

Al David - Fleet 50 up on his ear.
Photo Credit - Wm. H. McCarthy

## WASHINGTON, D.C. FLEET (50) Dixie District Sailing on the Potomac River



3145
7294
1324
7350
7605
7844
9155
9842
10063
10199
10213
0745
10814
1673
11369
12168

1975 led off with a bang. Our monthly sailing seminars, "The Lightning" by Art Gatenby, "Wind and Sails" by Mike Arnold, "Rules of the Road, Sailing Courtesy, and Crew Duties" by Al Davis dim Dillard, and The Spinnaker and Getting the Most From Your Boat by Frank Gentile and Dave Pyle packed our members Etiquette and Crew Duties has to have been the most informative nd hilarious in history.
The home and home seminars with our sister fleet, fleet 329 , were highly instructive. The seminar hospitality extended by fleet to us is especially appreciated

Forty-five people from the Washington area, forty-two from fleet he first prominent regatt of the Azar. The youngest was Bill McCarthy Jr., age one, and the next youngest in terms of outlook on life was Dr. James Gilbert. We all stayed in the same place and teenagers, it was a great outing.

Our sailing pattern seemed to be set there, heavy participation in away events and lighter participation than normal for home events.

However, great sailing weather persisted throughout the year
Our Skipper, Al Davis, broke into the trophy winning line up with an over the horizon job on Memorial Day in NYC's Down River Race ( 18 miles). When asked to what he attributed his reversal of form, he stated "Start 45 minutes late and take Dr. Jim Gilbert along as part of the crew."

Ron Buchanan moved into the Senior racing program and made the seniors prove they could sail. He and Mike Arnold went down to the last race of the last day of the entire season for the Fleet Championship.

Ron's sterling help laying out Jr, sailing courses and taking care of myriad details brought the Jrs. closer to that day when they will take on even more responsibility for their own program. Attendance was lighter than last year but very consistent.

Jrs. dominated SCOW'S (Sailing Club of Washington) also "Ran Regatta" on Labor Day. 1st place went to Ron Grother, 2nd to Ann Jacobs and Rosy Gentile, and 4th to Jenny Hulburt who beat her father Fleet 50 secretary by two places.

The Fleet 50, Fleet 329 challenge which takes place at the Collyer Cup in September went to Fleet 50 by a fluke this year. A super sailor misread the starting board and that's all, it took. We of Fleet 50 sheepishly accept the award.

We closed out the sailing season with a stellar attendance of about ten boats at the Frostbite in Quantico, Between light airs the first day and a surfing, gear busting second day it was some event.

Local Fleet 50 sailing results are as follows: PRSA Spring Series Mike Arnold, Jim Dillard Ron Buchanan; NYC - 1st Summer Series - Ron Buchanan, Jim Dillard, Mike Arnold; NYC - 2nd Summer Series - Jim Dillard, Ron Buchanan, Mike Arnold; PRSA - Fall Series - Mike Arnold, Ron Buchanan, Dieter Grotheer.

Larry Kaltman, Sailing Editor, for the Washington Post was speaker at our annual banquet held at the Capitol Yacht Clubs in Washington, November 21. His subject was sailing news and the competition it faces for inclusion in the nation's papers, Speaker, supper, and location combined to make a superlative evening, an excellent way to end the year's formal activities.

## CRESCENT SAIL YACHT CLUB (51) <br> Michigan District <br> Based on Lake St. Clair <br> Grosse Pointe Farms, Michigan

| Fleet Caplain | Fred Eng |
| :---: | :---: |
| Fleet Secretary | Bob Brasie |
| Fleet Champion | rt Knop |
| Runner-Up | Richard Drew |

Boat No.
6066
10017
10349
11208
12060
12103
12121
12188
12227
12332
12369
12383

| Boat Name | Skipper |
| :---: | :---: |
| XL | Henry Cawthra John Pettit |
| Luffable | George Grenzke |
| ... | Doug Jones Fred Eng |
| Nokomis | Dick Drew |
|  | Vincent T. Boyle |
| Bird | Bob Knop |
|  | Arlyn W. Kinkel |
| Intuition | Robert Werenski |
| .............. | Ron Summers |
| $\cdots$ | Marlow Lee |

The season's activity began in early May with the Detroit River Yachting Association's Spring Thaw Invitational. The Lightning Class, represented by such notables as Bruce Goldsmith and Gary Camerson, had the second largest fleet in the one-design regatta which drew over 150 boats. Bob Mathers of Pontiac took first place honors in Lightnings. Crescent then hosted the Michigan District Championship Regatta in late June. With warm temperatures, light winds, and choppy seas, John Somers won the title with some very consistent sailing. Highlight of the Districts was the cocktail party hosted by Fleet 51 at the beautiful home of George Grenzke. Crescent then hosted its annual invitational in late July with Bill McKinley winning all three races to take the spoils.

On the circuit the fleet was well represented by Bob Knop, Dick Drew, Vince Boyle, Bob Werenski, and Fred Eng. The Crescent burgee was seen at eleven of the fifteen scheduled regattas, Knop took first at Devils Lake with some fine heavy weather sailing. Bob was also a District representative to the North Americans at Hilton Head.

Fleet racing suffered a bit as a result of the traveling but the competition improved considerably as Werenski and Eng moved up in the standings from last year. Knop was the overall winner with

Drew, Werenski, and Eng in a tight battle for second.
Even though the fleet hosted the District Championship, the important news of the season was the increased interest in and activity of the Lightning at the Club and on Lake St. Clair. Down in numbers and participation in recent years, fleet 51 has once again become a growing and enthusiastic fleet. Continued efforts on the part of the fleet will hopefully reestablish the Lightning as a dominant class on Lake St. Clair.

New fleet members this year are Doug Jones, Ron Summers, Marlow Lee, Arlyn Kinkel, Bob Schoonbeck, and Warren Jones. The fleet looks forward to 1976 with great expectations.

|  | LAKE FENTON SAILING CLUB (53) Michigan District |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Fleet Captain <br> Fleet Secretary <br> Fleet Champion <br> Runner-Up .... | $\qquad$ Dennis Staley Al Bauer . . . David Nickels . . . George Nickels |
| Boat No. | Boat Name | Skipper |
| 5967 |  | Randy Reynolds |
| 7977 | The Sting | Paul Hipple |
| 8304 |  | James Eby |
| 8594 | Kyria | Alfred Bauer |
| 9965 | Polution Solution | Dennis Staley |
| 11451 | Luff Affair | Morris Gushen |
| 11546 | UPA UR AFT | Donovan Allen |
| 11793 |  | Carl Pohly |
| 12734 | Demon | Dave Furey |
| 12191 | Wild Goose | John Kerr |
| 12288 |  | Dave Nickels |
| 12330 |  | Herman Nickels |
| 12334 | Bligh Spirit | Paul Militzer |

The 1975 sailing season at Lake Fenton Sailing Club was a really great success. We had a lot of good races on our home waters and many of our sailors travelled around the Michigan District regatta circuit and the District Championships. Our fleet was also represented at the North Americans by Paul Militzer and crew.

This year we started our season with a spring series, hoping to get the sailing spirit aroused early and the boats tuned-up. This early racing also gave some of the Aces a chance to crew with some of the Back-of-the-Pack skippers.

The regular season started with a week-end series over the Memorial Day holidays. With a majority of the fleet on the starting line for all the races, everybody was sailing to beat everybody. By the end of the weekend, the sailing was under full sail and we had determined who would represent our fleet in the Michigan District Team Races.

The Michigan District Team Races are held each year at Lake Fenton as our fleets' part of the regatta schedule. Teams, of four boats each, from Pontiac Y.C., Tawas Bay Y.C., Saginaw Bay Y.C., and Cresent Sail Y.C. participated this year along with two teams of our own. On Saturday, June 14, it was a beautiful day and all of the teams were really up for the races. The race before lunch was perfect but as so often happens, the morning breeze died by the afternoon. A race was held but it was a real floater. The wind on Sunday was blowing about 20 knots. Everybody was anticipating a great day, but by race time the wind was up to 35 knots and gusting to 45 . Eventually the race was called and our Lake Fenton team \#1 had won all the hardware. On that team were Herman, David, and George Nickels and Paul Militzer.

The spirited racing and good times continued throughout the summer. As with each previous year, there was one skipper who stood out as the most-improved. This year our club Commodore, Carl Pohly, is the one who put it all together. Along with Carl, there were also the guys that had the go juice most of the time. These were David Nickels, fleet champion, followed by George and their father Herman Nickels.

Probably the single most important event to happen around the Lake Fenton Sailing Club was the construction of the Upper Level of the Club House. This is a beautiful building with a natural wood styling both inside and out. Although the interior is imcomplete, we will be able to use it to get out of those occasional showers in the future.

Along with the new clubhouse and the addition of several new Lightnings to Fleet 53 , we are all very excited about sailing on beautiful Lake Fenton in 1976. Thanks to Fleet Captain Morrie Gushen and his wife for work this year. Hope to see you all next year.

## PONTIAC YACHT CLUB (54) Michigan District Sailing on Cass Lake at Keego Harbor, Michigan

| F | rg |
| :---: | :---: |
| Fleet Secretary | Lauren Bowler |
| Fleet Champion | Robert Mathers |
| Runner-U |  |


| Boat No. | Boat Name | Skipper |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 835 | Princess II | Fred Prince |
| 5790 |  | Peter Geshel |
| 7407 | C, Lark | Alex Clark, Jr. |
| 7959 | Flip | Leslie Huntwork |
| 8145 | Ciao | Fred Cowin |
| 8208 |  | Gordon Gotberg |
| 8404 | Nauti I | R. J. Clarke |
| 8668 | Jolly I | James D. Jolly |
| 8744 | Five J's | John H, Ostrander |
| 9518 |  | Fred Thompson |
| 9855 | Bardy | J. F. Enstroth, M,D. |
| 9964 | Heather | Max M. Clixby |
| 10116 |  | William Balman |
| 10411 | Bottle of Wine | John Seaton |
| 10515 | Why Worry | John \& Nancy Corbett |
| 10608 | Ole ${ }^{\text {' }}$ | Jim Olson |
| 10780 |  | William F. McKinley |
| 10806 | Sundancer | James H. Sipple |
| 10902 | Patton's 'Tank | Richard Patton |
| 10905 | .-. | Carl Marr |
| 11033 | Carousel VI | Glenn Smith |
| 11078 | Summer Mistress | William Welch |
| 11202 |  | Dale W. Clixby |
| 11394 | Spirit | Robert R. Sturgill |
| 11452 | Generation Gap | Paul R, Schneider |
| 11520 | Ache II Win | Dave Scott |
| 11545 | Kermit | John Edwards |
| 11743 | Vector | Donald Fraser |
| 11795 | Whistlin' Wind | Richard Adamson |
| 11807 | Mon Amie | James L. MacDonald |
| 11813 | Evie | James Fryfogle, M.D. |
| 11844 | ............... | Roger Asbury |
| 11927 | Fightn'n Lightn'n | John A. Scott |
| 11966 | Thizzizzit | Lou Zednik |
| 12033 |  | Richard Roland |
| 12122 | Tiger | Robert S. Ketchum |
| 12176 | Summer Snow | Les Kastura |
| 12205 | Poison Sue-Mark | Lauren L. Bowler |
| 12333 |  | Sue Corbett |
| 12358 | Sea Weed | Charles E. Scribner |
| 12404 | ............... | Dr. Leo Wasserberger |
| 12546 |  | Richard Beaubien |
| 12570 | Teacher's Pet | Robert H, Mathers |
| 12612 | Busybox, Sr. | John Somers |
| 12707 |  | Jim McCoy |
| 12756 | Luffer | M. D, Bleitz |
| 12780 | Escargot | Victor Brooks |
| .......... | .............. | Clarence L. Holman |
| $\ldots$ |  | Clarence Holman, III |

Fleet 54 is the world's largest Lightning fleet and still growing. This year 63 of our club members owned Lightnings. Hard work by the membership committee to find interested Lightning racing people for club membership has resulted in a very interesting racing program. A total of 75 races was scheduled with 45 of our skippers sailing at one time or another during the year. It was not unusual to have 20 boats on the starting line for our Wednesday night or Sunday races.

The season began in April with a lecture and discussion about the new Lightning spar and aluminum center board with Jack Muller, Jr ., as our guest speaker. About a hundred people were present and enjoyed hearing this fine sailor tell his secrets. Six of our members started the sailing season with new boats fresh out of the mold. In addition, three of our skippers up-dated their boats with the new oval mast.

High water in the spring delayed the installation of docks and boat hoists. The Bug-Out Series, won by Commodore Jack Ostrander, had to be dry sailed from trailers. It was nice to be able to sail over some of the sholes with full centerboard.

The July 4th Pot Luck Pienic was enjoyed very much by all the kids and families. Bob Mathers found it most enjoyable as he won

"High water" - Should be able to carry full centerboard today. Photo credit - John Scott
our Club Championship by $1 / 4$ point over Jim McCoy, followed by Nancy Corbett. After a poor first days competition in light air, Bob came back withtwo firsts and a second in heavy air the second day to win his championship. Congratulations Bob and your crew.

If you are wondering who won the Michigan District Championship Trophy this year, you will find it prominently displayed in our trophy case. John Sommers took a new boat and a new crew to our neighboring club on Lake St. Clair and brought the Michigan District Trophy home for all of us to enjoy. Thank You and Congratulations, John. Our Congratulations also go to Bill McKinley and his crew Ed Stack and Jim Patton for his second place finish in the National President's Cup. Competition with people of this caliber helps us all to trim our suils a little better.

A lucky break from the weather man and a lot of hard work from our Vice Commodore, Dick Adamson, and his wife, Marge, went together to make PYC's White Cap Regatta a great success. All week before our regatta heavy rains came to our area. The waters came up and washed out our docks for the second time this year. The day of the first race the sun came out and the breeze came up to 15 knots. Joe Dissette of Bay City Y.C. showed 41 boats how to make a Lightning go fast with two firsts. Final race results, however, found our Lightning class president, Gary Cameron, in first place followed by our own Bill McKinley with Joe Dissette taking third.

Fleet 54 's success is due to the enthusiasm and dedication of our sailors, new and old. We look forward to good times and great sailing next year.

## NIAGARA SAILING CLUB (59)

 Lake Erie District Sailing on Niagara River at Grand Island, N.Y.Fleet Secretary . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Bob Starck
Fleet Champion . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Judy Walker
Runner-Up . . . . . . . . .

Boat No 6345 8830 8830 .................. 10002 ................
10008 . 1555 $\qquad$
11788 $\qquad$

## Skipper

John Swanson
Theodore Sullivan John Swanson
Kevin Farry
Calvin H. Schmiege \&
Robert B. Starck
Fleet racing at the Niagara Sailing Club was at best modestly successful during the 1975 season. Most of the club's active racers opted to sail in area regattas rather than in stay-at-home series, with the result that all major Lightning series were abbreviated. Cal Schmiege managed to win the Bowen Trophy again this year, emblematic of the club championship. Judy Walker edged Bill McNutt for the runner-up spot.

Our annual Niagara River Lightning Championship attracted 32 boats this year. Steady Don Allen, with a third and two firsts, took home the winner's trophy. Rounding out the first five, in order, were Tom Allen, Cal Schmiege, Stu Anderson and Dick Ferrick.

The racing season ended somewhat abruptly for Cal Schmiege when he met an early morning reveller the hard way en route to the Dunkirk segment of the Northern Fall Seriess. Fortunately, Cal wasn't hurt - but Ginger VI will sail no more. Heres hoping that Cal will have something to replace the old girl with for 1976.

## JAYHAWK FLEET (60) <br> Central States District Sailing on Lake Shawnee at Topeka, Kansas

| Fleet Captain | Willard Nicks |
| :---: | :---: |
| Fleet Secretary | Hall Bowling |
| Fleet Champion | Bill Merillat |
| Runner-Up | alph Persso |


| Boat No. | Boat Name | Skipper |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 4545 | Deep Purple | James D. Walker |
| 6779 |  | Robert R. Pooler |
| 7001 |  | Harold Hunt |
| 7461 | Prairie Nymph | Ralph Persson |
| 9025 | Caro | Bob Sommers |
| 9460 |  | Robert B. Perry |
| 10154 |  | Fritz Toussaint |
| 10682 | Woodstock | Willard B, Nicks |
| 10968 | Terry Too | M. S. Klotzbach, Jr. |
| 11339 |  | Jukka I. Saukkonen |
| 12508 | Streaker | Bill Merillat |

No Report.


Winners of Pultneyville Regatta. Left to right: Merle Pindell (5th), Ray Nelson (4th), Kirk Reynolds (3rd), Fisk Hayden (2nd), and Dick Hallagan (1st). (Editors Note - can't anyone out there beat that bald-headed guy?)

## PULTNEYVILLE YACHT CLUB LIGHTNING FLEET (61) Central New York District Sailing on Lake Ontario, Pultneyville, New York



The high point of the 1975 season for Fleet 61 was the Lightning Invitational Regatta hosted by the Pultneyville Yacht Club. Twentynine Lightnings from the Central New York Lightning Distriet participated in a sporty 20 to 25 mph three-race-series. In the first race Saturday morning the wind was southwest and being offshore was shifty and quite puffy. Saturday afternoon put the fleet to the test with northwest winds gusting to 30 mph . Capsizes, gear failure and withdrawals eliminated almost one third of the feet. Dick Hallagan won easily with two firsts on Saturday and a second Sunday. Fisk Hayden, who was never far behind, took second. Bob Wardwell put it all together Sunday morning and finished way out in front of the fleet. Pultneyville looks forward next year to having the Lightnings back to race on the waters of Lake Ontario.

Local fleet racing was actively participated in by half of our fleet. Dick Arnold won the summer series and Dan Tomlinson took the fall series. The fleet was well represented on the regatta circuit by Dick Arnold, Dan Koretz, Dan Tomlinson and Joe Gunzelmann. A hoist and dry sail area were placed in operation at Pultneyville this year and we hope that more active racers will be attracted next year by these new facilities.

## SOUTHERN YACHT CLUB FLEET (62) Southern District Sailing on Lake Pontchartrain at New Orleans, Louisiana

Fleet Captain
Jeff Reisch Fleet Secretary . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Tommy Allen

| Boat No. | Boat Name | Skipper |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 7120 | Splurge | Crawford Cleveland |
| 9235 | Gone with the Wind | E, Carlton Guillot |
| 9455 | Wild Goose | Ross Allen |
| 10812 | .7............. | Richard Foster |
| 10950 | The Rock | Guy Richards |
| 11990 | Niki | Jeff \& Erston Reisch, Jr. |
| 12053 | Ticonderoga | Tommy Allen |
| 12847 |  | Gil \& Robert Whitworth |
| Life Member |  | Gene Walet |
| Life Member |  | Gilbert Shieb |

The year 1975 was difficult for Fleet No. 62 as I guess it was for most fleets, we started the year with seven reasonably matched fiberglass boats. Now we have three with the new oval masts which turned out to be neither as cheap or available as they were supposed to be. Hopefully we can complete the conversion in 1976.

As usual the sailing was on a year round basis on Lake Ponchetrain. The Sugar Bowl event in the waning days of 1974 was taken by Buck Ballatin of New Orieans Yacht Club over such distinguished visitors as Bill Buckles and Rick Grajirena.

Buck did it again in the Mardi Gras; sailed annually the weekend before Mardi Gras and hosted by the New Orleans Yacht Club. Many out-of-towners like to come for the Sugar Bowl Regatta and leave their boats over the intervening month and take them home or to the Southern Circuit. As space permits (and it usually does) we are glad to make such arrangements.

The official start of racing was the NOYC opening Regatta on April 19, 1975. This was taken by Tommy Allen, with Cal Herman second and Buck Ballantin third, in light to moderate winds. The situation was quite different for the SYC opening Regatta the next day. With winds over 20 mph , Buck Ballantin made it look easy, as he won by a wide margin. Cal Herman was second and Gil Whitworth third.

We had a chance to see how good we were on an inter-fleet basis when we attended Shreveport's Holiday in Dixie Regatta in late April. This series was taken by the Dallas bunch led by Duncan Porter. They got the three top spots.

Back on our own lake, Southern Yacht Club sailors were at their best in taking the two top spots in the One Design Handicap, Gil Whitworth won beating L-16, 5.5, and Flying Scouts on a boat-for-boat basis. Ross Allen, who as SYC's Race Committee Chairman inaugurated the race took second spot.

Gil in his new boat continued his win streak taking first place in the Lightning portion of SYC's annual One Design Regatta. Buck Ballantin was second and Cal Herman third.

During the summer as a whole, lots of silverware was distributed. Listed are the names of the winners and races:

Gil Whitworth, Numerous, Invitationals; Robert Whitworth, Crew, Race; Barbara Whitworth, Crew, Race; Ross Allen, Invitational; Jeffrey Reisch, Several, Invitationals; Lee Tidmore, Crew, Race; Chris Alfonso, Crew, Race; Gene Van Norman, Invitational; Dennis Moeller, Invitational; Buck Ballentin, Many,


Tommy Allen Fleet 62 Champion.
Invitations; Cal Herman, Invitational, George Martin, Invitational, Richard Foster, Invitational; Richard Foster, Invitational; and Tommy Allen, Several, Invitationals.

As noted, several got more than their share, but no one dominated the lake.

At the end of the summer, Fleet 62 hosted its Annual Labor Day Series which had the best weather of the year. Tommy Allen and his Ticonderoga took the series with Buck Ballantin placing second and Larry Frost, Jr. of Lake Charles third. The sailing, however, played second fiddle to the party hosted by Marie and Jeffrey Reisch at their lakeview home for all the participants. It was without a doubt the best Regatta of the year.

The Fleet Championship was hottly contested this year with Jeffrey winning the first race. Tommy took the second to tie it. He finished ahead of Jeffrey in the third to win it. Jeffrey gets the runner-up spot.

Sailing for the year came to an official close on November 1 when SYC held its Final Regatta. With winds blowing 20-25 out of the east the waves built on Lake Ponchartrain to what is known as the Lake Ponchartrain Chop, Tommy Allen and Gil Whit worth were the only finishers taking first and second, respectively. The rest either withdrew, broke down or turned over. Luckily it was the last Regatta, as it will take the fleet some time to get the boats back in racing condition.

## MAPLE BAY YACHT CLUB (64) <br> Pacific Northwest District Sailing on Maple Bay at Maple Bay, Duncan, B.C., Canada

Fleet Captain . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Peter Idema Fleet Secretary . . . . . . . . . . . . . George Blumel Fleet Champion . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Peter Idema Runner-Up . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . George Blumel

| Boat No. | Boat Name | Skipper |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 12245 | Desiderata | Peter Idema |
| 12475 | Katchup | George Blumel |

No Report.

# MILWAUKEE YACHT CLUB FLEET (69) Midwest District Sailing on Lake Michigan, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 

|  | Captain Secretary Champion er-Up | . . . . . . . Dean Cady . . . . . Agnes Barrett John Esser Dean Cady |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Boat No. | Boat Name | Skipper |
| 5953 | Scarlett | David C. Mountain |
| 8889 | Betsy | Robert J. Casper |
| 9634 | Bluefin | Byron K. Roe, Jr. |
| 9655 | Sundance | James M. Bielefeld |
| 10350 | Sans Souci III | John H. Esser |
| 10387 | Barb III | Guy Scrivner |
| 10799 | Ragtime | David M. Barrett |
| 11442 | Rampage | Dean S. \& Karen Anne Cady |
| 11589 | Ruddigore II | Alexander M, Cutler |
| 11888 | Happiness Is III | Donald G. \& Jeff Casser |
| 11903 | Windy | Robert C, Mahnke |
| 12342 | B. Wette | Allen N. Rieselbach |

The Mid-West District winter meeting was again held at the Milwaukee Yacht Club in mid-January with representatives of all of the mid-west fleets present to discuss regatta schedules. Plans were finalized and several members of Fleet 69 traveled to these regattas during the season.

Two back-to-back races each Saturday - a plan initiated in 1974 . was unanimously approved by the fleet for the 1975 season. Twenty-two races were sailed, with $2 / 3$ counted toward the season standings.

The Fleet 69 - sponsored Commissioning Ceremony which annually opens the yachting season at MYC was well-planned and executed by the Vice-Fleet Captain AI Rieselbach. Two races were held that week-end including the Marine Handicap which is sponsored each year by the Marine National Bank of Milwaukee. Both of these races were won by Don Casser. It was a treat for all to see Don on the starting line again after a year's absence.

Three races were sailed in the Commodore's Regat ta though heat Was intense and wind was hard to find. Dean Cady, John Esser, and Byron Roe took the first three places in the final standings,

Fleet 69 sponsors the Little Mackinac Race held each year on July Fourth. Twenty-one boats participated on a beautiful summer day. Entrants are centerboards and keel boats, and scoring is based on Portsmouth numbers.

The P and T Regatta is always one of the highlights of Fleet 69's season. This year was no exception, Jim Bielefeld did a fine job of making all the arrangements for this mid-July event. The host club perenially allows its visitors to win the silver, and this year was no exception to that either. Don Basler from Chicago Corinthian Yacht Club won the series.

The Mid-West District Championship races were held this year at the Sheboygan Yacht Club. Dean Cady and John Esser of Fleet 69 were among the top ten finishers to qualify for the North Americans. Dean trailed his boat and crew to Hilton Head, S.C, for the event and had a respectable finish in the Governor's Cup Series.

The Brill Series in August was a close contest for the Lightnings with four boats tied for first place going into the third and final race! Dean Cady won, Dave Barrett was second, and Bob Mahnke was third. Strong winds and high waves provided thrills for the final races of the season in the Labor Day Regatta.

Fleet Champion this year is Dr. John Esser, a well-known Milwaukee physician who sails in summer and skis in winter to keep fit. John has won the fleet championship a number of times as well as serving in a number of administrative capacities. This year he has been Vice-Commodore of the Milwaukee Yacht Club. John has a new oval mast though it can hardly be said that it contributed much to his success since he did not use it until the end of August. He is very happy with it and says he has found it easier to tune than his old one.

John first sailed a Lightning in 1953 and has since owned three of them, his current number being 10350. He has been sailing since he was a youngster starting out on a C-Scow on Cedar Lake, Wisconsin. His crew this year has usually been Dick Schemel of Mequon and Jim Furey of Racine. Jim is a member of the Coast Guard stationed here and comes from a Lightning family. His mother is employed at Nickels-Hoiman, and his brother was commodore of the Michigan District this year.

Sandy Cutler again hosted the annual Fleet picnic held in mid-September, New officers were elected at that time.

Fleet 69 looks forward to another fun year of sailing and racing to win!

"Essers crew lies down on the job while John is at attention!"

# RED BANK ON THE SHREWSBURY (70) Metropolitan District <br> Sailing on the North Shrewsbury River at Red Bank, New Jersey 

Fleet Captain . . . . . . . . . . . Dick Robrock
Fleet Secretary . . . . . . . . . Michael Hagler
Fleet Champion ......... Bob Hutchinson
Boat No.
Boat Name
Mischief
8502 Avenger III
10730
10730
10942
11139
11205
11327
11341
11958
12173
12209
12499
12509
12690
12739
12800
12808
12842
12866
Dawn Mere
Blitz
12solfoy
Odd Job
Wind Song III
Bam II
Dickie II
White Lightning
Arnie's Army
Flying Cloud II

Think Positive

Now that the sailing season is over with 27 capsizes, 14 broken tillers, 4 masts crumbled, untold mast blocks lost forever, that great screwdriver at the bottom of the river, we will report our accomplishments, past histories, and wishful thinking.

Women have finally made it at Fleet 70. Our host club is considering a proposal to allow women to become members of the Monmouth Boat Club and so it follows that women may officially become members in their own right in Fleet 70. Women have always been important in our fleet with a large percentage of the active crew being the sisters, wives, and girlfriends of the male skippers. However this year, Anne Robrock, Susie Von Holle, and Karen Huntsman represented our fleet in the Adams Cup and did very well receiving first in the quarter finals and third in the semis. Karen also sailed with her father in the North Americans and sailed with John Schneider in the Worlds.

Our fleet was host to the Metropolitan District Championships and for once this year the weather held and we had a beautiful weekend, complete with fair skies, bountiful winds, and a sumptuous feast at Mary \& Sandy Huntsman's new home on the Navesink, aptly named "Mary's Mansion."

Fleet 70 sent its fair share of members to the Lightning Class endurance and survival course, otherwise known as the North Americans at Hilton Head, S.C. Bob Hutchinson won the President's Cup - need we say more except that it was well deserved (Editors Note: Great job Hutch!). Sandy Huntsman, John Schneider, Ralph Messersmith, Arnold Schwartz and their crew members also did well. (The only ones who really enjoyed the North Americans were the Haglers since they didn't sail and just went down to vacation.)

Personalities In The News:
Fleet 70 lost "Collision Course" Charlie Bodenstab - watch out Connecticut fleets.
"Capt. Courageous" Jim Kelly has a new crew, landlubber Mary Shaw who is sharing middleperson crew chores with Jim's wife Marge.
Meanwhile Mary's husband Mo Shaw, the little elf co-owner and co-skipper of "Think Positive" is having his jollies sailing with Mike and Ellen Hagler. Mo has invented the greatest dietetic, alcoholic drink called the "Go Fast," made with grapefruit juice and vodka. It adds to the fun on "Think Positive" but it doesn't help all the time.
Has venerable skipper Arnie Schwartz left us for a larger, more stable craft-the Laser? (Editor's Note - can't take the pressure Arnie?)
Dave Von Holle has really proved himself this year by winning many series and regattas with a low score count but Susie would like him to lower his decibel count,

Question Of The Year:
Bet you don't know who won the following: A. Cox Trophy; B. Monmouth Museum Trophy; C. Irv Lewis Trophy; and D. Atwater Trophy? Answers: A. Denis Farley; B. Dick Robrock; C. Farley and D. Farley.

Know why Denis won so many awards? Have you ever seen Denis sailing without Pat? Think about it!

Non Hot Shot Awards Worth Mentioning - Fall Series: 1st - Dick Robrock, 2nd - Pat Corr, 3rd-Jim Kelly.

Harold Beck came in third in the National Sweeps.
Fleet 70 swept top honors in our District Championships with Hutch, Sandy Huntsman, Reid Dickerson, Arnie Schwartz, and John Schneider taking positions $1,2,3,5,7$ respectively. Reid Dickerson was busy coaching his sons in sailing techniques but still had time to sail and win prizes in several series and regattas. Dick Davis got a new boat but lost a crew member when his wife, Jane received her masters degree. Chuck Honeywell, who crewed for Al Miller during the summer, made the plung and bought his own Lightning. Being a great bunch of people, we let Chuck win his first race as a skipper.

Our Long John Regatta was a resounding success this year with the most boats registered and from incredibly long distances. We had to provide space for several large campers in our parking lots. Next year we hope to have 75 boats, fair skies, good steady winds, and a warm sun. See you in April in Red Bank on the Navesink. (Editors Note - We'll be there!)

## ROCKY RIVER LIGHTNING FLEET (71) Ohio District Sailing on Lake Erie at Cleveland Yachting Club Rocky River, Ohio

Fleet Captain . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Wally Sellars
Fleet Secretary . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .

Boat No,

| 8100 | Tweedy Too |
| ---: | :--- |
| 8650 | Pip |
| 9498 | Bonnie Lass |
| 9515 | Greased Lightning |
| 9902 | Lucky Starr III |
| 10348 | Heffalump |
| 10444 | ................ |
| 10646 | Sting Rea |
| 10647 | ................... |
| 10790 | Green Boat |
| 10970 | Ground Pounder |
| 11533 | S.O.S. |

8100
8650
9498
9902
9902
10444
10646
10647
10970
11533

Boat Name
Tweedy Too Pip

Greased Lightning
Lucky Starr III
-

Green Boat S.O.S.

## Skipper

John L. \& John B. Horton
Richard Donaldson
William Summers
Giff Landen
Pete Carsten
Charlie Simpson
Budd Werner
John Rea
Bradley Hull
George Palmer
Joseph Lydon
John Zangerle \& O. Eugene Wood

11700 Ragboat
11840
11876
11912
11931
12040
12040
12594
12596
12766
12766
12824
12828 12829
Honorary Member
Honorary Member

Jim Disch, Jr, \& Sr
John Stuart
Ken Gilbert
Wally Sellars
Harry Hooker
Whit \& Susan Slaught
Paul Auer
William \& Scott Rudge
Dave Austin
Jack Mueller
William Buckles
John Mueller
Charles Judd
Ed Kennedy


Why are Jim Disch's crew wearing life jackets on such a calm day?
Photo Credit - John L. Horton

Rocky River Lightning Fleet 771 officially rang down the 1975 season at the Fleet's annual meeting and with elections for the 1976 year. New officers elected are: Wallace Sellars, Fleet Captain; David Austin, Fleet Secretary; Kenneth Gilbert, Social Chairman.

The 1975 Fleet Captain Jim Disch, Jr. reviewed the year's activities and complimented the members on their sailing activities both locally and the traveling teams which represented the fleet. He gave thanks and praise to the special study committee for the 21 suggestions they presented for member consideration to better enjoy Lightning ownership and sailing.

The program will get underway in 1976 and is part of a long-range plan which includes a short-long distance race; a mini fleet regatta to decide the fleet championship; races for juniors; organized travel to other regattas; racing technique instructions; team racing; and a Spirit of 1976 social program.

Disch complimented the traveling racing teams. Seven members attended the Ohio Districts and John and Jack Muelher both qualified for the Nationals sailed at Hilton Head. Paul Auer, Wallace Sellars, Kenneth Gilbert, David Austin, and James Disch made up the rest of the team. Jack Mueller sailed to 7th place in the National Championships and father John Mueller captured 1st place in the Governors Trophy Series. The results are the best Fleet \#71 has won at the Nationals in recent years,

Bill Buckles and Jack Mueller continued on to the World's at Ecuador with Buckles winning 12th Place and Jack Mueller 16th Place.

The fleet members traveled to other local regattas and George Auer took 2nd place in the Buckeye Snowball Regatta and James Disch won the Port Clinton Snow Flurries Regatta.

Locally, an active summer of sailing resulted in John Mueller winning the Fleet Championship for the second straight year. Close behind him were Paul Auer at 2nd and David Austin at 3rd. John Mueller and Paul Auer each won three series trophies, David Austin and John Horton each won two and Jack Mueller won the CYC Regatta Series.

The social program under Barbara Disch's chairmanship was again the highlight of the fleet's activities with many members participating in a varied program. The year started with the annual Westwood dinner and Commander Al Mastics's slide show review of the previous seasons activities of both the Fleet and the CYC year. Rita Auer's annual April House Party kicked away winter blues and then the fleet became active with steak roasts, pot luck parties and our famous after-the-race cocktail parties.

Kenneth Gilbert and William Kirby returned to the fleet this year after a tour of work duty in Chicago where they sailed, George Copeland was away the entire summer on a work job in England but is now back and ready with a new boat for the 1976 season.

## DECATUR LIGHTNING FLEET (74) Mississippi Valley District Sailing on Lake Decatur, Decatur, Illinois

Fleet Captain . . . . . . . . . . . . . William Badorek
Fleet Secretary . . . . . . . . . . . . Vince Daube
Fleet Champion . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .

| Boat No. | Boat Name | Skipper |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2516 |  | Keros Cartwright |
| 3214 |  | Keith D. Chesney |
| 6633 | Jeux D'Eau | Kenneth Jones |
| 7903 | Blixt | Bill Wis |
| 9213 |  | Denny Heisler |
| 9678 | Intrepid | Roger L. Grohne |
| 10100 |  | Bob Ohlsen \& James Lackman |
| 10527 | ............... | Gary Quinlan |
| 10603 |  | Robert C. Schaub |
| 10700 |  | Edward Cave |
| 10932 | Brown Hound | Jake R. Watson |
| 11125 | Shillelagh | Lloyd Irish |
| 11130 | ............... | Red Cross |
| 11133 |  | J. Parke Boyer |
| 11290 | ................ | Eugene Laurent |
| 12083 |  | Welland A. Hause |
| 12107 | ............... | Red Cross |
| 12268 |  | William E. Badorek |
| 12378 | Blue Doggie | Hank Pauls |
| 12458 |  | Bob Buckles, Jr, |
| 12464 |  | J. Roger Miller |
| 12540 |  | Carl Sternaman |
| 12554 |  | Vince Daube |
| 12720 | Nipps | Greg Florian |
|  |  | Russ Marande |
| .......... |  | Dave Marshall |

The weather gods smiled very favorably on Fleet \#74 in Decatur, Illinois, allowing us a long and very enjoyable sailing season. In all, 45 out of a possible 69 scheduled races were sailed from April 19th to October 26th, not including the Districts and regattas,

Gary Quinlan found the stormy and gusty winds in the Spring Series to his liking as he took 1st over all followed by a pair of old salts, Roger Grohne, 2nd, and Carl Sternaman, 3rd.

Lloyd Irish put together an astonishing series of races, in generally lighter air, to take the Saturday and Sunday Summer Series hands down. This qualified Lloyd to claim the fleet championship.....again. Finishing out the standings in the Saturday Series a hot and up and coming young skipper, Phil Lackman came in 2nd. Phil was also awarded the club's "Most Improved Skipper" award for the year, Carl Sternaman placed a very respectable 3rd. The other finishers in the Sunday Summer Series were J. Roger Miller, 2nd, our runner-up fleet champ, and Bob Ohisen, 3rd.

The Fall Series, sailed in typical moderate to heavy air with challenging shifts and gusts, went to Jim Lackman, 1st, Gary Quinlan 2nd, and Bill Badorek, 3rd.

It was a very interesting year for the fleet, filled with triumphs and tears, fun and foibles, disasters and dismastings, and growth and glory. Our 19 year-old supersailor, Greg Florian, entered the Junior National Championship series and almost had it in the bag with a
low 13 points going into the last race. According to reports from the race Greg was leading the guy he had to beat to take all the marbles, tacked into a hole on the last leg, and watched 14 boats go by, Greg still wound up a very respectable 4 th over all. Greg really makes it rough on the fleet back home. Speaking of young sailors, this was the year for many of our young sailors to take over the tiller from their fathers, at least for one of the series. The going may have been frustrating at first, but our future fleet nucleus found some daylight occassionally and finished in the money. We'll be looking for more and sharper competition from them next year.

The Intercity Regatta was an unqualified success this year as John G'Sell from St. Louis took 1st, Home-town favorite, Bill Buckles, found some air where there wasn't supposed to be any in the last race and eased into 2nd over-all with Augi Paoli taking third.

The fleets growth factor was super, and, after a few boats changed hands and a few new boats having arrived, the fleet can boast a net gain of 7 boats. At this writing there are indications that next year will show an even better record.

Even with its dismastings, collisions and capsizings 1975 has been a vintage year for Fleet \#74.

"Howard Dexter and crew Bill Reeve and daughter head back in after a quiet day on The Hudson," - Photo Credit - Warren Inglese Journal News.

## NYACK LIGHTNING FLEET (75) Metropolitan District Sailing on Hudson River at Nyack, New York

|  | Captain. . Secretary Treasurer Champion er-Up . . . . | $\qquad$ Eve Hall Ed Deeb . . David Brown Tom DeStassio . . Gary Hurban |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Boat No. | Boat Name | Skipper |
| 3322 | Nordvind | Mons Grinager |
| 5403 | Lydia | A. C. Neff |
| 7545 | Flame Glo | Keith W. Lyman |
| 7616 |  | Rod Johnson |

7675
8182
8272
8612
8696
9100
9801
10030
10225
10620
10737
10769
10862
11239
11273
12277

Beth II
Gotcha'
Mossy Ogress
Madame Blue
Greased
Trilogy
Lady Bug
Dandy Funk
Beth III
Different
Drummer
Rights of Man
Avonti

Honorary Member
Honorary Member
Eve Hall
Gary Hurban
Martin \& Andy Low
John Russell
Howard Rinehart
Thomas De Stasio
Richard P. \& Lenny Weitzman
Joseph Fleming
Bill Reeve
Adam Brown
Eve Hall
Edward Deeb
David Brown
Willian Day
Bob \& Mark Graham
Richard \& Lenny Weitzman
Joe Hoffee
Curt Koster

Fleet 75 put in a very wet, soggy sailing season, but the weather did not dampen the new spirit and enthusiasm which prevailed throughout the season. Competition was keen and at least 10 skippers put a $1 / 4$ on their scores.

Tom DeStasio, with his outstanding crewmen, Ed Bonacci and Thad Cook, sailing "9100, the elegant "Madame Blue", retained his crown as Champion right through all three seasons. He brought the Magnus Pederson Trophy back to Nyack, and won the Mid-Hudson Circuit Trophy for the second year in a row.

Adam Brown, skippering his brother Dave's boat, \#10862, took a second place in the Spring Series. Before returning to college in September, Adam bought his own Lightning, \#10620. He is really going to provide some stiff competition in the Spring.

Keith Lyman, \#7545, moved into third place in the Spring. He sailed extremely well all season, and will be a very sharp competitor in 1976.

Gary Hurban, \#8182, our most famous Regatta-going Skipper, added a second place trophy for the Summer Series to his ever-growing collection.

Marty and Andy Low, \#8272, captured third place in the Summer Series, despite the problems they had with their boat and equipment. They are just two great Lightning Skippers.

The Fall Series brought two new competitors to the fore. Rod Johnson, \#7616, took a second, and Joe Fleming, \#10300, a newcomer to the Fleet, took a third. Both these Skippers are headed for the top!

Honorable mention must be given to Howard Dexter, and his son, Glen, sailing \#8323. They finished fourth in the Summer and Fall Series, picking up a $1 / 4 \mathrm{in}$ three races. Nice going, guys!

The Magnus Pederson Regatta and the Mid-Hudson Circuit were both very successful for their second year, and are now well established.

Lighting Fleet 75 celebrated its 30th Anniversary this year. Magnus Pederson was granted the Charter in a letter dated November 29, 1945. He was its first Fleet Captain. We had a typical Lightning Blast at the Magnus Pederson Regatta in June, and brought this noteworthy year to a rousing climax at our Annual Fleet Party on November 29, 1975.

The Jerome A. Mullen Most Improved Skipper Trophy was awarded to Ed Deeb, whose consistency, perserverence, and good sportsmanship, made him a very worthy recipient.

A new trophy was donated to the Fleet this year by Tom Hylas, a former crewman of Joe "The Fox" Hoffee. The Joe Hoffee Perpetual Trophy is to be awarded to the most outstanding crew of the year. The first presentation went to Ed Bonacci, not only for his excellent crewmanship for the past five years for Tom DeStasio, but also for all his time and effort in directing the Crew Sessions on Saturdays through the season.

1976 will be a very busy year for our Fleet, with the Metropolitan Districts being held at Nyack in mid-July. Participation in Club races is up and competition is keen. The races are going to be more competitive and exciting than ever before. The Officers for 1976 will be Captain - Eve Hall; Secretary - Ed Deeb; and new Treasurer - Rod Johnson.

## NEWPORT YACHT CLUB (77)

## Central New York District

 Sailing on Irondequoit Bay, Rochester, New YorkFleet Captain . . . . . . . . . . . . . Steve Sahs
Fleet Secretary/Treasurer . P. Thomas Jungjohann
Fleet Champion . . . . . . . . . . Richard Doherty
Runner-Up. . . . . . . . . . . . Anthony Orlen

Fleet Secretary/Treasurer .P. Thomas Jungjohann
Runner-Up
. Anthony Orlen

"Watch out for the - crash - What bridge?"

The 1975 sailing season got off to a fast start as Tony Orlen and Steve Sahs headed to St. Petersburg for the 1975 Mid-Winter Championships. Although they did not bring home hardware, they each had a super time which may convince more fleet 77 Lightnings to make the 1976 trip.

Fleet 77 again proved to be an active and competitive fleet as we sailed 53 official races averaging 11 boats per race on Irondequoit Bay. Dick-Cowboy-Doherty again had the hot hand on the tiller winning three of the four official series. This easily gave him the crown with a 2,929 average. Tony Orlen broke up the sweep by handily capturing the Fall series with an impressive 2.438 Fall average, which also insured that he would repeat as runner-up to Doherty for the season championship.

Our annual tune up Regatta was held on May 17 and 18 attracting thirty Lightnings including Tom Allen from Buffalo. The weather was super and so was Tom as he showed his expertise easily capturing the crown with Tony Orlen second. We are planning this Regatta again for 1976 and hope to have an even larger turnout.

The 1975 season brought a new event to the fleet, a singlehanded series held on Saturday, August 30, 1975. The rules were quite simple - one Lightning, one skipper, no crew, spinnakers (if you can handle them). Eight skippers showed up (along with many crews, to sit on shore, drink beer and enjoy) to compete in the three race classic. Six of the eight lonesome skippers flew spinnakers much to the surprise of the onlookers. At the end of the day it was Bob Jamison first, Tom Jungjohann second and Gene Wheeler third. Other sailors included Dick Doherty, Ed Howe, Al Platt, Alan Pundt and Jim McIntosh. Next year we plan on expanding the series and to have more skippers attempt racing Lightnings single-handed.

The other trophies awarded this year include: 1. Burns-Hanna Steve Sahs; 2. Missal Handicap - Andy Smith; 3, Saturday Series Dick Doherty; 4. Most Improved - Tom Jungiohann; 5, Tip Over Tom Jungjohann, sailing up appropriately named boat - "Bottoms Up."

The 1975 season will bring at least two new boats - Tony Orlen and Steve Sahs and assuridly many crisp new sets of sails all for the purpose of enjoying Sundays, competing on Irondequoit Bay.

New Officers for 1976 will be Tom Jungjohann, Fleet Captain and Andy Smith, Secretary/Treasurer.

## SANDY BEACH YACHT CLUB (78) Lake Erie District Based on the Niagara River, Grand Island, New York

|  | Captain Secretary Champion er-Up | $\qquad$ Rick Hensel <br> . .Dave Duchscherer <br> ., Gordon Compson <br> . . . . . . Chris Sprole |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Boat No. | Boat Name | Skipper |
| 1589 |  | John C. Lunney, Jr. |
| 7549 | Shadow | Jack R. Hensel, Jr. |
| 7928 | Chicken Little | Francis C. Szoka, Jr. |
| 7948 | Trilogy | Larry Hensel |
| 7950 | Little Slam | Ted Kumrow |
| 9064 | Zarathustra | John Chaplinski |
| 10482 | On The Fritz | Herb, Barbara \& Fritz Dusel |
| 11022 | Jeanne | Richard C. Robinson |
| 11126 | Air Bear | David C. Duchscherer |
| 11856 | Aquaholic | Chris Sprole |
| 12041 | Thunder | Thomas A. Little |
| 12246 | Splash Gordon | Gordon \& Norman Compson |
| 12555 | Little Boomer | Tom Lafferty |
| 12818 | Miriah | John C. Boyce |
|  |  | Jim Walsh |

Fleet 78, under the direction of Fleet Captain Rick Hensel, has in the past year blossomed into the most enthusiastic fleet in the Lake Erie District.

This year our season actually started last winter with some Sunday afternoons devoted to slide shows and movies intended to stimulate our off season activities. These sessions, besides being informative, aided in boosting our fleet treasury.

Our sailing activities kicked off in May with the Art Little Tune-Up Series and Law Trophies, both won by Gordy Compson. June followed with the Compson Series, won by Rick Hensel.

This year's Lightning Championship was a hotly contested affair consisting of six races and one throw-out. Down to the wire Chris Sprole, Dick Robinson, Dave Duchscherer, Rick Hensel and Tom Little were in the thick of it; however, Gordon Compson prevailed in the end.

Holiday Races on Independence Day were won by Tom Little and Labor Day by John Boyce.

The highlight of the season was the Tri-Club Regatta. This pitted teams racing from our fleet, as well as that of Parkway Sailing Club and Niagara Sailing Club, against each other. This year Fleet 78 sailed away with the "Ole-Oaken Bucket" symbolic of Niagara River Team Racing Supremacy.

A new series initiated this year was the informal racing on Thursday nights. Rabbit starts were utilized and crew sizes were flexible, ranging from 1 to multiples of 1 . This proved to be a most enjoyable evening in a more or less relaxed racing atmosphere, Fritz Dusel was the overall winner of this series,

Sandy Beach was well represented at all the regattas in our District; although not always in the top 10, any Lake Erie District sailor can tell you that Fleet 78 skippers and crews were always on top with the football, basketball or frisbee matches which took place during the lulls and the blows.

The conclusion of our regatta season was our annual Haul-Out Regatta which also terminated the Lake Erie Fall Circuit. Forty boats competed in weather ranging from torrential to superb. However, the racing was keen and the winds fair. The top ten finishers included: 1. Don Allen, 2. Dick Ferrick 3. Dick Hallagan, 4. Fisk Hayden, 5. Stu Anderson, 6. Mark Bryant, 7. Cal Schmiege, 8. Bill Hunter, 9. Matt Bryant, 10. Escorihuila (Mexico).

However, the season at Sandy Beach does not end here. Frost biting continues, as of this writing, with a series of activities which take us through to the first races next year.

We cordially invite each and every Lightning sailor to join us at the Haul-Out Regatta next year for great sailing and Fleet 78 hospitality.

## BUFFALO YACHT CLUB FLEET (81) Lake Erie District Sailing on Lake Erie at Point Abino, Ontario, Canada

Fleet Captain . . . . . . ........ Kevin M. Doherty
Fleet Secretary . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Kevin M, Doherty
Fleet Champion . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Donald E, Gorey

| Boat No, | Boat Name | Skipper |
| :---: | :--- | :--- |
| 7622 | Lucky II | Richard M, Holcombe |
| 9000 | Shimmy | John F. Steve |
| 9082 | Tonnie II | Donald E, Gorey |
| 9620 | OJ | Cooper N. Lansing |
| 11702 | News Leak | Kevin M. Doherty |

Calm, steady breezes, steady seas, sunny skies and clear, blue waters on Lake Erie smiled on Fleet 81 this year.

For several seasons, the Fleet had raced jointly with our good friends across the bay, the Buffalo Canoe Club, but this year, we struck out on our own and were generally pleased with the result.

Fleet 81 is a small, but saucy group, and we do indeed enjoy each other's company and camaraderie.

Those good times, both at the Buffalo Yacht Club's fine facilities and excellent restaurant in downtown Buffalo, and the Club's summer base at Point Abino, Canada, made the season worthwhile for all, no matter who took the trophies,

The Yacht Club continues improving the Point Abino facilities, which already boast probably the best dry sailing facilities in Western New York - Southern Canada, and those facts bode well for the future.

Don Gorey, with no small help from son Kevin, apparently solved for good those mast problems that plagued "Tonnie II" all last season, and sailed away with first place in a well-fought Summer Series.

Rev. John Steve, the fleet's elder statesman, was as spirited competitor as ever and gave the fleet's "youngsters" a few nautical lessons during that heavy-weather series, while skippering "Shimmy" to a strong second-place.

Kevin Doherty, in "News Leak" took a distant third in the summer series, which he doesn't like to talk about, but came roaring back a few weeks later to win the Fall Series hands down.

Dick Holcombe, as slick as ever in "Lucky II", slipped his way through shifty, tricky winds in that series to take second place while "Tonnie II" took third.

Besides taking the Fleet Championship, Don Gorey also took second place over-all in the prestigous season-long Ryan Cup series at the Yacht Club.

The Ryan Cup series is open to all one-design centerboarders in the Club and usually is a pretty free-wheeling, topsy-turvey affair.

At this writing, Kevin Doherty's crew on "News Leak," Jim Kelley and Mike Vogel, have been nominated as the fleet's representative in the Bradley Coho Memorial Trophy competition.

The award, to be made at January's annual Commodore's breakfast in January, is named in the memory of Brad Coho, a fine all-around crew who was a consistent winner in club competition.

The plaque goes to the best all-around one-design crew in the club, picked by a committee sponsored by the Lightning Fleet.

At its year-end meeting, the fleet incorporated the Fleet Captain and secretary/treasurer's job, and named Kevin Doherty to both posts.

Don Gorey was named the Club's Vice Commodore and Dick Holcombe was elected to the Club's board of directors and was named Club Treasurer.

## NIANTIC BAY YACHT CLUB (85) <br> Connecticut-Rhode Island District Sailing on Niantic Bay, Long Island Sound at Niantic, Connecticut

Fleet Captain . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Charles Zaremba
Fleet Secretary . . . . . . . . . . . . . Tom Moriarty
Fleet Champion . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Tom Moriarty
Runner-Up . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Nelson Hoffman

| Boat No. | Boat Name | Skipper |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 7170 | Baby Makes Three | Martin J. O'Meara, Jr, |
| 7880 |  | Kenneth H. White, Jr., M.D. |
| 7912 | Libra | Barry Buehler |
| 7924 |  | Don Johnson |
| 9053 |  | Charles Zaremba |
| 9093 |  | John Bauer |

Puff
11487
11603
12005
12069
12155
12185
12621

Jeffrey S. Cohen \&
Robert J. Almeida, Jr.
Thomas V. Moriarty II David M. Peterson
George P. Mitchell \&
Aristedes K. Manthous
David Dickerson
John P. \& Chris Vann
Gary J. O'Brien
Andy Fulchiero
Robert Polk
Bryce E. Tate
Nelson N. Hoffman Bill Shore

Fleet 85 enjoyed an active season of Lightning sailing, both at home on Niantic Bay, and away. Tom Moriarty with co-skipper Rick Bernstingle proved most consistent at home, sailing "Bumble" to first place in the season series. Nelson Hoffman was second followed by Dave Peterson and John Vann. Bob Polk showed the way in the E.C.Y.R.A. Regatta, and Dave Peterson, the fleet's past master served notice that "Woody" is back, winning the Long Island Sound Championship and the Connecticut Governor's Cup. "Woody", of course, is the last wooden Saybrook Lightning ever built (10801), and may be the last wooden Lightning of any manufacture. Steady improvement was seen all season long in the middle of the fleet, Newcomer Dave Dickerson took fourth place silver in the E.C.Y.R.A. and it wasn't unusual to find Andy Fulchiero and Bryce Tate sailing outstanding windward legs. Despite taking home the honors for the best underwater performance of the season, the team of George Mitchell and Rit Manthous showed they could do it on the surface as well, pulling a real "horizon job" on the fleet in the very next race. In general, a good Lightning fleet grows from the bottom up. The newcomers and the middle of the fleet keep the pressure on, and the fleet grows as a whole. This has been our experience in 1975, and we look to more of the same for next year.

"Woody - doing her thing.

## VANCOUVER FLEET (90)

Pacific Northwest District Sailing on English Bay, Vancouver, B.C., Canada

\author{

Fleet Captain . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . John Morrison <br> Fleet Secretary . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Josh Fitch <br> Fleet Champion . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Josh Fitch <br> | Boat Name | Skipper |
| :--- | :--- |
| $\ldots \ldots . . . . . .$. | Gerry Caunter |
| Panique | Dr. Clifford Harris |
| Olympia | Gerry Lockhart |
| Ipsus | Wm. Rimmer |
| Gusto | Gerry Heys |
| Barak | John Lamble |
| Pirrko | Dick Pearce |
| My Fir Lady | Josh Fitch |
| Ghost Ship | Brian Coleman |
| $\ldots . . . . . . . . .$. | John Morrison |
| $\ldots . . . . . . . .$. | Paul West |

}

Boat No.


Lowclad Garibaldi mountains overlook English Bay as Rod Johnson views the Pacific Northwest District Championships,

Our season started in Seattle with the Mid-Winter District Meeting in February. It was good to see friends from seven fleets, and after the business meeting and social event on Saturday, to ski together on one of Washington's grand ski slopes,

In March, we met to plan the season ahead, and we were all set for a busy summer when Mother Nature struck with a violent storm on Easter Sunday which swept away our dock and only means of launching. For a few of us, Royal Vancouver Yacht Club came to our rescue and we sailed from their facilities until Kitsilano replaced its dock in July, but the impetus of the season was gone!

Again, the circuit was active with fleet boats attending eight events around our spread-out District. In May, four boats traveled to Kelowna for the circuit opener and Dave Sprague, on a business trip from Toronto, humbled us with four firsts. (Editor's note - "so much for business".) Brian Coleman took second place. Again, Mother Nature struck, shattering Josh Fitch's mast, capsizing and beaching Jerry Heys, and finally dumping a now storm on our journey home through a mountain pass. After that, even the 460 miles to Eugene seemed like a local jaunt, as did Portland, Seattle and Chelan later in the season. Thoughout, we had excellent racing and a lot of fun, even though we did not bring much hardware back to Vancouver.

Back in English Bay, despite the difficult launching situation, we had several boats out for most local events, and the evening series in June and July particularly was a lot of fun, even though the winds were predictably light. The new dock miraculously appeared just before the Kitsilano Invitational Regatta and the District Championship two weeks later. Rod Johnson from Seattle bagged both of these, with Ken White traveling 800 miles from Klamath Falls to take the District runner-up from George Blumel of Maple Bay by $1 / 4$ of a point. On Saturday evening, the ladies of our fleet put on a sumptuous buffet for the 24 competitors plus their crews and friends.

In September, Josh Fitch sailed well to take the Fleet Championship, but the local race course was poorly attended after July and most members were either inactive or enjoyed the local cruising waters. Finally in October, we took three crews down to Seattle to compete in the Annual District-Team Championships, which saw four teams competing. Two days of rain and strong winds restricted us to two races out of which we gained second place behind Seattle, and we enjoyed the traditional hospitality of Seattle friends.

Now it is time to prepare our plans for 1976, and to seek out new blood to add strength to both the racing and social sides of Vancouver Fleet 90.

# NORTHPORT BAY FLEET (98) Long Island District Northport Bay at Northport, New York 

|  | Captain . Secretary Champion er-Up. | George Dery <br> Brian Oerter <br> . Brian Oerter Bill Jorch <br> . Ched Rogan <br> .... Paul Dery <br> .... King Lotz |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Boat No. | Boat Name | Skipper |
| 3073 |  | Dan McCauley |
| 5890 | Escargot | Bill Kirkpatrick |
| 5995 |  | Jeff Hawkins |
| 6059 | Aeolus | David F. \& David F. Gebhard, Jr. |
| 7851 | Bo Peep | Pete Hannan |
| 7874 |  | Herbert Futoran |
| 8118 | Aquarius | Joseph Marino |
| 8232 |  | Charles P. Kelley |
| 8237 | ............... | Stig Nordquist |
| 9076 |  | William D. Spiegel |
| 9428 | 'Sno Bird | George \& Paul Dery |
| 9986 | So What | Robert Johnson |
| 10243 |  | Arthur Hansen |
| 10260 | Hull-o-Blue | Brian Oerter |
| 10440 | Princess "D" | Frank H. Sacken |
| 10919 |  | John W. Weiser |
| 11248 | Nimbus | Ched B. Rogan |
| 11444 | Contrail | A. King Lotz III |
| 12013 | Dilly Dilly | James P. Fulfaro |
| 12525 | Maid Marion | William C. \& Nancy S. Jorch Charles J. Dieges |

Fleet 98 had another good year in 1975 with none of the regular Sunday Series races cancelled due to lack of wind. The first local competition of the season took place Memorial Day weekend with a three race series won by Bill Jorch followed by visiting Frank Atkinson and King Lotz third.

July 4th weekend started with a cookout graciously hosted by the Kelley family. Wind conditions were much the same as last year with very light air on Saturday and better sailing conditions Sunday. The Rogan family sailing "Nimbus" took top honors, with Bill Jorch second and Paul Dery third.

The Labor Day Series marks the close of regular season competition. Bill Jorch won the three race regatta followed by Ched Rogan and Paul Dery in a closely fought battle that was determined by the final race Sunday morning. This last race also decided the top four positions for the season standings. Bill Jorch had held the lead for the entire season, but was edged out by Brian Oerter, who came up with the Fleet Championship after sailing out front in $20 \mathrm{~m} . \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{h}$. winds. The Rogan family took third for the season and Paul Dery fourth. A newcomer to the Fleet this year, Jeff Hawkins, won the Fleet handicap award; Pete Kelley took the Blunder award for flying his spinnaker upside down during a race; Paul Dery received the "bottoms-up" award for capsizing.

The final event of the year was Fleet 98's 26th Annual Northport Invitational. Twenty one boats turned out for this years competition under heavy overcast skies. The rains never came and the winds remained steady making for excellent sailing conditions. After two exciting races on Saturday the contestants converged on the Centerport Yacht Club for a keg of beer, a buffet dinner, socializing and conversation about the days events. Sunday's race was held in extremely light air with the lead changing hands frequently during the course of the race. Bill Jorch won the Invitational bringing the Wally Ross Perpetual Trophy home for the first time in years. Frank Atkinson was runner-up, with Bob Crowder third.


Fleet 99 had only one active boat this year-yours truly. I sailed my faithful "Reject" with many different crews in eight regattas in New Jersey and Pennsylvania. The "crew" I would like to thank publicly includes Marty Feybusch, Mary Huntsman, Talbot Ingram, George Gaynor, Kevin Robinson, Carol Parker, Irv Magargee, John and Eleanor Parker.

Fleet 99 has a number of members who were missing from the racing circuit this year. We hope to see some of them in competition in 1976.
(Editor's Note: "Yours truly", is Bill Clausen).

## SANTA MONICA BAY LIGHTNING FLEET (102) California District <br> Sailing on the Pacific Ocean at Santa Monica Bay and Los Angeles Harbor

|  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Boat No. | Boat Name | Skipper |
| 2363 |  | Gregory Pierson |
| 7129 | The Sting | Fred Tarnay |
| 7343 | Skeeter | Dick Curtis |
| 7869 | Paddlin Madelyn | Wendell Harter |
| 8122 | .......... | Dick Vianden |
| 9840 | Blue Grass | Quintin Foster |
| 10792 | Valkyrie | Robert Newman |
| 11373 | Seafever | Mike Boswell |
| 11509 | Sans Souci | Marvin L. Luther |
| 12815 | Lotsa Work | Ralph Stober |
|  |  | Jack Giverink |

Fleet 102 started its sailing in February and Wendell Harter let it be known that he was ready for any challengers this year. He took the first regatta by winning both races.

The weekend before Easter our fleet hosted the first three races of the California Circuit. Jack Giverink was not able to sail the first day of the circuit so he loaned his boat to Ilkka Kaitila, Ilkka is a Lightning sailor from Finland and was in the US for two years. Sailing Jack's boat, Ilkka promptly won the first race going away and after the first day of racing was holding first place in the regatta. Jack showed up the next day to continue Ilkka's winning ways but finished tenth to put him out of the silver. This must have dismayed Jack, because shortly thereafter he bought a cruising boat and sold his Lightning to Bob Newman. But we think Jack's heart is still with the Lightning - he has crewed for several members of the fleet, still attends the fleet meetings and social events and even got himself elected Treasurer for the coming year.

Three of our skippers trailed to San Francisco for the Pacific Coast Championships and to test their heavy weather capabilities. Although none of the three brought home any of the trophies for the first five places, Wendell Harter took highest finish by an all family crew. Mike Boswell sailed consistently well during the five races and was our top finisher with a seventh.

Our annual Lake Cachuma Regatta was renamed the Billie Boswell Memorial Regatta in memory of Mike Boswell's wife Billie who was fatally injured in a bicycle accident 23 February 1975 . We had quite a turnout for this regatta with 16 boats reprsesenting the three fleets in California (San Diego, San Francisco and Los Angeles).

Late in September, several skippers trailed down to San Diego for the Bowen Memorial Regatta. On the last day of the regatta, Greg Pierson who sails boat 2363, borrowed Myron Lyon's old boat (8122) and showed the fleet how to sail by winning the race. Greg is now looking for a newer boat - look out Wendell!!

Once again, Wendell Harter won the Fleet Championship winning 18 of the 21 races counting toward the championship. But the racing is getting more competitive. Bob Newman with his newer boat, Mike Boswell and Quintin Foster are pushing Wendell - well, on occasion they have reportedly been able to read the sail number on Wendell's boat as he crossed the finish line. We are looking forward to a good racing season next year with Peter Aperlo improving with each race (when he isn't hitting Bob Newman at the marks), Greg Pierson looking for a newer boat, Dick Vianden who purchased a newer boat at the end of this year, our newest addition to the fleet, Mary Luther, with the newest boat in the fleet, and Ralph Stober who is reworking an old Lightning made in the Phillipines.

