram in July, and Thayer Reisner in August. Our season Fleet Champion, Ensworth Reisner was closely pursued by thirteen year old Jimmy Coggan.

Of the twenty-four Lightnings now based at Gull Lake, twenty are paid-up members in good standing in our fleet. We hope it will be 100% in 1955! A special assessment levied on the membership enabled us to purchase a mast to be used as emergency replacement for anyone having the misfortune to need one. Fleet Captain Sid Skellenger has offered to store the mast on his premises, and our 1952 Fleet Champion, Jim Harrison, had the "honor" of being the first individual to need the mast when he was D.S.A. during the last official race of our season.

Another feature of our season was the passing of a fleet regulation that we hope will result in all fouls being reported and, hence, all racing rules being known and practiced by all of our skippers. The rule is as follows: "Every foul must be reported to the Race Committee within 24 hours after the race, or another person seeing the foul must report it to the Race Committee within the next 24 hours, thereby disqualifying the fouler and the fouled."

Our fleet was again honored by the presence of "Barney"—Crittenden at a pre-season meeting in May at the Gull Lake Hotel. "Genial Barney" gave us the latest information about our Lightning Class and showed beautiful films of the previous International Regatta.

The Rev. and Mrs. Reisner were hosts to our fleet at a pot-luck dinner in August. The weatherman favored this wonderful party of about seventy-five guests.

We look forward to a happy season in 1955 under our new Captain, Walter "Bud" Tholen. The Fleet re-elected Fred Coggan as Secretary and Treasurer.

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Peter Hannan in Bo Peep, Fleet No. 138 Champ.

HEMPSTEAD HARBOR FLEET (138) Western Long Island Sound District Based on Hempstead Harbor, N. Y.

Fleet Captain..... Peter Hannan
Fleet Secretary..... Maude Kirby
Fleet Champion..... Peter Hannan
Runner-Up..... Charles & Gordon Hurley

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
761		Wesley Bailey
863	Linda	Robert McKinley
1185		Larry Markes, Jr.
1592	Tar	Henry Dumper
1712	Bolero	Charles and Gordon Hurley
1892		George Rudkin
2117	Bo Peep	Peter Hannan
2130	Southerly	Franklin Kolk
2232		George Sullivan and Edward Ryan
2256	Dotnie	C. B. Worley
2267	Bolta	Chester Markowski
2268	Ardepe	Robert D. Palmer
2291	Lark II	Dan Kurshan
2720	Bar	Thomas R. Higgins
2498	Ballerina	Thomas Casey
3017		Hamilton Smith
3414	Our Gang III	Tony J. Fiori
3525	Marapet	Ralph Buermann
3641	Leprechaun	I. C. Tilton
3816	Calvalier's Lady	Robert & Joan Howard
3827	Blue Teal	Warren Ostrom
4106	To-N-Fro	Robert W. & Edna M. Paul
5137		Cliff Schroeder
5236	Chase Me	Maude Kirby
5771	Spanker	Edward Kroepke

The big topic of discussion during the 1954 season was the wind—either too much or too little. Nearly all of the last month—in fact almost one-half the entire season—consisted of drifting matches. Yet the season ended in the now-famous three hurricanes of 1954.

In spite of the vagaries of the weather, several interesting operations were conducted. The first was the 2nd Annual Sea Cliff Yacht Club Invitational Regatta. With entries from five clubs, 30 boats lined up for the starting gun, but for all the 30 boats, weather was our worst competitor.

One race on the first day was cancelled because of no wind. The second day dawned bright and clear with the prayers of all hands answered—wind. But this time too much!! Again one race was cancelled. With typical yachtsmen's stubbornness, however, 15 skippers risked limb and equipment to get in at least one race that day. Our own "Bolero", sailed by Charles and Gordon Hurley finally came out on top with Ted Sheldon of Riverside taking second honors in the regatta and Lynn Osgood of Riverside taking third.

The second big event of the year was the Western Long Island Sound District Championships, held at Sea Cliff during the second week in August. The series consisted of one race on Saturday and two on Sunday.

The weather was again somewhat uncooperative with very little wind either day, and a scattering of raindrops on Sunday. Erratic wind conditions apparently mean little to Fred Hibberd, who continued his mastery of the Long Island Sound fleets by sweeping all three races and carrying off the lion's share of the hardware.

The biggest news among our own skippers was the consistency of our new Fleet Champion, Pete Hannan in "Bo-Peep." Although he had never finished "in the money" before, Pete walked away with first in the 1st Series, second in the 2nd Series and the Fleet Championship for 1954.

Results for the various series were as follows:

1st Series (10 Races)

1. Bo Peep—Pete Hannan
2. Bolero—Charles & Gordon Hurley
3. To 'n Fro—Bob Paul

2nd Series (5 Races)

1. Bolero
2. Bo Peep
3. Southerly—Frank Kolk

Commodore Series (3 Races)

1. Southerly—Frank Kolk
2. To 'n Fro—Dick Scripp
3. Linda—Bob McKinley

Due to damage sustained as a result of hurricane "Carol", the Hempstead Harbor Club was unable to hold its annual Labor Day Race. The Sea Cliff club filled in and sponsored a single contest which was won by Pete Hannan with newcomer Ed Kropke, second, and Maude Kirby, third.

The final blow from the weatherman came when the annual Lightning picnic was rained out.

In spite of the unfriendliness of the elements, our fleet grew larger than ever before and we all look forward to another big year in 1955.

CONESUS LIGHTNING FLEET (140)

Central New York District

Based on Conesus Lake, Lakeville, N. Y.

Fleet Captain..... Nelson Bruce
Fleet Secretary..... Roy Hendrickson
Fleet Champion..... Chuck Doerflinger in
"Lamb Chop"
Runner-Up..... Nelson Bruce in "Susan B"

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
139		Bud Hanley
196	Carita II	Roy H. Hendrickson
413	Decoy	R. L. Henderson
791		Herbert J. LePage
1313	The Flying Dutchman	Mary Ellen Corrigan
2850	Nalnacs III	Wm. J. Scanlan
2851	Slippin Thru	Arthur Marshall
3467	Lamp Chop	Chas. Doerflinger
5601	Susan B	Nelson F. Bruce



Fleet Champ No. 140 Chuck Doerflinger at tiller of Lamb Chop.

The "winner and still champion" of Conesus Lake Lightning Fleet is Chuck Doerflinger who sailed his "Lamb Chop" to victory again this season. Pacing a close second was Nelson Bruce in his new boat "Susan B". Bob Henderson won third place honors in "Decoy". Our Saturday Series was won by Bob Henderson, with Nelson Bruce in 2nd place and Bill Scanlan finishing 3rd.

We were well represented in various regattas this season. Jim Connell, Glenn Poyzer, Bob Henderson, Nelson Bruce, Bill Scanlan and Art Marshall raced at the Central New York Regatta with Poyzer taking 3rd position honors in the 1st race and Henderson the runner-up in the 3rd race. Sodus Bay Regatta beckoned Doerflinger, Connell, Scanlan, Poyzer and Bruce. Connell and Marshall represented our fleet at the Oneida Regatta while Bruce, Scanlan and Connell raced at the Central New York District Eliminations at Canandaigua.

The summer was featured by a lack of wind and poor sailing weather, a condition certainly not typical of Conesus Lake. To help solve the problem of make-up races, this year we inaugurated the Wednesday night "after dinner" races. This proved so successful that we have high hopes of continuing this practice next year.

With plans in the making for a Spring Dinner to officially open the '55 Season, we are eagerly awaiting the time when we shall again be racing for that all important cup.

MATTITUCK LIGHTNING SOUND FLEET (141)

Western Long Island District

Based on Great Peconic Bay, N. Y.

Fleet Captain Ned Thoet
Fleet Secretary Sue Smith
Fleet Champion William Uhl in "Spark"
Runner-Up Paul Suter in "Mint Julep"

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
323	Kittiwake	A. McCurry
566	Mannana	Wilbur July
1644	.....	G. Elliot Goldsmith
2070	Clam	Edward Gibson
3199	Fang	Bruce Carruthers

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
3281	.....	Harry Taylor
3524	Spark	William Uhl
4103	Salteen	H. Baylis
4149	Back Wash	Edwin Ehlers
4251	Black Jack	Robert and James Connor
4602	Ballerina	Doug and Jane Seeth
4882	Gremlin II	Rodger and Robert Schauf
4883	Imp	Alan and Geo. McKnight
5005	Princess	Susan Smith
5344	Mint Julep	Paul Suter

Fleet No. 141 held up well in boat registrations in '54 but racing averages were down. Our Fleet representatives again did very well in outside regattas. Billy Uhl in "Spark" regained his Eastern Long Island Yacht Racing Association Championship, successfully defended his Greater Long Island District title for the 4th time at the Hewlet Point Yacht Club and held on to the Fleet Championship in an all winning year for "Spark". It was a fitting finale for this fine sailing sportsman as he temporarily puts "Spark" on the beach and serves at hitch with the U.S. Army. The best wishes of our Island skippers and sailors go off with Billy and while it will give most of us a rest from following "Spark" we would all rather have Billy back on our starting line.

Paul Suter in No. 5344, the green hulled "Mint Julep" was runner up for the Fleet title and won the annual July 4th American Legion Post No. 861 trophy for the fourth time. "Mint Julep" also won the season trophy presented to the Mattituck Yacht Club Lightnings by the Mattituck Fire Department.

Allan McKnight, sailing "Imp", No. 4883, won the Eastern Long Island Yachting Association junior eliminations for the Presidents Plaque at the Shelter Island Yacht Club. This entitled Allan and his crew to represent the E.L.I.Y.A. in the N.A. Y.R.U. Sear's cup series. Eliminated in the semi-finals at Bridgeport, Conn., Alan finished up by winning the fall Manhasset Bay regatta in his division.

An ill wind that blew no good was hurricane "Carol", the eyes passing directly over our sailing area. Beside the masts of McKnight's "Imp" and Connor's "Black Jack" we lost Wilbur July's "Manana", No. 566. Willy had just redecked his boat with fiber glass and tuned her so that she was showing her transom to the rest of the Fleet in several races.

To lose a boat just as you start winning is a blow, but should lend encouragement towards getting another. Hard workers for Fleet activities and good sailors we all hope Willy and Jane will put together a deal and starboard tack the Fleet in '55.

Bob Connor returned from a trip to Europe in time to win the Southold Yacht Club Invitational Regatta as Fleet No. 141 took the first 4 places.

More inter fleet competition is needed in our Greater Long Island District if our boats are to do well in regional events. Members of our fleet seem like the only ones willing to travel any distance to encourage this phase of Lightning activity. With so many sailing events taking place in Lightnings we hope to see a lot more action in 1955.

HAWAII LIGHTNING FLEET (143)

Based on Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii

Fleet Captain Bill Hole
Fleet Secretary Philip Fisk
Fleet Champion Cy Gillette in "Nubbin"
Runner-Up Bill Hole in "Genie"

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
1622	Blue Streak	William Olsen
1675	Twinkle	Eric Lane
2008	Lanikila	Murray Youlin
2069	Victoria	Phil Fisk
2425	Kokokahi	Kurt Moderow
3154	Nubbin	Cy Gillette
3190	Pookela	Al Hyde
3262	Kuuiipo	P. A. Hagens
3263	Conchita	Fred Moeller
3305	Mahapi	Ramon Buisseret
3825	Mikihala	W. R. Hawkins
3910	Wiki-Wiki	Art Myhre
4529	Genie	Wm. L. Hole
5198	Diggins	Bill O'Heron
5199	Capri	Ray Cox
5662	Mick	Al Hyde

The 1954 season, opening in April brought out Cy Gillette with his mouth watering for the Internationals. Cy started practicing by winning the first two trophies of the year—the Irwin Plazue and the Class Championship.

The crews race showed that Herb Jordan, one of Bill Hole's crew members, could really sail the boat with Bill Olsen, new Lightning skipper, and Priscilla Fisk, the only wahine racing, coming in second and third.

The Seabury Bowl was won by Bill Hole with Maestro Gillette taking home the Don Lee, Charlie's Arcade, Kerr, Cowan Shield and Myhre Miniature Trophy, and just to keep things in the family, Cy and his 10 year old son primed enough to win the Al Gillette trophy, with Phil Fisk and Bill Hole bringing up second and third.

Bob Edmondson managed to hold a good lead to win the Commodore Mitchell trophy and the Priscilla Fisk trophy. Bob, incidentally, left for college and will be missed for the next several seasons. The Barbara Jean Hole trophy was won this year by Kurt Moderow who averaged the most number of points without actually winning a race. The Say trophy was won by Waldron Barrere who also helped Cy Gillette in the Detroit Internationals. Wally Hawkins, being away most of the year on a fishing trip off Mexico, returned and finished second in the Myrhe Miniature race.

In the wahine's race, Shirley Hutton showed her tiller charm by beating Virginia Jordan and Mrs. Rees, wife of the Trans Pacific Yacht racing skipper.

The season shows seven different skippers winning trophies and the addition of several new enthusiastic skippers—Bill Olsen, Al Hyde, Bill O'Heron and Fred Moeller.

In the Gillette Challenge series, skippers making up the Kaneohe Yacht Club team were Gillette, Hole, Fisk, Edmondson, and Uhler. For the first time in the history of this trophy, the Kaneohe bunch sailed a keel boat—the Mercury. The races were held off Waikiki with Kaneohe group winning the first race by a healthy margin. Waikiki promptly turned around and won the second race. With a tie score, our team went all out and tried so hard that because of several disqualifications, Waikiki again won the 3rd race. This makes the first time the trophy has left the Kaneohe Yacht Club.

Turn out of mainland Lightnings for the 2nd Hawaii Invitational Regatta was disappointing, with only Skipper Hugh

Jamieson from Dallas, Texas competing. We hope that more skippers will be able to participate two years hence.

Fleet 143 intends to have a new home next year in the form of a brand new Kaneohe Bay Yacht Club on a 5 acre site on Kaneohe Bay. Aloha nui kakou!

SPOFFORD LAKE LIGHTNING FLEET (145)

New England District

Based on Spofford Lake, N. H.

Fleet Captain	Walter Roehrig
Fleet Secretary	Wallace Foster
Fleet Champion	Leonard Pratt
Runner-Up	Fred H. Harris

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
81	Nimbau	Walter Roehrig
1158	Pied Piper	Philip A. & Mary N. Johnson
1312		Walker Hosmer
1739	Bon Joy	Leonard C. & Florence Pratt
2237	Schusser	Carlton C. Buckman
2853	Davisc III	Abe H., David, Victor & Simon Jacobson
3422	Chalana	Charles L., Lorenz S. & Nancy S. Toms
3440	Ida	Arthur L. Rohde
3454	Edith	Dr. Wilton F. Dean
5363		Robert E. Munson
5654	Sandy-Kay	Fred H. Harris

The 1954 sailing season got off to a slow start this year not because of a lack of interest in sailing but because of our newly acquired Yacht Club Property. Our weekends were devoted to work bees instead of our usual Spring tune-up series. Sailing got underway June 13th with the Summer Series of eight races which was won by Leonard Pratt.

On July 10 & 11 The Hewlett Point Fleet No. 58 of Long Island, N. Y. motored to Lake Spofford bringing thirty-one skippers, crews & family for a series of hotly contested inter-fleet races. This was a series of three races between five top skippers from each fleet. It was a weather perfect weekend and the

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New England District Championships Marblehead, Mass., July 1954

sailing good. The Spofford Fleet No. 145 was the eventual winner but our sailor friends from Hewlett say, "Wait 'til next year." July 25th saw the start of the August Series which also was to determine the Fleet Champion.

These races lasted until Sept. 5th and they were a hard fought series all the way for it was not 'til the final race that the winner was decided. Leonard Pratt was again first place winner with Fred Harris second & Charles Toms third.

On July 31 & August 1 many of our skippers trailed their Lightnings to the District Championships at Marblehead, Mass. We were entertained at the Eastern Yacht Club and had a wonderful time sailing in the Yachting Center of the world.

On Sept. 6 we had a special Labor Day race with our newest skipper George Holbrook the winner.

Several of our Lightnings entered the State of Vermont Championships Regatta at Lake Bomoseen, Vt., on Sept. 11 & 12. This Regatta is fast becoming one of New England's larger annual Lightning events.

Lightnings from our Fleet also entered a Handicap race Sept. 26 at Lake Massabesic, N. H. Leonard Pratt came home with the first prize.

We had a lot of good sailing this year and we hope for more of the same next year.

TORONTO BAY LIGHTNING FLEET (146)

Lake Erie District

Based on Lake Ontario, Canada

Fleet Captain	Al Davis
Fleet Secretary	Ted Plummer
Fleet Champion	Al Davis
Runner-Up	Alf Dutton

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
2310	Flying Saucer	Bernard Collison
2366	Baroness	Walter Hubbard
2375	Video	Jim & Ken Taylor
2397	Chinook	E. S. and S. B. Plummer
2433		R. Allen
2600	Skol	John Farrer & A. J. Cormack
3548	Tempest	Alfred Dutton
3662		Fredrick A. Wilson
3877		Leycester I. Arnoldi
4067	Velox II	Stan R. Street
4081	Stinky II	Gord Sandell
4216	Renee	Marcel and Louis Lalonde
4284		Munro Gibson
4433	Leona	James Cousins
4451	Mistress	Bruce Mitchell
4629	Brandy	Phil Hutchison
4630	Nancy Lee II	Rowan H. Wilson
4728		Constantine Costas
4831	Skylark	Larry Hurst
5223		E. G. Hearn
5234		J. R. G. Bleasby
5269		J. W. Wilson
5303		Al Davis



'Overtaking' Fleet No. 146 Toronto Bay

The past season was one of the best on record for the Toronto Bay Lightning Fleet.

The Fleet Championship was one of the most exciting series of races held. Alf Dutton in "Tempest" and Al Davis in "Jada" finished up in a tie with six firsts each and practically the same number of seconds and thirds both totaling the same number of points. Larry Hurst finished third in this series in "Skylark."

The Trade Fair Regatta which was held early in June, was won by Ed Hearn in "Seabiscuit". The Gorman Trophy for the Inter-Club team-race was won by the Queen City Yacht Club with the Royal Canadian Yacht Club second and the National Yacht Club third, each club being represented by three boats.

The Lou Marsh Trophy which goes to the top scorer of the best four out of five Sunday races was won by Alf Dutton who has only been racing for two years. Alf sailed a very good series and won without much trouble. The Fleet Captain's Trophy which is presented to the winner of our 'Round the Island' race was won by Ken Taylor in "Video" has outmaneuvered the fleet of eight and won quite handily.

The Highland Trophy that is presented annually for sportsmanship this year went to Harold Weir who did a remarkable job during the season on committees at various regattas. Harold who used to have a Lightning is now building another and should be ready to go next season.

The District regatta was held in Toronto this year for the first time. We are sure that everyone from other clubs enjoyed it as much as we enjoyed putting it on. Competition was keen naturally and was helped by winds varying from light to heavy with corresponding seas. The Canadian Lightning Championship was again held by Fleet 146 and was won by Tom Fallon.

We all feel that we had a good season and are heartily looking forward to next year with dreaming hearts and new ideas.

SÃO PAULO LIGHTNING FLEET (147)

Based on Lake Guarani Piranga, São Paulo, Brazil

Fleet Captain	Cyril W. Milbourne
Fleet Secretary	Anatole Pilnik
Fleet Champion	Wolfgang Richter
Runner-Up	Cyril W. Milbourne

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
3012	Kon-Tiki	Peter Ingouville
3013	Mandachuva	Allan R. Beeby & Anatole Pilnik
3080	Carminha	Victor Friere de Carvahlo
3090	Ciao-ne	Rnezo Scalini
3091	Nautilus	Piero Paicentini
3092	Vagalume	Roberto Landulfo
3093	Faisca	Harold B. Holland
		Eric Racy
		Arthur Sheppard
4159	M'Boy	Werner Scheliga
4163	Ressaca	C. W. Milbourne & Fred D. Pirie
4244	Guga	Benedito Levi
4294	Chupin	Roberto Ferreira da Rosa
4453	Boa Vida	Herbert Victor Levi
4782	Kelpie	Andred W. Johnstone
4788	Electra II	Alexandre Kemeses
4789	Cunhanta	Dario Cerchi
4909	Topino	Duilio Baldassarri
4930	Esmeralda	David Baetty II
4931	Yana	Paul Algert Jr.
5020	Quinha II	Fred P. Boynton, Jr.
5091	Turuna	Raymond Nobert Kegel
5415	Carumbe	Mario Pacheco e Chaves

GENESSEE YACHT CLUB LIGHTNING FLEET (148) Central New York District

Based on Lake Ontario, at Rochester, New York

Fleet Captain	Ernest Butler
Fleet Secretary	George E. Giles
Fleet Champion	Ernest Butler
Runner-Up	Al Fields

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
875	Twildo	Charles Clutz
3410	Miss Hannah	II Alfred Field
3542	Bauble	Ed White
3543	Yankee	Fred Duennebier
3547	Pirovette	Don Wolcott
3608	Guppy	Ernest Butler
3667	Pixy	George E. Giles
5139	Tomahawk	Leon Stone

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Since several of our boats have changed hands this season, most of our fleet activities have been confined to home waters. After our new skippers brush up on racing rules and tactics, we can expect to have better representation at the various regattas.

Barney Wilson, an active Lightning skipper for several years, has gone wrong and bought himself a Dragon. We have an idea that there have been many times this year when he would have traded back.

It was well past the middle of the summer before the boys began to get within hailing distance of Ernie Butler, but then they started giving him a bad time. Al Fields, a former Snipe Sailor, decided that he had seen enough of the transoms for a year or so and decided to get up front. He wound up winning our Fall series, which incidentally closed with a three way tie for second place.

With best regards to the Newport Yacht Club, Lewis Point, Red Jacket, etc., whose regatta invitations we were unable to accept; we hold forth a promise, or at least a hope, that some of our boys will be able to sail with them in 1955.

MANSFIELD LIGHTNING FLEET (150)

Ohio-Indiana District

Based on Clearfork Lake, Mansfield, Ohio

Fleet Captain	August H. Grottegut
Fleet Secretary	Eugene Smart
Fleet Champion	Mabel Huston
Runner-Up	Glenn Macy

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
1646	Candy	Robert Scott & Deming Lowery
4239	Ragwagon	Richard Sargent
4447	Colleen	Thomas McDermott

Created by the City of Mansfield, Ohio, in 1952, as a reservoir, surrounded by low, rolling hills and fertile farm lands, lies beautiful Clearfork Lake, a lake one mile wide and three and one-half miles long, the new home waters of Lightning Fleet No. 150. We of Lightning Fleet No. 150 have just closed a very successful season. For the past six years we had been affiliated with the Mohican Sailing Club, sailing on Charles Mill Dam near Mansfield. Shallow water, especially in the latter half of the season and hundreds of stumps in this man-made lake made sailing unpleasant and dangerous.

We all welcomed the news, that the City of Mansfield had made plans to build a reservoir very close to the city and would allow boating on this new lake. About three years ago these plans became a reality and last year the city gave us permission to sail on this lake, so the whole Lightning Fleet pulled up stakes and moved, only on a trial basis. We liked it so well, we wanted to stay because it offered so much more, compared to Charles Mill Dam, better winds, cleaner water and, best of all, no stumps and an average depth of fifteen feet. Since it was impractical to move the whole Mohican Sailing Club, the Lightning Fleet severed its connection with the former Club and started a brand new one, the Mansfield Sailing Club.

The City of Mansfield has granted us a license to sail and race our boats, build docks and a small club house and beautify the grounds to suit our needs. Public interest has been great so that we added four new Lightning skippers to our Fleet. Boat No. 1646 was sold by C. P. Siegenthaler to Deming Lowery and Robert Scott. Tom McDermott purchased Dick Kraus's "Jinx" No. 4447; Dick Sargent, Doc Barnes' "Ragwagon" No. 4239; and Ed Stevens and Pat Siegenthaler bought two new Nichols & Holman, No. 5456 and No. 5485. Prospects for next season are one, sure, and two, probably.

Last winter we held a sailing school, that is, sailing, seamanship and boat handling instructions for beginners. Attendance and enthusiasm were so great that we'll repeat these classes this coming winter.

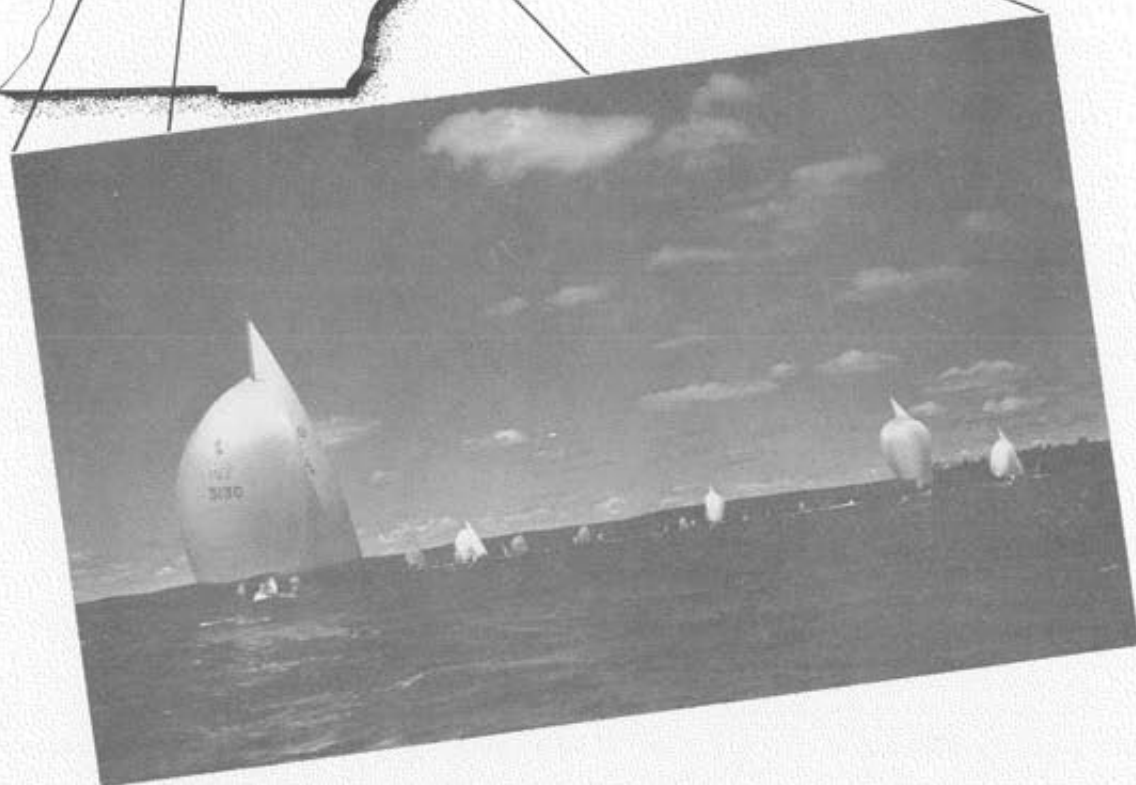
There were 18 races scheduled last season, top honors going to Mabel Huston and runner-up, Glenn Macy. We, also, raced six series of three races each, for revolving trophies donated by different skippers. The winners were: Mabel Huston, Siegenthaler and Smart trophies; Macy, Huston and W. Stevens trophies; Upham, Macy trophy; Siegenthaler, Upham trophy.

Our plans for next season are an "Open House Day", which met with huge success a couple of seasons ago. The idea is to take the public sailing, and create interest by racing over a shortened course, with your regular crew plus two or three interested persons. We are also making plans for an invitational regatta, mainly to return the courtesies shown our traveling skippers by various Yacht Clubs during their regattas. Last season, some of our skippers attended Lightning meets at Toledo, Atwood, Port Clinton and Buckeye Lake. Although no trophies were brought home, all had a lot of fun.

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