

HIGHTOR FLEET (41) Metropolitan District Based on Hudson River, N. Y.

Fleet Captain	Tom Hylas
Fleet Secretary	Ted Ziemer
Fleet Champion	Walter Tripp
Runner-Up	Aage Jorgensen

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
827	Heidi-Ho	Han Holterhoff
1222	Mary E	Aage Jorgensen
1655	Larry	Olson Stone
1872		Martin Brophy
1898	Happy Days	Tom Hylas
1930	All-Right	Robert Wright
2734	Sneaky Pete	Walter Tripp
2817	Audebil	Harold DeJaeger
3156	Chinook	Dr. James Campbell
5029	Hot Rolls	Charles Widmann
5153	Caprice	Eugene Vidal
5916	Sam	Charles Strachen
5990	O. K.	Gilbert Parker

High Tor Fleet started its season with the annual Griffin, Ducey, Shankey Memorial Day Race. First place honors went to Tom DeStasio of Black Hawk (172), followed by Ed Dean of Shattemuc (224), and Walt Tripp of High Tor.

This was one of our more successful racing seasons of recent years. We were well represented at the Tarrytown Regatta in June, the Nyack Fourth of July Regatta, and the Mid-Hudson Regatta at Shattemuc. Unfortunately we were not able to bring home any honors from these events.

The intervening weekends were filled with races at home. We were fortunate in having fewer than the average number of "drifters".

In September we held our annual Labor Day race from Minicong down the Hudson River to Nyack. Most of the course was a beat against a moderate southeast wind. Ominous dark clouds loomed out of the west. Instead of a storm, however, the wind became very fluky, causing many changes of position. From far behind came Cy Eppler of Nyack and Walt Tripp to finish 1-2.

Unfavorable weather curtailed our fall racing. The season ended with Walt Tripp out in front as fleet champion with his "Sneaky Pete". Runner-up was "Chubby" Jorgensen sailing "Skinney".

We are looking forward to 1957 in anticipation of another busy racing season.

TOLEDO LIGHTNING FLEET (42) Based on Maumee Bay, Toledo, Ohio

Fleet Captain	Dick Legowski
Fleet Secretary	Frank Keller
Fleet Champion	Bud Nelson
Runner-Up	Dick Legowski

Boat No.	Boat Name	SKIPPER
420	Pipe Dream	Curt Pipes
949	Rambler	James Smith
1777	Allegro	Bill Stone
1815	Ballerina I	James Keller
3765		Bill Beckham
5010		Bud Nelson
5160	Rainbow	Doc Booth
5315	Prima Donna	Geo Maludy
5345	Teaser	Don O'Neill
5678	Four Deez III	Frank Keller
6010	Sinstress	Dick Legowski

The Toledo Lightning Fleet opened its 1956 season with a record entry of 31 boats participating in "The Great Lakes Lightning Championship". There were boats registered from Canada and as far as New York City.

The race was won by Walt Swindeman with Wes Wedrick taking second, Herm Nichols third, Joe Stueland fourth and Jim Schudel fifth. Heavy winds caused casualties to several boats with Bob McClaran and Jim Millieu, capsizing. A party, with a theme of Latin America, was held at the club Saturday night. Although the skippers were a bit worn out, they and their crews were soon enjoying the hot music of the Michigan District Barefoot Philharmonic, who so kindly came down to play and make merry. As



Great Lakes Regatta '56—Pumpas Scioritas

an added attraction, Swindeman, Krauss, Maludy, Penske and F. Keller presented a Latin American Chorus.

Toledo was an active fleet this year with its members traveling far and wide to attend all the regattas it could squeeze into one season.

Krauss and Swindeman divided their time between their Lightnings and their new Dragon. We take off our hats to two great skippers who will not be sailing lightnings in the '57 season. However, don't be surprised to see them on hand at some of the regattas meeting old friends.

Doc Booth represented us at Lake Pymatuning, Ottawa River, Toledo was won by Dick Legowski who will be hard to beat next season. Krauss took a second, Swindeman a third with J. Keller, F. Keller and J. Smith also running. Bud Nelson, an old timer with the fleet, won our Frost Bites Regatta. Bud purchased Bob McClaran's boat later in the season and placed very well in competition.

Nelson, Swindeman and Legowski finished in that order in Bayview, Toledo Regatta. Devils Lake drew Legowski, O'Neill, Nelson, Booth and J. Keller, but that just wasn't their day. Too bad Krauss didn't have time to try again for a little glory for Toledo.

Legowski and Nelson visited Buckeye Lake to enjoy their hospitality, while the latter claimed a third place.

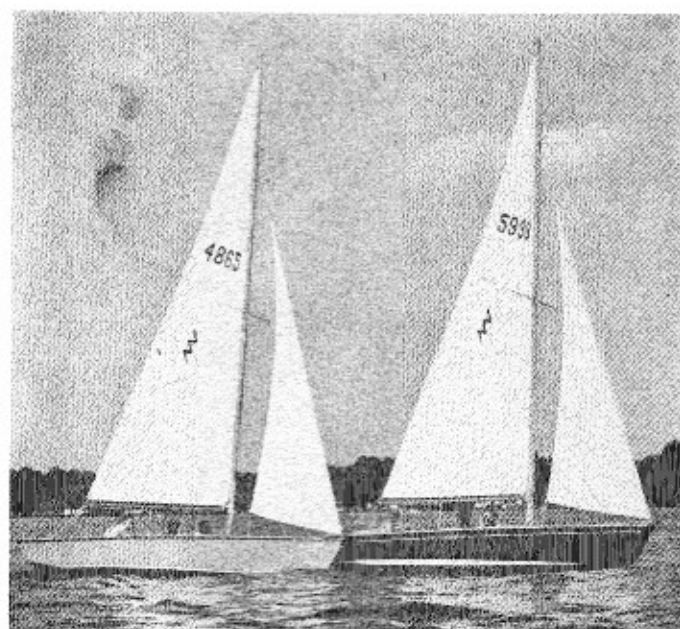
J. Keller, F. Keller and J. Smith traveled to Monroe Boat Club and walked off with all the hardware.

Legowski, Nelson, F. Keller and Doc Booth tried hard to place at Port Clinton Snow Flurries. Wouldn't like to race in weather as heavy as that very often. But let us say that those were very good skippers both ahead and astern.

O'Neill represented us at Detroit's Bayview Lagunatic Regatta. We feel he did very well against Wes Wedrick and the other Michigan hot shots.

Swindeman, Krauss, Legowski, Booth and O'Neill took in the Ohio-Indiana Districts at Port Clinton with Old Mr. Lightning taking a first for the eighth time. Sad to say, Walt just couldn't find his way over at Buffalo in the Internationals. Maybe his heart just wasn't in it, cause he sold his Yankee Doodle on the spot and howled out of Lightning competition. We're sure he'll stay in contact with the Association's activities and we hope he passes on his great gift to some Toledo Skipper. Dick Krauss sold his KaKe Jo to F. Keller and hopes to groom this new member for International competition.

We thank all our friends for helping us make this a very lively season and hope to see them over our transoms in the '57 season. Our Fleet competition dropped to a new low but next season will have a very heavy Sunday schedule with new blood competing for Fleet honors.



Our President and 1956 Champ, Robert C. Mann
in "Tempest", #5999.

BUCKEYE LAKE FLEET (43) Ohio-Indiana District

Based on Buckeye Lake, near Columbus, Ohio

Fleet Captain	George Fisher
Fleet Secretary	Tim Fisher
Fleet Champion	Robert Mann
Runner-Up	George Fisher

Boat #	Boat Name	Skipper
721	Blue Marlin	Tom Davis
830	Alibi	Earl & Tim Fisher
997	Sea Jay	Clifford Dum
1357	Who Zat?	W. E. Coffman
4283	Pride N Joy	Ed Ballenger
4865	My Gal II	George Fisher
5069		Marty Headlee
5082	Spirit II	Jay Limbaugh
5298	D-Lay-D	Ralph Donges
5999	Tempest	Robert Mann
6721	Blue Marlin II	James Dressel

Fleet 43 opened its season for 1956 with a meeting in early March. The skippers and crew decided the new racing schedule, voting to open the Spring Series the week-end after Easter. Bad weather being a mean factor, the first race didn't get started until the 13th of April. Almost all the boats were in for this tune-up series and everyone excited about sailing after a winter layoff. Tim Fisher took the series, taking advantage of rusty tiller arms of the rest of the fleet. Bob Mann came in second and Jim Dressel followed him.

Memorial Day Week-end saw Bob Mann and George Fisher on their way for the first regatta of the season. Neither did too well and the whole fleet, using them as an indicator, were worried about how we might stand up during the season. The worrying seemed to influence the rest of the season as we did fairly well throughout.

Our summer series started with a bang, Bob Mann taking the opening races, proving he was to be the boy to beat for the rest of the season.

The O.I.C.Y.A. Regatta interrupted the summer series temporarily in June, it was held at M.Y.C. near Mansfield. Four of our Lightnings participated in the many class Regatta, Ed Ballenger, Jim Dressel, Bob Mann, and Tim Fisher. Tim, who two days previously had put on new rigging, broke his mast in a squall the first race. He forgot to bolt his spreader stay tang. Heed this warning fellow skippers, Bob and Eddie also had a run of bad luck, Jimmy survived and won the regatta.

When we got back to our summer series, George Fisher had become a Papa for the second time. Oh, yes, it was another boy.

He's preparing a future crew. Bob Mann continued his form with George every now and then giving him fits, which was the case throughout the season as they both fought for the Fleet Championship. Bob ended up taking the Summer Series with George close behind him and Tim Fisher (no relation to George) third.

The 4th of July we had our annual classic, the Long Distance Race. The skippers make sure the crew have all the extra gear in order (cold beer packed in ice), and then are on their way. Jim Dressel was on his way . . . to a victory.

The O-I Districts came up suddenly it seemed, even though we were all grooming for it. We sent a nice representation in boats and spectators to add to the gala occasion Port Clinton put on. George, Bob, Jim and Tim again entered. After wonderful parties, well planned races, and boats put back on trailers, we found George and Bob had qualified, third and fourth respectively, and Jim close to the money for a sixth. Tim had a bad series though he did have a first in the fourth race.

After the Districts, the Buckeye Lake Yacht Club sent up a junior team to sail in the Wakefield Eliminations and series. Once getting through these two sets of races, they became ILYA champs and earned an expense paid trip to race for the Sears Cup, North American Championships, in Canada. They didn't do too well at the championships, but we were proud of them. Jim Dressel, skipper and Jeff Dum (whose father took his own time to escort the boys. Thanks Cliff!), Eddie Ballenger, and Tom Davis. Crewmen. We were especially proud because they are all Lightning Sailors.

Next came the Nationals. Bob and George had all our blessings. Though they didn't win, they both admit having a swell time and terrific sailing at the Buffalo Canoe Club. We are very proud that Bob Mann was elected President of the Lightning Class Association. Jay Limbaugh went up to the B.C.C. also and purchased Gene Wallett's "Spirit II." Though a newcomer, Jay has been doing a sensational job of sailing.

The Labor Day series that was scheduled during the Nationals was postponed. We held it during the Snowball Regatta in October.

Another annual long distance race came for the Eaton Trophy. Jim Dressel showed that endurance is his ticket for winning by taking this one-cup race. The fall series started and George Fisher started his streak. This series, with the Summer and Labor Day series constitutes the fleet championship, and George was out to get it. He won the Fall series with Bob Mann close behind and Jim Dressel in third spot. George and Bob were neck and neck now.

Bob took a week-end off to go to Chicago for their annual regatta. He was shown some good sailing and he and Audrey, his wife, had a wonderful time, even though they brought back no hardware.

Port Clinton held their annual Fall regatta for Lightnings in October. Bob Mann, George Fisher, Eddie Ballenger, and Jay Limbaugh took their boats and crews up for this classic. Though the boys didn't show for hardware, Jay Limbaugh, our newcomer, finished eighth in his first regatta of his first sailing season. We feel this is pretty good, cracking the top ten in that competition. We expect even greater things in the future sailing of Jay. All had a terrific time as is par for P.Y.C.

Our annual Snowball Regatta came the week-end after Port Clinton. We found one of the largest fleets we've ever had—32 Lightnings in all races. Inspired by the large number of people, the B.L.Y.C. ladies auxiliary did a marvelous job with the cocktail party. We had a packed house for the dance, and hope everyone was well entertained and well fed ashore.

The races were sailed with varying winds, giving both skill and luck a chance. Pinky Allen paved the way, winning the regatta for the second year in a row. He seems to have a habit forming. Hope next year we can stop him. Bud Nelson sailing Bob McClaren's "Tequila," showed he was going to keep it up in the hardware winning circle. Bud placed second, close behind Pinky. Ronnie Blair had his new pink Olson flying. The first time he ever entered our regatta; he just had to take something home, so it was the third place trophy. Congratulations Gentlemen! Hope you and the other many people who came, will make it back next year. We'll try to make it better in every way.

Fleet 43 doubled their Labor Day series up with the Snowball races. This was the only chance for us to get three races in one week-end, so we took advantage of the situation. After the standings were clear, Bob Mann emerged first, Jim Dressel second, and Tim Fisher third.

Our racing finished after the last Fall series, the week-end following the Snowball, Bob Mann won this race, knowing he had to beat George Fisher to win the Fleet Championship. This was quite a comeback for Bob, who the year before had only won one trophy. For George it was his second consecutive runner-up championship.

During the season, we had two Octopus Trophy races. Last year's race was raced early this season, not being able to fit it into the 1955 season. Bob won it, and George won it back from him later in the season. This is an interesting race with the skipper tending the jib, main, centerboard, and tiller as he is the only one in the boat.

In November we had Trophy Day, climaxing a wonderful season. Trophies were given out and recognition addressed to many, including Bob Mann. We are proud of Bob and also realize the responsibility he has undertaken.

Jim Dressel won the Past Commodore's Trophy for the second straight year. This is given to the junior who accumulates the most points, shows sportsmanship, seamanship, courtesy, etc.

After a successful season and hopes for a better one next year, we, of Fleet 43 wish you all, Good Luck and Good Sailing.

CANANDAIGUA YACHT CLUB (44)

Based on Canandaigua Lake, New York

Fleet Champion..... Ralph I. Hoyt

Runner-Up..... W. M. Walters

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
132	Phantom	Dave Thurber
575	Cinderella	Griff Winthrop
588	Thermos Twice	Clarence Stoddard
758	Hic Cup	Winston Churchill
1267		Al Fanning
1274	Ripple	Bill Walters
1825	Jayvis	Charles Payne
3194	Trailing	Russ Brostedt
	Arbutus	
3474	Dunk Too	Ralph Hoyt
4521		Al Ives
5177	White Cap	Sue O'Boeger

After a slight falling off in sailing enthusiasm, the past season has seen an enthusiasm springing up again amongst all classes. Plans are now being made for a banner season in 1957 with new boats being added to the fleet and many of the boys planning on new canvas to make this past season's winners sharpen up their sailing tactics.

Regular races were held from June to Sept. with about 6 boats sailing regularly, and of course the "old pro Unc Hoyt" coming out on top as fleet champion. The outstanding event of the season was the regatta which was held during July. This was an outstanding success with 145 boats representing seven classes participating in the three day regatta. Fine sailing breezes prevailed on all three days giving many tense moments with a few unfortunate collisions.

A fleet of 39 Lightnings hit the starting line. Unfortunately the host club was not in the charmed circle but everyone participating had an excellent three days of racing.

EDGEWATER YACHT CLUB (45)

Ohio-Indiana District

Based on Lake Erie, Cleveland, Ohio.

Fleet Captain..... Dr. Robert C. Griggs

Fleet Secretary..... Robert Busbey

Fleet Champion..... Robert F. Busbey

Runner-Up..... Dr. Robert C. Griggs

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
260	Tag-along	Eugene Linsey
868	Granted	G. M. Hlenberger
2852	Merry Ark	Arthur L. Collins
3360	Marquis	Paul Fine
4003	Wedunit	Francis B. Smith
4881	Dark Cloud	Pat Young
5887	Merri-Mar	Dr. Robert C. Griggs
6020	Moby Dick	Robert F. Busbey
6053	Buccaneer	H. James E. Buchanan

Fleet #45 again enjoyed a fine sailing season and keen competition marked the scheduled 12 race club championship series. The races ranged from drifters to real windy "wing-dings". This year Bob Busbey sailing his white hulled Moby Dick was able to find the correct combination and came home the winner for the series. Bob Griggs in Merri-Mar placed second and Jim Buchanan in Buccaneer was third.

In the Edgewater Y. C. Regatta, which hosted a large fleet of Lightnings, John Ruhlman of the Northeast Y. C. was the winner

with Busbey and Griggs of the home club tied for second. Buchanan had good success in the away regattas winning the Lakeside Y. C. and Mentor Y. C. races. He also placed a strong fifth in the tough Ohio-Indiana District Championships.

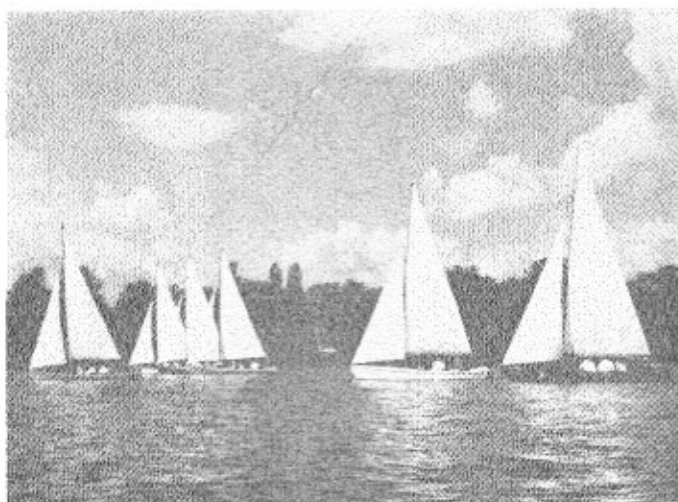
The season was not without a few humorous incidents, the most interesting of which is as follows: It occurred during the Hamer's Trophy Race, sailed on a stormy, windy day. In this race all classes of boats race against each other with handicaps determined according to their past performances and each with a different starting time. As the race developed Buchanan, Busbey, and Griggs had a nip and tuck three-way battle for first place which was not resolved until a scant fifty yards from the finish line when Busbey gambled on flying a spinnaker and won, planning across the line just ahead of Griggs. Then came the big surprise. Here came the rest of the fleet in from the other direction!! And so we had two fleets of boats in the same race, each sailing the same course, but going different directions. The strange thing about it is that somehow neither fleet realized that the other was going the other way. They passed on the outer leg but with the high winds and stormy conditions didn't even notice each other. Since there had been a confusing element in the changing of the starting line the race was declared not official. And so with blistered hands and weary heads the sailors had to be content to chalk it up to good experience. Ah, for the love of sailing!!

As usual, good sport and wholesome fun was enjoyed by all of fleet #45 and we look forward with anticipation to the coming season. Here's wishing to all

SMOOTH SAILING!



Fleet #45 Champion Bob Busbey and crew heading "Moby Dick" out for another race.



Fleet #47 off to a good start.

SILVER LAKE YACHT CLUB (47)

Based on Silver Lake, Perry, N. Y.

Fleet Captain Joseph Eliaz
Fleet Secretary Howard L. McIntyre
Fleet Champion William Van Arsdale in Jane
Runner-up Harry L. Brown in Firebird

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
80	Oh Lady	Whiton Powell
392	Firebird	Harry Brown
410	Budget Buster	Dr. W. M. Humphrey
829	Neroid	Michael Plesums
968		Ed Willse
1616	Paget	W. J. Humphrey, Jr.
3561	Jane	W. G. Van Arsdale
4737	Ripple	Joseph J. Eliaz

Our serious sailing began with the Ed Weal Memorial Trophy Series, sailed over the 4th of July. Dr. Humphrey in the "Budget Buster" won the series with Bud Van Arsdale sailing "Jane" a close second.

The Fleet Championship series sailed during the month of July was a very close contest with Bili Van Arsdale sailing "Jane" finishing first and Harry Brown in "Firebird" runner-up.

The Club Cup our August Series was won by Joe Eliaz in "Ripple", with Harry Brown and "Firebird" again runner-up.

The Labor Day Series for the Benedict Memorial Trophy was won by Dr. Humphrey in the "Budget Buster", and for a third time this season Harry Brown in "Firebird" finished second. Harry apparently liked the Runner-up position this season.

We had the pleasure of again accepting the hospitality of Cuba Lake Fleet #115 for a week end of wonderful sailing and social companionship. The Cuba Club our did themselves in seeing that

we were well entertained. The Saturday Clam Bake together with good sailing left us all with memories of a week end not soon to be forgotten.

Fleet #115 is to be highly commended on their work of improving the lake front and recreation area of their club.

COLUMBIA LAKE LIGHTNING FLEET (49)

Based on Columbia Lake, Columbia, Connecticut

Fleet Captain Roy Ferguson, Jr.
Fleet Secretary Sarah Savage
Fleet Champion George Pederson
Runner-Up Richard Molt in "Pirate"

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
518	Pirate	Richard Molt
562		George Pederson
690		Dr. R. Chenney
815		Randy Forbes
832		Valentino Clementino
1000	Thunderbolt	Roy & Janet Ferguson
1946	Flash	Art Brown
1952		Louis Guzzo
2688		Oswald P. Scheller
2873		S. M. Silverstone
2877	Reluctant Crew	F. C. Savage

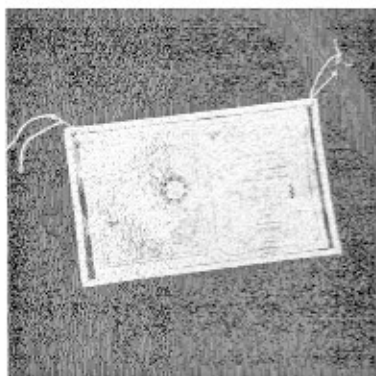
After one warm up race, the 1956 racing season, on Columbia Lake, got underway on July 4th and continued through Labor Day. With ten to twelve boats competing each Sunday, in our relatively confined waters, the competition was keen and cutthroat. The season championship ended in a tie between Dick Molt and George Pederson and was settled in a one race sail off with Pederson nosing out Molt for the fleet championship. Placing third for the season was Randy Forbes.

Our annual Labor Day regatta, consisting of three races was won by Ozzie Scheller with Fran Savage runner up.

Interest was so keen among the younger crew members that a special race was scheduled over the Labor Day week-end for youngsters 16 and under. Nine boats were entered in this "kids race" with eight year old Ricky Molt the youngest skipper. The kids sailed a fine race and earned themselves the right to use "dad's prized possession" in regular competition next season. First place went to a visiting boat No. 2689 from the Niantic fleet, skippered by thirteen year old Billy Doolittle. Runner up was Perry Pederson 11, and third was Mike Clementino 15.

With the close of the regular season, enthusiasm was still so strong that it was decided to run a series of Frostbite Races through October 14th. Seven Lightnings were entered in the first few races in early September, and then the number dropped off each week until in the final race only two boats showed up. The "Fur Liner" for Frostbite champ went to Commodore Pederson. All in all it was considered a very successful experiment and with enough interest will probably be tried again next year.

Fleet No. 49 welcomed a new member, Dr. R. Chenney, sailing No. 690. This is the first year since 1941 that Dick and Paul Miller have missed a sailing season. We all miss their good sportsmanship and keen competitive spirit and hope to see the "Old Champs" back in action soon again.



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WASHINGTON FLEET (50)

Dixie District

Based on Potomac River

Fleet Captain	Al Hudson
Fleet Secretary	Marshall Hornblower
Fleet Champion	Lou Borges
Runner-Up	Al Hudson

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
185	La Spouse	Corinthian YC Sea Scouts
826	Zip	Charles Everly
1228	Lazy Days	N. C. Fick, Jr.
1279	Cork	Thomas G. Corcoran, Jr.
1283	Vagabond	James B. Gilbert & Seymour R. Young
2188	Storm Bird	Harold G. Hernly & Clifford B. Drake
3255	Blue Bolt	Kenny Lawyer
3348	Whisper	Marshall Hornblower
3643	Country Gal	Charles Albert Hudson
3735	Flying Lady	L. J. Borges
4403	Rondinella	Cornelia A. Carswell
4589	Banshee	Charles W. Marshall
6205	What's What	Col. William C. Pratt

Fleet 50 continued to be quite active. In many respects, it gained strength: the races were not dominated by any small number of skippers; victories in individual races and in series were more widely distributed; the number of boats participating was decidedly increased and the competitive spirit was in evidence.

The first event of the year was Columbia Yacht Club's annual Washington's Birthday Frostbite Regatta. A few hardy sailors participated in the strong winds and cold weather. At this time several of the fleet were in St. Petersburg enjoying the Mid-winter. Jim Gilbert took his Vagabond down for the fun and was joined by Al Hudson, Lou Borges and Bill Cairns. Capt. Montrief from nearby Quantico was also present and made an excellent showing.

In the Spring Series of the Potomac River Sailing Association, beginning in April and ending early in June, our popular neighbor from Quantico, Monty Montrief, was the winner in Leatherneck. Dave Corcoran living up to predictions of early stardom, was second. Marshall Hornblower's Whisper was third. We all agree "something must have slipped".

The annual Gunston Cove Memorial Day Regatta, usually involving a race down to Fort Belvoir on one day and a race back the next, was forced to shorten to a one-day 15 mile race to Fort Washington and return. Lou Borges, the neophyte, was the leading Lightning but failed to win any prize against the competition from Chesapeake 20's Thistles, etc.

In June, July and August, the National Yacht Club held 3 series with two races practically every Sunday. The winners were Al Hudson in the 1st series and Lou Borges in the 2nd and 3rd series. Harold Hernly, Connie Carswell, Jim Gilbert and Tim Corcoran copped runner-up honors.

In the President's Cup Regatta on September 22-23, a record 27 Lightnings, half of them distinguished visitors to our waters, participated in three races in ideal weather. Barney Mead was the winner with Hooligan, #6015. David Price in Tempest and June Methor in Chantey were runner-ups. The best a Fleet 50 boat could do was a 13th.

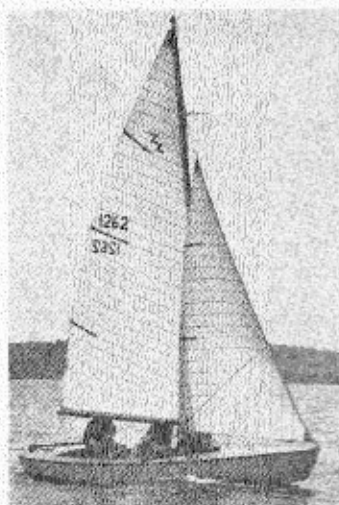
The Potomac River Sailing Association's Fall Series (September-November) was won by Al Hudson in Country Girl, followed by Lou Borges in Flying Lady II. Leatherneck from Quantico was third.

The final event of the year was the Marine Corps' Regatta at Quantico on November 3-4. Again Fleet 50 failed to distinguish itself against the visitors from Chesapeake Bay, New Jersey, New York, Georgia, etc. While John McIntosh from Savannah in Scalawag was the winner in a class of 31 boats, Fleet 50's top boat was Al Hudson in Country Girl with a measly 13th. But Fleet 50 retained the Shearer Bowl when its representatives outscored the Marine Corps entries. Frank Bunch in 6375 was 2nd and Howard Mullins (a brother-in-law of Lou Borges) was 3rd in Tackless II, 6336.

On the basis of the record in all series, Lou Borges was the Fleet Champion for 1956 with the highest percentage, and he was also the High-Point Winner.

Col. Pratt was the winner of the prize for having the worst luck. You wouldn't believe what happened to his new boat if we told you. We only hope that next year he will come into his own and get as much pleasure out of his Lightning as the rest of us are enjoying ours. Here's looking up to a bang of a season.

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HOLGAZAN

J. J. Abel and D. F. Satterthwaite,
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1949—Seattle Fleet Champion

1950—Seattle Fleet Champion
Northwest District Champion (3 firsts)

P. I. Y. A. Ladies' Race Winner

(Lady Skipper)

Seattle Searair Ladies' Race Winner

(Lady Skipper)

Cowichan Bay Regatta Winner, B. C.

P. I. Y. A. Team Race, 1st Boat

(Skippers chosen by 10th Boat chosen

by Corinthian Yacht Club, Seattle,

as "Boat of the Year," winning 22

first places in 19 races.

1951-52—Laid up

1953—Seattle Fleet Champion

Northwest District Champion (2

firsts, 1 fifth)

1954—Same as 1953

1955—(record available through July)

All first places in its own fleet

Pacific Northwest District Cham-

ionship Regatta (23 boats in race)

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Fleet 51 Captain Allan Kass and crew in Light Air on Lake St. Clair.

CRESCENT SAIL YACHT CLUB (51) Michigan District

Based on Lake St. Clair, Grosse Pointe Farms, Mich.

Fleet Captain	Chuck Grant
Fleet Secretary	Alex Allardyce
Fleet Champion	Richard Crandall and James Northmore
Runner-Up	Ralph O'Hara

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
778	Sylvia	Wm. G. Phillips
886		Wilbur J. Smale
1301		Tom R. Anderson
1314		Frank G. Brady
1821	Barracuda	George Grenzke
1982		Veego Blegvad
2253		Robert Knop
3115		Walter E. Thill
3433	Mv Harem	Ralph J. O'Hara
3583		Daniel G. Lamet
3613	Pewwacket	Elijah G. Poxson, Jr.
4008		Dr. John Lessene
4398	Snegol	Richard I. Graham and Robert W. Hornbeck
4533	Playmate	Dr. A. P. Warthman
4923	Suze	Max F. Homfeld
4924	Broom	Gordon N. Cameron
4971		Allan Kass
5130	Mom's Mink	Richard Westerman
5131	Blue Dust	A. Rautenberg
5426		Walter A. Roney
5577	Carousel	Richard Crandall and James Northmore, Jr.
5705		Thomas Saxley
5790	Luck Lady	H. J. Siekmann
5969	Half-Fast	Jack Leverence

6006		James C. Millies and James C.
6066	X-L	H. J. Cawthra
6075		Lloyd C. Ecclestone
6460	Sonsie	Don Fairchild
6499	My Sally	Charles & Edward Grant
6505		Meryl R. Amo
6550	LaDe-Da	Alex Allardyce, Jr.

Lightning fleet 51 started its long active racing schedule with the addition of three new boats. Don Fairchild's Olsen No. 6460, Merl Amo's self-built No. 6505 and Chuck Grant's Nickols No. 6499.

Jim Northmore and Don Fairchild trailed their boats to the St. Petersburg Yacht Club, and sailed in its Mid-winter Championships, both received a good tanning.

Fleet 51 had nearly fifty scheduled races on its home waters and attended many out of town events.

The Sunday A Series with its ten races saw Dick Crandall and Jim Northmore squeeze out Hank Cawthra for first place. Hank placing second, with last year's fleet champion Ralph O'Hara in there for the third spot.

Sunday B series was a different story, with Ralph O'Hara first, Jim Millies Jr. second and Don Fairchild third.

The Nite-hawk series sailed on Wednesday night saw our old stand-by Hank Cawthra out in first place, followed by Ralph O'Hara for second, Jim Northmore and Dick Crandall taking third.

The other events that took place at our front door, were the Kendall series an invitational regatta, sponsored by the Detroit Yacht Club and sailed at the Crescent Sail Yacht Club. This regatta brings out some of the top skippers from Michigan and Ohio. After all the sailing and parting were through fleet 51's Hank Cawthra was presented the Kendall Memorial Trophy by Mrs. Kendall. Herm Nickols of Lake Fenton was second.

The Michigan districts were sailed on Lake St. Clair, sponsored by our friendly rivals, Bay View Yacht Club. Hank Cawthra took a second in this tough competition.

Early in September, Cawthra polished his boat and headed for the big one at Buffalo Canoe Club ending up sixth which is not too bad when you consider the fast company he had to sail against.

After all the sailing was through fleet 51 held its annual potluck dinner, Trophies for all of the winners were awarded at the end of a swell dinner which was headed by the fleet Champion's wives Winne Crandall and "Duck" Northmore.

The Crescent fleet was lucky to have three new members to join our ranks. Richard Westerman with his Mom's Mink No. 5130, Dr. John Lessene with No. 4008, and Alex Allardyce with his new 6550. Alex was quite a boy in the Star fleet for a number of years and will be a fine addition to our fleet. We are looking forward to another good racing season in 1957.

After all is said and done, if you want to have fun Get a Lightning.

LAKE FENTON YACHT CLUB (53) Michigan District

Based on Lake Fenton, Michigan

Fleet Captain	Clarence L. Holman, Jr.
Fleet Secretary	Clarence L. Holman, Jr.
Fleet Champion	Clarence L. Holman, Jr.
Runner-up	Edward Fournier

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
244		William Taylor
387	Kildeer	Dr. W. H. Winchester
804	Knot Out's	Sea Scouts
1250	Tender Trap	Edward Fournier
1566	Worry Wart	William Furey
1918		Arthur Brandt
2776	Subtle Suds	Jack Rajala
4090	Seven C's	Claude Cohoon
4686		Earl Bjornseth
5099	Mar-Dee	Dr. David Freidman
5533	Two Bits	Herman O. Nickels, Jr.
5580	Bonny Bee	Dr. Gerald Murphy
5885	Too Bad	Robert Miller
6025	Wevadit	Dr. Alvin Judd
6245		Jim Mall & Clarence Evans
6262		Kenneth Shafe
6402	Fee's Folly	Dr. Manson Fee
6633		Herman O. Nickels, Jr.
6886	Konfoozed	Clarence & Ann Holman

Lake Fenton started the season off with a swamping. Dave

Nickels sailing with Herman Nickels on the main and Bob Furey on the jib, managed to swamp on the second leg of the first race. There were many charges and counter-charges as to the cause of swamping. Skipper claimed the main sheet man didn't ease the sheet. The main sheet man, Herman, said the skipper didn't luff into the puff. The rest of us just laughed our fool heads off. To the credit of these damp sailors, they didn't capsize. The boat took such a knock down that she started to fill. When they got her back down level, the boat was full of water over the centerboard trunk. They took down the main and sailed to shore under the jib.

We added four new boats to our fleet in 1956 and in 1957 will have three more.

Doc "Halyard" Murphy tried to swallow the anchor, but after pacing up and down the beach all summer, bought Walt Swindeman's "Yankee Doodle". He has renamed the boat "Bonny Bee".

As usual, Lake Fenton was represented at many regattas—from St. Pete in February to Bayview Yacht Club's "Loonetic" on October 28th. We attended 14 regattas and placed in 11 of these, Herman Nickels placing no worse than 4th in 10 regattas out of 13.

The Lake Fenton Yacht Club's "White Cap" Regatta was attended by 32 boats and it sure was a thriller. At the end of two races, four boats were within one point of each other. These were Murphy, Weidrick, Goodwin and Nickels. The boys were still bunched at the beginning of the last leg but Nickels finally won out followed by Goodwin and Weidrick.

Clarence Holman was Fleet Champion and Ed Fournier was runner-up. Dr. H. I. Miller purchased Holman's "Too Bad" for his son Robert. Robert has been Junior Champion for several years. He will be a rough competitor.

Glen Anderson will be back after several years absence. He has built a new boat. Clarence Evans and Jim Mall have their boat built and are just waiting for the ice to go out. Clarence Holman and Herm Nickels are both building new boats for St. Pete.

The biggest boon to our Lightning Fleet is the Junior sailing program. The kids sail "Sailfish" and the competition is very keen. They have 32 boats and are a beautiful sight to see. They all aspire to be Lightning Sailors.

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PONTIAC YACHT CLUB (54)

Michigan District

Based on Cass Lake, Mich.

Fleet Captain Chuck Buck
Fleet Secretary Bob Plew
Fleet Champion Mack Goodwin
Runner-Up Andre Roualet

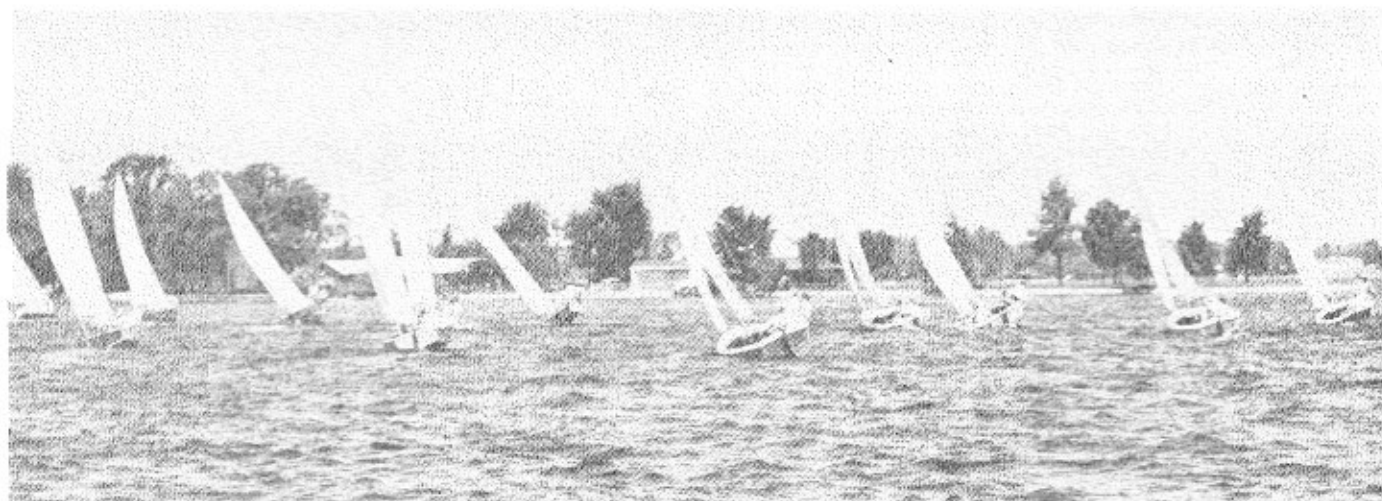
Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
426	Lively Lady	Edward T. Markham
611	Cro-cus	Robert Plew
703	Storm King	Clarence K. Patterson
835	Princess	Fred Prince
837	Flicka	C. J. Strang
838	Aqua Leta	Neal & George Wasserberger
839	Buccaneer	Charles W. Buck
842	Dottie	Frank E. Bonner
857	Thunder-n- Lightning	Anton Bego
904	Skid-Doo	Eugene T. MacCracken
941		William de Beaubien
1082	Fu-Fu-II	Ray Ransom
1216	Tommie	Thomas Weisheit
1315	Kay III	Kenneth Willette
1348	Long Delay	Paul Miller
1353	Polaris	Phillip Miller
1565	Two Bits	Alex Clark
1634	Alvina II	Kenneth Bonnett
1789	Sea Lark	Christopher Luce
1790	Margaret-Ann	Edward West
1793	Rosalie	Frank J. Moreau
1816	Bob-Bet	Stephen Collier
1820	Whim	Donald Harrison
2460	Caprice	Floyd Arnold
2884	Aftermath	J. A. Goulding
3009		George Robins
3146	Playmate	William Meagher
3528	Tip-Top	Don Neal
4545	Triple B	Mickey Goodwin
4947	Gizmo	Claude Bennett
5166	Bambi Too	L. E. O'Dell
5260	Imp	Samuel L. Dibble
5299	"99"	F. Leslie Huntwork
5300	April	H. Van Phipps
5472	G-Wizz	Jack Grigsby
5517	Tyee	Philip W. Klintworth, Jr.
5518	An-Ju	Andre Roualet, Jr.
5665	Sabre	Kenneth Raymond
5680	Moon-Raker	John L. Nunly
5719		Frank Palazzola
5770	Wood Work	Harold Dudley
5777	Gizmo Too	Allen R. Oberson
5793	Sea Jay	Dr. James H. Van Doren
5802	Escape	Robert Flack
5832	Hi Dee Ro	Paul Goode
6132	Kay IV	Alton Gray
6300		Ralph Johnson
6611		Robert Plew

First we will mention 1957, when the prospect of playing host to the Michigan District Championship Regatta will be the highlight of the season. The coming season will need this happy event to keep pace with the trend toward new highs established in 1956.

The first of these "Highs", set quite early in the season, was the great number of launchings (and retrievings). The second "High" was the many boats "moored" at the top of the hill behind the Club House between races. The third "High", which was the cause of the first two, was "WATER" Water over the docks, water over the beach, water over the front lawn, water over the parking lot. Boy did we have water!!

But out of the chaos of early spring was born a determination to make 1956 a record season for P. Y. C. Mack Goodwin's capture of the Michigan District Championship was the real high spot, as it has never before been accomplished by a P. Y. C. Skipper. Ten P. Y. C. boats were trailed to Bayview Yacht Club for this event. A record number to be sure.

At Higgins Lake, Andy Roualet (2nd) and Larry O'Dell (3rd), added more laurels; while eleven P. Y. C. boats were trailed the long distance to Higgins for this one. Another record? Our highly



Fleet #54, Based on Cass Lake, Michigan.

mobilized fleet attended about seven other Regattas during the season.

Meanwhile back at the Club—the folks were far from idle. About thirty-five regular races were sailed plus many more on Saturday afternoons, etc. Three Club wide Pot Luck Dinners were held in addition to the regular Wednesday night-after race socials. Many improvements were made to the Club facilities to accommodate our expanding membership, which also reached an all time high. We have so many members with Lightnings now, the dock committee has had to resort to a seniority system for allotting space. We now have members with boats, who cannot use them, for lack of moorings. With so many eager skippers about the Club, it seems assured, we will average twenty-five or more boats per race

in the coming season.

The annual business meeting in November was eagerly awaited by all because of the many trophies to be presented by Fleet Captain Les Huntword. Recipients ranged from Johnny O'Dell, thirteen years old, up to some grey (and pretty stout) old hands. Twenty-four awards were made in all, to fifteen different Skippers. As anyone who was there knows, Mack and Marilyn Goodwin took home the Lion share.

Well that about wound up our great 1956 Season. Only one small matter remained and that was the nominations to the "Loyal Order of Ducks". Three Skippers had the pleasant experience necessary to qualify. Namely Ralph Johnson, Andre Roualet, and Fred Sage. This however was not a record for P. Y. C.



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LITTLE NECK BAY FLEET (55)
Western Long Island Sound District
Sailing on Little Neck Bay, N. Y.

Fleet Captain Robert Wilson
 Fleet Secretary Joan Sullivan
 Fleet Champion Dan Wilson in "Chickadee"
 Runner-Up Fred Molgedei in "Puff"

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
494	Firefly	Howard Conte
1306	Betty B.	Edgar Zaloom
1917	Pee Wee	William Shire
1938	Netha	Neal Diepveen
2135	Ci-Ci	Robert Fullan
2155	Barbara Bell
2673	Coquette	Arthur Mereweather
3362	Guess	Ed McMullin
3432	The Virus	Joan Sullivan
4109	Stella Maris	Albin Cibeu
4547	Zephyr	Keville & Stallworth Larson
5195	Chickadee	Robert Wilson
5361	Anna	Joe Leggiadro
5683	'S No Bird	Clifford Clark
6329	Puff	Fred Molgedei
6364	Blue Chip	Katie Butler

In 1956, Fleet 55 had its best year ever. Forty-one races officially scored plus eleven which didn't count in the tallies. The following table shows how we have expanded and thrived during the last five seasons:

Year	No. of Races	Winners Points	Average No. Starters
1952	15	22	2.5
1953	32	37	3.5
1954	37	98	4.1
1955	38	154	6.3
1956	41	244	7.1

Our racing season was divided into three series. In the Spring Series, Fred Molgedei's "Puff" took first place, Dan Wilson's "Chickadee" second and Joe Leggiadro's (last year's champ) "Anna" third. For the piece de resistance, the Summer Series, "Chickadee" was first, "Zephyr" sailed by Keville and Stallworth Larson second and "Puff" was third. In the Fall Series it was "Puff", "Chickadee", and "Anna" to duplicate the Spring Series standings. For the season as a whole "Chickadee" edged out "Puff" for top honors with the defending champ of 1955 Joe Leggiadro sailing "Anna" in third position.

Our skippers performed very creditably in nearby inter-club racing. At Manhasset Bay Race Week Dan Wilson's "Chickadee" took second place and "Puff" sailed by Fred Molgedei was third in a fleet of 25 Odd Numbered Starters. Chickadee nearly ran off with a first but was edged out in the last 1/4 mile of the fifth and final race by some daring spinnaker work by "Foxie" of the Manhasset Bay Fleet. In the Bayside Yacht Club's Annual Regatta, Skip Duxyea (formerly a Fleet 55 skipper) in "Lark" took first, "Chickadee" second, and "Foxie" skippered by Bill Fox third. On July 28 we joined the City Island Fleet and raced in Eastchester. Sailing thru a black Squall and the year's heaviest down-pour the top finishers were "Lark", "Puff", and "Chickadee".



1956 Little Neck Bay Fleet Champion "Chickadee" with George Wilson at the helm. No. 5361 coming about in background is last year's season champ, Joe Leggiadro in "Anna".

The fleet sponsored a number of activities designed to build up participation, membership and interest. We scheduled special Novice Races for those skippers new to racing and not too sure of rules and tactics. After the season ended, we had a boat swapping round robin. It is interesting to note that the boats that were winners all season long were winners even with other skippers at the helm. Every two weeks during the racing season and at irregular intervals during the winter a bulletin was issued to skippers and crews giving scores, racing programs and announcements. And after each week-end of racing, stories were sent in to nearby newspapers. Thanks to Joan Sullivan's skillful reporting our write-ups appeared regularly in two to four North Shore and Queens papers.

During the mid season our Sunday races were conducted alternately by the Race Committees of Bayside Yacht Club under

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Art Sanial and the Douglaston Yacht Squadron directed by Chester Brown. All other racing was handled by members of the fleet itself.

Two new Lippincott boats raced in our group in 1956—Fred Molgeder's "Puff" #6329 and Kary Butler's "Blue Chip" #6364. "Puff's" fine performance is described above. "Blue Chip" after a late start did quite well and will be a contender for the upper brackets next year. Several new boats will be with us in 1957—the one which Harry Bell has secured for daughter Barbara to sail, the one which Matt Silverman will sail when he returns to active racing, and "Coquette", recently purchased by the Mereweathers.

1957 looks like a good year for Fleet 55.

BURNHAM PARK YACHT CLUB (56)

Midwest District

Based on Lake Michigan, Chicago, Ill.

Fleet Captain	Stanley Gimbut
Fleet Secretary	Art Wong
Fleet Champion	Ronald Blair in "Bon Bon"
Runner-Up	Dan Hubbell in "Mickie"

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
191	Ha Ha	Matt J. Cool
610	Paralus	Dave Haskin
612	Lucky	Ralph Weninger
726	Lucie	Harris Howeler
1188	Robin II	Hobart Newman
1242	Tinkerbelle	Robert Baron
1703	Cygnat	Dr. Aaronson
2085	McGregor	Joe Walker
2087	Saga	Cummins & Leser
2554	Scalare	Arthur V. Appel
2984	Shelst	Alex & Stanley Gimbut
3336	Cynic	Eugene Peterson
3347	Segull	Hubert Lidicker
3597	U-1st	Jack Friedman
4341	Mal De Mer	Redecke, Erickson & Chilenskas
4390	Arlene	A. Sims & A. Wong
4540	Damfino	Joseph H. Rutterer
4713	Jungfrau	Fred Wunder
5319	Jobe	Jos. F. Jirousek
5368		Dr. R. Baker
5393		AJ Ganek
5555		William P. Fuchs
5622	Nancy Lee	Douglas Schulz
5649	Harriet II	Dr. Joseph Krohn
6032	Petrel	Logelin & Hackett
6034	Julane	John Frederick
6036	Trio II	Abe Jacobs
6039	Mickie	Dan & Frank Hubbell
6069	Jabberwocky	Ralph Stewart
6363	Bon Bon	Ronald Blair

The Burnham Park Yacht Club Fleet opened its season on Memorial Day with its annual "Pest Trophy" Race. Ronnie Blair in his new "Bon Bon" won the trophy and continued from there to capture the Fleet Championship.

In spite of adverse weather which caused three dismastings and numerous capsizings, a total of 14 point-score races were sailed toward the Club Championship, and every Wednesday evening during July and August, we sailed "after-dinner" races. These didn't count toward the championship but did contribute to many pleasant evenings.

For added variety, the fleet sailed in five open regattas with the Chicago Corinthian Fleet under the banner of the Chicago Lightning Squadron. The winner of this series was Bill Wingard of the Corinthians.

The climax of our season is always the Red Flannel Regatta, sponsored by the Chicago Lightning Squadron and held this year at the Corinthian Yacht Club.

There were over fifty entries at the eighth renewal of this classic, with boats from Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Wisconsin and Illinois. For the second time in this regatta, an out-of-towner, Wes Wiedrick, of the Bayview Yacht Club in Detroit, walked off with the first place prize. We of the Chicago Squadron really enjoy this event and go all out to make it a success.

We take this opportunity to invite all Lightning Skippers to attend the 1957 Red Flannel at the Burnham Park Yacht Club.

CINCINNATI FLEET (57)

Ohio-Indiana District

Based on Ohio River, Ohio

Fleet Captain	Jack Bingham
Fleet Secretary	Frank Pfefferle
Fleet Champion	Dr. W. D. Barnes
Runner-Up	Truman P. Young

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
380	Zebr	Dr. John Sanker
858	Breathless	Jack Castleberry and Hendrick Sheffield
1925	Mutiny	Truman P. Young
2108	The Bounty	Alvin Kuder & Edward G. Beck
4575	Windamner	John Hoge
4948	Margaret	John Parin
5222	Blue Bird	Frank Pfefferle
5226		Wm. Jackson
5575	Ole Snort	Dr. W. D. Barnes
5900	Decision II	Oliver Bardes

The 1956 sailing season was the poorest on record. The river was high and the current quite fast until the first part of August. That of course meant no sailing because, unless the wind is strong there is no chance bucking the current of the Ohio.

The first race was only held in September and by sailing two



Burnham Park Yacht Club, Fleet #56

or three races on the few good days we were able to have a total of eight races.

"Doc" Barnes as usual was the fleet champ, and Truman Young, one of our old timers, got his boat going and was runner-up.

"Doc" Barnes who has taken fourth place for the past three or four years in the Lightning District Regatta wasn't feeling particularly well and didn't have enough ambition to take his boat to the 1956 District. Now that some of the Toledo boys have given up sailing Lightnings we expect "Doc" to be right on top of the heap in the 1957 District. At any rate we are giving the rest of the boys fair warning.

Frank Pfefferle was away most of the summer and didn't get a chance to put his boat in the river. He did, however, go to the Great Lakes Regatta at Toledo and the Snow Flurries Regatta at Buckeye Lake. At both regattas he was among the also rans, but had a lot of fun trying to keep up with the younger skippers.

NIAGARA SAILING CLUB (59)

Lake Erie District

Based on Niagara River, Grand Island, New York

Fleet Captain	Stuart Anderson
Fleet Secretary	Jean Bowen
Fleet Champion	Joseph Holler
Runner-Up	Stuart Anderson

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
276	Jay Bee	Jean Bowen
456	Olive M	Earl & Olive Johnson
714	Slow Poke	Ralph Bloom
748	Alert III	Bernard Starck
749	Three Winds	John Swanson and John Palmer
1224	Lu Jim	James Milliron
1227		Dr. Harry Claflin
1903	Glockenspiel	Stuart Anderson
1904	Aerodyne	Dr. Willard Shaw
2346	Tillicum	Joseph & Irving Holler
2988	B-Witch	Randy Dilliot
3132	Mopet II	Edna Saylor
4032	Soubrette	Richard Bowen
4185		George Kroening
5676	Steal Away	Rev. John Steve

The year we began the Regatta circuit in June by being guest at the Buffalo Motorboat Club at their first Invitational Lightning Regatta. Fog, fishing boats, the Crystal Beach steamer, barges, sailflies and fog horns all added to the fun of the promised obstacle course. When the fog lifted, we found Joe Holler had finished in 3rd position, Stu Anderson 5th and The Palmer-Swanson team 6th.

The year N.S.C. was host for the 11th annual Niagara River Lightning Championship. The Buffalo Canoe Club sailors seemed to have the secret to the tricky Niagara current—they took the first four trophies. Then N.S.C. appeared in the final standings—Stu Anderson's Glockenspiel 5th, Soubrette sailed by Dick Bowen 6th and Joe Holler's Tillicum 8th.

This was the year Stu Anderson sailing for the red and white burgee placed 2nd in the Central New York Regatta at the Canandaigua Yacht Club. Jack Swanson, Bob Starck, Will Shaw with the help of Thistle skippers Al Rush, Harry Jerge, Dick Lange and Jean Jerge all helped to add points so N.S.C. was declared the team winner.

The year the Royal Hamilton Yacht Club staged the Lake Erie District Regatta. Hamilton Bay offering the usual tricky winds helped add to the excitement and not till the final gun of the last race did we know that Stu Anderson had sailed Glockenspiel into 5th place and so qualifying him to enter the Internationals.

The year that regatta minded skippers found still another to calm, rains or real north westerns. The final race to determine the Club Champion was sailed at the Buffalo Canoe Club in October. Joe Holler, our new Champ! Followed by Stu Anderson and Jack Swanson. Joe was also the winner of the Wardell Lightning Trophy and in 2nd and 3rd places, Bob Starck and John Palmer, respectively.

This year, yes, this year, Stu Anderson sailed in the Internationals held at the Buffalo Canoe Club. Stu feeling real happy after taking a first in one of the tune-up races, did our club proud by finishing in 12th place.

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The year the Swanson-Palmer-Blake trio quietly brought home the 3rd place honors of the President's Trophy. They became internationally famous not only for their unusual sailing ability, but for their song writing talent.

The year that regatta minded skippers found still another to attend. Sandy Beach Club, downriver of N.S.C., staged a haul-out series the last of September. The final race was strictly a contest for the survival of the fittest with gust 30-40 mph. 'Ole Tillicum was skillfully skippered by Joe Holler and was one of only ten boats to finish the race. Thus winning the 2nd place cup.

This was the year the Buffalo Canoe Club gave the Niagara skippers, Holler, Swanson, Anderson and Starck a lesson in team racing tactics. After sailing on the Abino waters in Indian Summer weather, one by one the boats were bedded to their trailers for the winter and the summer silently faded away.

JAYHAWK FLEET (60)

Kansas-Oklahoma District

Based on Lake Shawnee, Topeka, Kansas

Fleet Captain	C. F. Ebey
Fleet Secretary	W. E. Schwartz
Fleet Champion	R. J. Rice & A. B. Boon
Runner-Up	L. A. Roberts

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
906	Sea Deuce	John Gall
1063	Lively Lady II	C. F. Ebey
1268	Ann S.	W. E. Schwartz
1699	Courageous II	L. R. Rake
2661	Ricaboo	R. J. Rice and A. B. Boon
3236		Lt. L. A. Roberts

Another nearly rainless summer in Kansas leaves our lake level down ten feet below normal, but the wind was up to par, only one race postponed for lack of it, and one mast broken in high wind. Several Club picnics followed by moonlight sails attracted increasing participation.

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Construction of a new floating dock 8 feet by 72 feet was started in October by our members, among whom unsuspected talents for design and construction have been revealed; a big job of moving anchorages and buoys will follow in the spring of 1957.

Boats numbered 906, 1063, 1268 and 2661 were trailed to Tulsa, Okla., for a Kansas-Oklahoma district championship regatta with the Tulsa Sailing Club Fleet #205 August 4th and 5th; Bill Schwartz in #1268 took second place in a fleet of twelve Lightnings. All the Topeka visitors were treated royally by the host club who have a new club house which was greatly enjoyed.

LAKE PONTCHARTRAIN LIGHTNING FLEET (62)

Southern District

Based on Lake Pontchartrain, New Orleans, La.

Fleet Captain	Louis Koerner
Fleet Secretary	Tom Hicks
Fleet Champion	Eugene Walet, III
Runner-Up	Louis Koerner

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
1033	Stardust	George E. May
1838	Pep	Ebelen T. Rau
1997	Crew	George Janvier, Jr.
3491	Wieroo	Hampton A. Gamard
3532	Frigate	Thomas L. Avegno
3737	Major Dono	Paul Schreck
3744	Gigolo	Dr. Morrell Miller
3898		Thomas Blakey
4040	Janes Mink	Arthur D. Wynne
4275	Roka	Robert A. Banck
4367	Rebel	Charles Tessier
4825	Twinkle	Armond Bernius
4950	Desire	Tom Hicks
5082	Spirit II	Eugene H. Walet, III & Eugene H. Walet, Jr.
5156	Lucky II	Erhan Allen
5484	Miss Cookie	John Bartley
5556	Finale	James P. Mullally
5596	Elda	Margaret Robinett
5679	Temptation	Dr. M. J. Wolfe, Jr.
5855	Blitzen	Louis Koerner
6218	Royal Flush	Harold Spurl
Jack Scheib, Sr.		Honorary Member
Capt. Polasek		Honorary Member

The shifty breezes of Lake Pontchartrain were active all last year. One gust even blew young Gene Walet clear to Australia where he represented the United States in the Olympics, Sailing his Dragon, Spirit II.

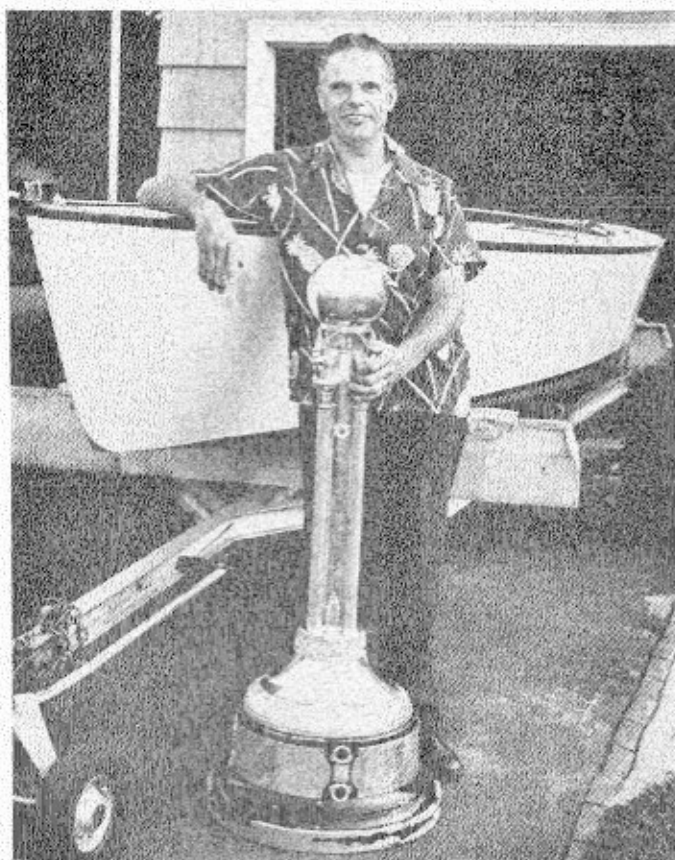
We planed into the executive class when A. D. Wynne was elected Commodore of the Southern District. "Juby" Wynne then proceeded to set quite a precedent for future commodores. During "race-week" on the Gulf Coast he won every series. (Biloxi, Gulfport and Bay St. Louis.) Fleet Captain Koerner was runner-up at Gulfport with Walet, second in Bay St. Louis. Incidentally "Juby" did the same thing last year. As long as Commodore Wynne had such a favorable tack, he rode it further to win the invitational regatta at Shreveport for the second successive time; as well as running away with the G.Y.A. championship at Pensacola.

Fleet Captain Koerner grasped a few pick-ups of his own by winning the Overton Regatta at Fairhope with Tommy Allen as runner-up. In our spring "joint-series" with New Orleans Yacht Club, Captain Koerner romped in first with Gene Honore (of N.O.Y.C.) second.

In the summer joint series with N.O.Y.C., Harold Spurl, Jr. copped the cup closely followed by our intrepid Fleet Captain. Young Spurl also won the championship at Camp St. John in Delaheld, Wisconsin. The breeze shifted over to give Dr. Marion Wolfe the victory in the Stratton series by Spurl was right there as runner-up.

The season's closest battle took place at Pass Christian in the Southern District Championship between Walet and Wynne, with Gene emerging as victor by the slightest hair with "Juby" sitting right under his transom. Fleet Secretary Hicks upheld his reputation as official fleet "plumber" by flipping his "Desire" in the first race of this same series. (By some miracle I still didn't get the last place trophy.)

And so we end the season with two promising clouds on the horizon . . . Jim Mullally as the new Fleet Captain and Bob Banck as Secretary.



Wayne Brockett, "Rise 'n Shine", and the Governor's Cup.

BRANFORD YACHT CLUB FLEET (63)

Based on Long Island Sound, Branford, Conn.

Fleet Captain	Wayne Brockett
Fleet Secretary	Mary-Lou Venter
Fleet Champion	Wayne Brockett
Runner-Up	Alfred Kuehl

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
284	Betcha	Robert E. Clinton
498		Bill Cogger
1383		Barry Jennings, Jr.
2189		Mary-Lou Venter
2356		Jim Kearns
2550	His Nibs	Alfred Kuehl, Jr.
2593		Kenneth Hubbard
2927		Philip English
2928	Herring-Choker	Harris Anstey
3721	Bimkit	David W. Brown
4609	Rise 'n' Shine	Wayne Brockett

This year fleet 63 raced in two divisions, a spinnaker division, and a non-spinnaker division. The non-spinnaker division not only stimulated more interest in racing, but also provided some very keen competition. We had four or five boats racing regularly, a definite improvement in the number of active boats over the last few years. Unfortunately our home sailing season is always somewhat limited by the late springs and hurricanes in the fall, together with the number of outside regattas toward the end of the summer. But we all had great fun in our home races, with Al Kuehl giving Wayne Brockett some close competition for Fleet Champion among the spinnakers, and Mary Lou Venter beating out Jimmy Kearns for third place. Among the non-spinnakers, Bob Clinton ended up on top, followed by Bill Cogger and Harris Anstey respectively.

Branford was well represented away from home this year. We sent two boats to the Connecticut Districts at Noroton, and Wayne Brockett finished eighth, with tremendous competition, with a thirteenth, a twelfth, and a third place in the final race. Wayne also was Branford's representative at the Governor's Cup

Regatta held at the Wadawanuck Yacht Club in Stonington, which he gloriously won in a good breeze, getting the gun in the morning race and battling from behind in the afternoon to overcome first a bad start and then an excursion to the wrong mark after once gaining the lead, to finish second behind Mike Flynn. We were all very impressed with the trophy he brought back, which took both his crew to load into the car.

Al Kuehl represented Branford at the Long Island Sound Championship Regatta at Noroton, but with hard luck and a broken mast in a strong wind, he was unable to finish the regatta.—wait 'til next year! The same weekend Wayne Brockett and Jimmy Kearns were racing at the annual Tri-Club regatta in Milford. Wayne finished second, beaten only by Bud Olsen in his "flying machine". However Wayne returned to avenge this defeat by winning the Last Chance Regatta in Milford the first week in October. This turned out to be a highly contested regatta decided solely by the second race after the first one had to be cancelled due to a misplaced mark.

Next year fleet 63 hopes for an even greater increase in the active boats, especially among the spinnaker division. We also hope for a longer home season with an earlier start weather providing.

NEENAH-NODAWAY FLEET (67)

Midwest District

Based on Lake Winnebago, Neenah, Wis.

Fleet Captain	John Snyder
Fleet Secretary	W. W. Roller

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
694	Chance	Bob Briggs
774	Loreen	John H. Snyder
1259	Waunette	Walter W. Roller
1578	Sorceress	Dr. Jack Benton
2501	Joelina	C. Andree Pertain
2531	Onward V	Peter Hardeen

When Doc Schultz sold Islander at the close of the season in '53, and then when Bernie Smith and Gib Bailey also sold, everyone predicted that Fleet 67 was done for. I guess we did take it pretty hard, and so when the last season began only Pete was raring to go. John and Walt's boats were not ready. Jack and Bob had their boats in for day sailing, but they were not interested in racing. Weeks passed and Pete had no other Lightning to race against, so he also almost lost heart. Finally, however we got going. Not only that, but we got Jack and Bob who both had daughters who wanted to race, to join us. And so a season that began poorly ended by all of us having some fun and with the realization that the bottom need not to have dropped out of our sailing sport. To top it off, Andy Pertain bought a boat toward the end of the season and now we are six. We have to coach the newcomers a bit, but we do have a happy nucleus, and we look forward to 1957 with new hope.

GROSSE ILE YACHT CLUB LIGHTNING FLEET (68)

Sailing on Lake Erie, Grosse Ile, Michigan

Fleet Captain	George Peterson
Fleet Secretary	Merrill Miller
Fleet Champion	Carl Arkelian

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
807	High Life	Merrill Miller
1035	8' Ball	Ed Charles
3578	Banshee	Carl Arkelian
5858		George Peterson

The regular summer race series at Grosse Ile for 1956 included twelve races, which were held jointly with Ford Yacht Club. Carl Arkelian who joined the fleet last year took the most points for the 1956 fleet championship.

Several regattas were held at Grosse Ile during the season including the Lake Erie Championship, a three race series, and the annual River Yachting Association series. The Lake Erie Championship was won by Wes Wiedrich of Bayview Yacht Club. Jim Schudel of Bayview took a second and George Peterson of Grosse Ile was third. The Grosse Ile Regatta was also won by Wes Wiedrich with George Peterson taking second, and Dick Drew of Ford Yacht Club was third.

Grosse Ile is looking forward to many visits by skippers from other clubs in 1957. A new hoist for small boats was built by George Peterson last spring which greatly facilitates the launching and hauling out. Lightnings.