

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 William G. West
Fleet Champion David Deephouse
Runner-Up John B. Johnstone

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
7640	Nookie	Richard D. Grant
10492	Prodigal	John B. Johnstone
10689	Splash	Linda Baylis
11113	.....	Nancy Davidson
11207	Early Times	James R. Deephouse
11773	Franste II	Jay W. Jackson



Hey Race Committee! No beer — NO RACE!!!

For only the second time in five years the *Prodigal* lost the fleet championship. I guess a new oval mast and new sails make a boat go faster than varnish, polish and a prayer for the old wood stick. Dave Deephouse teamed with his Father (mechanic, tactician, compass mounter, sailtrimmer, pumper and punestring keeper) in winning the championship.

We enjoyed hosting the Long Island Lightning Championship again this year. Twenty boats participated with Dick Thackaberry of Cedar Point first by a quarter point over Dave Peterson of Niantic. The best we could muster was a seventh.

The girls in our fleet continue to earn their fair share of trophies while improving the scenery and minimizing foul language. Nancy Davidson won the Fisher Cup and placed third for the season. Jane and Sue Hilton won the Greer Memorial Trophy for continuous devotion above and beyond the call of this sometimes awfully frustrating sport.

We hope next year will see improved participation by our members.

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
3649	.....	Bob Borneman
7748	Thumper	Peter Phillips
8364	.....	John Kern, Jr.
8365	.....	Robert Jeffcott
8375	Sally B	Perry A. Everett
8704	Past Time	John Kern
11689	Got' cha	Rick Skinner
11712	Bigeminy II	Dr. E. R. March, Jr.
12468	.....	David J. Pittman
13011	Dutchman's Gold	Robert Beinhardt Jr. & Sr.

The biggest news from Fleet 135 for the 1976 Sailing season has been Rick Skinner. He, along with his regular crew of Debbie White and Keith Talbert, has engraved his name on every trophy available on the Gulf Coast. He opened the season with a narrow win over Robin Bernhardt in the Dauphin Island race. This is a long distance race and after several hours sailing, Skinner finally nipped Bernhardt 5 minutes from the finish line. Barney March followed a fairly distant third.

Rick Skinner took the Southern District Championships held in Shreveport. Unfortunately because of the great distance and prior commitments on the part of other Fleet members, he was the sole representative of the Mobile Bay Fleet in that event.

Skinner's name is well known to the members of Southern Yacht Club's Lightning Fleet. He finished first at their Labor Day Regatta—winning all three races, and finished third at their One Design Regatta.

Skinner topped his season off with a first at the Fairhope Yacht Club's Fall Sailing Festival.

We lost two staunch Lightning sailors from the Fleet this year. Frank Galloney sold his boat and took up Wind Surfing. Walter Tyree moved to Baton Rouge and will be sailing with the Fleet at Southern Yacht Club in New Orleans.

We have new Lightning owners, however. David Pittman, Bob Borneman, and Terry A. Everett have joined the Fleet. We welcome them aboard and are anxious to see them become active in the racing program.

The last event of note is the acquisition by the Bernhardts of a brand new brilliant yellow Lippincott Hull, very appropriately named Dutchman's Gold. She had her competitive initiation at the Hospitality Regatta in Jackson, Mississippi, where she went like a bomb. We look forward to great things from this boat in the future.

HAWAII FLEET (143)
Hawaii District
Sailing on Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii

Fleet Captain Jerome Sinclair
Fleet Secretary Fran Vaughan
Fleet Champion Fran Vaughan
Runner-Up Chuck Gustin
District Champion Fran Vaughan

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
1622	.....	Carl Meierdiercks
6907	Lulu Belle	Al Hyde
7151	Ooffee	Joe Ebeling
9622	.....	Chuck Gustin
10920	Protea	Dave Fergusson
10921	Nautilee	Lee Simmons
11084	Horizon	Fran Vaughan
11729	Luana	Bill Heine
11786	.....	Bobby Edmondson

No Report.

SPOFFORD LAKE FLEET (145)
New England District
Sailing on Lake Spofford at
Spofford, New Hampshire

Fleet Captain W. R. (Buck) Wynn
Fleet Secretary David Fitch
Fleet Champion Leonard Pratt
Runner-Up David Fitch

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
6888	Cutty Sark	Frederick H. Edwards
8308	Opps-A-Daisy	Edward L. Daisey
8339	.....	Robert Pinard
8480	.....	Christopher B. Hamblet
10093	Namy	H. Fletcher Willey
11210	.....	Frederick Turner, Jr.
11288	Bon Joy	Leonard Pratt
11346	Gail	Fred H. Hamblet
12220	Razorback	W. R. Wynn
12362	Three Cheers	David H. Fitch
12627	.....	Fred Szmit
12982	.....	David C. Bischoff

We welcome Bob and Muriel Pinard, with a beautifully refurbished Lightning, as new members of our club and fleet. After 4 years, Dave and Patsy Bischoff have returned with a brand new boat.

Silverware a-plenty for Spofford sailors started at the Cedar Point, Conn. Spring Regatta with Pratt fourth, F. Hamblet sixth, Fitch 13th and Wynn 20th in the 34 boat fleet. Plenty of wind marked the Lake Bomoseen, Vt. event as F. Hamblet sailed a perfect series to take first with the Pratt boat fourth. It was neck and neck in the N.E. Districts as F. Hamblet sailed well to take overall second, Pratt was fifth, C. Hamblet seventh, and Wynn tenth to qualify for the North Americans. Three contenders went to Sheboygan, Wis., to see F. Hamblet take second (*Ed. note - almost first*) in the President's Cup, and in the Governor's Cup C. Hamblet second and Wynn sixth.

Meanwhile, the Fitches trailed to beautiful Lake Champlain, Vt. for Mallet's Bay Race Week. They were victorious in the 14 boat fleet.

Rain and gusty winds saw C. Hamblet take fourth at Newburyport, Mass. with Fitch sixth, F. Hamblet seventh and Pratt ninth. More wild and windy weather at Squam Lake enabled F. Hamblet to take third with Fitch 11th and Turner 20th.

More silverware came to the Wynns at Wellfleet with a close third in brisk but good sailing winds. The Fitch boat notched seventh. For the first time in several years, Lightning racing was resumed at the Annisquam, Mass. Yacht Club. Pratt sailed consistently to overcome early leads built up by N.A. Champions Bill Shore and Lou Pocharski for first place, F. Hamblet was fifth.

Flukey NW winds wandering occasionally to SW greeted the 42 boats sailing at the Cedar Point, Conn. Fall Regatta. Fitch was top Spofford boat with a fourth followed by Pratt's eighth and F. Hamblet's 13th.

Pratt did well in the Atlantic Coast Championship winning the District Trophy for the best finish by a New England boat.

Spofford sailors were near-perfect hosts in the 34 boat fleet at the home club, giving out 9 of the 10 prizes to visitors. Pratt managed a fourth to avert a shut-out.

It is great to see young sailors like Tom & Jack Wynn, Scott & Tom Fitch, Jody, Robin and Rick Turner, and David Pinard out on the boats. We are planning more Junior Races next year.

Len Pratt completed a successful SYC Championship Series edging out Fitch and Turner for the Victory.

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	Patrick Nolan
Treasurer	Ross Graves
Fleet Champion "A" Class	Ron Cochran
Fleet Champion "B" Class	R. Elliott & P. Nolan

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
4629	.....	Colin Merriam
5223	Seabiscuit	Ed Hearn
8152	Mimi	Elliot M. Wilson
8444	.....	Bruce H. Bottrell
8579	Passe Partout	V. H. Olsen
9091	.....	Dave Thomas
9400	Georgie II	Martin Nash
9543	Adgo	Harvey P. Harman
9918	.....	William A. Dymond
9936	Tumult	Ross Graves
10126	Rorida	K. N. Jeejeebhoy
10393	Something Special	George Styant
11117	.....	N. G. Leonard
11136	Prometheus	Ken Inglis
11174	Janitor	David & D. Stewart Sprague
11177	.....	Peter E. & Paul Sulman
11275	Aquaholic	Bob Elliott & Pat Nolan
11289	Blue Max	George Wootten
11331	Alacrity	John D. Gorrie
11631	.....	Prentice Smith
11809	Bumerali	Jim Rankin
11814	.....	David R. & W. L. Hetherington
11884	Serena	David Roost
12039	Intrigue	Fred Watson
12090	.....	Ray & Ron Cochrane
12217	Bat a Buidhe	A. N. Mackay
12949	.....	Colin Merriam
Honorary Member	.....	George Hurrell

A number of consistent Fleet #146 sailors took to doing some travelling in the 1976 season and this, unfortunately, cut down the number of boats in our local events. However, all in all, it was a

fairly good season on the Humber Bay. The Fleet events were once again dominated by Ron "Humber Hole" Cochran who will, no doubt, be going for the hat trick in 'A' Fleet Championships in 1977. In 'B' Fleet, the Elliott-Nolan perseverance again paid off and this pair will be racing in 'A' Fleet in 1977.

Perhaps the most interesting event of the season was the Hurrell Shaker, an event which is run every year under a different format. This year it took the form of a slalom with a dozen boats racing two at a time in a round robin type contest. The course was laid out adjacent to Toronto Harbour Front Park and attracted considerable numbers of spectators. The main basic rule; the spinnaker must be flown and jibed correctly and completely on the return leg. Fortunately, the winds were kind, about 8 to 10 knots. Unfortunately, a very large freighter forced abandonment of the course just before the final race and the event was declared a tie between John Gorrie and Harvey Harman.

The Canadian Open was held in Hamilton and was attended by a number of Fleet #146 members. The best finishers were Ron Cochran with an 8th o'all, with Pete Sulman and Ken Inglis both finishing in the top 12 boats. All in all, a satisfactory season and here's looking forward to an even better one in 1977.

SAO PAULO FLEET (147)

Brazil District

Sailing on Lake Guarapiranga at Sao Paulo, Brazil

Fleet Captain	Willi Carlos Tietze
Fleet Champion	Robert Buckup
Runner-Up	Claudio Kunze

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
7256	Cavu	Carlos Cruz
7495	ZRBST	Mario Montag
8495	Waterotte III	Wolfgang Aurbach
9185	Undine III	Silvia Buchmann Batello
11708	Ciranda	Robert Buckup
11709	GTX II	Willi Carlos Tietze
12360	Brisa	Constatino Fraga
12414	Meia Noite IV	Claudio Kunze
12657	Perereca	Dietmar Heydenreich
12868	ETC	Cid Vieira Franco
13008	.....	Ruediger Ett
.....	.....	Claudio Abramowitz
.....	.....	Mario Buckup

Sailing at the Guarapiranga Lake in Sao Paulo together with Fleet 462, our fleet is one of the most active of the Brazilian District. In the 1976 season our Fleet attended about 45 local races. Nothing amazing about that since our weather conditions enable us to sail almost all year round. Although our lake is not too large in size we managed to reach a relative high technical performance. Just remember that Mario Buckup, a member of our Fleet is the present World Champion. Mario started sailing in the Penguin Class in Sao Paulo. Other known World and Olympic Champions of other classes also come from Sao Paulo. Among others we like to name Jorg Bruder, Reinaldo Conrad and Claudio Biekarek.

The Fleet Championship was held in August 1976 in conjunction with the Sao Paulo Championship, with ten boats attending. First was Robert Buckup, Claudio Kunze, second; and Cid Vieira Franco, third. The Fleet was represented by crews at the Brazilian, South American and North American Championships in 1976. We hope to see our Fleet also represented in the World Championship of 1977 in Switzerland.

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	Thunderand	Joseph H. Vivan, DDS
2854	Meg	John Hammer
4239	Second Time Around	David King
6944	.....	Chandler Stevens
7865	.....	Victor Stuart

8625	.....	William W. Woodrow
10165	In-A-Jam II	John A. Mintz
10272	Screaming Yellow Zonker	Burton L. Preston
10786	.....	William Kabbaz
11161	Patience II	Alvin Bales, MD
11549	.....	Harley D. Lundquist, MD
11681	Lady	Charles H. Huston
12085	Rambino	R. A. Bonham
12425	Schuss	Donald E. Widman, MD
12439	Sea Horse	Albert P. Barbone, DDS
12498	Kon-Quest	Robert Konstam
12567	Wind Sprite	Thomas J. McDermott

Once again Fleet 150 had a long and competitive season, starting in May and ending in late October. Our fleet size has stayed about the same although we do have some new faces replacing members who have moved away. A special welcome goes out to our newest member, Larry Hock.

During our awards dinner in November it was announced that Burt Preston had retained the titles of Fleet and Club Champion. In the Championship series Don Widman was second and Tom McDermott, third. The Sunday morning series was won by Burt Preston with Don Widman, close behind once again. In the Fall Series, which ran from Labor Day through October, Bob Bonham took home the honors followed by Tom McDermott and Don Widman. Finally, Tom McDermott and Kevin Stuart took the top two spots in the Wednesday Evening series and Prue Preston took the Henny-Penny, Cup (Ladies Championship).

This season's final sailing activity took place on Thanksgiving Day. Armed with "slightly" spiked tea several brave souls journeyed down to the Lake for one last sail. Much to their surprise the Lake had frozen over, locking the two forsaken boats at their moorings. Oh well, maybe next Spring when the ice melts

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
5827	.....	Geoffrey S. Parker
6705	Sanderling	Richard G. Appel, Jr.
9617	Sky Rocket	Joseph T. McNulty
10212	.....	Peter V. Bent
12886	.....	Dr. Georges & J. Georges Peter

Although we have no regular fleet racing for Lightnings at the Annisquam Yacht Club, two fleet members make regular use of their boats. Dick Appel pleasure sails his boat with the same enthusiasm as Georges Peter races his on the regatta circuit. We were pleased to sponsor the Northeast Championships in September this year and were host to 21 boats on a weekend which offered excellent sailing conditions. After a three year absence from the class, Lou Pocharski (sailing Bill Shore's boat) demonstrated that he has not lost the touch for steering small boats while competing in the big boats. Shore, Pocharski, and John Cuccio won the three races, but Len Pratt won the regatta; Pocharski, second; Shore, third; John Collins, fourth; Cuccio, fifth. Just out of the money were Fred Hamblet and Georges Peter.

Fleet 151 will be sponsoring a regatta on September 10-11, 1977. Drop by!

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
11466	Guy T. Moulthrop
11585	L. G. McKay, Jr.
11588	Charles A. Pinkerton, III
12181	Truman F. Barbier, Jr.
12755	R. Garrett Demarest III
12921	Gary A. Cameron
Life Member	Charles H. Schreck

Fleet 152, based at Tawas Bay Yacht Club on Tawas Bay in East Tawas, Michigan, had a rather quiet, yet controversial, sailing season in 1976. Primarily, the activity was elsewhere — on the Michigan District circuit. Garry Demarest and Gary Cameron were the travelers, representing Tawas strongly wherever they sailed. Demarest, as usual, dominated the Michigan scene. He won the District Championship at Traverse City; he won Invitationals at Pentwater, Bay City, and Gull Lake; and he was second at North Cape, third at Higgins Lake, and fourth at Lansing. For the year, he once again won the Joe Stueland Michigan District Traveling Trophy as a result of winning 11 races in Invitational regattas.

Cameron was around, but definitely a step behind. He won Invitationals at Crescent and Pontiac, was second at Lansing, Pentwater, Bay City, and Higgins Lake, and was fourth at the Districts and North Cape. Cameron also was second in the Stueland Trophy rankings, winning 8 races on the year. Tawas Bay had one other victory as it regained the Michigan District Team Championship sailed on Lake Fenton. The team of Demarest, Cameron, Dave Peters and Bill McKinley defeated all comers and won with a perfect 7-0 score.

Fleet 152 held its annual Invitational at the end of July. Due to an unfortunate mandatory meal requirement for entry, only 11 boats entered. However, the sailing was excellent and in an extremely close finish Dave Peters won, followed by Bill McKinley and Jeff Prince (in Demarest's boat). Charlie Schreck eased out of his big boat long enough to skipper Cameron's boat to a umph place finish. For his good efforts, Dave Peters won the coveted GAKEWI Cup. For 1977, a more reasonable entry policy will surely emerge and we expect to welcome back all our Lightning friends for another successful GAKEWI Cup regatta 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 Keith Swihart

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
5259	No Show	Louis Pletcher
5883	Pooh Bear	Bill Stucky
8686	Glib Gib	Jack M. Gibson
9360	Gan Gan	Ray Gans
9685	Boat	William L. Beard
9775	Hessteria	Paul E. Hess
9954	Go Big Red	George Wright
10134	Scud II	Paul Penn
10726	Lil Trout	Robert Troutman
11181	All Small	Douglas Schmahl
11524	Cynthia VI	Eli Lilly
11742	Deep Freese	Karl Freese
12001	.....	Chris Nixon
12239	Starboard	Frederick W. & Rick Winter
12392	Gracefullee	George Witwer
12408	Laurie	Bruce Baiden
12463	Joe BFSPLK	George Buckingham
12521	The Sting	N. Richard Boerger
12586	New 720	Gordon Medlock
12692	The Stitch	James A. Chase, MD
12963	Swi's Guys	Keith Swihart
13001	Blue Bust	John Nixon
.....	.....	Paul Knauer

As usual, the skippers preseason predictions of victory were wrong except one. George Buckingham said he would repeat and he did, in convincing fashion. Our Memorial Day Series was won by George Buckingham with Bruce Baiden (a perennial second place Memorial Day sailor) getting second and Dick "Whitey" Boerger capturing third. (Which became a habit for the season.) In the Early Bird Series we watched George win again, followed by the Eager Beaver award winner Keith Swihart. Third once again went to "Whitey" Boerger. The July Fourth Series was a repeat of the Memorial Day Series. George, "Ole" Bruce, and "I am Third" Boerger.

Labor Day we hope was a beginning for next year, with Keith Swihart winning, Dick "Whitey" Boerger second, and Bruce Baiden Third. (Georges Grand Slam was lost for another year.)

Our club was represented this year in both the Junior Nationals and Nationals in Wisconsin. Our first Junior Nationals representation was Chuck Medlock (skipper), with crew of Julie Baiden and Lynn

Nixon, (we are pleased and proud of them and their representation). George Buckingham with Georgeanne Buckingham and Keith Swihart, Bruce Baiden with Julie Baiden and Chuck Medlock represented us at the Nationals. Other special awards won were the coveted Cynthia Cup, George Buckingham; Commodore Cup: Our Commodore, Bob Troutman, first; Ray Gans, second; Bill Stucky, third. We hosted the annual Hoosier Regatta in June with enthusiastic success, and urge all to join us in '77. We annually extend our thanks and appreciation to the women of our club for the support and all their thankless endeavors. We extend to each of you an open invitation to visit us anytime. Be kind to each other, and remember George and Gordy that Starboard boats always have the right of way. Good sailing and Happiness in '77.

WILLOW BANK YACHT CLUB (164)

Central New York District

Sailing on Cazenovia Lake at Cazenovia, New York

Fleet Captain	Ken Warren
Fleet Secretary	Tom McAuliffe
Fleet Champion	Merle Pindell
Runner-Up	Tom McAuliffe
Third Place	Jim Hole
Charter Member's Cup	Merle Pindell
Crewettes Race (Female Skippers)	Sally Coombs

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
844	.....	J. P. Dougherty
2919	Prelude	Ron Kokot
9178	Family Affair	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	Charming II	Nelson Neidhardt
10441	Sarawen	Drayton Jones
11272	Tutankhamon	Dick Tuttle
11307	Second Life	Ron Kokot
11555	Reluctant	Jim Hole
11571	Tabooma	Fred Twitchell
11650	Galilee Hitchhiker	Jim Preston
11853	Andiamo	Norman Washburn
12065	.....	Jerry King
12587	Tiger	Dr. Jeff Penfield
12646	.....	Ned Cabaniss
12929	.....	Merle Pindell



CNY District Meeting! Photo Credit — Jane King

Willow Bank hosted the Central New York Districts in medium to light "flukies" last July. Dick Hallagan and Fisk Hayden did it to us again taking first and second and moving on to the North American Championship Division. Jeff and Kathy Penfield carried the WBYC banner to a proud seventh in the President's Cup where only 10 points separated the top seven.

At home our fleet continued to grow in 1976. Ron ("The Torpedo") Kokot gave our numbers a boost when he signed up with a wooden boat and soon added a fiberglass model to his collection. Ron says he and wife Pam are so excited about the new one they may even enter it in a race next season! Norman and Dorothy Washburn also joined and, with help from her brothers (Tom & Ken Lindsay of Fleet 326) established two first season records — most races and most seaweed harvested. Also added were Jim and Linda Hole, refugees from the Comet Fleet. After many mutinies, they decided to move up to a three man boat and use son Chris as a referee. This trio adapted quickly and finished third in the fleet standings. Next year they're going to try using a spinnaker.

While rookies were providing a new dimension, veterans were adding things too. Merle Pindell started doing "Horizon jobs" on us with a new boat winning his second consecutive fleet championship. We didn't taste revenge until he was weighed in at the CNY Districts — now Merle's boat has so much lead it's almost radiation proof! Nevertheless, son Jim won the Junior Districts and Sally Coombs the "Crewettes" race with it. Next year we are adding more lead — this time to the trailing edge of Merle's rudder.

As expected, many new oval spars showed up in 1976. Fred Twichell, a heavy air enthusiast, bought one and engraved it with the port side of his head at the jibe mark. Now we know where the BOOM in "Tabooma" comes from. Jim Preston, a light air artist, decorated his with feathers — so many in fact that we feared his boat wouldn't survive the pheasant season.

To make the 1977 season even more interesting, we've found some more "crazies" and masochists in our midst and expect next year to add new members, new boats, sail more club races, and participate in more regattas. The Lightning species is alive and thriving in Central New York.

HELSINKI LIGHTNING FLEET (166)

Finland District

Sailing at Gulf of Finland, Helsinki, Finland

Fleet Captain	Paavo Korhonen
Fleet Secretary	Lauri Korpinen
Fleet Champion	Leif Haglund
Runner-Up	Antti Ruuskanen

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
7887	Spino	Matti Paakkanen
9441	Lokka	Jussi Itkonen
10344	Lipla	Paavo Korhonen
11544	Kesaheila	Raimo Aromaa
12429	Pivla	Lauri Korpinen
12478	Ammarama	Mikko Nisunen
12479	Melanie	Antero Westerlund
12483	Pilpatus	Timo Patosuo
12906	Triple Sec	Ahti Immonen
12908	Aku Samuli	Antti Ruuskanen
12914	Vahine	Unto Maenpaa
12919	Ariana V	Leif Haglund, Veikko Valkama & Kurt Barman

This year four new boats were built and two experienced sailors joined us. First, Ahti Immonen got his third boat *Triple Sec*, Leif Haglund, Veikko Valkama and Kurt Barman arrived with one of the first moulds of our second new boat builder and did well. Leif is an old Lightning sailor, back in the Class after some years in other classes. Late in the season Antti Ruuskanen got his boat of next season ready. Antti is the European Champion from last season and now sailing on Helsinki waters. Also one more boat was built at the end of the season when Unto Maenpaa got his new *Vahine* ready. The boat is home built, mainly of foam and fiberglass. Moreover, Mikko Nisunen got a new boat for his crew and himself, named *Ammarama*.

The Fleet Championship was raced during the Helsinki Regatta in the beginning of July and the Helsinki Autumn Regatta at the end of August. Leif Haglund won most races in tight competition and Antti Ruuskanen was second with one point less.

In the Finland Districts, which were held on the waters of Fleet 394 in Tampere, we got quite good records: Antti Ruuskanen was second, Kari Maenpaa, fourth; Leif Haglund, sixth; Lauri Korpinen, eighth; Ahti Immonen, 11th; Timo Patosuo, 14th; Raimo Aromaa, 18th; and Antero Westerlund, 23rd. The sailing was from light to very light in wind and from low to adequate in temperature.

In the European Championships at Grandson, Switzerland we had good participation with three boats. Experiences were many and boats paid a lot for decisions made on Lake Neuchatel. Antti Ruuskanen was the best of us at 13th, Ahti Immonen, 26th; and Timo Potosuo, 30th.

Ranking series were extended to seven different regattas this year. The results were good for our fleet: Antti Ruuskanen was first; Leif Haglund, third; Kari Maenpaa, fifth; Lauri Korpinen, ninth; Timo Potosuo, tenth; Ahti Immonen, 11th; Raimo Araomaa, 15th; Mikko Nisunen, 17th; and Antero Westerlund, 19th. So we had three boats within the five best boats, five boats within the ten best, and nine boats of our 12 within the 20 best.

Next year will show interesting racing scenes at the Europeans and the Worlds when fast boats traverse the Swiss lake weather patterns.

LAKE DAVENPORT LIGHTNING FLEET (167)

Midwest District

Sailing on the Mississippi River at Davenport, Iowa

Fleet Captain	Linda Neuman
Fleet Secretary	Jim Flick
Fleet Champion	Henry Neuman
Runner-Up	Bill Quaintance
Club Commodore	Duke Pelton

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
5955	Twilight	G. W. Charlesworth
6033	Tipper 2	Rufus Roys
8028	Scorpion	Edmund W. Barch
8222	Katie-D	Ron Hughes
9368	Ta De Win	Gerald Miller
10156	Misque XXV	William F. Quaintance
10232	.....	Chuck White
11064	Rainbow	Michael Blaser
11270	.....	Kenneth Jensen
12022	The Screamer	Mike Steffenson
12377	Xanthic	Sam Walker
12611	Joey's 12	Walt Bratton
12688	A-Clockwork	Edward Walker
12732	Gemma M	James Flick
12817	.....	Donald Morrison
12942	hummer	Henry G. Newman



Davenport Fleet bucking the Mississippi River.

This was a season marked with upsets. A late start was caused by construction work expanding the club. Much of the physical work was done by club members themselves creating a great deal of spirit and unity of purpose. Henry Neuman was singled out at the awards banquet for having put a tremendous amount of effort into this project and Duke Pelton, the Fleet Commodore, received a standing ovation for his efforts. The summer series was windier than usual with Walt Bratton, Henry Neuman, and Bill Quaintance taking honors. Another upset with the relatively light winds of the Fall Series was Henry Neuman, Mike Steffenson and Bill Quaintance bringing home the trophies.

Special events featured Don Morrison winning the Founders Day series, Henry Neuman in the Fourth of July Races, and Mike Steffenson on Labor Day series. The true highlight of the year, the Polar Bear Regatta, was the biggest upset of all. With boats arriving from Kansas to Wisconsin, the sailors spent the first day sitting at the sea wall, waiting for wind, this was a first in the history of Lake Davenport Sailing Club and we all trust, the last. The next day gave everyone a chance to show their wares in a pair of races with John Gaul, #12424; Gene Mathews, #11536 and Jay Matteson, #12822 coming out ahead. Mike Steffenson took the Mayor's Trophy that day. Dinner and dancing upon the paddlewheel JULIE II was again enjoyed by the participants.

Competition was great this year for the clubs' Jonah Award. Mike Blaser, an experienced sailor at the club struggled for the honor. Well deserved it was, too. The one thing that does not show up in the statistics nor was evident when the awards were handed out was the very tightness of the fleet. Veteran sailors took their turns along with less experienced men. Each race offered the hope that this one would be ours, and everyone seemed to have a chance. Trophies were won and lost by fractions of a point. The fleet winners had done a good job of teaching the newcomers. The 1977 season is already being anticipated with many different sailors looking for "their turn," and further expansion work anticipated.

LAKE OF NEUCHATEL FLEET (169)

Switzerland District

Based on Lac de Neuchatel, Switzerland

Fleet Captain	Jean-Pierre Monnier
Fleet Secretary	Jean-Pierre Monnier
Fleet Champion	Claude Lambelet
Runner-Up	P. Bernasconi

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
5898	Peruto	Tony Grieb
6739	Grogard	Marc-Antoine Lehman
8292	Ithaque	Bernard Linder
9028	Rascasse	Chantal-Serge Puthod
11858	Grandgousier	Dr. Pierre Grandguillaume
11859	Pinocchio	Hans Muhlbach
12087	Milouin	Jean-Pierre Monnier
12297	Gargantua	Aline Grandguillaume
12572	Garoupa	Claude Lambelet

1976 has been a noteworthy year for our fleet. Indeed, twelve years after Neuchatel, the European championships were run again on our lake, in front of the city of Grandson which celebrated this year the 500th anniversary of the battle of Grandson where the Swiss troops defeated Charles-the-Bold.

Many reports and commentaries have already been made about these races. Let us only mention their perfect organization, thank all those who contributed to their achievement and congratulate the European and Swiss champions: the Wyler family. These championships brought to our fleet three new active members and three new crews which make a total of twelve and eight respectively. We welcome these new members and wish them many sailing satisfactions.

Our fleet took part with a fair wind and six boats at the Joran Week organized by the Neuchatel Sailing Club during June.

The "Fondue Regatta", our fleet championship took place on the 31st of October. The day before, as the wind was missing, all the crews climbed the near Chaumont mountain. This was an excellent training for the now traditional "Fondue", a national melted cheese dish, generously offered by Claude Lambelet and which was a great success. The next morning a light breeze was blowing which allowed two races. The first was won by Bernasconi, Lambelet being second but by winning the second race he was scored Fleet Champion for 1976. The complete results of the fleet championship were:

		1st race	2nd race	Total
1	Cl. Lambelet	1.6	—	1.6
2	P. Bernasconi	—	1.6	1.6
3	J. P. Monnier	7	2.9	9.9
4	H. Lüthy	6	5	11
5	R. Fluhmann	2.9	9	11.9
6	U. Wyler	8	4	12
7	J. Cl. Dupasquier	5	8	13
8	G. Despland, Grandguillaume	9	7	16
9	E. Schar	11	6	17
10	H. Hess	4	15	19
11	B. Kunzli	10	10	20
12	H. P. Schmid	13	11	24
13	H. Muhlbach	12	12	24
14	F. Künzli	14	13	27
15	S. Oehmke	15	14	29

Journeying becomes a tradition amongst our crews. This year they went far away and brought back new trophies. Lambelet was first in the Italian Championships in Numana, as well as in the regattas on Lake Trasimeno. Four crews went to Morat, three to Spiez and three to Engelberg. At last, we expect that three of our crews will be able to go to Sicily at the end of the year and take part in the New Year's Eve regatta in Marsala.

SHREVEPORT FLEET (175)

Southern District

Sailing on Cross Lake, Shreveport, Louisiana

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

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
6116	Hunga	Larry Lashley
10748	Shady Deal	Henry C. Coutret
11081	.....	Henry C. Coutret
11385	Buglet	John Butcher
11562	Mahi Mahi	James H. Mills
11725	Laura	Dean Mayfield
12289	Rivet	Chapin Plumer
12699	Cooter Poo III	Marshall H. Walker
12836	.....	Leroy Peters
12839	Knee Deep II	Larry Pledger
13040	.....	Marcus Millican

For Fleet 175, this past twelve months has been a period of continuous sailing competition; and included extremes of weather and a diversity of winning skippers.

With steady winds and clear weather, "Gray Fox" skipper, Marshall Walker, opened the '75 Fall Series by winning handily. In the following Holiday Series, young stalwart, Leroy Peters finished first. Again, in the Spring Series, Marshall Walker scored a win. Then, for the long hot Summer Series, another young challenger, James Mills, gained first place. Our Memorial Day event went to displaced Texan, Chape Plumer. The Fourth of July contest was captured by Fleet Captain, John Butcher. For the Labor Day Series, Butcher again won. This Fourth of July and Labor Day activity featured storms, multiple thunder storms and "sleighrides" for those who didn't capsize, or head for snug harbor (many did both).

During our Spring Series we were host to Lightnings participating in the fine Holiday-in-Dixie Regatta, and later, the Southern District Championship. This annual Holiday-in-Dixie event saw 28 Lightnings on the starting line. The event, over the years, has expanded into a Multi-District affair for the Lightning Class, with entries from the Central States, Mississippi Valley and Texas Districts, as well as numerous ones throughout the Southern District; all competing for "big silver." Fleet 175 was well represented, however, Dallas and New Orleans entries dominated the field. Jim Craig, of Dallas, won this event, Buck Ballatin, New Orleans, was second, Tommy Allen, also of New Orleans, third, Duncan Porter, Dallas, fourth, Gil Whitworth, New Orleans, fifth, and Bob Thomas, Dallas, sixth. We challenge you to attend, 1977. See "Flashes."

Climax of the year (June 10-13, 1976) was the Southern District Championship Regatta held here at the Shreveport Yacht Club, Cross Lake; with Lightning Fleet 175 as host, Fleet Captain, John Butcher in charge. Fair winds, fine food and good sportsmanship prevailed throughout, with Alabama's Gil Whitworth winning first place by a sizeable margin. Other trophy winners included Rick Skinner, Fairhope, Ala., second; Tommy Allen, New Orleans, third; Marshall Walker, Shreveport, fourth; Buck Ballatin, New Orleans, fifth; and Larry Frost, Baton Rouge, sixth. From here our own Marshall Walker went on to the Nationals — and a good knocking about on Lake Michigan.

This year, Fleet 175 Lightning Skippers led the field in the Shreveport Yacht Club's annual All Class Championship Race, titled "Cock O' the Walk" event. This race is sailed by top skippers of each class of Thistles, Lightnings, Tempests, South Coast, etc.; all sailing in Sunfish for this particular event. Our Fleet Captain, John Butcher, led this talented field of mixed-class skippers to a decisive first place. James Mills, another Lightning skipper finished third overall.

Our Fleet dominance was not confined to local events. Thus, we actively participated in the recent Jackson, Mississippi Hospitality Regatta; with perennial winner, Fleet Captain, John Butcher, capturing first place, Lightning Class. Larry Pledger took home a

handsome third place trophy. Earlier, representatives of Fleet 175 participated in the Fairhope, Alabama, "Wadawitz" Regatta where, again, Larry Pledger scored a third place finish.

Our Fleet 175, most active in the Southern District, is fortunate to have many young skippers/potential skippers to insure its continued success. Larry Lashley and Offspring-Crew, Henry Coutret & Sons, up-and-coming fledgling, Bruce Mayfield; young skippers, James Mills and Leroy Peters; all are eager, savvy enough and ready to take the measure of those old hands who are spinning yarns and counting their trophies. This legacy of young talent, together with an abundance of experienced crewmen/skippers such as Ken Long and the unique Claude Corbett-Jay Solomon combine means that no Skipper's reputation is secure — and that Fleet 175 will remain as most active leading contender in The Southern District.



"Silversmiths" JOHN BUTCHER (left) and MARSHALL H. WALKER (right) display their wares.....

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 Bob David

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
24	.....	Bob David
1149	.....	James J. Connelly
7020	Ted & Alice	Robert Weiner
8423	Toothache	Axel Paulsen
8501	.....	Richard D. Kopka
8780	Friendly Lady	Alan Hoffberg
10315	Chinese Fire Drill	Joe Rossbotham
10531	Riptide	Otto Hoglievina
10724	Mistress	Bob David
11530	Ay, Caramba!	Tom Green
11657	Challenge	Tom & Tom Tyler, Jr.
11774	.....	Richard D. Kopka
11775	Mathiew 20'16	Kevin G. & Joseph E. Geraghty, Jr.
11852	Endeavor	Mike & Neil Gargiulo
12042	Cookie Monster	Frank Marinaccio
12064	Synthesis	Bruce, Frank H. & Frank H. Atkinson, Jr.
12105	.....	Alan Pearlman
12656	The Sting	Stanley Stiansen
12987	.....	Charles A. Ford



Rounding the windward mark at the Babylon Invitational, in 1st-Frank Atkinson followed by Frank Marinaccio and Pearce Baker.

Fleet 178 continues to grow in membership, in quality of sailing and in enthusiasm.

This year we welcomed nine new members and their families to the fleet. They are Bob Weiner, Charles Ford, Joe Rossbotham, Richard Miller, Arlene Goldsmith, our only lady skipper, Tom (the mouth) Green, famous Lightning skipper, and the Rub-a-dub-dub boys Bruce Hafner, Hatim Kamel and James Connelly.

If the fleet continues to grow at this rate the Lightning Class may take over the whole bay. We are now the largest adult class sailing the G.S.B.Y.R.A. Invitationals.

Next year promises to be an even better one for all of us if we can figure out what makes Frank Atkinson go. Frank really did it this year and it doesn't seem to matter who sails the boat, Frank Sr., Frank Jr. or Bruce. They all make it go. For the second year in a row Frank is our Fleet Champion. He started by winning the 7 race Spring Series followed by Invitationals at the Babylon, Narraske-tuck, Bay Shore, Unqua and Long Island Yacht Clubs. Frank also won Race Week and the G.S.B.Y.R.A. season trophy.

Among the other skippers winning special honors was Richard Kopka, who won the Point O Woods Invitational. Newcomers Bob and Carol Weiner were finally convinced to "take the plunge" into Lightning circles.

Not long after Bob and Carol hosted a christening party for their "new" boat named (what else?) "Ted and Alice". Despite the miserably weather a great time was had by all.

Later in the season the Geraghty's hosted their "almost annual" meatball and spaghetti party, with Bill W. in charge of the meatballs. Then the Marinaccio's had a back yard barbeque on the eve of Hurricane Belle, which in a most unladylike way blew over the lovely old willow tree everybody had been sitting under. She also left members without lights, refrigeration, etc. Some for as long as a week.

The Fleet had its traditional lobster party in a new location, an island in the middle of the Great South Bay. We still wonder what Joe G. was trying to do with the raft of boats going in circles.

Last, but far from least, Roger Goodwin and the Greek lady who breaks dishes on the dance floor hosted a fabulous party to close out the fall racing season. With the same kind of spirit and enthusiasm we look forward to '77.

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

Fleet CommodoreAtt. Mark Prather
Fleet CaptainJim Rentz
Fleet SecretaryCarol Prather
Fleet ChampionBob Lilly
Runners-UpChuck Good & Ed Shaffer

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
7171	Ol' Blue	Chuck Good
9427	.....	Skipper Ragghianti
10029	.....	Louis Deglau
10941	.....	Dr. John Hanek

11063	.....	Bob Lilly
11461	Bandit	Att. Charles P. Henderson
11563	.....	John E. Shaffer
11747	Heid Aweigh III	Dr. Duane Good
12864	.....	Skipper Ragghianti
12876	.....	Jim Rentz
Honorary Member		Att. Paul A. Knapp



Skip Ragghianti breezing along in unusual form, right side-up!

This season fleet #180 started sailing on Memorial Day weekend, with some new blood in the fleet this year the enthusiasm has increased as was shown by the early series in June. The month of June also brought the first sailing school for the "kids" in the club, hopefully these young skippers will blossom into Lightning sailors some day. The 1976 sailing season also brought the largest Lightning fleet to the starting line in many years and we are expecting a few more next season.

Again this season Bob Lilly showed everyone he was still the boat to beat but not without some stiff competition in the early going from the likes of Mark Prather and Warner Henderson, but as always, consistency wins out and Bob wound up on top followed by Eddy Shaffer and Doc Good who tied for second.

All were surprised by the resurgence of 'Ol Blue' #7171, newly outfitted with foam flotation which in the last race of the season proved to be effective as yours truly can attest. 'Ol Blue' started the season rather slowly as was expected by everyone, after-all she was wood, had a crack in her bottom and side, and must weigh at least 800 pounds, a cinch for last place. Such was not the case with the return of Phil Andrews in mid-season from Annapolis and a year on their sailing team. Phil took over as skipper of old #7171 and gave everyone a run for their money, beating out the newer "faster" boats with superior skill. However in the last race of the season it seems as though two worn spinnaker fairleads jammed at the same time and thus the test of the new foam flotation.

Fortunately there were not too many turn-overs this year, unfortunately Skip Ragghianti had the majority of them, three I believe. Therefore, it was only fitting that the newest member of fleet 180 should be awarded the up-side-down trophy for his remarkable consistency, as was said before, it pays off.

All-in-all it was a good season for fleet 180 and some activities are being planned for the winter months such as sailing seminars in anticipation of the coming season. It is good to see the enthusiasm building for sailing as it makes the sailing more fun and the more the merrier.



Ken Hanson presenting S.Y.C. members who assisted with the North American's.

Photo Credit - Clair Kilton

SHEBOYGAN LIGHTNING FLEET (187)

Midwest District

Sailing on Lake Michigan at Sheboygan, Wisconsin

Fleet Captain	Dick Bemis
Fleet Secretary	Chris Bemis
Fleet Champion	Tryg Jacobson
Runner-Up	Eric Graf

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
839	.....	Sheboygan Sea Scouts
8305	Bon-e-fly	Robert Ebert
8750	Z-much	George R. Griffiths
9397	Viking	Robert A. Nehrlich
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	ALC	Mace Linde
12280	Sun	Tryg Jacobson
12389	.....	Richard Bemis
12775	Tweedy	Eric Larson

The highlight of our sailing season on the Great Lakes was hosting the North Americans in August. A special tribute of thanks from our Lightning Fleet go to General Chairman Kenneth Hanson, Race Committee Chairman Terry Kohler and "their crew" for a grand job. The North Americans were an adventurous and spectacular event in Sheboygan's long yachting history. The Rhode Island skipper, Bill Shore, sailing his trim craft through all kinds of weather took top honors. Sheboygan's lone qualifier in the elite Championship Flight was Tryg Jacobson. Rick Larson qualified for the Presidents' Flight and Eric Graf for the Governors'. Even though Tryg and his crew, Mike Elmergreen and Mike Dooley, did not qualify for the Worlds this coming summer, they'll be there as spectators! It was good to see Tom Bierman formerly of Sheboygan and now of Sparta, N.J., sail on Lake Michigan once again.

Fleet 187 enjoyed a good year of racing, fellowship and fun. Local fleet racing was actively participated in by over half of our fleet. In the Gresholt Series, Tryg sailed easily into first with Eric Graf in second and Karl Miller of Manitowoc third. Leading the way in the Piper Series was Rick Larson with Graf and Miller following in second and third. The final series, titled Exhaustion-Back to School, saw too many weary skippers, boats, wind and seas.....and therefore was not sailed.

Tryg became only the second Sheboygan Lightning skipper to win the Brotz Regatta in the 16-year history of the event as he breezed to three 3rd place and two 1st place finishes in the five race regatta. Dr. John Esser of Milwaukee came in second; Greg Florian of Decatur, Illinois, third; Rick Larson, Eric Graf and Richard Bemis were 4th, 5th, and 6th. Our Sheboygan skippers allowed the visiting

skippers to win only two of the top six positions!

Our active summer of sailing resulted in Tryg Jacobson taking the Fleet Championship with Graf being Runner-Up.

Turtle trophies — skippers who got their crews wet — were awarded to Jacobson and Graf. Richard Bemis managed to keep his boat upright all season!

The spirited racing and good times continued throughout the summer with a special one day regatta "Improve Your Sailing". The series enabled the aces to crew with some of the back-of-the-pack skippers. Also included were many of our junior members. Mark Hilpertshauser, steady crew of Graf's, won the round robin Improve Your Sailing event.

While Tryg, Eric, Rick and Karl seem to be consistently sailing away with the silver, it appears that Mace Linde and Richard Bemis are starting to put it all together. We look forward to an even better sailing season in '77 with keen participation from our newer and less experienced sailors.

The Sheboygan Yacht Club saw many new faces identifying with Lightnings this season, mainly because of the interest and involvement in the North Americans. Let's hope our local fleet continues to grow and show the enthusiasm the Lightning Class deserves!

MARBLEHEAD LIGHTNING FLEET (189)

New England District

Sailing on the Atlantic Ocean at Marblehead, Massachusetts

Fleet Captain	Gerald Hosman
Fleet Vice Captain	Lawrence St. Clair
Fleet Secretary	Donald Humphrey
Fleet Champion	John Collins
First Runner-Up	Donald Humphrey
Second Runner-Up	Thomas Stover

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
2593	.....	John Bozek & Jay Butler
6652	Thumpa	Laurence Coffin
6655	Bat	Robert Gauthier
7852	.....	R. Lawrence St. Clair
9499	Gull's Rest	Gerard Hosman
10036	.....	Frank Bodengraven
10226	Tigger	Charles Pace
10610	Grog	Robert Coble
10804	.....	Joseph Peterson
11100	Romp	Thomas Stover
11112	.....	Fred Juden
12385	Shamrock	John Collins
12706	DOE DOE III	Donald Humphrey
Life Member	.....	Dr. Louis Pocharski
.....	.....	Donald Humphrey
.....	.....	William H. Bray

Marblehead Lightning Fleet's 1976 season was one of many good to heavy wind Saturday Championship series; back to back races with only a couple of drifters thrown in. It was one of similar racing during the Tuesday and Thursday evening 1st and 2nd Twilites; and again during Race Week in late July. It was a season of new faces and new found friends and the loss of three stalwarts of the fleet. It was a season of winter meetings, a spring cocktail party, Raceweek cookout and the big Awards Dinner bash, complete with the piece de resistance - a sneak preview of sound and sight rushes from the filming of the Northeast Regatta at Annisquam. Our Saturday Championship series, Spring and Fall Series, Twilite and Fall Chowder Race, MRA (Marblehead Racing Association) entry list grew from its 1975 level of 9 to 14 for this past 1976 season. Seventeen Lightnings were entered in Race Week during the last full week of July. Bill Bray, Chuck Ritt, Jr., and Duncan McInnis claim they have put their Lightning experience behind them. We wonder, but we did miss their prowess at the helm and their general all around tom-foolery and good cheer.

Right from the starting gun at the spring cocktail party hosted by Don and Donna Humphrey at their home in nearby South Hamilton, 14 skippers were on the line for the season. New faces abounded in skippers Jay Butler and John Brozek, Frank Bodengraven, Larry St. Clair, Joe Peterson, Fred Juden with their cheerful and adept crew members. Throughout the season there was the appearance of additional guest crew members showing up with one skipper or the other.

As usual our Saturday series racing was on the MRA middle or high performance line out in the Cat Island Channel to Salem Sound. Bob Gauthier, Larry St. Clair, Jay Butler and John Bozek sailed out to the line from their moorings in Salem Harbor and Willard Johnson came out from Manchester Harbor. The remainder of the fleet slipped their moorings in Marblehead Harbor; Gerard Hosman starting from way off near Deveraux Beach and Tom Stover jumping out from his mooring near Corinthian at the mouth of the harbor.

Many interesting events occurred during some of our races, among them: early in the season our starting line seemed to share its starting mark with an off shore cruising class sailing in the dense fog to their leeward mark. The cruisers were coming through our area searching for the tip of Cat Island slightly to the south. During one race in Race Week the finish line was missing, a committee boat on the line had left its station to scare off some sighted sharks frolocking through the start of another class nearby. All this in heavy seas and drama laden weather conditions right by Satan Rock. Not necessarily topping it off, but lending much interest in the latter part of the season, both Independence and Courageous, the 12 meters competing for defender honors in the Americas Cup 1977 series, sliced in and out of our racing area or passed by on the horizon. July 10 racing was suspended in homage to the Tall Ships visiting Boston. Few members if any missed seeing the Tall Ships enter the harbor. Frank Bodengraven sailed down and back in his Lightning staying overnight in Boston Harbor on the family cruiser.

The Labor Day "Chowder Race" was sailed in high winds and seas on a very bright sunny day. The Committee Boat in this race clocked winds in sustained gusts at 32.8 knots. John Collins disabled his rudder during the heavy wind start and was towed home.

Throughout the Championship Series, Race Week and Twilites all members of the fleet had a chance, one time or the other, of bearing down on the transom of John Collins boat the *Mighty Shamrock*. But to no avail. John, when present, was always first. As Tom Stover is quoted in local papers, "The guy (John) is unbelievable, regardless of his position he always pulls it out and comes home the winner." By the way, ask Tom to explain conclusions to be reached by observation of tides and lobster pots during drifters.

The start of the Twilites is often an exciting spinnaker start from a fixed line near the entrance to Marblehead Harbor. During this series it was Gerard Hosman who persuaded John Collins the most with he and a few others giving John a moment or two at the finish line, if we may quote Joe Blount, one of John's very able Twilite crew members.

Going back a few months in February - the fleet held a very interesting sail shape meeting at the Wilson and Silsby Sail Loft. This meeting was well attended and much was learned about setting the main and jib for various winds and seas. Twenty-eight members, wives and guests were able to attend the spring cocktail party in April - all joining in the festivities, bragging a little about past sailing achievements and organizing for the coming season. During Race Week John Collins hosted the cookout at his hilltop home in Marblehead Saturday evening, July 31st with many exhausted crews reliving the days events. Also, the group voted at this cookout to reinstate the first race of that day, which had lost the Committee Boat from the finish line during the shark scare.

Chuck Whittlesey and Tom Pike, students at the University of Bridgeport, showed audio visual rushes of their documentary film of the Northeast Regatta for an exciting thirty minutes or more at our

seasons finale, October 28th. At this Awards Dinner, Fleet 189 awarded many trophies including a couple that are very special. An Hour Glass Trophy is awarded by the fleet race committee for unusual spinnaker setting or handling. Candidates abounded led by John Collins yelling at his crew, "get it down, get it down, get the d--- thing down" as the guy and sheetless spinnaker flapped in the breeze; Tom Stover setting the pole on the port side well back from the weather mark that will be left to port; Joel Humphrey for setting a spinnaker with only the guy connected. The trophy went to John Collins.

An actual elephants tail (found long ago in a dowagers attic by one Dick Price) is awarded to the skipper that the fleet race committee believes most typifies "tail end Charlie." The recipient this season was Fred Juden. These two awards are dutifully displayed at the respective recipients home most conspicuously throughout the coming year.

Winner of the Best New Skipper Award was Larry St. Clair and winner of the award for the Best Wood Boat in the fleet was again, Larry St. Clair. And could Larry ever make his boat point tight to the wind. Sooiel!

Final Season Trophies went as follows: John Collins, fleet champion; Don Humphrey, runner up and Tom Stover, third for the Saturday Championship Series. In the Twilites it was John Collins, first, Tom Stover, second and Gerard Hosman, third for the Tuesday Twilites. For the Thursday Twilites, John Collins, first; Gerard Hosman, second and Joel Humphrey, third.

Race Week trophies were awarded by the MRA on Labor Day as follows: John Collins, first, Joel Humphrey, runner-up and Tom Stover third.

Officers elected at the Awards Dinner for the coming season are: Gerard Hosman, Fleet Captain; Larry St. Clair, Fleet Vice Captain and Don Humphrey, Fleet 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
6617	Mischief	Thomas S. Webster, Jr.
7329	Nitty Gritty	W. B. McMillan
9852	Alhana	Bruce Hardy
10168	Interlude	Edward H. Kris
10852	.....	Victor G. Wareham
11363	Bamboo Baby	Lester W. Eckman
11771	Windy	Robert S. Crowder, Jr.
10852	.....	Victor G. Wareham
Life Member	.....	Charles Trayford III

No Report

MISSION BAY FLEET (194)

California District

Based on Mission Bay, San Diego, California

Fleet Captain Hank Fastenau
Fleet Secretary/Treasurer Hugh Kimball
Fleet Champion Fred Knauer
Runner-Up Hugh Kimball

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
8627	Fastenuf	Hank Fastenau
8966	Hoot Mon	Hugh Kimball
9172	U-3	Bernard & Warren Gross
9237	Batu	Richard Brewer
11625	Now	Fred Knauer
11662	Tangerine	Charles Gotschalk
11735	.....	Myron C. Lyon
11802	.....	Manning & Merritt A. Barber
Life Member	.....	Alan Raffee
Life Member	.....	Alfred P. Coha

Our year began with the annual Installation Dinner at which Hank Fastenau and Hugh Kimball were installed as Fleet Captain and Treasurer respectively.

Sailing began with the so-called "Frostbite Series", which Knauer won with three firsts over Poindexter and Kimball. Then came Series I and everyone was glad to see Hank Fastenau win his first trophy, with Knauer, second and Kimball, third. One of the year's top events was the 10th annual Southern California Circuit during the Easter week. Nineteen Lightnings assembled at King Harbor Y.C. in Los Angeles, including seven from San Francisco. The trophy winners for this three race series: Gross, McCarthy, Harter, Starkey, and Hole. Action then shifted to Coronado Y.C. where two races were sailed in San Diego Bay. The next day the 15 miles Marathon race from CYC to MBYC was cancelled because of high winds and seas. This left, as trophy winners of this abbreviated series: Gross, Harter, Lyon, McCarthy and Starkey. Everyone then moved to MBYC for the Easter Regatta. Unfortunately, winds as high as 80 mph hit parts of San Diego County and the races were cancelled. The winners of the overall trophies for the Circuit were: Gross, Harter, McCarthy, Starkey and Hole. Because of scheduling difficulties it was voted to make the Circuit winner the District Champion for this year, so that honor also went to Warren Gross of our Fleet.

Most all the races of our five race Spring Series were very closely contested, with tacking duels, luffing matches, etc. Knauer won the Series, while Fastenau edged out Kimball by 1/4 point. The Memorial Day Series was also Knauer, Fastenau and Kimball. The Club's Series II had Charles Gotschalk winning a first place trophy; Barber, second; Kimball, third. The six race Firecracker Series on the July 4th weekend was extremely close, both in the individual races and in the Series. We raced out from Bay to ocean, raced in the ocean, and raced back in on both days. Four different skippers won at least one race. John Lyon won over Knauer, Gotschalk and Kimball.

Gross, M. Lyon and Gotschalk made the long haul to Klamath Falls, Oregon, for the Pacific Coast Championships, where they finished 7th, 8th and 14th in a fleet of 42 Lightnings. In July the Fleet had a great time at the annual Brady's Beer Bust and Abalone Feast; Hank Fastenau had dived to supply the abalone. In August, Series IV was won by Myron Lyon with three firsts, Gotschalk was second; Knauer, third. In the Sloop Regatta, John Lyon edged out Gotschalk by 1/4 point, with Knauer, third. Labor Day weekend had only drifters; Myron Lyon taking first over Fastenau and Gotschalk.

On Sept. 11-12 six of our boats joined seven from King Harbor Y.C. and five from San Francisco for the Billie Boswell Memorial Regatta at Lake Cachuma. There were four races in Brisk winds, and the trophy winners were Gross, Hole, Linda McCarthy, Lyon and Starkey. Lyon threw away his overall first place by rounding a mark the wrong way in the last race, and the same error cost Gotschalk a trophy. It was a great weekend at the Lake, including a cookout dinner and a District meeting. Our Bowen Memorial Regatta had two drifters and one good race. Lyon won over Gross and Gotschalk in closely contested races, with Patty, fourth and Knauer, fifth. Two weeks later we again sailed against the King Harbor Y.C. fleet in their Hurricane Gulch Regatta, ironically in drifting conditions. Apparently John Lyon is a good drifter as he won, followed by Patty, Gross, Gotschalk and Foster.

Halloween's Spook Series was won by Knauer over Zevin and Gotschalk. And Knauer also took the Turkey Series in November over Kimball and Fastenau to win a turkey for his Thanksgiving dinner. The Fred J. Knauer Trophy for Outstanding Lightning Skipper in Regattas went to Warren Gross, while the same trophy for Club races again went to Fred Knauer. As you can see it has been a long full year. You too could sail all year round if you moved to San Diego.

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	Tom Temme
Saturday Series Champion	Frank Temme

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
454	El Fid	Charles N. Howe
787	Jeanie	John H. Elfman
2187	.....	E. F. Meagher
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

11739	Rip City Express	Jack Elfman
11753	Escape II	Carl O. Berg
12454	El Fid	Charles N. Howe
12553	.....	Glenn L. Weber, Jr.
12808	Fiddlers Three	Ralph Messersmith
Life Member		Howard J. Mullin

Sailing on Manahawkin Bay at Surf City, has come to a close with the usual signs of relief from the wives, and groans from their spouses. There were some capsized boats, some ripped sails, damaged hulls, broken masts, but most important, no broken bones.

The Club races were sailed with a large number of Fleet members participating. Competition was keen, but Frank Temme sailing the "Warlock" whose transom was in full view to the Fleet in most of the races, took top honors in the Commodore Series. Maryellen Carducci was runner-up and Chuck Swartley third. Chuck Swartley was also awarded "The Most Improved Skipper." The Championship Series was awarded to our top sailor Jack Elfman, with Tom Temme second and David Schmidt third. Our 4th of July Series was won again by Jack Elfman, with Lint Weber finishing second and Frank Temme third. The Labor Day series saw our two hottest road sailors with Jack in first place, Ralph Messersmith, second and Frank Temme, third.

You have all heard the saying "Luck of the Irish", such as a team of underwater Leprechauns that push when there is no air, pull down the high side when it blows, and place fishing nets in the path of any boat that dares come close. When Jack Elfman sailing "Rip City Express" becomes Fleet Champion three seasons straight, that's no "Luck of the Irish". Jack not only sails his Lightning in events near and far, but helps to officiate whenever time permits in many other Club activities. Jack finished the season with an impressive list of victories:

Overall Southern Circuit, 6th; Long John Regatta, Red Bank, New Jersey, 1st; No Gas Regatta, Annapolis, Maryland, 1st; Cedar Point Spring Regatta, Weymouth, Conn., 1st; N.J. State Championship, Bay Head, N.J., 1st.; Penna. State Lightning Championship, 1st.; Central Atlantic District, Brant Beach, N.J., 8th; North American Championship, Sheboygan, Wis., 6th. Our congratulations to Jack and his crew for their continuing display of sportsmanship, neat tactics and sailing skill.

We are very happy to welcome two new members to our Fleet, Lint Weber, who is a terrific sailor and a product of Frank Temme's Lightning Clinic, and E. F. Meagher, a newcomer to the Fleet. Surf City Yacht Club was very proud to host the first Annual Junior District Championship on July 5th. Twelve Junior skippers and their crews from seven different fleets throughout the district competed. Our congratulations go to them for a fine competitive series. Our many thanks to Gerry Murray and the entire Race Committee for a job well done.

Fleet 196 wishes Howard Mullin, a long time friend to both our Fleet and ILCA the best with his new venture of sailing the big cruisers. His conspicuous absence from the starting line can only diminish the sport for the rest of us who recognize in Howard the qualities of a true champion. Good luck and good sailing. We all miss you and hope that you will return in the very near future.

All in all, we had a great season and it was fun to sail with some of the best. We look forward to seeing all of you during the 1977 season and be ready when the 10 minute shape is hoisted. Good sailing everyone!



Jack Elfman in the funny pants, but who's that in the quilted jacket?

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
1683	Jabberwock	Tom Hoak
7085	Mary Mac	J. McCloskey
7766	Play Mor	Lewis Morgan
9701	Temptation III	Frederick R. Franke
10893	George II	Bill & Bob Park
10922	Baccara	James D. Neville
11251	Bete Noire	Ted Bailey
11469	Rangy Lil	Tom & Dave Ingram
11619	O. B. Joyful	R. W. Cornell
11620	Atiller the Hun	Dave Bargar
11922	Spaghetti	Cherie Neville
12038	Enlil	Kevin Dietly
12601	Second Wind	J. Bailey
12614	Fledermaus	Jonathan Oram
12778	.....	Clinton Wilder
12811	Burly Girl	John Turney
12855	Julia	Jeffrey Digel
12947	.....	Doug Bargar

No Report.



James D. Neville, center, the only Chautauqua sailor to qualify for the North Americans this year. At left is Douglas C. Bargar, crew and at right Jim's sister, Candy, who also crewed at Sheboygan. They qualified for the Worlds.

CLUB NAUTICO OLIVOS (206)

Argentina District
Based at Olivos (Buenos Aires, Argentina)

Fleet Captain Martin Canepa
Fleet Secretary Mario C. de Pascuchi
Fleet Champion Mario Isola

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
8411	Repunte V	Javier Pascuchi
11037	Marmolin	Carlos Collet
11043	Mancarron	Mario Isola

No Report.

NORTHEAST YACHT CLUB FLEET (207)

Ohio District
Sailing on Lake Erie at Cleveland, Ohio

Fleet Secretary Joe Podnar

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
8705	Zubenelgenubi	Albert Suster
9475	Golden Eagle	Joseph Podnar
11278	LaBiche III	Al Hoegler & Lud Lekson
11310	Rondo	Dr. Edward Chester
11338	Mains Ale	Robert T. & Thane Kelly Mains

No Report.

NEW ORLEANS YACHT CLUB (209)

Southern District
Sailing on Lake Ponchartrain at
New Orleans, Louisiana

Fleet Captain Cal Herman
Fleet Secretary Buck Ballatin
Fleet Champion Buck Ballatin
Runner-Up Cal Herman

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
5484	Miss Cookie	Glen Ladnier
6218	Yellow Submarine	Dennis Mahler
7421	Sarah J.	Dr. Wm. Pelon
9012	Dutch	Glen Higgins
9319	Cajun	Roger Evans
9696	SB	Buck Ballatin
11057	Super Mink	Cal Herman
11238	Frumious Bander- snatch III	Gene Van Norman
11483	Super Mink	F. E. Milford



Gulf Yachting Associatin Lightning Championship. Left to right: Bruce Frank, Karl Herman, Buck Ballatin and Commander Windy Johnston.

The sailing season for Fleet 209 started with the Sugar Bowl Regatta and was won by that great young sailor, Matt Fisher from Ohio. Madris Gras Regatta saw a nice turnout with real nice weather, Buck Ballatin was the victor in this one. The regular sailing season opened under beautiful weather conditions, the two fleets #209, and #62 participating. Gilbert Whitworth from fleet 62 and skippering his new Lightning won. Buck Ballatin won the Charter Day, Fleet championship and Closing Day Regatta, Cal Herman second.