



Doc Ross and Bob Williams battling to a typical Sunday afternoon finish.

### LAVALLETTE LIGHTNING FLEET (104) Central Atlantic District Sailing on Barnegat Bay, Lavallette, New Jersey

Fleet Captain ..... George Zabrycki  
Fleet Secretary ..... Bob Williams  
Fleet Champion ..... Dr. Ira Ross  
Runner-Up ..... Bob Williams

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
358	White-Flash	J. Leslie & Craig White
2067	.....	Chris J. Larsen
9250	Puck	George Zabrycki
9484	Spook	R. John Schneeberger
9539	.....	Anthony M. Ventimiglia
10130	Jersey Devil	Bob Williams
10633	STAR DUST	Fred Slovak &
	Again	Aileen M. Meares
10702	Green Finn	Chris J. Larsen
12209	Flying Cloud	Dr. Ira Ross
.....	.....	Jack Costanza

The 1975 season featured two significant events at Fleet 104. The first was Doc Ross breaking hold of the various gremlins that have plagued him in recent seasons and taking the fleet championship, the second was the hustle and effort by Fleet 104 in hosting the Central Atlantic District Championship Regatta.

The championship season started in June with the Lightning class being moved to an afternoon starting gun to take advantage of the notorious Barnegat Bay wind shift. The fleet was happy to welcome new skipper John Schneeberger aboard. John, after several years of active crewing, finally made the plunge and closed out the season with some extremely competitive finishes. John was also able to provide a winter home for the "Bottoms Up" trophy, which is awarded to the skipper with the most skill in making his Lightning submersible.

The big surprise of the season was Bob Williams. Bob, after a very active fall and spring campaign, ran off a string of early victories that had Doc Ross wondering if a Sneakbox wasn't a better idea. With Fred Slovak ready to gobble you up on every wind shift, Fleet 104 had the most competitive season in recent memory.

The District Championships returned to Lavallette and the effort extended by all members of Fleet 104 and the LYC provided what we hope was a memorable regatta for all those who attended. As usual, CAD weather prevailed and between squalls, rain, fog, etc., the best skippers rose to the challenge to qualify for the North Americans.

On the regatta scene Fred Slovak (Lightning Skipper Emeritus) seemed to be everywhere, if not as a competitor, than serving a committee function, or just lending a helping hand. We of Fleet 104 were extremely proud of the special award given this past winter to Fred by the ILCA in recognition for his many years of effort in supporting and promoting the Lightning class. (Editors note - "Congrats to Fred the Footer")

Doc Ross finally brought home a BBYRA trophy and ended a drought of Lightning victories for Lavallette. Throughout the BBYRA season Doc Ross and Bob Williams ably represented Fleet 104.

A special mention must be given to the intrepid skippers of Fleet 104 for their performance at the Long John Regatta. Highlights were Doc Ross splintering a borrowed mast, and George Zabrycki hanging hysterically from Christ Larsen's spreaders as John Schneeberger let go of the ladder to help Fred Slovak who had gracefully rolled into the Shrewsbury River.

Fleet 104 is anticipating another good season in 1976, and as usual, we extend our invitation to any Lightning skipper looking for a place to sail, with good competition and friendly faces.

### GREAT SODUS BAY LIGHTNING FLEET (108) Central New York District Sailing at Sodus Bay, Sodus Point, N.Y.

Fleet Secretary ..... R. W. Hallagan

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
11537	.....	L. Tiedemann
12355	Shadow	Dick Hallagan
12466	.....	Fisk Hayden

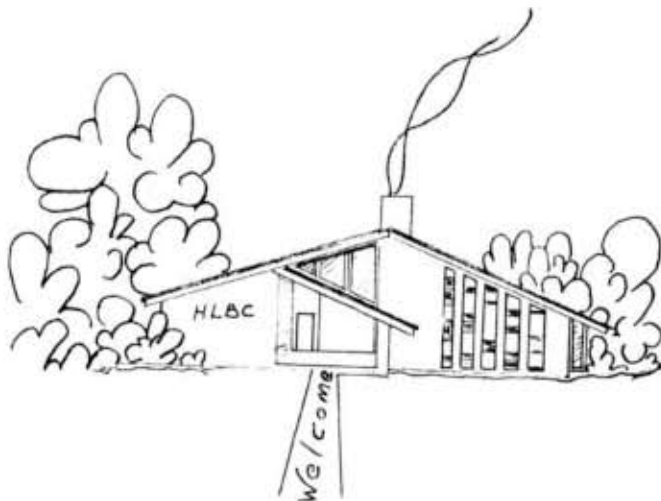
We had hoped to host the Central New York District Regatta in 1976, but the S.B.Y.C. seems to think having the L.Y.R.A. is enough. Maybe in '77!!

Many thanks to clubs we visited in 1975. The regatta schedule is what keeps the three of us in the I.L.C.A., and we enjoyed the summer. (Editors Note: The thanks comes from that bald eagle — Dick Hallagan.)

### HIGGINS LAKE FLEET (110) Michigan District Sailing on Higgins Lake at Roscommon, Michigan

Fleet Captain ..... Gary Cutler  
Fleet Champion ..... Mike Dow

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
10221	.....	Ted Doan
10312	Beaujolais	John Fershee
10944	Star	Glen & Alex Carlin
11070	Serendipity	Michael Dow
11185	.....	Ormond Barstow
11433	Carousel VII	Jim Henning
12108	Serenity	Gary Cutler
12784	.....	W. C. Dent
Life Member		Dr. Floyd R. Arnold



The world's most beautiful inland lake, Higgins, with its clear water, blue and turquoise coloring and sandy beaches greeted our sailors again in 1975 for another wonderful year of great sailing. Mike Dow and his wife Rhea again proved the crew and boat to beat. Several of our boats sported new sails and Bill Dent received delivery on a new boat keeping all the fleet very competitive.

The Invitational Regatta under the very competent direction of Commodore Earl Sturk and Vice Commodore Fred Krauss was a great success hosting 24 Lightnings.

Perhaps one of the most notable accomplishments of the club are the outstanding sailing classes for our Junior sailors. The two week course, teaching both cruising and racing hosted 18 Junior sailors this year and was very capably taught by Mike and Rhea Dow.

Come join us at Higgins next summer for some of the best sailing anywhere.

## GREEN BAY SAILING CLUB, INC. (112)

### Midwest District

#### Sailing on Green Bay at Green Bay, Wisconsin

Fleet Captain ..... Bob Brownell  
Fleet Secretary ..... Bill Hayes  
Fleet Champion ..... Lyle Bracker  
Runner-Up ..... Bill Hayes

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
2557	Tinker Bell	Patrick F. Gallagher
8025	Avacado Jack	Quinton J. Adamski
8644	Jenora	Lyle M. Bracker
9157	Chareauv	John J. Gloechler
9309	Old Hickory	William Couvillion
10459	Hay Seed II	W. E. Hayes
11953	Warp	Robert C. Brownell

The confusion of moving to the new sailing facilities of the University of Wisconsin, Green Bay, plus cold spring weather and the necessity of building new markers, wiped out spring racing for our club. We did manage to salvage most of the summer and fall races, although it did seem to be on a race to race basis. However, the club members who had time to regularly use the new University facilities for day sailing had an enjoyable season.

The Walter Masse Race, our final for the season, did not draw the usual number of boats, but it was a good race ending up with a wind that almost blew us out of the Bay. As usual, Lyle Bracker finished first, followed by Ray Kaercher.

We had a degree of success this year in bringing the local Lightning sailors back into our Fleet. We have a total of fourteen Lightnings with a possibility of two additional boats next year. The University had welcomed us as an affiliated organization and with this status, we are assured a permanent home. The future can only bring better sailing for Lightning Fleet 112

## CUBA LAKE YACHT CLUB FLEET (115)

### Lake Erie District

#### Sailing on Cuba Lake, New York

Fleet Captain ..... Bud Arnst  
Fleet Secretary ..... Bud Arnst  
Fleet Representative ..... Ward Wilday  
Fleet Champion ..... Don Cutler  
Runner-Up ..... Ward Wilday

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
1342	'Some Day'	Bud Arnst
5290	Pageboy	Kingman Page
6296	Green Flog	Fritz & Larkin Gram
6983	See Adler	Karl Fahrner
7744	Sno Wonder	Bob Buckley
7828	The Bergreen Lightning	Don Bergreen
8792	Blue Dolphin	Dr. Jack Godfrey
10556	Windsong 4	Paul Branch
11175	Wildfire	Bill McIntyre
11599	Bote	Don & Donald Sage Cutler
11870	Windsong 5	Paul Branch
12206	Jennie Bell	Ward Wilday
.....	.....	C. Paul Clark
.....	.....	Dr. Bill Hughes

1975 was great weather wise, we only called one race for lack of wind, one of the better ones on Cuba Lake. It also marked the 25th anniversary of our club and was celebrated with a special series of races. First Lightning for the weekend was sailed by Skippy Wilday closely followed by Sage Cutler with a one point spread. The

weekend was capped with a cocktail party dinner and dance. The number of boats in our fleet has decreased and overall Lightning activity is getting less and less. We are only getting three and four boats on the line for our club races, don't have an answer on how to improve this situation but are giving it a lot of thought. The boats that are out are doing well. Ward Wilday qualified for the North Americans and journeyed to S. Carolina for a great experience and a good finish in the Governors Cup. Ward also did well in the Old Salts Regatta and the Harvest Regatta on Silver Lake. Sage Cutler qualified for the Junior North Americans but unfortunately couldn't sail in them. He stayed home and took most of the local silver in the club races.

Our Fleet once again hosted the Three Lakes Regatta putting 28 boats on the line. Weather was great for the beach but the winds were light, this didn't stop the Silver Lake sailors from again winning the trophy. Highlight of the cocktail party and dance that followed was the inebriated accordion player. Wow!

Had weed problems again all summer and apparently are going to have to learn to live with this situation. Our Fleet is looking forward to the centennial year with some great parties planned and hopefully a rebuilding program for a more active fleet.

## ROYAL HAMILTON YACHT CLUB (118)

### Lake Erie District

#### Sailing on Hamilton Bay, Hamilton, Ontario

Fleet Captain ..... Gunter Haase  
Fleet Vice Captain ..... Max Ahlfors  
Fleet Secretary ..... Marg Wadeson  
Sailing Representative ..... Max Ahlfors  
"A" Fleet Champion ..... Larry MacDonald Jr.  
"B" Fleet Champion ..... Valerie Gunter

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
8366	.....	Rick Embleton
8903	Beverly Jane	Lloyd Asch
9043	.....	Max Ahlfors
10292	K-T	Tom Robertson
11206	Gypsy	Gunter Haase
11734	Margin	Ron Wadeson
12100	Momma	Bill & Doug Hunter
12262	Endevour	Larry MacDonald, Sr. & Jr. & Don Allen
12443	Cha Gheill	Mike Vollmer
12658	.....	Martin Gamelin

No Report.

## MERRIMAC RIVER LIGHTNING FLEET (121)

### New England District

#### Sailing on Merrimac River at Newburyport, Mass.

Fleet Captain ..... Tim Hays  
Fleet Exec. .... Joyce Young  
Fleet Secretary ..... Steven Fram  
Fleet Champions ..... Joyce & Judy Young  
Runner-Up ..... Tim Hays  
2nd Runner-Up ..... Tom Valeo

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
268	.....	Grant Pendill
7709	.....	Arthur L. Bryan
10254	Fireladder	Win Snow
10744	.....	Alan P. Lavender
11145	Sissy III	Tim Hays
11222	Remedy	Steve Fram
11250	Gemini	Joyce and Judy Young
12821	.....	Steve Fram

Errors and inconsistency by all but one boat marked our 1975 championship series. Joyce and Judy Young's boat Gemini won seven of the fifteen races and won the series going away. Last year's champion Tim Hays took second place honors, while newcomer Tom Valeo took home the silverware for third by a scant 1/4 point over Al DeBernardi. The first third of the series was sailed in winds blowing 15 to 30 knots and tested boats and crews. From then on, we were happy to have 10 knots and mostly had to settle for around 5 knots. Oh, the frustration!

Bill Lane in his first full year in a Lightning won every race in an abbreviated Wednesday night series to take home the hardware. Following Bill, in second place was Steve Fram and third Joyce & Judy Young. This marked the first year that Fleet 121 has held a night series, and it was enjoyed by all.

In the Annual Yankee Homecoming Race, Fleet Champion Joyce Young again made her presence on the race course known and edged out Tim Hays by less than a boat length to capture the Homecoming Trophy for 1975. In our other special event, The Chet Young Memorial Race, Bill Lane with the help of "super crew", Jeff Stoehr, raced what many people consider the best race of the season. The race was started in 5 to 7 knots of air and it went down from there. Light air and all, Bill kept "Gingerale" moving well while the rest of the fleet went crazy looking for the air.

Fleet #121 sent five boats to the New England Districts, but none fared too well. However we're learning. Late in the season two fleet members traveled to the annual Spofford Lake Regatta and had a great time.

We were fortunate to have Bill Shore visit us during the summer for a fantastic seminar on tuning the Lightning. All of us picked up that one thing to make our boats really go!

While at the Spofford Lake Regatta it was learned that Fleet #121 will host the 1976 State of Massachusetts Lightning Championships. We are all looking forward to a GREAT regatta, and hope to see many of you there. For now, off to do some dinghy frostbiting.

### CEDAR POINT YACHT CLUB (126) Connecticut - Rhode Island District Sailing on Long Island Sound at Westport, Connecticut

Fleet Captain ..... John Cuccio  
Fleet Secretary ..... Phil Griffin  
Fleet Treasurer ..... Richard Thackaberry  
Fleet Champion ..... John Cuccio  
Runner-Up ..... John Lewis

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
5639	.....	W. L. Gaines
6330	Gotcha	Michael A. Willets
7245	.....	Mike Goldrick
8917	.....	Wayne Atwell
9542	.....	Charles D. Agnew
9888	.....	Robert Jackson
10551	Luff-in	Ken Shauer
10690	Tuned	Gianni Cuccio
10892	.....	Vincent Renzoni
11082	.....	C. Dayton Titworth
11143	Gizmo	Art Grayson
11178	.....	Russ Gildersleeve
11204	.....	Jack Lewis
11220	.....	Phil Griffin & Richard Wagner
11221	.....	John A. Thompson
11381	.....	Richard Price III
11581	Lady Liz	Bill Webber
12004	Shazam	Mari Freeman
12068	Germe	Chris Wurster
12244	.....	Don & Todd Cameron
12367	Frog	Dr. Richard Thackaberry
12852	.....	John Cuccio
12853	.....	Mike Willets
.....	.....	Rodney C. Lancaster
.....	.....	Roger Maynard

This summer, at Cedar Point, fleet 126 grew again, allowing twenty-two boats to start on some weekends. This growth promoted a more competitive sailing season. We have our eye on a couple of sailors who started racing last year and have come on strong this season. A positive sign is the interest some of our sailors showed in travelling to regattas during this season, showing a growing enthusiasm for racing the Lightning. Two of our sailors are getting new boats next season, John Cuccio who will be even faster, and Mike Willets having had the wood mast, wood boat, rusting board blues.

The season's trophy was again won by John Cuccio, Dick Thackaberry was second, and Jack Lewis third. Our Saturday and Sunday services had exactly the same results, which does not usually happen.

Our fleet, on the three summer holiday weekends, again held its special series - The Vice-Commodore's Cup: Phil Griffin, Cindy Shauer, and Dick Thackaberry, The Commodore's Cup: Phil Griffin, Dick Thackaberry and Jack Lewis, The Rear Commodore's Cup: Phil Griffin, John Cuccio and Chris Wurster.

Cedar Point's Early Bird Open and Invitational were two well attended regattas. We drew Lightnings from the New England, New York, Long Island and the more Southern Districts to these two yearly events. Bill Shore won the Early Bird with Stu Nickerson a



Fleet 126 Champ, John Cuccio.

very close second. Len Pratt won the Cedar Point Invitational and Nickerson was again second. Fleet 126's regattas are an important portion of our season, we are a racing fleet holding an importance to a well-run competitive racing weekend.

Our fleet was able to host the Connecticut-Rhode Island Districts this year. The first two places were contested between Bill Shore and Phil Griffin and not until the last race of the four race series was the result certain. Shore had a 1,4,1,2 and Griffin had a 3,1,2,3 series. Cedar Point had five out of the top ten places, which to date is our best effort.

In development is a plan to generate enthusiasm and maintain it throughout the season in fleet racing. An effort will be made to help prevent the newer sailors from getting discouraged. To help along these lines are two programs in the works. Fleet meetings with wives and crew to surface problem areas (rigging), crew function, sail trim, and tactics), a skipper and crew feel may exist. Also getting the better sailors to share their area of expertise. Secondly to get the better sailors to sail with the new sailors during some Wednesday night or Saturday morning races.

Fleet 126 thinks the Lightning is a good boat and betters itself with each modernization. We realize our regattas and travels have brought us good friends and good times. Hope to see you next year.

### SAVANNAH LIGHTNING FLEET (127) Southeastern District Sailing on Wilmington River at Bradley Point, Savannah, Ga.

Fleet Captain ..... Albert H. Berry, Jr.  
Fleet Secretary ..... R. F. Link  
Fleet Champion ..... Albert H. Berry, Jr.  
Runner-Up ..... James P. Black

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
10354	.....	Ron & Hugh Berry
11336	Poticker	James L. & Betsy Daniell
11984	.....	Bob Sherman
12055	Urge	Randy Brooks
12339	Red Boat	John McIntosh, Sr.
12705	.....	James P. Black
12719	.....	Albert H. Berry, Jr. & Barron B. Boyd
12786	.....	Fred D. Maner, M.D.
.....	.....	Charles Kilpatrick

How do you move a Yacht Club? Fleet 127 won the honor of hosting the 1975 NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIP but we had to borrow the facility of Harbour Town, Hilton Head, South Carolina with the help of the Hilton Head Sailing Club and Sea Pines Corp. For you that have hosted regattas at your own club - try a strange course (The Atlantic Ocean) forty miles from home with makeshift launching and storage and the logistics of a 101 boat fleet and that's a start!

Without an all-out effort by the supporting club members this could have been a disaster. The roster of those who contributed to the success of our endeavor would require a separate column. THANKS is all we can offer.



Despite the preoccupation with N.A. plans, we did manage a full slate of Spring, Summer and Fall activities — a Fourth of July Regatta and the Southeastern Districts. In addition we were well represented in the Southeastern Lightning circuit.

It was like old times again with 56 boats registered for our seventeenth annual Deep South. We lost one day to high wind but made up for it with three in one with Bill Shore starting his successful Winter Circuit by taking first.

We've added two new boats to our fleet - Hugh and Ron Berry sailing the "Sea Pup" and Deb Maner with a family crew in his new Lightning.

For the record: Randy Brooks won our Spring Series hands down. Bert Berry won the Summer Series with Jim Black finishing second and third going to co-skippers D. Sears and G. Oetgen. Our Fourth of July was taken by Bert Berry with John McIntosh coming in for a two. John McIntosh captured the Districts and Labor Day saw Jim Black in first followed by Jim Daniell.



Untwist it ---- it — don't hug it!

### MADISON BEACH CLUB (129) Connecticut - Rhode Island District Sailing on Long Island Sound at Madison, Conn.

Commodore ..... Robert E. Redfern, Jr.  
Fleet Captain ..... John B. Johnstone  
Fleet Secretary ..... Richard D. Grant  
Fleet Champion ..... John B. Johnstone  
Runner-Up ..... Linda Baylis

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
7640	Rubber Duckie	Richard D. Grant
10492	Prodigal	John B. Johnstone
10689	Splash	Ted Baylis
11207	Early Times	James R. Deephouse
11674	Wanton Sloop	Betty Gurnham
11773	Franste II	Jay W. Jackson
12744	Greer Garious II	Peggy & Charles Greer

The 1975 season offered mixed blessings for most of us. In terms of the weather it was one of the most enjoyable in recent memory. We had our share of rain but for the first time in years, we had good winds on the water as well as on the bar porch. Several of our newer sailors finally learned what the books mean when they talk about keeping the boat flat, carrying a slight luff in the mainsail, and-especially-heading off in puffs when reaching. For the first time in several years I went into the winter as confident of my sanity as I had been the previous spring.

The competitive aspect of the racing season was about as interesting as the National League pennant race. The real contest was amongst those vying for the wild card spot. Most of us sailed a defensive series as would be spoilers looking for a smile from the

gods and a devastating wind shift for John Johnstone. Our two cup races offered no surprises with Nancy Davidson again winning the big Fisher Cup race and Linda Baylis coming in a discrete second much to the relief of her father. Our showing as a fleet in the ECYRA regatta and in the Long Island Sound Lightning Championships shall pass without comment as it was later proposed by one of our more eloquent boathouse "shalorz" that these two series be voted off the record. The motion passed and the proposer was suitably toasted.

We now look forward to 1976 with our family fences mended, relief at having received Christmas cards from our crews and our drums still out of beat with those of the more rational world.

### MOBILE BAY FLEET (135) Southern District Sailing on Mobile Bay at Fairhope, Alabama

Fleet Secretary ..... Barney March  
Fleet Champion ..... Rick Skinner  
Fleet Runner-Up ..... Robert Jeffcott

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
8364	.....	John Kern
8365	.....	Robert Jeffcott
8375	Sally B	Robert E. Bernhardt
8704	.....	John Kern
11615	Jabberwock	Walter Tyree & J. E. Wood III
11689	Got' cha	Rick Skinner
11712	Bigiminy	Dr. E. R. March, Jr.
12468	Nemesis	Frank Galloney

The season starts early on Mobile Bay and this year we had our first capsizes on January 1st as Rick Skinner got surprised by a gust with his spinnaker up. The fact that his crew/wife Lucy was expecting was no help. After that kind of beginning the season had to improve.

Boats from the fleet attended regattas at Pensacola, New Orleans, Pass Christian, the Districts at Lake Charles and the Hospitality Regatta at Jackson. The GYA Lightning Championship was hosted by the fleet as was the annual Wadewitz Regatta with the coveted Overton trophy in memory of a great Lightning skipper.

The first race of the GYA featured a forty minute squall with gale force winds just before the scheduled start and no wind after we finally got started. This race finished just a few minutes before the time limit ran out even after being shortened by two legs. The second race had a squall which waited until the first six boats rounded and really sent them on a wild ride. After that the third race with the best wind was anti-climatic. The awards went to Buck Ballatin of New Orleans, Rick Skinner of Fairhope and Tommy Allen also of New Orleans.

One of the newer members of our fleet Dr. Barney March went to the Districts and showed the old hands how to do it, finishing fourth to Skinner's eighth and Jeffcott's ninth. During the sailing for the Overton Trophy, Barney was out healing the sick so Larry Frost walked off with the trophy for this year.

The fleet is gaining boats and more of the members are attending out of town regattas. John Kern bought a "new" boat which although 12 years old had never been in the water. Barney March has brought a boat in from New Orleans and is really making it go. Tyree brought a "Gold Flash" to the bay by acquiring one of Bruce Goldsmith's old boats but hasn't quite got the Goldsmith touch yet. Skinner and Jeffcott keep getting the standards for us all but at least they now have some competition.

We're looking for a great year in '76 for the Bay and the Southern District.

### GULL LAKE FLEET (137) Michigan District Sailing on Gull Lake at Richland, Michigan

Fleet Captain ..... Bill Aloisi  
Fleet Secretary/Treasurer ..... Don Headington  
Fleet Champion ..... Tom Crookston  
Runner-Up ..... Carl Engels  
2nd Runner-Up ..... Dan Chappell  
3rd Runner-Up ..... Dave Aloisi

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
6895	Pink Lady	Bob Ellinger
9734	Jennifer Ann	Clarence Chrest
9735	Mother's Mink	Dr. Robert Albright
9899	Bounty	Rev. James C. Holt



"Michigan Junior District champ Dave Aloisi and super crew showing perfect sail trim."

10450	Blue Chip II	Dan Chappell
11016	JuJu	Carl Engels
11068	Marcia	David Aloisi
11806	Oh Pshaw	Mike Shaw
11811	Sue-Nan	Dick Nagle
11988	Emmeline II	Dan Headington
12793	.....	Tim Vander Meulen

The highlight of the 1975 sailing season was the winning of the Michigan Junior District Championship at the Devils Lake Yacht Club by our junior crew. Skipper was Dave Aloisi; super crew, Beth Crookston and Danny Chappell. Congratulations team!

As is our custom we began our season with the organizational meeting at Mike and Julie Shaw's house. Plans were made for the upcoming season and a good time was had by all. New members - The Melliush and Beyerly families - were welcomed to the fleet at the meeting.

Our Sunday Series is for the Fleet Championship. Dan Chappell, our 1974 champion, was fast out of the gate but he was soon overtaken by Carl Engels, our 1973 champion. However Tom Crookston with the able guidance of Beth and Marueen Crookston was the undisputed leader once Beth arrived home from college. Tom has been Fleet Champion many times before. Carl Engels won the Saturday series with Dan Chappell the runner-up and Bob Ellinger 2nd runner-up.

Our annual regatta attracted 24 boats with Gary Demerest winning. Gull Lake sailors were high in the standings with Tom Crookston, Carl Engels, and Dan Chappell scoring high.

Our social chairpersons Mary Ann Cromie and Barbara Nordwind planned our annual sail-to-breakfast in June at Ross Township Park. It was a totally enjoyable party with each family cooking breakfast; Tom Crookston as usual supplied the melons. Our regatta party again was hosted by Tom and Betty Crookston. The meal as usual was delicious and the setting perfect for an outdoor party.

Sailingwise the season was very unusual. Many light wind days made sailing conditions less than ideal and caused many cancellations. Whereas Mike Shaw was the most improved sailor in 1974; John Shaw, Mike's son, was 1975's most improved sailor. Bob Albright won the Transom Trophy for an unprecedented 3rd time towards the end of the season. Bob was one of our top sailors. Tim Vander Muelen showed great speed with his new boat. The Crowe and Beyerly boats showed that they would be right in there in years to come. Our Junior team of Dave Aloisi, Julie and Danny Chappell were second in the Sears Cup Quarter finals at Huron-Portage Lake in Interlakes.

1976 promises to be the greatest season ever for 137. Come sail with us in 1976!

## HAWAII FLEET (143)

### Hawaii District

#### Sailing on Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii

Fleet Captain	Bill Heine
Fleet Secretary	Fran Vaughan
Fleet Champion	Bill Heine
Runner-Up	Fran Vaughan
District Champion	Bill Heine

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
6907	Lulu Belle	Al Hyde
7056	Puff	Stu Lillico
7151	Ooffee	Joe Ebeling
9622	.....	Chuck Gustin
10920	Protea	Dave Fergusson
10921	Nautilee	Lee Simmons
10981	.....	Arnold W. Kayl, Jr.
11084	Horizon	Fran Vaughan
11729	Luana	Bill Heine
11786	.....	Bobby Edmondson
11798	Sock It to Um!	Smoky Hogan

Fifty four races were scheduled beginning in early February and concluding in late November at the Kaneohe Yacht Club (homeport for Hawaii's only Lightning Fleet). Except for bad weather which caused the cancellation of several of these races, Fleet #143 sailed in most of these scheduled races. Race days varied from gruelling 3 race days to a single Sunday afternoon, eight leg single race. Mishaps were a minimum when one considers that the wind is always blowing hard and races are often sailed despite small craft warnings. Carl Mererdiercks and Dave Fergusson both took home plenty of toothpick material during "I" series. Carl says that he had previously spotted a defect in his 1945 turnbuckle which he now wishes he had repaired. Dave had no comment and one wonders if it might not have been subconsciously preconceived so as to allow another "black beauty" to join the fleet. Bill Heine after replacing his rotten wood mast with a new oval black beauty was the seasons most successful point getter. Not to be outdone was our gal Fran Vaughan who was seldom less than seconds away from Bill.

Other consistent and regular participants were Chuck Gustin, Smokey Hogan and Dave Fergusson. In late July the Fleet hosted a TRANSPAC Invitational. Sailed by TRANSPAC skippers and crew in Fleet 143 Lightnings, competition was keen. A good time was had by all; racing and partying after. Just prior to TRANSPAC Festivities, Chuck Kehl and bride Nancy tied the knot at a beautiful wedding ceremony at the Club. Fleet 143 was happy to be a training ground for Thistle sailor Mark Walker who after sharpening his skills with Fleet 143 went on to win the Hawaii District and Area "H" "Sears" Cup Eliminations. Very active Fleet members, Arnie Kayl and Smokey Hogan, were forced midway in the season to limit their participation by job transfers to the big island - mainland. Several new members have joined the Fleet recently and '76 appears to have all the potential of a fine racing season in Hawaii.

## SPOFFORD LAKE FLEET (145)

### New England District

#### Sailing on Lake Spofford at Spofford, New Hampshire

Fleet Captain	Fred Hamblet
Fleet Secretary	David Fitch
Fleet Champion	Leonard Pratt
Runner-Up	Fred Hamblet

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
6888	Cutty Sark	Frederick H. Edwards
8480	.....	Christopher B. Hamblet
9715	.....	Richard Waite
10093	.....	H. Fletcher Willey
11210	.....	Frederick Turner, Jr.
11288	Bon Joy	Craig & Leonard Pratt
11346	Gail	Fred H. Hamblet
12220	.....	W. R. Wynn
12362	Three Cheers	David H. Fitch

Travel was again the byword of Spofford sailors. Len Pratt started the season with a fine showing on the Southern circuit. Niantic hosted the Northeast Regatta with Len notching a fifth and Fred Hamblet sixth in the tip-top competition.

Not all the action was away, as our Spring Series saw close, spirited racing. The "All in the Family" act put on by the David Fitch family and the Buck Wynn family saw the Fitches take the

trophy by a narrow margin, Capt. Fletch Willey just nosed out the Fred Turner family for third place.

June 29th saw three Spofford boats doing well at Winnepesaukee. Christopher Hamblet took a fourth overall while the Fitches were sixth and Fred Hamblet eighth in the light air.

In July, fine sailing was to the liking of Spofford sailors at Lake Champlain. Len Pratt won a deserving first place finish in the New Hampshire-Vermonts while the Fitches, Christopher Hamblet, and Wynns all finished in the teens in the large fleet. That regatta found light first day winds which turned strong in the two races sailed Sunday.

The New England Districts, hosted admirably by the Centerboard Yacht Club saw forty-one Lightnings on the starting line. Spofford sailors did well - Len Pratt 8th, Buck Wynn 9th, Fred Hamblet 10th, (after a swim, breakdown, and crew splash party in the disastrous last race), Dave Fitch tied for 12th and Christopher Hamblet 14th. Going on to the North Americans in South Carolina were Fred Hamblet and Buck Wynn after Len Pratt, who qualified, had commitments which would not allow him to attend. The Wynns gained good experience while sailing in the Governor's Cup while the Hamblet's did well in the President's Cup. Christopher Hamblet, crewing for Stu Nickerson, finished an excellent 8th in the Championship Division.

The Pratt's continued to dominate New England Sailing taking 1st places in the Southport Regatta, the Mallett's Bay Race Week, and the tough fall Cedar Point, Conn. Regatta against a blue ribbon fleet of 35 boats. Len took 8th in the State of Mass. and 3rd in the Marblehead Regatta.

At Wellfleet, Fred Hamblet captured silverware with a third in unusually light going. The Fitches were close behind in sixth.

At Massabesic, Buck Wynn took the first of what we hope will be many 1st place trophies. We understand he did a couple of horizon jobs on the rest of the fifteen boat fleet. It was nice to see Fred Turner "up there" with a 6th place finish.

This year's Championship Series ended in a tie, as did last year's. This time it was Len Pratt and Fred Hamblet waging the battle. In the final race, Len edged by the Hamblet boat by a deck length, and the perpetual trophy missing from the Pratt's for two years, is returned to the Pratt's mantle. Dave Fitch was third, while Buck Wynn placed fourth.

For the final event on the New England District calendar our Spofford Fleet hosted its foliage regatta. Six inches of rain the week before didn't dampen the spirits of 23 boats on the starting line. Perfect sailing breezes both days, coupled with one of the finest social hours ever, topped off by a great meal served by the gals. Stu Nickerson proved that a case of iced beer aboard doesn't hurt boat speed at all in edging Len Pratt for top spot. Christopher Hamblet, with the magic crew of Fred Hamblet and Amy Nickerson took a deserved 3rd. Spofford sailors completed the new sweep of the top spots with Buck Wynn 4th and Dave Fitch 8th and Fred Turner 12th. That's the way to go guys!! and gals!!

## TORONTO BAY LIGHTNING FLEET (146)

Lake Erie District  
Sailing on Lake Ontario at  
Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Fleet Captain ..... Angus McKay  
Fleet Secretary ..... Robert Elliott  
Vice Captain ..... Harvey Harman  
Treasurer ..... Ross Graves  
Fleet Champion "A" Class ..... Ron Cochran  
Fleet Champion "B" Class .. R. Elliott & P. Nolan

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
5223	Seabiscuit	Ed Hearn
7396	.....	R. B. & R. J. Townsend
7441	.....	Bruce H. Bottrell
8152	.....	Elliot M. Wilson
8579	Passe Partout	V. H. Olsen
9091	.....	Dave Thomas
9400	.....	Martin Nash
9410	Gigi	George Blanchard
9543	.....	Harvey P. Harman
9918	.....	William A. Dymond
9936	.....	Ross Graves
10126	Rorida	K. N. Jeejeebhoy
10393	Something Special	George Styan
11117	.....	N. G. Leonard & D. T. Scully
11136	Prometheus	Ken Inglis
11174	Janitor	David & D. Stewart Sprague
11177	.....	Peter E. & Paul Sulman
11275	Aquaholic	Bob Elliott & Pat Nolan

11289	.....
11331	.....
11809	Bumerali
11814	.....
11884	Serena
12090	.....
12217	.....

Life Member

Life Member

George Wootten
John D. Gorrie
Jim Rankin
David R. & W. L. Hetherington
David Roost
Ron Cochran
Rick Sutton, Lou Odette, & A. N. Mackay
Robert Bleasby
A. Gorman

Once again Fleet 146 undertook to run a Juvenile Regatta. The event was well handled by Angus McKay with many helpers. A total of 10 races were sailed over two days in ideal weather conditions. First place finisher was Larry MacDonald (junior) from Hamilton. The spread from 3rd to 7th place was a mere 11 points so it was a close exciting event.

Ron Cochran cleaned up in "A" Fleet winning all but one of the races he entered.

In "B" Fleet, Paul Sulman, with his dad Peter, as crew won every race he came out for but was beaten in 'B' Fleet by the perseverance of the Elliott-Nolan boat.

The Canadian Open which was held in Montreal was attended by eight fleet 146 boats. The best finishers were Ron Cochran 5th over all and Ken Inglis 8th over all.

A number of members travelled to outside regattas the most notable success was a 2nd place finish by Ron Cochran at the Dunkirk Regatta.

The end of year fleet banquet was again a great success. It was held at National Yacht Club and no less than 75 people turned out. Maybe this is an indication for the 1976 season?

## MANSFIELD SAILING CLUB (150)

Ohio District

Sailing on Clearfork Reservoir at  
Lexington (Mansfield), Ohio

Fleet Captain ..... Charles H. Huston  
Fleet Secretary ..... Prue Preston  
Fleet Champion ..... Burton L. Preston  
Runner-Up ..... Donald E. Widman, M.D.

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
830	.....	Joseph H. Vivan, DDS
2854	Meg	John Hammer
6944	.....	Chandler Stevens
8625	.....	William W. Woodrow
8639	.....	Richard Risser
10165	In-A-Jam II	John A. Mintz
10272	Screaming Yellow Zonker	Burton L. Preston
11161	Patience II	Alvin Bales, MD
11549	.....	Harley D. Lundquist, MD
11557	.....	Eugene Sherman, MD
11681	Lady	Charles H. Huston
12085	.....	R. A. Bonham
12425	Schuss	Donald E. Widman, MD
12439	Sea Horse	Albert P. Barbone, DDS
12498	Kon-Quest	Robert Konstam
12567	.....	Thomas J. McDermott



"Just wait until they look up!!"



For Fleet 150, the summer of '75 proved to be one of the most pleasant on record. Winds seemed to be at least adequate for all races and sometimes became a bit too much for some of our newer racers. Fleet activity has picked up with as many as ten boats on the starting line at times. A welcome goes out to our new members — Steve Vivian, Bill Woodrow, Dave King, and Vic Stuart. We were sorry to see Bob Mielbeck and Bob Konstam move out of state — for them employment has apparently taken priority over sailing at Clearfork.

A tally of our racing season produced the following results: Burt Preston, Don Widman and Bob Mielbeck "won the silver" in the Championship series, while Burt, Don, and Tom McDermott took top honors in the Sunday Morning series. Bernie Dillon, John Hammer and Vic Stuart dominated the Wednesday Evening series and Bob Bonham, Tom McDermott, and Burt Preston took the top three places in our Fall Handicap series. The Sail Offs, which determine our overall club champion, saw Burt Preston, Bob Bonham, and Don Widman in first, third and sixth, respectively — a good showing as it was sailed in borrowed Flying Scots.

One event still remains to be sailed — The Second Annual Turkey-day Regatta. High winds have forced a several day postponement but the hardest of sailors have vowed to battle the wind and snow (and help down the Memorial Fifth of Brandy) as we take one last sail around the lake.

### ANNISQUAM YACHT CLUB (151)

New England District  
Sailing on Ipswich Bay at  
Annisquam, Massachusetts

Fleet Captain ..... Georges Peter, M.D.  
Fleet Secretary ..... Carolyn Peter

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
6705	.....	Richard G. Appel, Jr.
9617	Sky Rocket	Joseph T. McNulty
10212	.....	Peter V. Bent
11223	Sandlapper	James O. Willis, Jr.
11688	Mouette III	Dr. Georges & J. Georges Peter
.....	.....	Stephen W. DeBlois

Although Fleet 151 has been limited in its racing activities for the past several years, Lightning sailors remain very active. Georges and Carolyn Peter began sailing in March on the Southern Circuit, represented Fleet 151 in the Districts, North Americans and the Worlds in Ecuador and finished up in Annapolis. Dick Appel and his family, Ric Lordan, and Steve DeBlois sailed regularly. The disparity in sailing activities between our different members indicates again the versatility of the Lightning as both a sophisticated racing class and a family day-sailer. Next year, the Annisquam Yacht Club has enthusiastically agreed to sponsor a Fall Regatta and looks forward to again welcoming Lightning sailors to the waters of Ipswich Bay. The date has yet to be finalized and will be announced in Flashes.

### TAWAS BAY YACHT CLUB (152)

Michigan District  
Sailing on Tawas Bay, East Tawas, Michigan

Fleet Captain ..... Garry Demarest  
Fleet Secretary ..... Gary Cameron  
Fleet Champion ..... Garry Demarest  
Runner-Up ..... Gary Cameron

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
8390	.....	Jon Galia
11415	War Paint	Charles H. & Charles H. Schreck, Jr.
11466	.....	Guy T. Moulthrop
11585	.....	L. G. McKay, Jr.
11588	.....	Charles A. Pinkerton, III
12181	.....	Truman F. Barbier, Jr.
12354	Spirit	R. Garrett Demarest III
12755	.....	R. Garrett Demarest III
Life Member	.....	Gary A. Cameron

Sailors from Fleet 152 (located at Tawas Bay Yacht Club on Michigan's beautiful Tawas Bay), though slim in number, were once again actively racing in the Michigan District and beyond in 1975.

Super-sailor Garry Demarest had a super year, winning five District invitational regattas (Bay City, Pentwater, Tawas, Gull Lake, Higgins Lake), finishing 3rd in the District Championship, finishing 6th at the Lightning North American Championship, and finishing

13th at the World Championship in Ecuador. In addition, Garry for the umpteenth straight year won the Michigan District Traveling Trophy awarded to that skipper having the most best races in Michigan regattas.

Less-than-super-sailor Gary Cameron did little more than just hang in there. Gary was 2nd at Lansing, Bay City and Tawas, before finally breaking through for a 1st overall at Pontiac. (Gary found there that having Garry as crew rather than as an opponent was most helpful.) Gary also totally bombed out at both the Drifter Districts and the North Americans. He did qualify for the Championship flight at Hilton Head, and he did it with a certain style by qualifying last and thus winning the Fallon Trophy. Gary ended the year by crewing for Garry at the Worlds and finishing just ahead of him at last.

Garry served as ILCA President during 1974-75, a job he enjoyed very much. However, the Pres. is now only the Ex-Pres. and he looks forward to spending more time trying to beat Garry in the 1976 races.

Charles Schreck, another Ex-Pres., sailed his War Paint to a 4th place finish at Lansing (with Garry and Rita crewing). The crew received trophies and the skipper a hearty handshake. Shortly thereafter Charlie took delivery of The Big Red, a speedy big boat, and he was not seen on the Lightning courses again. However, Charlie is still very much interested in Lightning sailing and promises not to leave the Class entirely.

Fleet 152 held its annual Gakewi Cup Lightning Invitational in July. With 22 boats competing, Demarest won for the 5th straight year, followed by Cameron, Joe Disette, Dave Peters and Steve Thomas. The highlight of the regatta was a three minute stretch in the last race when ex-Fleet 152 member Bill McKinley was observed hiking. It was an historical moment that will be memorialized.

Join Fleet 152 and all its members for its Gakewi Cup regatta in 1976 on beautiful Tawas Bay.

### WAWASEE YACHT CLUB (154)

Indiana District  
Sailing on Lake Wawasee at Syracuse, Indiana

Fleet Captain ..... Robert Troutman  
Fleet Secretary ..... Keith Swihart  
Fleet Champion ..... George Buckingham  
Runner-Up ..... John Nixon

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
5259	No Show	Louis Pletcher
5883	Stuck	Bill Stucky
9360	Gan Gan	Ray Gans
9511	Swi's Guys	Keith Swihart
9685	Boat	William L. Beard
9954	Big Red	George Wright
10134	Scud II	Paul Penn
10726	Lil Trout	Robert Troutman
11181	All Small	Douglas Schmahl
11524	The Pill	Eli Lilly
11742	Deep Freese	George & Karl Freese
12001	Second Effort	John Nixon
12239	Starboard	Frederick W. Winter
12392	Gracefullee	George Witwer
12408	Laurie	Bruce Baiden
12463	Joe BFTSPLK	George Buckingham
12496	Next Time	Dan T. Danielson
12521	The Sting	N. Richard Boerger
12586	New 720	Gordon Medlock
12692	.....	James A. Chase, MD
.....	.....	Paul Hess

Attempting to express the joys, sorrows, thrills, frustrations, victories, and defeats in our sailing club in a few short paragraphs is beyond my capabilities.

All skippers made the annual pre-season predictions of victory and success, knowing full well that the improved competition had created four different fleet champions in as many years, and this year would be no different.

For the second season in as many years, our delegate from Cincinnati, Dan Danielson, won the Memorial Day Series with Bruce Baiden placing second and George Buckingham third.

Having watched Danielson's transom with admiration during the Memorial Day races, Buckingham learned his lesson well and won the Early Bird Series while Danielson slipped to third and Baiden claimed second, after being counted out by the "experts."

'74 Champion Baiden started applying the pressure as he won the July 4th Series with Buckingham dropping to second, followed by the "I'll never die" or "even go away" John Nixon.

Labor Day brought to a close one of the closest finishes ever, with "Bucky" (George Buckingham) winning convincingly with a sweep of the series. Baiden was second and Paul Penn was third.

Our club was represented at the Nationals by Buckingham with his daughter Georgeanne and alert, talented, modest, and weighty skipper Keith Swihart as crew. George and crew were Governor Cup qualifiers and finished in fifth place.

The other special awards won were the coveted Cynthia Cup, John Nixon; Commodore's Cup, Gordon Medlock, first, Doug Schmahl, second, and Ray Gans, third.

The Club hosted the Hoosier Regatta in June. It was a tremendous success with great racing winds, good food, and the usual sailing comradeship.

As we sum up our '75 sailing season, we must extend our thanks to our Yacht Club women who support our endeavors with meals, crying towels, as capable crew members, and as great hostesses at our social gatherings. With friendship, spirit, and enthusiasm for '76, we extend an invitation to all of you to visit our club. Good Sailing!

## WILLOW BANK YACHT CLUB (164)

Central New York District

Sailing on Cazenovia Lake at Cazenovia, New York

Fleet Captain ..... Donny Sanford  
Fleet Secretary ..... Drayton Jones  
Fleet Champion ..... Merle Pindell  
Runner-Up ..... Jim Preston  
Third Place ..... Ken Warren  
Charter Member's Cup ..... Jeff Penfield  
Crewettes Race (Female Skippers) . Kathy Penfield

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
844	.....	J. P. Dougherty
9178	.....	Bill Jenner
9305	.....	Dr. Gerald Bezner
9334	Inevitable	Houghton Carr, Jr.
9981	.....	William W. & John Poorman
10171	Doregasa III	Dr. Donald & Don P. Sanford
10386	.....	Ken Warren
10406	Spirit	Tom McAuliffe
10414	.....	Nelson Neidhardt
10441	.....	Drayton Jones
11272	Tutankhamon	Dick Tuttle
11571	Tabooma	Fred Twitchell
11650	Galilee Hitchhiker	Jim Preston
12065	.....	Jerry King
12587	Tiger	Dr. Jeff Penfield
12646	.....	Ned Cabaniss
.....	.....	Merle Pindell

It readily became clear this year to the newer members of our increasingly active fleet that a conspiracy of sorts was needed to improve the chances of the masses. We appointed the Penfields to be our traveling ambassadors and changed our piano roll from "Hold That Tiger" to "Now That You've Gone." Maybe it should have been "King of the Road" as attested to by a second at the Central New York Districts and firsts at the Skaneateles (Fleet #1) and South Skaneateles (Fleet #439) invitational.

In keeping with 1975's spirit of detente, Jeff Penfield invited Tom Brunton and crew from Fleet #1 to a leisurely race at WYBC in July. Mother nature treated us all to a 60 knot squall complete with hail stones and, of course, lightning. Most boats did the "turtle trick" to get out of the rain - others just planed around the lake without benefit of sail.

Jeff and Kathy Penfield also represented us at the North Americans and came home to win the next race with a new technique - you put your spinnaker up on the first beat and fly it all the way around the course. The rest of us have not been able to manage it yet. Maybe it can only be learned at Hilton Head.

We convinced Merle Pindell that 10410 was getting pretty shabby and that a sailor of his caliber needed a newer vessel. He finally conceded and sold it. Unfortunately, he did not let it go until the season was over and he had won the fleet championship with it. We hope his new one will be more beautiful and leisurely. Merle's son Jim did so well as a crew and Junior Skipper that we are going to sponsor him for a summer sailing job - out of state! Jim won the CNY Junior Districts and finished sixth in the Junior North Americans. Another young skipper, Mark Altmeyer, finished first in the Club's Junior Lightning championships and first in the Sears Cup quarter finals at the Newport Yacht Club.

Meanwhile, we pressed on encouraging last year's champion and this year's Captain, Donny Sanford, to leave the country. He finally gave in and left for a job in England this Fall. However, he foiled the



"I'd rather be selling!"

plot by promising to return next Spring. Donny, where is the Fleet treasury?

Most of us tried to stay within earshot of Jim Preston to catch his weekly discourse to crew on the proper handling of the spinnaker. Sailors in other fleets and those on shore tuned in too. Jim was not satisfied with his second place this year and so is adding a new oval mast. Next year's mid-race lecture series will begin with "The joys of internal spinnaker halyards." Second in the series will be a sequel to Jeff Penfield's "On Racing As a Family" (ILCA ... Collection of Reprints ...) by Fred Twitchell. By the way Fred, does "TABOOMA" really stand for "Take a Bite Out of Melinda's Auditorium?"

Unfortunately, many of the older boats have been hit by Dutch Elm disease this Fall which seems to be turning the masts black. Nevertheless, we remain confident that our mildly competitive and congenial group will be ready to go next Spring as soon as Bill Poorman's crash boat can break up enough Cazenovia ice.

## HELSINKI LIGHTNING FLEET (166)

Finland District

Sailing at Gulf of Finland, Helsinki, Finland

Fleet Captain ..... Paavo Korhonen  
Fleet Secretary ..... Lauri Korpinen  
Fleet Champion ..... Unto Maenpaa

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
7887	Spino	Matti Paakkanen
9441	Lokka	Jussi Itkonen
10344	Lipla	Paavo Korhonen
10911	Vahine	Unto Maenpa
11001	Cocu II	Matti Tiivola
11544	Kesaheila	Raimo Aromaa
12429	Pivla	Lauri Korpinen
12434	Sunday Sailor	Mikko Nisunen
12478	Double Jack	Ahti Immonen
12479	Melanie	Antero Westerlund
12483	Pilpatus	Timo Patusuo

Ranking series was timed early this season, three races before 15th of June, two in July and the last during the Finland Districts at the beginning of August, so crews had a good practice before the Europeans at Keuruu one week after the Finland Districts.

Pentti Puuperä hired a boat this season and showed his skills as the best skipper in series and got 2nd place in points overall. Others of our fleet got positions: Kari Mäenpää 3rd; Timo Patusuo 5th, Raimo Aromaa 6th, Lauri Korpinen 8th and Mikko Nisunen 13th.

The Fleet Championship was battled in two new Regattas in Helsinki waters. In Spring Regatta, held early in June, Raimo Aromaa got first, Pentti Puuperä 2nd and Kari Mäenpää 3rd but in Autumn Regatta Kari Mäenpää won and Raimo Aromaa was fourth, so Kari took Fleet Championship and Raimo Aromaa was Runner-Up.

In Finland Districts our fleet had a consistent participation of nine boats taking six of the ten top places. Best was Pentti Puuperä as third.



In Europeans we had six boats and Unto Mäenpää took best results of us being fifth in shifting conditions.

In World Championships in Equador Pentti Puuperä took 27th place being best Finnish skipper and best European too.

At Midsummer our fleet pointed with four Lightning boats and one vessel to Mikko Nisunen's summer site where among other things at least six practice races were conducted in light conditions.

This season took several boats away of our fleet but two new boats have been seen sailing in Helsinki waters. Next year will show at least two new boats.

## LAKE DAVENPORT LIGHTNING FLEET (167)

### Midwest District

#### Sailing on the Mississippi River at Davenport, Iowa

Fleet Captain ..... Michael F. Blaser  
Fleet Secretary ..... Linda Neuman  
Fleet Champion ..... Mike Steffenson  
Runner-Up ..... Walter Bratton

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
5955	Twilight	G. W. Charlesworth
6033	.....	Rufus Roys
7391	.....	Sam Walker
8028	Scorpion	Edmund W. Barch
8222	.....	Ron Hughes
9368	Ta De Win	Gerald Miller
9490	Something Orange	Donald Morrison
10156	Misque XXV	William F. Quaintance
10232	Liebling	Edward Walker
11064	.....	Michael Blaser
12022	The Screamer	Mike Steffenson
12611	Joey's 12	Walt Bratton
12377	Gemma Ray	James Flick
12688	.....	Edward Walker
12732	.....	Henry G. Neuman
12817	.....	Donald Morrison



Just shows how intense the racing gets in Fleet 167.

An unusually dry spring provided an earlier racing season than can normally be anticipated for sailors on the Mississippi River, with the first Lightning race held at Lake Davenport on Memorial Day and the first race of the summer series held the following Sunday, June 8, 1975.

This season was marked by new skippers and new boats, with Jim Flick, Henry Neuman and Ken Jensen joining the growing ranks of enthusiastic helmsmen, and Ed Walker and Don Morrison also increasing the competition in the fleet with their newly-purchased boats.

Walt Bratton sailed a great season, placing first in the 12-race summer series and second in the 16-race fall series. Placing second in the summer series was Mike Blaser with Bill Quaintance finishing third. Mike Steffenson displayed his well known sailing skill by winning first place in the fall series, followed by Walt Bratton and Mike Blaser in second and third places.

The fleet was blessed with unseasonably warm and sunny weather for its 16th annual Polar Bear Regatta which it hosted October 5th and 6th. There was something for everyone in the 3-race series, starting with light air on Saturday (anchor sales were up) followed by a good breeze for the second race and moderate to heavy wind for the final race on Sunday. Closely matched leaders in all three races were last year's champion, Mike Steffenson, John Brewster of Chicago and newcomer Jeff Baker, also from Chicago. Final standings found the first place trophy back in the hands of 1973 winner John Brewster, with second place going to Jeff Baker and LDSC member Mike Steffenson taking a third after three exciting races and a memorable weekend. Social events of the weekend included a moonlight cruise with dinner and dancing aboard the Julie II riverboat.

New skipper Jim Flick won the club's coveted Jonah Award for his outstanding sailing maneuvers both at home and on the racing circuit.

1976 promises to be a year of growth for Lake Davenport with the possibility of a new, larger clubhouse and facilities for more Lightnings and more sailors to share the fun and spirit of our fleet.

## LAKE OF NEUCHATEL FLEET (169)

### Switzerland District

#### Based on Lac de Neuchatel, Switzerland

Fleet Captain ..... Jean-Pierre Monnier  
Fleet Secretary ..... Pierre Grandguillaume

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
5898	Peruto	Tony Grieb
7934	Grogard	Marc-Antoine Lehman
8292	Ithaque	Bernard Linder
9028	Rascasse	Chantal-Serge Puthod
11102	Garoupa	Claude Lambelet
11858	Grandgousier	Dr. Pierre Grandguillaume
11859	.....	Hans Muhlbach
12087	Milouin	Jean-Pierre Monnier

This year there were nine active members and crew members.

The participation of our members in races has improved this season. In fact three crews took part in the Swiss Championship and were well classified. Besides this, numerous members of our fleet went to the fleet championships at Morat, Neuhaus, Lucerne and Engelberg. The Gargantua's crew also made the journey to Trasimene in Italy where he was first. He also went to the World Championships in South America.

In June our fleet organized the "regates du Joran" where six Lightnings of our fleet took part, three of them coming from "Lambelet's Armada". Our fleet championships, or "regata fondue", took place on 1st and 2nd November in fine weather and little wind, with the participation of eleven Lightnings. Mr. Wyler's crew won all four races. He was followed by Mr. Fluhrmann.

On the first Sunday of June we organized a friendly meeting in order to get to know members who don't normally race and boat owners who are not members. Unfortunately the weather was very bad and only the ardent fans went to Bevaix. We will anyway renew this friendly meeting next year.

## BRANT BEACH YACHT CLUB (173)

### Central Atlantic District

#### Sailing on Little Egg Harbor at Brant Beach, New Jersey

Fleet Captain ..... J. Edward Serrill  
Fleet Secretary ..... John W. Seybold  
Fleet Champion ..... S. C. Streep  
Runner-Up ..... J. Edward Serrill

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
5837	Barracuda	J. Edward Serrill
9262	Valkyrie Too	C. H. Twining, Jr.
9462	Marcelinda II	Philip J. Escoll
10401	Chapter Eleven	Kenneth H. Kardon
10494	Sea-bold	John W. Seybold
11087	.....	Robert Browning Roth

11176	.....	Thomas Hyndman, Jr. & William A. Phillips
11235	.....	Robert E. Carre II
12553	Queen	S. C. Streep
.....	Elizabeth II	Carl & Glenn Reiting
.....	.....	

The whole fleet started out this season with high hopes and great enthusiasm but it was not enough to top Sam Streep as the defending fleet champion went on to win both the Championship and the Sunday Series this year. We tried everything short of tying a bucket to the "Queen Elizabeth's" transom (and don't think that that was not considered) but we could not seem to stop him. The only one to come close was Fleet Captain Ed Serrill who has become so frustrated with two consecutive runner-up finishes in the Championship Series that he and his crew, wife Barbara and Chuck Hirschler, have placed "Barracuda" into semi-retirement in favor of a brand new boat for this coming season (do you really think that will do it?). Third place finisher Herb Twining is not too far from Ed's level of frustration but is planning a more conservative attempt to beat Sam; he and half of the fleet (author included) are trying new sails.

This past racing season was, as it always is, a very exciting, rewarding, and thoroughly enjoyable experience. The level of competition has very noticeably improved as every boat found itself much closer to the front of the fleet by season's end. Some of us were even able to occasionally find ourselves in the lead but through various misdeeds of our crew (they always provide a handy scape-goat), unusual weather conditions, or a temperamental boat (the skipper is never at fault) we managed to squander away our leads. The meek may inherit the earth, but we are not doing well on the water.

The Brant Beach Fleet is currently in the midst of District fever. As the host fleet for the 1976 Central Atlantic District Championships we are all pointing toward a respectable showing in the Districts (first would be nice!). It may be this fever that has caused the return of the Reiting brothers with a brand new boat and the entrance of first time Lightning skipper Rob Stephan to our fleet.

We all expect this season to be one of Brant Beach's best ever. Have a good winter and we will all be looking for you in the Spring (watch out guys, your Fleet Secretary is psyched!).

## SHREVEPORT FLEET (175)

### Southern District

#### Sailing on Cross Lake, Shreveport, Louisiana

Fleet Captain	.....	John K. Butcher
Fleet Secretary/Treasurer	.....	Henry C. Coutret
Fleet Champion	.....	John Butcher
Runner-Up	.....	Marshall H. Walker

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
6116	Hunga	Larry Lashley
8854	Wind Sond	James A. Beaubouef
10135	Knee Deep	Larry Pledger
10748	Shady Deal	Henry C. Coutret
11081	Mullet	C. O. Hardey
11385	Buglet	John Butcher
11562	Mahi Mahi	James H. Mills
11725	.....	Marcus Millican
12289	Rivet	Chapin Plumer
12699	Cooter Poo III	Marshall H. Walker
12836	.....	Leroy Peters
12839	Knee Deep II	Larry Pledger

Fleet 175 enjoyed a good year of sailing, fellowship and fun. We had good fleet participation in our regular sailing series and, in addition, most of the fleet members trailered their boats to some of the nearby regattas. During the year, the fleet grew in membership, got some new boats, and as the year ended, saw a proliferation of black masts.

Our racing year began as we wound up the Winter Series. Freezing temperatures on Sundays had severely limited fleet participation. Larry Pledger took the series trophy. Four of our boats competed against four boats from Dallas in waves, wind, and biting cold at the Tyler Regatta on Lake Palestine in April. Sorry to say we came off second best. Then came our big event, the Holiday-in-Dixie Regatta. Hundreds of boats of all sizes and types came to Shreveport from as far away as Michigan. Weather was near perfect and 27 Lightnings started. Duncan Porter from Dallas won and the Dallas Rush Creek Fleet dominated the standings. Our Fleet Champion, John Butcher, won the Spring series, then went on to take second overall in the



John Butcher holding mast while Steve Struck and Bert Purgatorio fasten shrouds on Leroy Peters new boat.

Long Distance Series. Marshall Walker, by then having gotten all the bugs out of his brand new boat, won the First Summer Series. The Fleet sent four boats to the District Championships in Lake Charles but only one returned with any silver to show for the trip. Locally, John Butcher continued his dominance by winning both the July 4th and Labor Day Club Regatta and, in doing so, won again for himself the fleet championship. He also was the W. B. Jacobs Trophy Winner. As the racing season wore on, the Second Summer series was won by Marshall Walker. In October, two Lightnings went to the Jackson, Mississippi Regatta and our skippers Butcher and Walker finished second and third. At this writing, we are in the middle of our Fall Series and are having fine Lightning participation. We have had as many as nine Lightnings on the line for some of the races.

For whatever sailing successes and failures Fleet 175 has had during the year, all our fleet parties have been winners. Larry and Ruth Pledger gave the Christmas party and hosted a large crowd. Chape and Barbara Plumer gave a party at their new house in Henderson, Texas in late summer, and our champion and newly elected Fleet Captain John Butcher and his wife Kay entertained the fleet just before Thanksgiving. All parties were very well-attended and the food that was served each time would delight the fussiest gourmet.

The fleet was delighted to welcome back Chuck and Ray Hardey who acquired Lightning No. 11081 and began racing in the fall with Sudie Corbett as the other crew member. Jim Bodenheimer and John Moore bought Lightning No. 4747 from long-time skipper Alton Parker who decided to retire to a bigger and more cumbersome craft. Jim, John and crew have really put the miles on 4747 since they bought it. Recently two new boats have been added to the fleet. Larry Pledger bought one of the new boats that were returning from the Pan American games and another was bought by Leroy Peters, one of Butcher's crewmen. Butcher's other regular championship crewman, Bert Purgatorio jumped ship to sail with Peters, so it will be interesting to see the champ compete against his crew. The Fleet also was delighted to welcome Bob Wilson who bought and refitted Lightning No. 10203.

Fleet 175 is looking forward to hosting the Southern District Championships next summer. In closing, we want to invite all of you to join us for our 1976 Holiday-in-Dixie Regatta in April. We can promise you great fun, great sailing, and, to say the least, great competition.

## GREAT SOUTH BAY FLEET (178)

### Long Island District

#### Sailing on Great South Bay at Amityville, New York

Fleet Captain	.....	Robert T. David
Fleet Secretary	.....	Frank Marinaccio
Fleet Champion	.....	Frank Atkinson
Runner-Up	.....	Tom Tyler

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
24	.....	Bob David
6427	.....	Randy Brozek
7020	.....	Gene Dillman

8423	Toothache	Axel Paulsen
8501	.....	Richard D. Kopka
8540	Tally Ho	Dale Brous
8780	Friendly Lady	Alan Hoffberg
10283	.....	Richard D. Kopka
10531	Riptide	Otto Hoglievina
10724	Mistress	Bob David
10725	Spook	Larry Landgraff
11657	Challenge	Tom & Tom Tyler, Jr.
11774	Round Trip #II	David Browne
11775	Mathiew 20'16	Kevin G. & Joseph E. Geraghty, Jr.
11852	Endeavor	Mike Gargiulo
12042	Cookie Monster	Frank Marinaccio
12064	Synthesis	Frank H. & Frank H. Atkinson, Jr.
12105	.....	Alan Pearlman
12656	The Sting	Stanley Stiansen

The 1975 season for Fleet 178 had less wind than other seasons, but had only one cancelled race. Participation and competition was greater than ever which made for a great sailing season.

The season started with the annual trek to Red Bank, N.J. in April by seven fleet members. Then came the Spring Series at Narrasketuct, the Long Island Districts also at Narrasketuct, the G.S.B.Y.R.A. Invitationals, the Northport Invitational and finally the Fall Series. Well the Fall Series is the end of the season for most, but we also have a Frost Bite Series which ends about December 1.

This year we welcomed three new members and their families to the fleet. They are Joe Geraghty, Frank Atkinson and George McCormack.

Frank Atkinson is no stranger to Lightning people, he has raced and been a consistent winner on Long Island for a long time. This year is no exception, Frank is our 75 Fleet Champion and he took home the silver from Bayblon, Wet Pants and Sayville Invitationals. His very able crew is usually his wife Mar and son Bruce. Bruce skippered at the Narrasketuct Invitational and won. In addition, Frank Jr. skippered 12064 to victory at the Long Island Districts for the second year in a row. Now there is a sailing family that's hard to beat.

Among the other skippers winning special honors were Tom Tyler who was Runner-Up for Fleet Champ, won the Spring and Fall Series at Narrasketuct and took home the silver at Bayshore. Frank Marinaccio (the Cookie Monster) took home the cookies at Unqua and Point O' Woods.

The six races at Race Week this year were sailed in light air and 100° temperature which was very unusual for our area. Race Week was won by a visitor from the north shore King Lotz III in a closely contested series with Neil Gargiulo. The entire fleet could be found after each race cooking off in the pool.

Honorable mention must be given to Bob David and crew Marilyn and Mike for believing they were right and 200 skippers and crews were wrong. Please tell us again which course we were supposed to sail. Nice try Bob.

The very hotly contested Transom Trophy (next to last) was won this year by a prior fleet Champion George McCormack.

Non-racing activities received their share of attention too. Many great parties were enjoyed by skipper's, crews and families. Among them were the Koller's annual Fourth of July dockside party, an impromptu lobster luau aboard the David's schooner and a joint shipboard party planned by the Tylers and Geraghtys and saved from being "washed out" in heavy rains by the hospitality of the Point O' Woods Yacht Squadron.

Dry land (but not dry!) events included house parties at the Geraghtys, Pearlmans, Garguiolos, Atkinsons and last but absolutely not least an authentic Greek gala hosted by the Goodwins.

With the same kind of spirit and enthusiasm we look forward to '76.

### CONNEAUT LAKE YACHT CLUB (180) Lake Erie District Sailing on Conneaut Lake, Pennsylvania

Fleet Commodore	.....	Robert Lilly
Vice-Commodore	.....	Mark Prather
Fleet Captain	.....	Charles Berry
Fleet Secretary	.....	Martha Lilly
Fleet Champion	.....	Bob Lilly
Runner-Up	.....	Edwin Shaffer

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
6014	.....	Att. Mark Prather
7171	Ol' Blue	James Rentz
10029	.....	Louis Deglau

10941	.....	Dr. John Hanek
11063	.....	Bob Lilly
11461	Bandit	Judge Charles P. Henderson
11563	.....	John E. Shaffer
11747	Heid Aweigh III	Dr. Duane & Charles Good
Honorary Member		Att. Paul A. Knapp

Fleet #180 completed its usual low profile, high pressure season with the Yacht Club Commodore winning everything in sight. If this keeps up we should have more candidates for the office. This was also the year of the five digit boat with newer boats doing very well indeed. Is the class evolving into three classes to all intents and purposes - new fiberglass - old fiberglass and wood??

With probably the most beautiful summer weather in memory, the fleet set another record of sorts - four races cancelled due to inclement weather - two for no wind and two for severe thunderstorms. Since 1946, our first year, this is the most races cancelled due to weather.

As fleet captain, I have the dubious distinction of winning the "bottom's up" trophy for a spinnaker run flip - again showing the difference between the new and the old. Commodore Lilly flipped twice and was able to finish each race due to superior flotation. I find that old # 9113 floats at least six inches under water even with the sail down.

Unfortunately our lake is experiencing a resurgence of weeks and Sunday powerboats, adding to the thrills but not necessarily to the skills. Both types of pests seem to follow cycles and it is to be hoped that we have reached a peak for both.

The July picnic was threatened by rain but constituted a belated wedding reception for our perenial bachelor - Ed Shaffer - was well attended and wet in other ways. The Labor Day picnic was held at the Fleet Captains home in a thunderstorm with good, close attendance - ever try to get 100 people in your living room???

### SHEBOYGAN LIGHTNING FLEET (187)

#### Midwest District

#### Sailing on Lake Michigan at Sheboygan, Wisconsin

Fleet Captain	.....	Dick Bemis
Fleet Secretary	.....	Chris Bemis
Fleet Champion	.....	Eric Graf
Runner-Up	.....	Rick Larson

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
839	.....	Sheboygan Sea Scouts
6283	Trio	Gerald Olshanski
8305	Bon-E-Fly	Robert Ebert
8750	2-Much	George R. Griffiths
9397	Viking	Robert A. Nehrllich
10070	Griffin	Sheboygan Sea Scouts
10363	The Streak	Dr. Dean Pratt
11188	Full House	Eric & Dr. Christopher A. Graf
11330	Sea H.A.G.	Timothy Gottsacker
11622	Shalom	Terry & Leslie P. Kohler
12179	.....	Mace Linde
12241	Easter Egg	Greg Maas
12280	Sun	Tryg & F. C. Jacobson
12389	.....	Richard Bemis
12775	Tweedy	Rick Larson

The regular Wednesday and Saturday sailing was blessed with a mixed bag of weather. It seemed that if it wasn't blowing so strong you had trouble getting out of the harbor, it was so foggy you could hardly find your way out. Rick Larson, sailing his new boat "Tweety" (old Tweety tried to start an argument with a passing auto on the Chicago Tollway) took second with up and coming Eric Graf finishing first overall.

The summer's highlight was hosting the Midwest Regatta with the Chicago sailors who dominated the midwest taking 1st, 2nd, 4th, and 5th, Bruce Goldsmith, Don Basler, Bob Smither, and Dick Hinze, respectfully. Local Boy, Rick Larson, squeezed into 3rd and Dick Hinze finished 5th. The regatta on the whole was a smashing success with plenty of beer and Sheboygan Bratwurst to go around.

The biggest news of the year came after all Lightnings had been put away for the winter. The class has notified us that our invitation to hold the '76 Nationals had been accepted. Needless to say, the excitement at the club is beginning to build. Work is underway to assure a successful regatta, Ken Hanson, Regatta Chairman, and Terry Kohler, Race Committee Chairman, have been burning the midnight oil to see to it that things run smoothly. Our local meteorologist has assured us that next August's forecast is steady winds with flat sea followed by warm blamy nights. Hope he's right.



## MARBLEHEAD LIGHTNING FLEET (189)

### New England District Sailing on the Atlantic Ocean at Marblehead, Massachusetts

Fleet Captain ..... John Collins  
Fleet Vice Captain ..... Gerard Hosman  
Fleet Secretary ..... Donald Humphrey  
Fleet Champion ..... John Collins  
First Runner-Up ..... Charles Ritt, Jr.  
Second Runner-Up ..... Bill Bray

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
6652	Thumpa	Laurence Coffin
6655	Bat	Robert Gauthier
9499	Gull's Rest	Gerard Hosman
10226	.....	Charles Pace
10610	Grog	Robert Coble
11100	Romp	Thomas Stover
11223	.....	James O. Willis
12194	Wil-Vi-Lee IV	William H. Bray
12385	.....	John Collins
12700	Zig Zaggar	Duncan McInnes
Life Member	.....	Dr. Louis Pocharski
.....	.....	Donald Humphrey

Marblehead Lightning Fleet activities got underway in March with the delivery of a new Lightning. This boat was on display at the Liberty Tree Mall Boat Show in April and at a local boat dealers for the remainder of the season.

Fleet Captain Tom Stover held a cocktail party in early May and racing got underway Memorial Day weekend. In the first championship series race it was Collins, first, Ritt, second, Bray, third. After scoring the best 18 out of 24 races for our Fleet Championship it was once again, Collins, first, Ritt, second and Bray, third. So the die was cast early. John Collins also won the M.R.A. Championship and the Tuesday and Thursday Twi-Light Series.

In July, John Collins, Tom Stover, Dunc McInnes and Bill Bray traveled to the Centerboard Yacht Club in Portland, Maine for the New England District Championship. In a remarkable 40 boat fleet John Collins again won it all, with Bill Bray the next best Fleet 189 member finishing a distant 18th.

Fleet #189 also hosted the State of Massachusetts Championship during Marblehead Race Week and once again John Collins was the big winner.

The season ended November 14th with the Fleet awards dinner held at the Boston Yacht Club. After cocktails and a great dinner we awarded the remaining trophies that John didn't win. Chuck Ritt was second in the Fleet Championship Series, with Bill Bray third. C. H. Ritt placed second in both the Tuesday and Thursday Twi-Light Series.

John Collins was elected Fleet Captain, Gerard Hosman, Vice Fleet Captain and Don Humphrey Secretary.

## NORTH EAST RIVER FLEET (192)

### Dixie District Sailing on North Chesapeake Bay off Havre de Grace, Maryland

Fleet Captain ..... Robert S. Crowder  
Fleet Secretary ..... Priscilla Crowder  
Fleet Champion ..... Albert Dutton  
Runner-Up ..... Robert Crowder

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
7329	.....	W. B. McMillan
8934	Bodacious	Frank E. Nelson, Jr.
9852	Alhara	Bruce Hardy
10168	Interlude	Edward H. Kris
11363	Bamboo Baby	Lester W. & Joseph F. Eckman
11771	Windy	Robert S. Crowder, Jr.
12714	.....	Albert C. Dutton
Life Member	.....	Charles Trayford III

Fleet 192's season started the second weekend in June with the Havre de Grace Spring Regatta. This is becoming one of the Dixie Districts major regatta's, with over twenty Lightnings including top sailors from all Dixie clubs. Oden and the ladies of UCYC combined to make a super weekend. Winds of 18-25 provided plenty of action for everyone and more than enough for some. A super cocktail party and hamburgers grilled at the club on Saturday night gave everyone a chance to correct earlier mistakes on the course. Bill Buckley retained first place for SSA taking over from John Richardson. Be

sure and save June 12-13 for us next year. Incidentally Long Island and New Jersey skippers will find this an easy trip, only 40 minutes from the Delaware Memorial Bridge.

The fleet championships found Al Dutton acing out Bob Crowder. Al later ended a colorful Lightning career one boat out of 1st place in the North American Governor's Cup. He will be sorely missed by the entire class and especially Fleet 192.

The Junior Dixie Championships on July 4 and 5 provided another fun week-end for young skipper and parents alike. Kirk Williams edged Scott Crowder in a close series that promises an exciting repeat for next year.

Bob Crowder spent the year regatta hopping and usually finished in the silver.

## MISSION BAY FLEET (194)

### California District Based on Mission Bay, San Diego, California

Fleet Captain ..... Charles Gotschalk  
Fleet Secretary/Treasurer ..... Hank Fastenau  
Fleet Champion ..... Fred Knauer  
Runner-Up ..... Myron Lyon

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
6432	.....	Al Poindexter
8627	Fastenuf	Hank Fastenau
8966	Hoot Mon	Hugh Kimball
9237	Batu	Richard Brewer
11561	.....	Charles F. Gotschalk
11625	Now	Fred Knauer
11735	.....	Myron C. Lyon
11802	.....	Manning & Merritt A. Barber
Life Member	.....	Alan Raffee
Life Member	.....	Alfred P. Coha
.....	.....	Warren Gross

Our Fleet hosted its annual Bowen Memorial Regatta — the 28th sailing of this Fall regatta, and 13 boats sailed. The close struggle wound up M. Lyon 1-3-2 for 5%, and Knauer 2-1-3 for 5% — a tie won by Lyon on the best two out of three rule. Gross was third, Harter (KHYC) 4th, and Gotschalk fifth.

Finally, three of our members trailered to King Harbor YC for their Hurricane Gulch Regatta — for two days of wet wild water sailing. Knauer apparently liked the wave action, for he swept all three races, though closely pursued in each by Wendall Harter. Other trophy winners were Newman, Brewer (MBYC) and Foster.

The Fred J. Knauer Trophy for Outstanding Lightning Skipper in Regattas went to Myron Lyon, while the same trophy for Club races appears to have been captured by Fred Knauer, although there are still the Turkey Series and the Xmas Series to be sailed.

Another highlight of the year was Bradys' beer bust and abalone feast, with abalone furnished by Hank Fastenau. A large crowd attended. This was a year of great sailing, excellent relations with the Fleets at King Harbor in L.A., and at San Francisco, fine companionship, and a welcome increase in our Fleet membership. We look forward eagerly to 1976. Maybe some of you can join us during Easter week at our 10th annual Southern California Lightning Circuit.

During 1975 efforts to rebuild the Fleet continued with some success. We mourned the death of Bill Pirie, one of our Fleet's founders, and a former Vice President of ILCA. Then we welcomed to our Fleet Hugh & Janette Kimball, who bought Bill's boat; also Tim & Marcia Ginn, Al & Wanda Poindexter, and Warren Gross, an old time Lightning skipper who transferred to our Fleet from Coronado Yacht Club. So now we can put 5-10 boats on the starting line.

As you know, sailing at San Diego is year round. In our Winter Series, Myron Lyon won over Fred Knauer and Charles Gotschalk. In early March, Fleet Captain Gotschalk won the Wet Series, over Fred Knauer and Hank Fastenau (who had acquired the late Charles Grinnell's boat).

Twenty Lightnings participated in the Easter week 9th Annual Southern California Lightning Circuit; six came from San Francisco, seven from King Harbor YC in L.A., and seven from our Fleet. The first Regatta was at KHYC and the winners were McCarthy, Starkey, Myron Lyon, Harter and John Lyon. Next we went to Coronado for the 15 mile Marathon from CYC in San Diego Bay around the ocean to MBYC in Mission Bay, and part of it was in wild rough water. Patty, Hole, John Lyon, McCarthy and Starkey led that one. The final Easter Regatta at MBYC was taken by Myron Lyon, McCarthy, John Lyon, Starkey and Hole. Before the last race, it looked as

though Jack McCarthy had first place and the overall Circuit sewed up. However, Myron Lyon won the race and McCarthy took a fifth, which gave Lyon the overall Circuit trophy by ½ point over McCarthy. Starkey, John Lyon and Harter were the other overall trophy winners. The Circuit was marked by a close rivalry between father and son—Myron and John Lyon.

The Club Spring Series in April was won by M. Lyon, followed by Knauer and Gotschalk. Lyon also won the MBYC I Series, again followed by Knauer and then Gotschalk and Poindexter in a tie. Manning Barber won the Memorial Day Series over M. Lyon and Knauer. The Sloop Series in June was again M. Lyon, Knauer and Gotschalk. The Firecracker Series was won by John Lyon, with Knauer and Gotschalk next. Fred Knauer won the Summer Series over Barber and Gross. Warren Gross won the California District Championship at KHYC on July 26-27, with John Lyon, Harter, Barber and Gotschalk also winning trophies.

Chris Gotschalk, son of our Fleet Captain, won the Labor Day Series, with Knauer and M. Lyon following. Myron Lyon went to San Francisco in August and finished sixth in the Pacific Coast Championship. At MBYC Knauer took the Fall Series over M. Lyon and Poindexter.

Sixteen boats from San Diego, L.A. and San Francisco met at Lake Cachuma (north-east of Santa Barbara) for the Billie Boswell Memorial Regatta (named in memory of Billie Boswell of the KHYC who was killed in an accident earlier this year). The first three places went to Fitch, Starkey and Patty of San Francisco, followed by Knauer and M. Lyon of MBYC. It was a great weekend for sailing and camping; and also eating, with a big make-your-own BBQ dinner on Saturday night.

### SURF CITY (196) Central Atlantic District Sailing on Manahawkin Bay at Surf City, New Jersey

Fleet Captain ..... Les Hunton  
Fleet Secretary ..... Helen Berg  
Fleet Champion ..... Jack Elfman  
Runner-Up ..... Howard Mullin  
Saturday Series Champion ..... Mary Ellen Carducci

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
454	El Fid	Charles N. Howe
787	Jeanie	John H. Elfman
7733	Tori II	George A. Christie
10306	Rebel	Charles C. & James S. C. Harris, MD
10370	Blue Cheese	C. W. Swartley
10771	Warlock	Frank & Thomas F. Temme
11122	Punch	George Schmidt
11575	Tackless VIII	Howard J. Mullin
11739	Rip City Express	Jack Elfman
11753	Escape II	Carl O. Berg
12454	El Fid	Charles N. Howe
12616	.....	John Matthews
12808	Fiddlers Three	Ralph Messersmith

No Report.

### CHAUTAUQUA FLEET (198) Lake Erie District Based on Lake Chautauqua, Chautauqua, New York

Fleet Captain ..... Ted Bailey  
Fleet Champion ..... David J. Ingram  
Runner-Up ..... James D. Neville

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
7755	Tiara	Fred M. Tim
7766	Play Mor	Lewis Morgan
9211	Obsession	L. T. Briggs, Jr.
9582	Hornblower	Donald K. Karslake
10064	Dacryo	Dr. B. MacMillan
10893	George II	Bill & Bob Park
10922	Baccara	James D. Neville
10965	.....	Thomas Snyder
11251	Bete Noire	Ted Bailey
11469	Rangy Lil	Tom & Dave Ingram
11619	O. B. Joyful	R. W. Cornell
11620	Atiller the Hun	Douglas Bargar
11922	Spaghetti	Tom & Candy Neville

12038	.....	Kevin Dietly
12614	Fledermaus	Jonathan Oram
12811	.....	John Turney
.....	.....	Jack Bailey

Three new boats, belonging to Jon Oram, Clinton Wilder and John Turney, barged down on the starting line this year to add to the competition and confusion. A summer of fine weather produced an outstanding racing season. The Lightning Class at Chautauqua is being renewed and invigorated by a bunch of young sailors right out of the junior racing program in Sunfish. And some of them are fast.

The fleet championship series was raced in July, with Dave Ingram moving in midseason form. He took top honors easily with Jim Neville running second and Ted Bailey, a former Sunfish fleet champion, coming in third. In August, most of the hot sailors were off at the Districts at Silver Lake and the North Americans at Hilton Head. Fleet Champion Dave Ingram placed 24th in the North American Championship flight while Jim Neville took an eighth in the President's Cup. Meanwhile, back at the lake, John Turney led all the rest to take August honors. Cherie Neville came in second and Clinton Wilder's Top Banana slipped into third.



Fleet Captain Ted Bailey and crew in championship form.

Labor Day weekend was characterized by some of the biggest seas and strongest winds in memory. Jim Neville didn't even have to finish the final gearbuster in order to win the series while Dave Ingram was about the only boat to remain upright and took second. John Turney, planing along almost out of control under main only, chose to head for the dock and settle for third. Intrepid Dave Karslake, impatiently running third during the last race, popped his spinnaker in gale winds and promptly found himself treading water. Tom Neville was towed home with a broken mast.

Fleet 198 is looking forward to a great season in 1976. Two and perhaps three new boats will be added to the fleet, which is growing back to its record proportions of a decade ago. In the cold, dark days of midwinter, everyone is relishing the prospect of sailing the Lake Erie Districts on Chautauqua Lake next summer.