



"I think I see the mark, Bob." "The heck with the mark—what do I do about this nut with a camera right in front of us?"

Photo credit—F. C. Jacobson

MIDWEST DISTRICT

Present District Commodore F. C. Jacobson
Present District Secretary Kristin Bemis
District Champion Bruce Goldsmith
District Runner-Up Dr. John Esser

Fleets: Chicago Corinthian (5); Burnham Park (56); Milwaukee Yacht Club (69); South Shore Milwaukee (79); Green Bay (112); St. Joseph (113); Lake Davenport (167); Sheboygan (187); Lake Geneva (345); Manitowoc (393); Fond du Lac (442).

Don Basler, Rick Larson, and Tryg Jacobson appeared to have had a successful year in the hardware corner. They are the "champions" in our Lake Michigan Championship Series. The five pre-determined regattas this year include the Shake-Up, Oxie Memorial, Brotz, Tanger and Red Flannel.

Our District's activities opened June 10-11 with the St. Joseph Shake-Up Regatta. Nick Smith, placing fifth over-all, was the only Midwest contender among the top five. Joe Disette took top honors with Garry Demarest second, Jim Hanson third and Clarence Holman fourth.

Next on the calendar, Green Bay hosted their Evans Regatta. Gene Matthews, Ron Blair, Kristin Bemis, Bill Joyce and John Esser were in the winners' line-up.

No one could out-sail Bob Spitz and once again he won the Abe Jacobs Memorial Regatta at Burnham Park. The other four trophies for this event went to John Burke, Bob Smither, Blair and Joyce.

The 27th annual P&T Regatta held at the Milwaukee Yacht Club attracted 27 participants. Due to heavy fog conditions, Saturday's racing had to be postponed. Sunday was ideal and Bob Smither sailed to victory with Don Casser close behind. Third place position was Spitz, fourth Tryg Jacobson and fifth Dave Barrett.

Green Bay did a fine job hosting the Midwest Districts held July 14, 15, 16. With four good races Champion Bruce Goldsmith easily gained the title over the fleet placing 1-5-1-1. The top seven qualifiers for the North Americans, including Goldsmith, were

Esser, Spitz, Smither, John Brewster, Richard Hinze and John Campbell. Due to the North Americans being sailed on Rehoboth Bay, Delaware and date conflicts, the six skippers who finally trailed their Lightnings to the event were John Campbell qualifying in the North Americans; Bob Smither and John Brewster in the President's Cup; and Ron Blair, Tryg Jacobson and Bernard Kornhaber in the Governor's Cup.

A young Texan with a famous yachting name, Mike Haggerty, scored a firm win in the Oxie Memorial Regatta. Bob Novak, the only local in the top ten and John Burke of Chicago tied for second. Don Basler and Tom Bierman placed fourth and fifth respectively. Their regatta is always a pleasure to attend and this year was no exception!

The Brotz and Hobelman Regattas were scheduled on the same weekend. In the Sheboygan's winning circle were Basler, Casser, Rick Larson, Roger Miller and Jacobson. The top four honors presented in the Hobelman were to local Chicago Corinthian's Goldsmith, Spitz, Smither and Hinze. Ron Blair, sailing his red, white and blue "Charlie Brown" placed fifth.

Sailing enthusiasm continued with the Tanger Series at South Shore, Milwaukee. In the final standings Rick Larson was first, Joyce second, Tom Feller third, Bob Quinsey fourth and Dr. Esser fifth.

Nearing the end of the season, the Red Flannels at Burnham Park saw 35 skippers. The winner after a close series was Jim Dressel. Spitz, Jack Mueller, Demarest and Goldsmith were also awarded trophies.

The October Polar Bear Regatta in Davenport was won by Mike Steffenson. In second position was Don Morrison, Walter Bratton and Basler were tied for third and Bill Quaintance fifth.

The N.A.Y.R.U. Adams Committee designated the Lightning as the official racing boat for the Adams Cup Series. The objective of this series was to determine the Championship women's crew in North America. First eliminations were held in Sheboygan, then Milwaukee, and next Buffalo, New York before the Finals in Cleveland late August. Miss Lynda Casser (69) represented the Midwest area well, for she won all competition until placing second in Buffalo.

The annual Mid-Winter meeting in January was held at the MYC. Scheduling of the 1973 summer regattas and the presentation of the LMCS trophies were highlights of the meeting.

MISSISSIPPI VALLEY DISTRICT

District Commodore Tom K. Hudgens
District Vice-Commodore Robert G. Burridge
District Secretary Diana Hudgens
District Measurer Augi Paoli
District Champion Bill Buckles
District Runner-Up Dale Keltner

Fleets: Decatur Lightning Fleet (74); Ken Lake Sailing Club (242); Harbour Island Yacht Club (262); Valley Sailing Association (266); Memphis Lightning Fleet (274); Crab Orchard Fleet (330).

We started the past year with problems caused by misunderstandings at the '71 Districts. As often happens when disagreements are approached with good will and a desire for understanding, in the process of closing the fissures we developed a stronger union than we had before.

Two factors stand out in our year's progress to the exuberant spirit of the '72 Districts. The first is last year's commodore, Fred Beesley. His tireless efforts prepared the favorable climate for the fleets to gather at Carlyle, Ill.

The other factor is the Districts themselves. They were an unqualified and outstanding success. Fleet 262, Valley Sailing Association, promised us a great regatta and delivered all that they had promised: hospitality, perfect winds and water, excellent facilities, and well-organized races. Ron Brunnert, regatta chairman, deserves an especial thanks for a job well done.

District champ is Bill Buckles, again. Runner-up is Dale Keltner. Those Decatur boys pretty well ran away with the championships.

The district season opened in late April with the Tennessee Regatta in Nashville. Anne Beesley took top honors, the first woman skipper to win in nineteen years. Keith Thomas was second, and Tom Hudgens third.

In May, the Hernando De Soto attracted nineteen Lightnings to

Memphis. Jim Baker was first in heavy winds, Tom Hudgens second, followed by Lloyd Lovitt in third place. Later in the month, a small, but competitive fleet gathered for the Ken Lake Governor's Cup. Tom Hudgens was the winner, with Cully Cobb a close second.

The Decatur Invitational was held in late June, the week after the Districts. Thirty-two boats competed in light air. Bill Buckles won on his home waters, with Ronnie Blair coming in second and John Leath third.

Light winds prevailed also for the McDougall Regatta in Nashville on Labor Day weekend. Don Sherburne, back from winning his fleet championship in Vermont, was first of eleven Lightnings, Cully Cobb second, and Joe Friebele third.

St. Louis's Whale of a Sail in mid-September attracted one hundred eighty-eight boats. Heavy winds with lusty gusts retitled the event the Wreck-a-rama. Tom Boyd was first, Bill Crowell second, and Hanselman third.

In October, Cully Cobb won first place at the Ken Lake Watkins Cup Regatta. Bob Llovet was second and Don Sherburne third.

Our season ended with the Bluenose Regatta at Harbor Island in Nashville. Twenty-nine Lightnings sailed in medium winds and beautiful early November weather. Jim Carson was first (his throw out race was a fourth!), Jack Elfman was second, and Merrill Bales was third. Bob Llovet took fifth and the only silver kept in the district.

The district is growing healthily. We have 117 boats this year, versus 103 boats this time last year. We qualified five boats for the North Americans. Bill Buckles, John G'Sell, Barney Mead, Lal Burridge, and Tom Hudgens all made plans to go to Rehoboth. Unfortunately, Barney Mead had a cervical laminectomy at the last minute and couldn't attend. (Barney was back in action at the Bluenose.)

Buckles represented us well in the North American Championships, and the rest of us considered it a learning experience in the Governor's Cup.

We're already making plans for next year. All fleets in the district are hosting at least one regatta in '73, with Ken Lake and Harbour Island hosting two. See district ad for specific dates. Championships will be at Ken Lake on June 15-17. See everyone there.

NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT

District Commodore	Fred Hamblet
Vice-Commodore	Dave Bischoff
District Secretary	Fred Hamblet
District Champion	Dr. Louis Pocharski, DDS
District Runner-Up	Dr. Georges Peter

Fleets: Centerboard Y.C. (14); Spofford Lake (145); Annisquam Y.C. (151); Marblehead Harbor (189); Bomoseen Lake S.C. (227); Lake Dunmore (243); Harraseket Y.C. (244); Winepesaukee Y.C. (246); Massebesic Y.C. (273); Chequesset (280); Lake Champlain (301); Squam Lake (332); Cohasset (369); Pontoosuc (417).

The season started in March with Burwell and Hamblet trailing their boats to Savannah and St. Pete. Hamblet had previously rigged an aluminum straight section mast without jumpers for his boat. This started the tests, and later in the year the mast was approved by the class.

Len Pratt won the spring regatta at Spofford Lake; Don Brush Jr., 2nd; Jack Burwell, 3rd; and Jon Swartz, 4th. Fleet #145 enjoyed hosting a fine regatta and was pleased to see their fleet champion win. The next event was the Districts at Lake Winnepesaukee. Fleet #246 did a fine job checking measurements, weights and sails, particularly for those who were going to the North Americans. We were fortunate to have good winds for all five races. The finishes were Dr. Lou Pocharski, Georges Peter, Don Brush Jr., Fred Hamblet, Len Pratt, Dick Price, John Collins, Alex Webb, Peter Harris and David Fitch. All but Price, Harris and Doug raced in the North Americans.

After the Districts, we were off to Wellfleet on Cape Cod to sail the State of Mass. Regatta. Fleet #280 were the usual good hosts, but the winds did not cooperate. Georges Peter won followed by Don Brush, Chris Hamblet and Doug Shore. Jon Swartz tied Doug for 4th but lost by the toss of a coin.

Next we find Fleet #332 host the N. H. & Vt. Regatta at Squam Lake. Jack Burwell, our new district Secretary, won this event sailed in light air. Burwell was followed by Kling, Swartz and Fitch.

The State of Maine Championship was held the following weekend in Portland. Stu Nickerson showed the way by winning. Dave

MISSISSIPPI VALLEY DISTRICT

1973 Regatta Schedule

April	14-15	Nashville Tennessean Regatta	Harbor Island Yacht Club Nashville, Tennessee
May	5-6	Hernando DeSoto Regatta	Delta Sailing Club—Memphis (at Hernando, Mississippi, just outside Memphis)
May	12-13	Governor's Cup Regatta	Ken Lake Sailing Club Aurora, Kentucky (Ken Lake State Park)
June	2-3	Egyptian Cup Regatta	Crab Orchard Sailing Club Carbondale, Illinois
JUNE 15-16-17		DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIPS	KEN LAKE SAILING CLUB AURORA, KENTUCKY (Ken Lake State Park)
June	23-24	Intra-City Regatta	Decatur Lightning Fleet Decatur, Illinois
Sept.	1-2	McDougall Regatta	Harbor Island Yacht Club Nashville, Tennessee
Sept.	15-16	Whale of a Sail Regatta	Valley Sailing Assn. at Lake Carlyle (just outside St. Louis, Missouri)
Oct.	13-14	Watkins Cup Regatta	Ken Lake Sailing Club Aurora, Kentucky (Ken Lake State Park)
Nov.	3-4	Bluenose Lightning Regatta	Harbor Island Yacht Club Nashville, Tennessee

NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT 1973 REGATTA SCHEDULE

JUNE 23-24

Northeast Championship, Niantic Bay Yacht Club, Niantic, Conn.

JUNE 30 - JULY 1

Spofford Lake Regatta, Spofford, N. H.

JULY 7-8

State of Maine Regatta, Centerboard Yacht Club, South Portland, Maine

JULY 14-15

Winnepesaukee Regatta, Gilford, N. H.

JULY 20-21-22

New England Districts, Portland Yacht Club
Falmouth Foreside, Maine

JULY 28-29

Wellfleet Regatta, Wellfleet, Mass.

AUGUST 4-5

State of New Hampshire-Vermont
Championships, Lake Bomoseen,
Bomoseen, Vermont

SEPTEMBER 9-10

Massabesic Regatta, Manchester, N. H.

SEPTEMBER 23-24

State of Massachusetts Championship,
Annisquam, Mass.

White, in his new boat, was second, Jack Burwell 3rd, Jon Swartz was 4th and Dave Fitch 5th. While the boys were sailing in Portland, the 7 New England boats at the North Americans had just finished their week of racing: Lou Pocharski and Don Brush, in the championship flight; Peter, Pratt, Collins, Webb and Hamblet in the Presidents cup.

The district is proud to report that Don Brush finished 14th in the championship division and was the winner of the Thermos Trophy. The Thermos Trophy is given to the skipper sailing in the championship division for the first time and finishing highest. The trophy was presented to the Lightning class by Carl Smither. Don also qualified for the World Championship which will be held at the Buffalo Canoe Club next year. Don started this year with a new boat and has carried silver home from almost every regatta. We are also proud that George Peter won the Presidents cup and John Collins finished fourth.

The Massabesic Regatta had winds from 15 to 30 miles per hour—testing the skills of New England's rugged sailors. David White headed the group, followed by Jack Burwell, Jon Swartz, Wade Carruthers and Chris Hamblet.

The district wound up the regatta season at Annisquam on September 23rd and 24th. John Schneider won the event followed by Webb, Harper, Pocharski and Peter.

Our annual meeting is next week, and we are looking forward to hearing Bruce Goldsmith tell us "how it is done."

OHIO DISTRICT

District Commodore	Bill Rudge
District Secretary	Dick Pugh
District Champion	Jim Dressel
District Runner-Up	Chuck Maltbie

Fleets: Indian Lake (23); Leatherlips (27); Turkeyfoot (33); Pymatuning (36); Mentor Harbor (37); Toledo (42); Buckeye Lake (43); Rocky River (71); Mansfield (150); Northeast (207); Atwood Lake (212); Cowan Lake (303); Hoover Dam (353); Forest City (380); Sandusky Bay (386); St. Marys (400); Hueston (421).

The 1972 season got under way with the annual winter meeting, held in Wapakoneta on January 22. Our guest speaker this year was Bill Shore, the 1971 North American Champion and current World Champion. Bill presented an excellent talk directed mainly at helping the average, middle of the fleet sailors in their quest for the trophies.

The Ohio District was once again well represented at the Southern Circuit. Ten boats went south for the Winter Championship series at St. Pete, and seven of these made the entire circuit. Jim Dressel finished fourth overall, and Jack Mueller eleventh.

The racing season in Ohio opened with the twelfth Annual Spring Shakedown regatta, at Indian Lake, on May 13. Jim Dressel won the big trophy, followed by Jack Mueller, G. Auer, John Mueller, and Bernie Malcolm.

The Great Lakes Championship, at North Cape Yacht Club, the following week-end saw Dick Hallagan in the winner's spot. Close behind came Jack and John Mueller, Jim Dressel, and Matt Fisher.

These two regattas, together with the Indiana Open held on May 5, comprise the Northern Circuit. This circuit has shown an increase in the number of participating boats, in the caliber of competition, and in fun had by all. We look for this trend to continue, so come join us in 1973. You won't regret it.

The second annual St. Mary's 400 regatta drew about 15 Lightnings. One race was sailed Saturday morning in steadily increasing winds. The afternoon race was cancelled when strong winds made tacking out the narrow channel nearly impossible. After two semi-drifters on Sunday, the top five positions went to Bernie Malcolm, Dick Pugh, Bruce Girkins, Charles Lutes, and Tom Wilkins.

St. Mary's Boat Club also hosted the Ohio District Championship with forty-eight boats participating. Six races, with one throw out, were sailed in excellent conditions. Jim Dressel successfully defended his title as District Champion with finishes of 3,1,1,5, and 1. Chuck Maltbie was second with John Mueller in third place. Rounding the top ten in order were Matt Fisher, Bernie Malcolm, Bob Baumgardner, Jon Ruhlman, Dick Pugh, Ed Kennedy, and Al Caldwell. Jack Mueller sailed in the Soling Olympic trials on the west coast during our districts, but was still eligible for the North Americans.

Eleven Ohio skippers made the trip to Rehoboth Bay to compete against the salt water, the crabs, and the best sailors to be found.

In the fall regattas, Bob Baumgardner won the Harvest Moon regatta at Atwood Lake followed closely by Dressel, Maltbie, and Hueston with only three points separating these first four boats.

Jack Mueller won the Snow Flurries regatta at Port Clinton. Only one race was sailed due to high winds both mornings.

The regatta season ended with the Snowball Regatta at Buckeye Lake. Both races on Saturday went off without a hitch, and those cocktail parties get better every year. Sunday's race turned into a stop and go affair. Several boats were seen practicing their 720's while waiting for an opening on the finish line. Jim Dressel finished first with Jack Mueller second, Matt Fisher third, Bruce Goldsmith fourth, and Tom Allen fifth.

Thus ends another great sailing season in the Ohio District.

Good luck in '73!



John D. Benedetti (12056) gaining as usual.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST DISTRICT

District Commodore	John Clayton
Vice-Commodore	Ric Rice
District Secretary	Rod Johnson
District Measurer	Harry Olsen
District Champion	John Benedetti
District Runner-Up	Geoff Ince

Fleets: Maple Bay (64); Vancouver (90); Lake Washington (132); Chinook (229); Columbia (283); Okanagan (368); Koonsee (397); Juanita Bay (414); Commox Bay (437).

A Lightning-fast year has once again reached its conclusion in the Pacific Northwest. For our members, 1972 has been active, successful, and most important, fun for everyone. In conjunction with the work of District officers, several key people contributed that extra effort throughout the year.

John Benedetti of Portland Fleet 283, and currently I.L.C.A. Vice President, was instrumental in planning for the highly successful District Regatta. John and Eben Sutton of Chinook Fleet 229 annually keep track of all Lightnings in the District to perpetuate interest as boats change hands. In fact, Eben, Fleet Captain Jack Culver, and members of the Chinook Fleet won the nationally-coveted Stekeetee Trophy awarded to the one fleet which has done the most to encourage the growth and enhance the spirit of the Lightning Class. George Blummel has sparked renewed interest among his fleet associates at Maple Bay on Vancouver Island. Even though great distance separates Maple Bay from the remainder of the District, the fleet is breeding some of the most competitive Lightning sailors in the area.

The racing schedule began with the first of six Pacific International Yachting Association regattas held on the Fern Ridge Reservoir at Eugene, Oregon. Twenty-five boats shook off a winter-time accumulation of bugs and dust to compete, giving the impression that 1972 was to be a very active year for northwest sailors. Geoff Ince of Vancouver Fleet 90 won, Kurt Seiffert of Seattle was second, with Harry Olsen, third.

Careful preseason planning made possible two successive sets of week-end racing. In June, Lightning sailors gathered at Lake Van-

1973 Ohio District Regatta Schedule

*Spring Shake Down	Indian Lake Y.C.	May 12-13
*Great Lakes Championship	North Cape Y.C.	May 19-20
St. Mary's 400	St. Marys Boat Club	June 2-3
Mentor Harbor Invitational	Mentor Harbor Y.C.	June 16-17
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Independence Day Regatta	Pymatuning Y.C.	June 30 - July 1
Ohio District Championships	— — — — —	July 5-8
C.Y.C. Regatta	Cleveland Y.C.	July 28-29
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Steeplechase	Port Clinton & Put-In-Bay	Aug. 4
Inter-Lake Yachting Assn. Regatta	Put-In-Bay	Aug. 6-7-8
North American Championships	Tawas Bay, Michigan	Aug. 19-24
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Harvest Moon Regatta	Atwood Lake Y.C.	Sept. 8-9
Sandusky Fall Invitational	Sandusky Sailing Club	Sept. 22-23
Snow Flurries Regatta	Port Clinton Y.C.	Sept. 29-30
Snow Ball Regatta	Buckeye Lake Y.C.	Oct. 13-14

Check Flashes or Special Notes for Any Changes

*Races included in Northern Spring Circuit with Indiana Open Regatta

couver near Portland for a PIYA circuit regatta the first weekend and the District Championships the weekend following. The Districts produced a new and deserving champion, John Benedetti. In what might be called light and variable conditions, John sailed a consistent 2-2-8-2 series to earn the traditional highland fling into the pond. Geoff Ince was second, followed by Phil Parshley who won for his outstanding effort the new Sandbagger Trophy presented for the best finish by a skipper sailing in his first district meet.

As Lightning sailors continued to participate in their own local yacht club racing programs, most were pointing for the second set of back-to-back events scheduled for July at Vancouver, B.C. and Kitsalano Yacht Club on English Bay. The first weekend, a PIYA circuit regatta was sailed in fantastic, rig-humming winds on crystal clear days. Twenty-four Lightnings braved big waves and contradicting tides for the best ride of the year. Lightning sailors impressed the "hot" centerboard classes by avoiding any capsize or equipment failures while many of the other classes viewed our great competition from the waterline.

An impressive thirty-six boat fleet, including four California District boats turned out for the West Coast Championships the following weekend. While blue skies held, the wind backed and veered making course setting near impossible. After three moderate but shifty air races, Geoff Ince emerged with overall Coast championship honors. Warren Gross and Stan Starkey picked up second and third with Harry Olsen and John Stam rounding out the top five. Both weekends were typically well-hosted by members of a very active Fleet 90.

During the first week of September, six Lightnings made the trip across to Vancouver Island to take advantage of the warm hospitality offered by the Maple Bay Fleet. Again, Geoff Ince scored victory, closely followed by Bill Elfendahl of Seattle and George Blummel of Maple Bay.

The final two circuit regattas were held in September at Seattle and Lake Chelan in Eastern Washington. Harry Olsen handily won the Seattle title giving him the overall P.I.Y.A. circuit crown while John Benedetti outsailed 11 rivals at Lake Chelan to take top spot.

The final event of our year is always the most fun, the District Team Races. Held in Seattle under perfect conditions, teams representing six Northwest fleets sailed a total of sixteen races in just two days. Calculations after the final race showed Seattle to have the best win-loss record closely followed by defending champion Maple Bay. Over seventy people directly participated in the team effort confirming the great interest in a unique form of competition.

A strong current of Lightning interest prevails throughout the Pacific Northwest District of which the six-regatta PIYA Circuit is the moulding force. Simple evidence shows that the long hours of concentrated organizational effort by District officers and the members-at-large are paying large dividends of sailing fun and social involvement. Some sixty active Lightnings participated in District organized events. Seeking the real action, thirty boats and crews traveled over 25,200 total round trip miles in search of fun at the circuit regattas—a simple but effective tribute to a very active Lightning district.

PERU DISTRICT

District Commodore Roger Vansprangh
District Secretary Dr. Hector Sabogal
District Champion Jose Barreda Moller
District Runner-Up Cesar Zanatti

Fleets: Club Regattas Lima (261); Yacht Club Ancon (264); Yacht Club Peruano (265); Club Universitario de Regatas (Callao) (424).

The 1972 sailing season was based mainly on races carried out in Callao Bay with the usual visits to Ancon Yacht Club and Regattas Lima (Chorrillos Bay). A most enjoyable year resulted from the participation of a larger racing fleet than usual. This is largely due to the entry of the boats and crews from the Peruvian Naval Academy. These enthusiastic young sailors have made a great impact, as, in a comparatively short time, they have become competent crews and now their boats often figure among the winners. It is highly probable that Lieutenant Fernando Sevilla and Cadet Percy Navarro with their respective crewmen will be representing Peru in the coming South American Championships.

The 1972 National Champion was our most experienced helmsman Dr. José Barreda Moller, who once again won the annual Peru-Chile series. The runner-up in the Peruvian Nationals and



"Maybe I should put in some hiking straps after all."

winner of several other important trophies, during the year was Cesar Zanatti; and a newcomer to our racing fraternity Colonel Russel D. Brewington of the USA Air Force was third in the National Championship, and is at present rapidly becoming the District "star."

Our new District Commodore Roger Vansprangh really has things moving in 1972. His unlimited energy in organizing and supervising every aspect of our racing calendar is an inspiration to every Lightning sailor in the District. Our racing calendar is very full and the standard of sailing is improving. We hope that a strong team of our well-established helmsmen together with our newer members will do well in the South American Championships to be held in Cartagena in February 1973.

Mention must be made of one of our newest members, Hector Sabogal of Fleet 265. Hector recently bought a boat, as he said, to go day sailing; under his tutor Carlos Arteaga, one of the "old timers" he quickly became a very competent helmsman, and now many sailors with much more experience have a good view of Hector's transom most Saturdays and Sundays.

To close this report, the Peru District Committee would like to thank all the Lightning enthusiasts who turn out so regularly to make our sailing so pleasant; and we must also express our appreciation to those forgotten wives who wait at the club house so patiently (cake in hand) for the arrival of their wandering husbands.

ST. LAWRENCE VALLEY DISTRICT

District Commodore Claude S. Goyder
District Champion John Goyder
District Runner-Up Hank Johnson

Fleets: Britannia (188); Royal St. Lawrence (215); Hudson (376).

The St. Lawrence Valley District had an active season with good competition at the Royal St. Lawrence & Hudson Clubs. Although the weather was often wet it did not dampen the ardour of the sailors.

In the District Championship, John Goyder & Hank Johnson continued a duel which went on all summer at Hudson. Each of the races was closely contested, including the third which finished in a violent storm which ultimately caused it to be abandoned. John Goyder with 2 firsts won, and Hank Johnson with 2 seconds was runner-up.

The big event of the season was the Canadian Open sailed at the Royal St. Lawrence Y.C. in July. This is reported elsewhere in this Year Book.

The best performances for the District were by Archie Cameron and Gerry Cloutier who showed their class by finishing in the first 10.

In the two main open handicap races in the District, Lightnings again distinguished themselves. In each of these, boats 18'-0" and over race on handicap, and the rating of Lightnings has been increased over last year. In spite of this Hank Johnson won the Ishkoodah Cup in a fleet of over 100 boats for the second successive year.

The other handicap event was the long distance race for the Lake of Two Mountains Cup. One of the charms of this is its uncertainty and this year over 100 boats had to make a running start. Lightnings had to thread their way through a large fleet of cruising boats, many of them on port tack! Michel Brossard of RSTL was the leading Lightning and finished 3rd over-all.

The last event of the season was the annual team race between RSTL and Hudson sailed this year at Hudson in September. There were five boats in each team, and this produced some hot work at the marks. Two races were sailed in the morning in light winds, and one in the afternoon when there was a stronger breeze. The Protest Committee then got to work, and the competitors pleasantly prolonged the season for several hours, moving glasses around on the tables to illustrate tactical situations while the Protest Committee summoned them to the hearing from time to time. When the smoke had cleared away it was found that RSTL had won 2 races to 1. The consensus was that the protests had evened out, and that the result was a fair reflection of the sailings. So the two Clubs parted after an enjoyable season saying "wait till next year."

SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT

District Commodore	Tom Waters
District Champion	Bill Crawford
District Runner-Up	Bill Sloger

Fleets: Savannah (127); Clark's Hill (257); Lake Murray (341); Lake Lanier (348); Lake Hartwell (391); Pamlico (410); Triad (415); Greater Charleston (429); Palmetto (440).

The 1972 season was the most successful yet with 57 boats participating along the circuit of six Lightning Invitational Regattas held in the Southeast.

In early April the first circuit regatta sponsored by the Greater Charleston Fleet found 16 boats starting in a 25 knot northeaster at the James Island Yacht Club in Charleston Harbor. Saturday's race was a matter of survival and the committee decided not to risk a second. Sunday morning brought better conditions and two races were sailed in a 10 to 15 knot breeze. The results were: Tom Waters, first; John McIntosh, second; Jud Barber, third; Randy Brooks, fourth; Ted Kelker, fifth.

Next we moved inland to Augusta Sailing Club with 23 boats sailing in winds of 3 to 10 knots on both days. Jud Barber of the host club took first, followed by Tom Waters with a second; Charlie Kilpatrick was third, Ted Kelker fourth, and Tom McCutcheon fifth.

With two circuit regattas under our belts we moved on to the Southeastern District at Lake Lanier out of Atlanta in late May. With five races to determine the championship in two days, and with winds ranging from light to absolutely none, Sunday after-

noon found us with 4 races completed. Chief drifter of the weekend was Bill Crawford of the host club who took the championship with a total of 70 points. Bill Sloger and Tom Waters tied for second with 67 points with Sloger winning on the tie breaker. John McIntosh was fourth followed by Randy Brooks, fifth and Gordon Kellog sixth and Jud Barber seventh.

In June the Lake Murray Sailing Club and the Columbia Sailing Club combined efforts to host the third circuit regatta at the club of the former. Saturday morning winds were light and fluky but settled to a steady 10 to 12 by the afternoon, and held on through the Sunday race. Results were: Tom Waters, first; Jud Barber, second; Ted Kelker, third; Tom McCutcheon, fourth; Staton Peele, fifth.

The end of July found us back to the coast at Savannah Yacht Club with veteran sailors John McIntosh, Tom Waters and Jud Barber unable to sail. Coastal sailors were elated to find 15 to 18 knot winds. However, it was lake sailor Gordon Kellog who took the first place silver, followed by Bert "Pumpkin" Berry in second. Bill Sloger was third, Charlie Kilpatrick fourth and Randy Brooks fifth.

In September, Western Carolina Sailing Club on Lake Hartwell hosted 18 Lightnings in the fifth regatta. Tom Waters edged Jud Barber by 1/2 point for first place, Randy Brooks was third followed by Bill Sloger of the host club and Tom Bates fifth.

The last competition of the year on the circuit was held at the Lake Lanier Sailing Club in Atlanta with the Championship to be decided between two top contenders Tom Waters and Jud Barber. These two skippers had built up such a tremendous point lead it was impossible for anyone else to catch them. At this point Tom was two points ahead of Jud, and with 3 races to go anything could, and did, happen. Saturday dawned with winds of 18 to 20 knots and gusty. The winds built higher during the day and the second race, with winds of 30 and gusts considerably higher, took its toll. Seven boats turned over including the lead boat of Tom Waters. (We understand this was a first for Tom who has been heard to say on many occasions, "A Lightning is a hard boat to turn over!") He apparently tried it but didn't like it because the boat was righted in some sort of record time and continued to race, having lost only 7 boats. Sunday offered winds of 6 to 8 knots to the skippers who had been able to repair and patch the damage of Saturday's blow. The race and the championship was won by Tom Waters followed by Jud Barber. Also at stake in this regatta was the Atlanta Cup which was determined by the points in this regatta alone (not the accumulated points of the circuit). This also was taken home by Tom Waters with Jud Barber in second, Charlie Kilpatrick was third, Bert Berry fourth and Bill Caniff fifth. The final circuit scores are as follows: Tom Waters, .107; Jud Barber, .114; Ted Kelker, .237; Bill Caniff, .315; Randy Brooks, .319; Harry Hintz, .334; Bill Sloger, .365; Gordon Kellog, .399; Gil Kle-mann, .442; John Gastright, .459.

1972 brought the greatest year with our goal having been met of two more regattas being added to last year's circuit. We had 13 qualifiers sailing at least four out of the scheduled six regattas. This type of competition has proved to be a boon to sailing in our area and has offered each of our sailing families the opportunity to develop friendships and share sailing knowledge with each other. We have built our schedule around our South Atlantic Yacht Racing Association and the Dixie Inland Yacht Racing Association schedule so as not to interfere with those who regularly follow the SAYRA and DIYRA circuit as well as our own. We look forward to an even better season, beginning at the Deep South in Savannah in March of '73. See YOU there!

SOUTHERN DISTRICT

District Commodore	Marshall Walker
District Secretary	Gregory Zettler
District Champion	Francis Favaloro
District Runner-Up	Gregory Zettler

Fleets: Southern Yacht Club (62), Shreveport Yacht Club (175); New Orleans Yacht Club (209); Pensacola Yacht Club (324); Jackson Yacht Club (388); Lake Charles Yacht Club (399).

Southern District had an excellent year in '72—our best I think to date. In addition to the fleets listed above, we have boats operating out of Morgan City, Louisiana; Pascagula, Mississippi; and Fairhope, Alabama. Seventeen major invitational regattas for Lightnings were sponsored by the yacht clubs in our district. For those



"Hold it, OK, good! And now for the last one, would you gentlemen be good enough to take about five steps backward?"



Top three in Southern District Championships—left to right—Whitworth, Zettler and Favaloro.

In the centrally located New Orleans area, this adds up to a full schedule if one is willing to do a little traveling since every yacht club (except Shreveport) is within a one to four hour drive. Add these invitations to the several closed races each club should provide, and we get a forty per cent availability of sailing weekends. Here's hoping we can encourage more interclub traveling in '73 as the ability to trail the boat and enjoy a variety of experiences is one of the biggest advantages of owning a Lightning.

Our district championship was held in Shreveport with twenty-one boats participating. Considering difficult weather conditions, the Shreveport Yacht Club members did a fine job. Three out of seven races had to be abandoned because of light air, but anyone who has served on a race committee realizes that it is just as frustrating for them as it is for the competitors. Scoring was established on a four race basis with Francis Favaloro taking the championship with 75 points. Gregory Zettler was runner-up with 74 points; Gilbert Whitworth, third with 73 points; Buck Ballatin, fourth with 72 points; and Tommy Allen, fifth with 69 points. As usual, this series was close with the lead changing three times—from Allen after the first two races, to Zettler after the third race, and finally to Favaloro. Favaloro earned his win by displaying considerable consistency in the four official races while forfeiting even better positions in the three races abandoned for excessive time.

Our second most important event, the Gulf Yachting Association Lightning Championship was held in Lake Charles, Louisiana. These races were smoothly run by our host club with good breezes prevailing throughout most of the series. First place honors went to Buck Ballatin who displayed his control of the situation by placing 1-1-4 against the competition, thus winning the huge perpetual Eugene Taylor Trophy. Second place went to Gilbert Whitworth and third to Guy Richards who is from Lake Charles and just a two year Lightning owner. Fourth place was won by Francis Favaloro and fifth by Tommy Allen.

The results of the District and GYA championships were summed together to determine the winner of the John G. Curran Memorial Trophy. With his fine places at Lake Charles plus a fourth in the districts this award went to Buck Ballatin of New Orleans Yacht Club, making three consecutive years that members of NOYC have retained this combined perpetual trophy.

Prospects for the '73 racing season look excellent. Lake Charles, a new club, has built in just three years a large active Lightning fleet. We are proud of their achievement and welcome their contributions to our district activities. This year we were fortunate in getting Lightning representation established in Morgan City, Louisiana under the leadership of Louis "Debbe" Lallande who in the first year of his Lightning ownership has done more traveling to out-of-town regattas than anyone else. Dick Lemmler is running Debbe a close second, and we are hopeful that '73 will see the addition of more active lightnings in Morgan City and a repeat of their enjoyable spring regatta. Another plus factor has been the participation of Rick Skinner (who is really sailing well after just one year) and Robert Jeffcott of Fairhope, Alabama in our activities. Through their efforts and interest it looks like we will pick up some additional Lightnings in that area as reactivation of the old

Mobile, Alabama fleet has been applied for. That is encouraging since Mobile, Fairhope, and Pensacola, with their proximity to the Gulf, have the best sailing conditions around.

Members Jimmy White, Tommy Allen, and C. W. Plumer all picked up 12,000 series boats—this is what helps build the class. Gretchen King, sailing the second Lightning regatta in her life in her new boat, took a seventh in the District Championships. Well done! We have others like Jim Baker, Guy Richards, Debbe Lallande, Rick Skinner, and Paul Ferchard who are pushing those old boys with ten to twenty years experience. We owe a vote of thanks to our friends in Pass Christian and to Sid Ellis in particular for having two fine regattas for Lightnings in '72 and offering to host the GYA in '73. Our appreciation is also extended to Tommy Allen for devoting his time to writing up many of our events for the Flashes (as well as winning many of our races).

In 1973 the Districts will be at Southern Yacht Club and the GYA at Pass Christian—Let's set a new precedent and get over thirty boats. Marshall Walker of Shreveport and Gregory Zettler of New Orleans were elected District Commodore and Secretary, respectively. Our thanks to the outgoing Commodore Ford Petty of Jackson for a job well done.

Southern District extends a special invitation to all to come to New Orleans and sail in our two big annual winter regattas, the Sugar Bowl—December 30 and 31, 1972—and the Mardi Gras—March 3 and 4, 1973.

SWITZERLAND DISTRICT

District Commodore	Jan C. Hess
District Champion	Robert Buckup
District Measurer	Weber
District Runner-Up	Hans A. Luthy

Fleets: du Lac de Neuchatel (169); Zurichsee (219); Sempachersee and Hallwilersee (250); Bielersee (268); Vierwaldstattersee (281); Greifensee (309); Lac de Morat (358); Bodensee and Untersee (404).

Last year was marked by our endeavor to get a mould from Jack Mueller, USA, to attract increased attention to our boat. Indeed, around here there are exclusively fiberglass boats in demand and nearly all young sailors are interested only in Olympic classes. It was a great success, when some weeks ago the first prototype was presented to the public in a modest inauguration at Faoug in Switzerland and to the German press in Friedrichshafen.

The boat is produced in cooperation with the Polyform, Soling-Boat-Builder, which is well known in Europe and has immense experience in the field since it has been dealing with fiber boats for years. Beck's workmanship needs no further comment.

The reputation of our Class has been increased by the untiring efforts of our racing sailors. Based on their results at the European Championship and the races on the Ocean, three more boats have



Off Morges, warming-up for the European Championships. Also freezing their collective you-know-what.

been accepted in the National Team by the Union of Swiss Yachting.

The first Swiss boat finished third in the European Championship. In Anzio, Rome, second, among the competition of the top Italian sailors, such as Tulli, former European champion. Our District regattas could only partly be sailed due to the poor winds. Unchallenged Hans Luthy remains our strongest man. We'll have to hold a meeting discussing what to do to beat him, especially since he'll sail a new fiberboat next year.

The next year will be heavily charged, four races alone on the coast of Italy, probably participation in the South American Championship in November, and a heap of District Races for the more and more desired Kami-Kaze Cup in the bargain. Jack Beck is probably going to the States. We are becoming sheer globe-trotters, mainly because our relations to the Italian District get tighter all the time.

I would like to express on this occasion our thanks to Helen Limbaugh with whom we have always had very agreeable relations and whom we appreciate for her kind assistance. We are approaching the point where a "hot line" to her would be justified.

TEXAS DISTRICT

District Commodore	Duncan Porter
District Secretary	Gail Thomas
District Champion	Mike Haggerty
District Runner-Up	Kyle Fagin

Fleets: Dallas Corinthian (35); Port Arthur (407); Rush Creek Yacht Club (435).

The three fleets in the Texas District report a busy year but not much growth in new members. Fleet 407 in Port Arthur got their bridge built and resumed active sailing, however, they lost one member during the year. Fleet 35 at White Rock Lake in Dallas had a so-so year in activity, far below the pace set in years past. Fleet 435 at Lake Ray Hubbard in Dallas had an active program going but did not experience the growth they anticipated for 1972. Fleet Captain George Hatfield of Fleet 435 reported that the Rush Creek fleet were hoping to expand to 18 or 20 boats this year but actually ended the year with the same number of boats as at the beginning of the year. New members in Fleet 435 are John and Marion Hall

who bought their first boat in the spring and really have done well. Also, Bill and Harris Garrett joined the fleet this spring. Harris placed third in the Adams Cup competition for the Women's National Championship in Cleveland, Ohio this year. Hal Ploch took over his son's boat when Mark went to the University of Texas, and Hal has been winning some races.

Fleet Captain Al Sather from the White Rock fleet reports that Bill Snook was runner-up for their fleet championship. That is really good considering this was Bill's first year of sailing. Warren Lewis was "most improved skipper" at White Rock and look out next year as he just bought a new boat.

Fleet 407 secretary J. Lowry Freeman reports the activity up in Port Arthur as they sponsored two regattas in 1972. Lowry traveled over to Lake Charles for the Contraband Regatta and the Lake Charles sailors reciprocated by coming over to Port Arthur for the July Regatta.

Although we do not have a fleet in Houston, we do have a fine sailor there in Mentz Billingsley. Mentz came to Dallas for the District Championship and also went to the July Regatta in Port Arthur. Mentz is interested in starting a fleet in Houston and hopefully this can be accomplished in 1973. Other cities we are hoping to form fleets in are Corpus Christi and Austin.

The District Championship was held at the Rush Creek Yacht Club June 10th and 11th. The past few years the winds have been strong for this event but not so for 1972. Very light and shifty. Mostly the wind was easterly, but occasionally the wind would shift out of the west which really juggled the positions. Mike Haggerty really sniffed out the shifts and won the regatta convincingly. Mike went on to the North American Championship at Rehoboth, Delaware where he qualified for the championship division. Calvert Garrett and Duncan Porter also went to Rehoboth but had to settle for the Governor's Cup division.

Fleet 435 hosted a regatta Thanksgiving week-end in 1971 and have decided to make it an annual affair because of the interest shown. Normally the weather is mild with the likelihood of some wind. It is a five race affair with two races Friday afternoon and three races Saturday. That leaves Thursday, Friday morning and Sunday for traveling. Bill Buckles from Decatur, Illinois won the regatta in 1971.

The Lightning Book is available from I.L.C.A., 808 High Street, Worthington, Ohio 43085. \$3.00.

