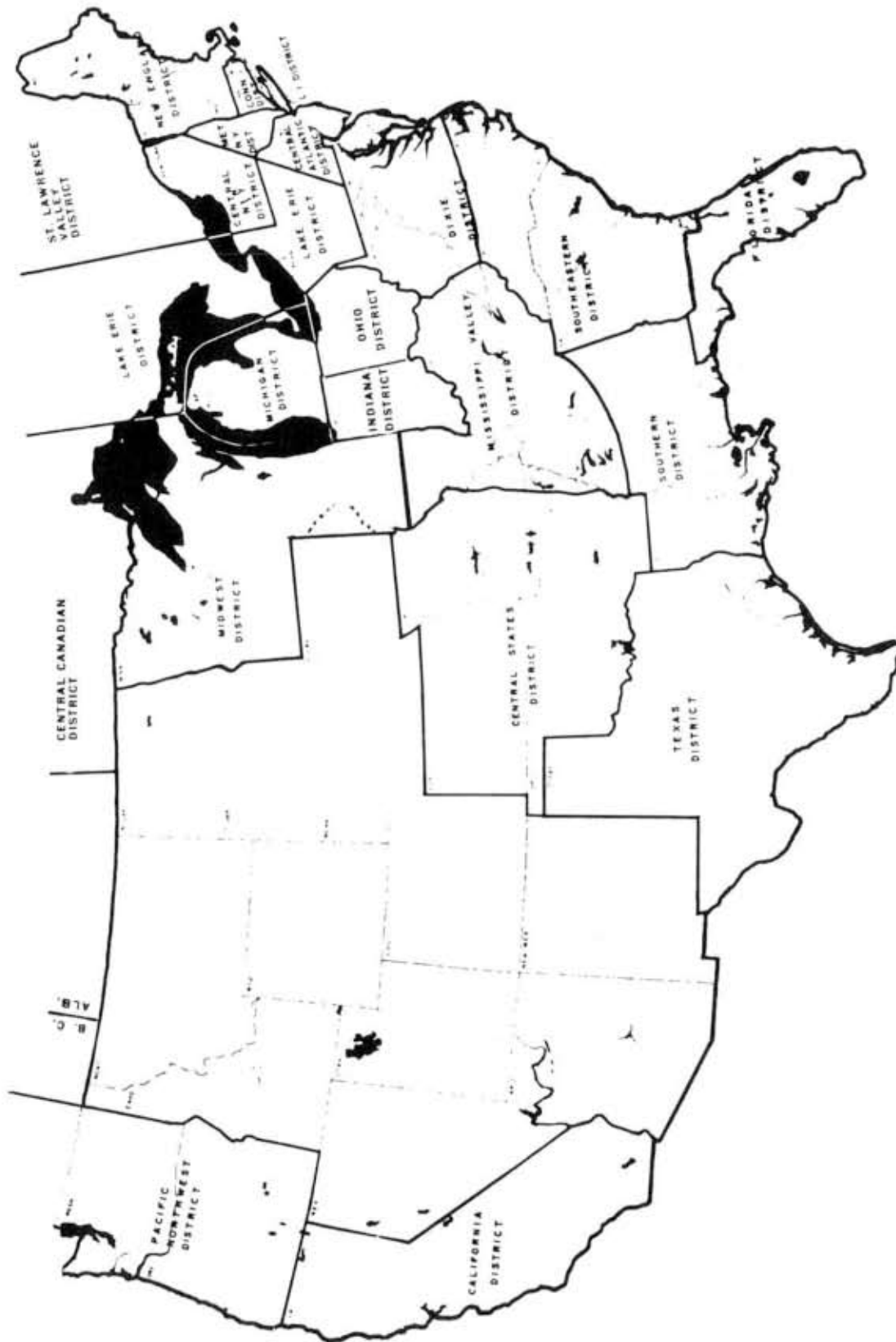
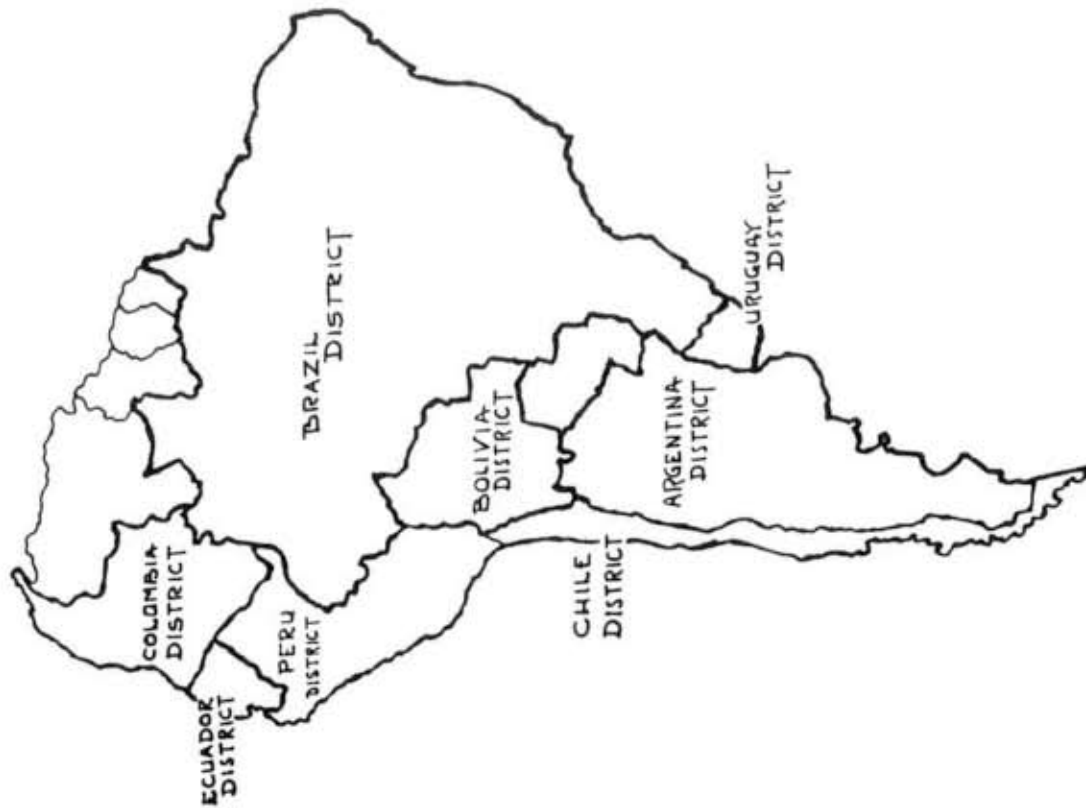


International Lightning



Class Association Districts



Lightning Districts

BRAZIL DISTRICT

District Commodore Robert Buckup
District Measurers Oscar Weckerle,
Enio Lineburger, Erik Schmidt, Dillermando
Augusto de Mello & Arne S. Arnesen
District Champion Mario Buckup
District Runner-Up Walmor Soares

Fleets: Sao Paulo (147); Florianopolis (162); Niteroi (351); Pernambuco (373); Brasilia (375); Guanabara (401); Guarapiranga (462).

Our 1977 season started with our most important event, the District Championship. There were 18 boats participating with skippers from Rio de Janeiro, Sao Paulo, Brasilia and Florianopolis. The Championship was very well organized by the Federacao de Vela e Motor de Santa Catarina, the Veleiros da Ilha Yacht Club in Florianopolis - Santa Catarina State and the ILCA Fleet 162. The race course was set on the Florianopolis South Bay. Steady winds from 8 to 18 mph, few currents and flat sea concurred to make for the successful results. Counting his 5 best races out of 6, Mario Buckup had a brilliant performance. He finished first four times and in one race second. Second over-all was Walmor Soares, who also showed great speed. In the next positions were Robert Buckup, Claudio Abramowitz and George Rider. There was a friendly and enthusiastic atmosphere all the time and it was great being together with the Brazilian Lightning family. Unfortunately Fleet 373, from Pernambuco was absent.

A few weeks later, two of our best skippers went to Chile, in order to participate in the XXIII South American Championship, at Lake Villa-Rica. As our boys told us later, the organization and the hospitality were excellent and they sailed with the beautiful landscape of the Andes Mountains in the background. On this race course the two Claudios, - Abramowitz and Kunze, had a difficult time choosing the good side of the lake, as the winds were very shifty and unsteady. Feeling at home and knowing, (not guessing), where the next wind would come from, the Chilean, Jaime Fernandez was first after six races. Once more everybody could feel the fraternization among all South American Lightning sailors.

In July Mario Buckup, Walmor Soares and Michael Norris took their sails and luggage and flew to old and hospitable Switzerland to participate in the IX World Championship held at Lake Thun, Spiez. There Mario had the great responsibility of defending his title. As he would use a borrowed boat, although a quite new one, he left Brazil with mixed emotions. He and his crew - Joaquin Feneberg and Ralph Christian, did a tremendous job by finishing second. Mario has to be considered one of the best small boat skippers in the world. He is still trying to understand (and we are sure he is not the only one) how the "old fox" Tom Allen could be so fast, but we all agree that Tom was and still is one of the top Lightning skippers in the world. The young Michael Norris was 42nd out of 53, and this was a very important result too, if we consider that he is a beginner in International Competition.

Later on in November, we were visited by Bill Shore. He came to Brazil to train the Sao Paulo sailors and to try and better their level of competition. His trip was sponsored by the Federacao de Vela do Estado de Sao Paulo (Sao Paulo Sailing Association). It was a very active week for Fleets 147 and 462, with the training divided into three parts. In the two week-ends we sailed 10 races, each one consisting of 2 relatively short triangles. In each regatta Bill skippered a different boat. During the week he gave individual instruction to each crew on tuning and tactics. Almost every evening we had conferences, slides or films. On the first two evenings John Bertrand also talked to us, - about his experiences. He had just won for the second time the World Championship of the Laser Class - this time in Cabo Frio, Rio de Janeiro. So we had, with Mario Buckup also present, a meeting of big champions in this profitable week. We want to thank Bill once more for his coming. We naturally also had some "churrascos" (barbecues) and cocktails with lots of "caipirinhas" (brazilian sugarcane brandy with lemon, sugar and ice).

Presently all the Brazilian District is working hard to prepare for the XXI Brazilian Championship as well as the XXIV South American Championship. Both will be held at Guarapiranga Lake (reservoir) in Sao Paulo - at Easter 1978. We will do our best to give our South American guests as warm a welcome in return for the friendly way they've always treated us in their countries.

It is also very important to say that our District must work hard to keep all the activities of the class at a good level. With the prohibition of importing new equipment there isn't any possibility of renewing our boats - and that is bad!!! Another difficult problem is the fact that a large number of boats is concentrated in the Fleet at Sao Paulo, which has approximately 20 active boats, - while in the others the number is not greater than 5 or 8.

Anyway, we will go to working to take the Brazilian Lightning Class to the position it deserves.

CALIFORNIA DISTRICT

District Commodore Charles Gotschalk
District Secretary Mark Patty
District Champion Myron Lyon
District Runner-Up Bruce Arnold

Fleets: Santa Monica Bay (102); Mission Bay (194); San Francisco Bay (372).

1977 has proven to be the most exciting year of the past decade for the California District. Although promotion was this year's top priority item, District racing, as always, provides the bread and butter of our organizational diet. The California District comprises only three fleets, but the members of those fleets are the most dedicated, tightly knit group of Lightning sailors found anywhere.

Tom Allen graced this year's California Circuit during Easter Week. No doubt determined to hit the "California Big Time" before a casual swing through Switzerland, he cannonballed his *Plymouth Hilton* straight from the Southern Circuit. The weather for our circuit was beautiful, and although attendance was down a few boats, we still had good District representation along with another special guest, Brian Coleman, all the way from British Columbia.

The Circuit opener, a two day, three race series at Fleet 102's home, King Harbor Yacht Club in Redondo Beach, served as a calling card for the Tom Allen Speed Show. Final standings were: Tom Allen, first; John Lyon, second; Jack McCarthy, third; Warren Gross, fourth and Myron Lyon, fifth.

The Fleet transferred south to San Diego and Coronado Yacht Club for the Marathon segment of the Circuit. Finishes were: Tom Allen, first; Myron Lyon, second; Warren Gross, third; John Lyon, fourth, and Mark Patty, fifth. The 15 mile classic from Coronado, out San Diego Bay, around Point Loma, and up the coast to Mission Bay was climaxed by an incredible three mile spinnaker screamer followed by a tortuous six mile beat in very heavy ocean conditions.

The weather lightened a little for the two day Mission Bay segment dominated by Myron Lyon, first; Tom Allen, second; John Lyon, third; Warren Gross fourth and Randy Smith, fifth. Overall Circuit standings were Tom Allen, John Lyon, Myron Lyon, Warren Gross and Jack McCarthy.

Our District Championships were hosted by Fleet 102 and were marked by the surprise participation of long lost Manning and Merrit Barber. Vowing to return to the active scroll, they finished third, followed by Quinton Foster and Wendell Harter. Our District Champ is Myron Lyon of San Diego who seems to be quite comfortable out front these days. Runner-up, in an excellent challenge was Bruce Arnold from San Francisco.

The San Francisco Fleet hosted the Pacific Coast Championships out of Richmond Yacht Club and offered such wonderful conditions as too much wind and no current, too much current and not enough wind, and varying degrees of famous Bay chop thrown in for good measure.

Actually, better variety for a Championship could not have been supplied, and regatta organization by RYC was as usual — excellent. Dominators were Ken White, fifth; Jack McCarthy, fourth; Charlie Gotschalk, third; Myron Lyon, second and Jamie Nelson of Portland, Pacific Coast Champ.

Our next intermural event was the Billie Boswell Memorial at beautiful Lake Cachuma near Santa Barbara. The San Francisco Fleet missed this regatta due to being placed on probation by their local Small Boat Racing Association. In all prudence, we shall leave that story alone and say only that they missed a great one Championed by Myron Lyon, Charlie Gotschalk, and Warren Gross, all from Mission Bay.

The Bowen Memorial Regatta held at Fleet 194's home, Mission Bay Yacht Club was won by Chris Gotschalk, first; Myron Lyon, second; Warren Gross, third and Mark Patty, fourth. A couple of weeks later, Fleet 102 reciprocated with their invitational, "Hurricane Gulch", which closes the District calendar, running from April through October. Mark Patty, in his farewell-to-Fleet 102-regatta, having been transferred back to San Francisco, won this very close contest with Charlie Gotschalk, second and Mike Boswell, third.

General racing participation was down slightly this year due largely to tremendous promotion efforts. Each fleet had at least a couple of projects in the works and the small average rate of success is certainly not a reflection of the effort. Finally one person, Myron Lyon, made a personal commitment to establish the long wished for west coast source of Lightnings.

Tom Allen's visit in the spring was really of a partly business nature. He was delivering the first new boats to enter the State since 11802. Since the delivery of those two boats, Myron (now our west coast Lightning distributor) has solved the plaguing transportation problem, and several more new boats have hit California. But Myron's biggest scheme was to sponsor a Lightning in the Long Beach Sailboat Show, the second largest boat show in the nation.

Sure enough, in conjunction with Tom Allen and with coordination and booth staffing by Fleet 102's Mike Boswell, the really big show became a reality. This single event is probably the most significant story of our District year. And Myron continues to do more.

Lastly, the California District would like to present to all members of the Lightning Class, our new ILCA Vice-President, Myron Lyon and to give special recognition to Andrea Lyon for her patience and encouragement. Myron is California's best; he will serve all of us well.

CENTRAL ATLANTIC DISTRICT

District Commodore George F. Dennis, Jr.
District Secretary Bruce R. Kloss
District Measurer James G. Carson
District Champion Jack Elfman
District Runner-Up Jay Lutz
Junior Champion Jay Lutz
Junior Runner-Up Don Schon

Fleets: Bay Head (3); Metedeconk River (34); Great Egg Harbor (99); Lavallette (104); Brant Beach (173); Surf City (196); Riverton (228); Red Dragon (357); Normandy Beach (366); Penn Manor (422); Ocean City (430).

Reflecting back over the 1977 sailing season, all of our regattas were well attended and competition ran high as is expected in our district. Of the four Skippers we qualified for the Worlds, two attended. Jim Carson and Bob Adams both finishing in the top ten. No less than ten Skippers and their crews attended the North American Championships, with four of these sailing in the Championship fleet. Congratulations are in order for Jay Lutz who not only won the Junior N.A.'s decisively, but also was third overall in the championship fleet. Jim Carson always in contention held onto fifth position in less than ideal wind conditions.

Back on the home front:

Surf City Yacht Club hosted this years District Championships. The first two races on Saturday were sailed in moderate air. Sundays races, however, were sailed in real gale force winds, or better put, Jack Elfman type weather. Jack Elfman, with daughter Holly and George Gaynor took first place followed closely by Jay Lutz in second and Glen Reiting in third. Jay Lutz outclassed the juniors the following weekend to win the Junior CAD Championship followed closely by Don Schon in second and Mark Schneider in third.

CENTRAL ATLANTIC DISTRICT

1978

Regatta Schedule

May 6, 13, 20, 27, June 3

EARLY BIRD SERIES

Brant Beach Yacht Club — Fleet 173

May 7, 14, 21, 28, June 4

SPRING TIME UP SERIES

Metedeconk River Yacht Club — Fleet 34

June 10 & 11

NEW JERSEY STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

Monmouth Boat Club

June 17, 18

SPRING TUNE UP REGATTA

Bay Head Yacht Club — Fleet 3

June 24, 25

GOVERNORS CUP REGATTA

Riverton Yacht Club — Fleet 228

July 15, 16

CENTRAL ATLANTIC DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIP

Riverton Yacht Club — Fleet 228

September 9 & 10

30th ANNUAL SURF CITY REGATTA

Surf City Yacht Club

September 9 & 10

PENN MANOR FALL REGATTA

Penn Manor Yacht Club — Fleet 442

September 16 & 17

RED DRAGON FALL REGATTA

Red Dragon Canoe Club — Fleet 228

September 23 & 24

RIVERTON LIGHTNING REGATTA

Riverton Yacht Club — Fleet 228

October 14 & 15

INDIAN SUMMER REGATTA

Brant Beach Yacht Club — Fleet 173

The New Jersey Governors Cup, always hosted by Riverton Yacht Club in June was won this year by Franz Schneider. This is no small feat because the regatta has classes other than just Lightnings and the cup is awarded to the winner of the best performing class and therefore requires the co-operation of the other boats in the fleet. Franz walked away with what appeared to be a two-year supply of silver.

Among the fall activities in the District is the Gamma Series which consists of three weekend regattas held by Penn Manor, Red Dragon and Riverton. In addition to having individual weekend competition, the scores accumulate and an overall winner emerges. Bill Clausen won the Gamma all three previous years and was winning this year after the first two regattas. He gave us a break, however, by not being able to attend the third weekend, thus creating a close contest among Gregg Funari, Bucky Kloss, and Djoerd Hoekstra and the three finished in that order.

The Atlantic Coast Championship held this year at Cedar Point, Connecticut saw three of our best sailors place in the top five — Jack Elfman second, Jay Lutz third and Jim Carson fifth.

With the season drawing to a close Glen Reitingen won the Indian Summer Regatta at Brant Beach and Jim Carson was first at Quantico with eight of our district sailors in attendance.

The past season was a successful one in the Central Atlantic District in both enthusiastic turnouts at regattas and extremely high calibre competition.

CENTRAL NEW YORK DISTRICT

District Commodore Raymond L. Nelson
District Secretary P. Thomas Jungjohann
District Measurer Edward F. Beadel, Jr.
Asst. District Measurer Leonard Tiedemann
District Champion Richard W. Hallagan
District Runner-Up R. Fisk Hayden
Junior Champion Bill Dodge
Junior Runner-Up Jim Pindell

Fleets: Skaneateles Country Club (1); Lake Delta Y.C. (4); Mayfield Y.C. (13); Pultneyville Y.C. (61); Newport Y.C. (77); Great Sodus Bay (108); Red Jacket (125); Willow Bank Y.C. (164); Henderson Harbor Y.C. (225); Keuka Y.C. (252); Brockport Y.C. (267); Galway Lake Y.C. (338); Thousand Islands Fleet (382); South Skaneateles Lightning Assoc. (439).

It has been customary in recent years to begin planning our season at the Winter District Meeting in December. This time, we were fortunate enough to have Tom Allen with us to share some pointers on

tuning and tactics. We didn't realize at the time that we were listening to the next World Champion. We enjoyed Tom's talk and also his presence at two of our regattas during the season.

A few were fortunate enough to make the trip south in March for the Southern Circuit to begin the season. The less fortunate majority waited till May and the Newport Invitational. This has been a joint affair with the Lake Erie District for the past couple of years. For once we were ready for them and managed to keep the top three spots for the local boys, Kirk Reynolds, Fisk Hayden and Dick Hallagan. As usual, the Lake Erie guys got even (and then some) at the Niagara Frontier in June.

It's really great to see a fleet spring up almost out of nowhere and become active. Such has been the case with Fleet 4 at Lake Delta. Lightning sailing was dormant their for many years, but within the past two years, a thriving fleet has emerged. I'm sure we will hear a lot more from this corner of the district in years to come. They did a fine job of sponsoring the Lake Shore Lightning Squadron regatta which this year was the first leg of the Triple Crown.

The Triple Crown has been a two-boat duel between Dick Hallagan and Fisk Hayden for several years now, and this one was no exception. They traded first and second spots at Lake Delta and Pultneyville. The third leg was at Keuka which is easily our largest regatta of the season. (Somehow it got on the Lake Erie schedule too). Neither Dick nor Fisk won the big Champagne money, but Dick was close enough to take the Triple Crown handily. Fisk Hayden was second and Jeff Penfield third. Our Lake Erie visitors took most of the top spots at Keuka with Mark Bryant winning it again! (We're going to hide Keuka Lake next year where Mark can't find it). Dave Parker also sailed an outstanding series there to pull down a second in the midst of some real tough competition.

Our District Championship was held at Red Jacket Y.C. on Cayuga Lake, and provided a good test of skill and teamwork with four races in moderate-to-heavy air. It looked like Fisk Hayden was going to win this one, but Dick Hallagan pulled it out in the last race to win by a one-point margin. Merle Pindell sailed a very consistent series to take third place.

The Junior Districts also at Red Jacket attracted a healthy seven entries. Bill Dodge overcame a three-point deficit in the final race to win.

The CNYRA regatta was held at Rochester where the younger skippers took all the Lightning hardware. Bill Dodge, Dave Parker, and Jim Pindell were 1,2,3. The best any of us old guys could do was fifth.

The final regatta of the year at Onondaga was a super heavy air series. Jed Dodge looked like a shoo-in till the last jibe mark. While Jed and crew were self rescuing, Tom McAuliffe breezed by to win the race and the series. What a way to end the season, eh Tom?

1978 CENTRAL NEW YORK DISTRICT REGATTA SCHEDULE

May 20-21	Newport Invitational * #	Irondequoit Bay
June 10-11	L.S.L.S. *	Willow Bank Y.C.
June 17-18	Niagara Frontier #	Buffalo C.C.
June 24-25	Lake Delta Invitational *	Lake Delta
July 8-9	40th Anniversary	Skaneateles C.C.
July 13	Junior Districts	Brockport Y.C.
July 14-15	DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIP	Brockport Y.C.
July 29-30	CNYRA Regatta	Red Jacket Y.C.
August 12-13	Champagne	Keuka Lake
September 9-10	Onondaga Invitational	Onondaga Lake
September 16-17	South Skaneateles	S. Skaneateles L.A.

* Central New York Triple Crown
Lake Erie - Central New York Series

CENTRAL STATES DISTRICT

District Commodore Doug Edwards
District Secretary Harlan Long
District Measurer Fritz Toussaint
District Champion John Gall
District Runner-Up Chris Merrilat

Fleets: Jayhawk (60); Odd Winds (296); Keystone (402); Perry (438).

This year's district regatta was held in June at Lake Jacomo, Missouri. We started out by first weighing and measuring the boats and sails, then proceeded with the real of sailing. The winds varied from light to heavy giving a variety of sailing conditions which also promoted a few token dunkings.

Lunches were provided by the women of the Jacomo Fleet, who did an excellent job. After it was all over John Gall took honors this year with Chris Merrilat as runner-up.

In August, the Jaw Hawk Fleet at Lake Shawnee hosted an invitational for Lightnings. The sailing was good, along with having the whole lake for ourselves. The Club put on a steak fry after the regatta along with some real foot stompin' music that night.

Dick Bartlett, who was elected District Commodore for 1978, promises to have a real good regatta at Keystone Lake next year. David Shea was elected District Secretary.

Hope all can make it!

CHILE DISTRICT

District Commodore Fernando Magnasco Aste
District Secretary Edmundo Perez Yoma
District Measurer Pablo Gallyas, Sr.
District Champion Manuel Gonzalez Mas
District Runner-Up Alberto Gonzalez

Fleets: Yacht Club Chile (317); Algarrobo (318); Capricornio (319); Higuierillas (342); Pichidangui (346).

The Chilean District showed intense National and International activity during the past season.

Due to the fact that the XXIII South American Lightning Class Championship was to be held at Lago Villarrica, Pucon, the Chilean Association of the Lightning Class invited Mr. Tom Allen to participate in the training of the Chilean team.

The Favaro Cup served to classify Chilean helmsmen, and was won by Alberto Gonzales M. The following people also classified as part of the team: Manuel Gonzales M., Jaime Fernandez, Pablo Gallyas, Rodrigo Zuazola and Manuel Gonzales B.

Previous to the South American Championship, a new edition of the traditional Chile-Peru Cup was held in these same waters.

The results were as follows: First - Manuel Gonzales (Chile), Second - Alberto Gonzales (Chile), Third - Jose Barreda M. (Peru), Fourth - Jaime Fernandez (Chile), Fifth - Gunter Ritter (Peru), Sixth - Luis Loli (Peru).

Crews from Argentina, Brasil, Ecuador, Peru and Chile participated in the XXIII South American Championship amid the beautiful landscape of Southern Chile.

It was the first time that a South American Championship was run on a lake; the water and wind behavior being to the entire satisfaction of all participants. Ample information and details of this Championship appear in this Year Book. It was narrowly won by Chilean Jaime Fernandez, with Javier Melero and Tristan Aircardi as crew.

The National Lightning Class Championship was held at Algarrobo in April of this year and it classified the crews that were to participate in the IX World Lightning Class Championship. It was won by Manuel Gonzales M. with Cristian Parro and Felipe Galvez; Alberto Gonzales was runner-up and third place went to Hugo Cuneo.

Chile participated with 3 crews in the World Championship, obtaining results notably superior to those reached in previous championships of this type even though the crews were not able to have the best boats available.

Finally, to celebrate El Mercurio, Valparaiso's renowned newspaper's 150th anniversary, an International Regatta was organized, to which the present World Champion and Vice Champion of the class were invited. Jose Barreda, the outstanding Peruvian yachtsman also took part.

The Championship was won by Mario Buckup with Ehelma and Joaquin Feneberg; second place went to Tom Allen with Brenda and Tom Jr. and third place to Rufino Melero, a Chilean helmsman who proved to be the revelation of this season.

This Regatta was very interesting as it enabled an interchange of ideas with these visitors which will, of course, benefit the Chilean Lightning Class.

For the coming season, a new Commodore, Mr. Fernando Magnasco, will head the Chilean District and will undoubtedly have a very good performance.

COLOMBIA DISTRICT

District Commodore Gian Luca Fiori
District Secretary Jorge Uzategui B.
District Champion Fernando de la Concha
District Runner-Up Stefano Paccini

Fleets: Club Nautico del Muna (73); Colombian Navy (275); Club Nautico Del Tomina (432).

Club Nautico Del Muna was the most active fleet in the District during the 1977 season. The trials for the World's and South American Championships were held at our Club. The District couldn't send any crew to these Championships. Our National's were held in October at our Club also with the winners being Fernando de la Concha, Muguel Cano and Joaquin Tamayo. Out of 18 competitors most of them are very young and very active in the class.

It is nice to see this bunch of young people sailing Lightnings on our lake.

On November 3 crews from our fleet flew to Lake San Pablo for a regatta with the people of Ecuador. The winner was Dieter Dyck from Quito and runner-up Fernando de la Concha from our fleet.

CANADIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS NATIONAL YACHT CLUB TORONTO Aug. 5, 6, & 7

— A MUST REGATTA FOR '78

— THIS ONE ATTRACTS THE BIG GUNS

— NO SHALLOW WATER OR HIGH SHORE LINES

— GREAT CANADIAN HOSPITALITY

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72 KEYSTONE AVE.
TORONTO, M4C 1H4

CONNECTICUT/RHODE ISLAND

1978 District Schedule

Cedar Point	Earl Bird May 20, 21
Madison Beach	DISTRICTS July 15, 16
Black Rock	LISC August 5, 6
Niantic	Governor's Cup Open Invitational Sept. 9, 10
Cedar Point	Eastern U.S. Championship Sept. 16, 17

CONNECTICUT-RHODE ISLAND DISTRICT

District Commodore	Bruce Seiffert
District Secretary	Phil Griffin
District Champion	David Peterson
District Runner-Up	Dick Haise

Fleets: Housatonic Boat Club (6); Black Rock Yacht Club (17); Niantic Bay Yacht Club (85); Cedar Point Yacht Club (126); Madison Beach Club (129).

This district has been struggling through a period attempting to sustain interest in the Lightning. The energy needed around this effort is best carried by an interested and psyched group actively racing. We seem to be on the upswing thanks to the strong and steady Cedar Point group and recently Niantic. Black Rock, Madison Beach, and Housatonic seem to be reinfected with renewed interest. Niantic, for 1978, has initiated a new regatta called The Governor's Cup Open Invitational, hoping to make it an annual event.

Right side Dave Peterson won every District Regatta this year. "Woody" only seems at a loss in a strong breeze and a sea. Speaking of wind and sea, there sure was plenty of each at this year's NA's.

To the 1977 North Americans the Conn.-R.I. District sent — Bill Shore, Phil Griffin, Dave Peterson, and John Cuccio. The wind and sea were strong during the qualifying series, in which the then current NA champ Bill Shore did not have to sail. Phil Griffin qualified fifth and finished seventh, one boat behind sixth place Bill Shore. Dave Peterson qualified for the Presidents' Cup and won it. John Cuccio qualified for the Governors' Cup.

DIXIE DISTRICT

District Commodore	Fred Mertes
District Vice-Commodore	Al Mast
District Secretary	Dieter Grotheer
District Treasurer	Kitty Racine
District Measurer	Dave Racine
District Champion	Rob Pratt

District Runner-Up	Joe Friebele
Junior Champion	Bill Bush
Junior Runner-Up	David Buckley

Fleets: Washington (50); Indiana River (72); North East River (192); Susquehanna (253); Sassafras River (314); Rehoboth (325); Severn River (329); Marine Corps D & E Command (354); Smith Mountain Lake (377).

In the span of 27 weekends between the Southern Circuit and the first of November this District has hosted 21 major regattas. Six weekends were reserved for travel to other Districts. No wonder it's hard to plan a vacation. The season started out traditionally with the Azalea Regatta in Norfolk and ended on the Potomac River at the Quantico Marine Corps Base with the Frostbite Regatta. In the second Regatta, the No-Gas at Severn, Dr. Jim Gilbert meant business when finishing first, ahead of Goldsmith and Hopkins.

During the summer two of our Sailors left temporarily to participate at the the Lightning Worlds in Switzerland. Congratulations to both Jim Crane, finishing third and Dr. Don Delorme in fifth place.

The Districts this year were held on Chesapeake Bay and hosted by the Severn Fleet. After all 37 boats had been towed home from a windless and raceless first day, light winds allowed three races the next day at which time Joe Friebele impressed everyone with two firsts and a second, followed by Bill Buckley, Al Mast and Rob Pratt. The last day's racing took place under rather wet and gusty conditions with poor visibility at times. With two firsts, Rob Pratt zoomed ahead to win the championship with nearby Friebele in second and Buckley in third.

One of the more exciting and certainly important events is the Dixie Junior Championship Regatta. Held for the seventh year, it is known to be the oldest District Juniors. Again it was hosted by Fleet 192 at Upper Chesapeake Yacht Club and organized by Bob Crowder. Enthusiastic skippers and crews demonstrated their ability without Dad's help. Congratulations to Champion Bill Bush and Runner-Up Dave Buckley. Many thanks to Bob Crowder and wife. Read the write-up in the September '77 *Flashes*.

Rumors have it that the Dixies are host to the 1978 NA's. So come and visit us. The racing and competition is great.

ECUADOR DISTRICT

District Commodore	Dieter Dyck
District Secretary	Francisco Sola
District Measurers	Felipe Eljuri and Ing. Miguel Izurieta
District Champion	Dieter Dyck
District Runner-Up	Ing. Alberto Maspons

Fleets: Quayaquil Y.C. (272); Salinas Y.C. (405), Armada del Ecuador (411); Club Lago San Pablo (447).

1977 was a year of normal activity for the Ecuador District. The season started with participation in the South American Championships in March. We sent three crews with their own boats to Chile. Francisco Sola with his crew, Rafael Lecaro and Jonny Meira, brought back the runner-up trophy. Dieter Dyck and his sons, Lars and Olaf, were fifth and Juan Santos with Werner Moeller, Jr., and Oscar Viteri, fifteenth.

During May, Club Nautico San Pablo held their yearly Fleet Championship with Dieter Dyck first and Mauricio Martinez, second.

In July we had planned to send at least four boats to the World's in Switzerland, but only Dieter Dyck managed the trip to a country so far away. A sixth place in that important event was more than we expected for our district.

The Salinas Yacht Club hosted the District Championships starting November 2. All fleets participated and the first ten positions were as follows: Dieter Dyck 7 points, Ing. Alberto Maspons 12, Arturo Ituralde 16, Mauricio Martinez 18, Miguel Perez 20, Felipe Eljuri 24, Esteban Crespo 31, Jorge Matheus Jr. 41, Fernando Bermeo 51, Oscar Enriquez 52.

The following weekend, November 12-13, Fleet 447 invited sailors from Bogota, Columbia, for the first regatta to be held every year between Club Nautico del Muna and Club Nautico San Pablo. The visitors from Bogota were: Fernando de la Concha with his crew, Morge Uscategui and Miguel Cano, Jaime Casabianca with his wife, Carmen Luz Casabianca, and Jorge Londono, Stefan Pacini with Jean Lucas Fiori, and H. Vazquez. The trophy, which will be sailed for 6 years, was won by C. N. San Pablo. The finishes were: Dieter Dyck first, Fernando de la Concha second, Mauricio Martinez third, Jorge Matheus fourth,



Lars, Olaf and Dieter Dyck, the new District Champions.

Esteban Crespo fifth, Juan Santos sixth, Mario Ribadeneira seventh, Stefan Pacini eighth, Guenther Langpap ninth, Jaime Casabianca tenth, Jose Maria Perez eleventh and Alfred Zeller, Jr. twelfth.

We hope to defend the cup next year in Bogota successfully.

Finally, we should mention that Alberto Maspons attended the Southern Circuit and Mauricio Martinez, the North Americans.

For December we have planned to participate in team racing with the Peruvian District sailing in Ca-lao. This will be an entirely new experience. Six Ecuadorian boats will compete with six Peruvian boats.

FINLAND DISTRICT

District Commodore	Hartti Nisonen
District Secretary	Lauri Heikkila
District Measurer	Terho Aromaa
District Champion	Leif Haglund
District Runner-Up	Pertti Pyy

Fleets: Helsinki (166); Kotka (298); Pori (306); Oulu (307); Raahen (308); Kemi (310); Jyväskylä (328); Nasijärvi (394); Pyhäselkä (428); Tuusulanjärvi (456); Valkeakoski (468); Jamsa (469).

The Finland District had a fantastic season this year with the District Championships being held at the Hoytiaisen Pursiseura in the eastern part of Finland. The hosting Yacht Club showed its activity in arrangements and we saw for the first time over thirty boats (30) on the starting line. This year the competition was closer than other years and the difference between the four top boats was two points. The new Finnish Champions are Leif Haglund, Veikko Valkama and Pentti Puupera, boat *Ariana V* with nine points. Runner-up - Pertti Pyy, Ritva Pyy and Lauri Heikkila had the same number of points with boat *Amarillo*. Third was Lasse Hammar, Simo Koski and Harry Hammar, boat *Rio-Rita II*, 4th *Charlie Brown* - Antti Ruuskanen, 5th *Fanny III* - Seppo Lahdemäki, 6th *Punkku* - Kari Maenpää, 7th *Kikka II* - Markku Paloma, 8th *Cobra* - Esa Nording, 9th *Mister X* - Jouko Lehtinen, 10th *Pohjan Akka* - Aulis Naykki, 11th *Pilpatu* - Timo Patosuo, 12th *Vahine II* - Unto Maenpää, 13th *Vipunen* - Lauri Hamalainen, 14th *Triple* - Ahti Immonen, 15th *Masi III* - Terho Aromaa.

Six of our boats were trailed to Italy Numana in May to take part in the Europeans. The results of Finnish boats were: Antti Ruuskanen 2nd, Vesa Tapola 5th, Hartti Nisonen 8th, Timo Patosuo 14th, Markku Paloma 15th, Lasse Hammar 16th.

Four of these boats then moved on to Switzerland where Yacht Club Spiez hosted the 1977 Lightning World Championship. Three other boats came direct from Finland so that seven Finnish boats took part in this event. After ten days, at a fantastic time, "thank's for Swiss

people," we had to pack our boats and travel back to Finland. The Finnish results at the World's were: 25th V.I.P. Vesa Tapola, Ilkka Tapola, Pertti Nyman (the only boat with wooden mast), 29th Antti Ruuskanen, 40th Kari Maenpää, 41st Hartti Nisonen, 45th Leif Haglund, 46th Pertti Pyy and 44th Lasse Hammar.

The ranking series were sailed in six regattas during the season under new rules. Twenty-one boats totaled the results of three regattas. Antti Ruuskanen, Ilpo Hanninen and Kari Kahkonen won this series with boat *Charlie Brown*. Second place was Hartti Nisonen, Ilpo Nisonen and Antero Uitto, boat *Asterix*. Third place went to *Amarillo*, skippered by Pertti Pyy.

The Finland District picked up eleven new boats and two new fleets, Valkeakoski and Jamsa, during this season.

Representatives of our district participated in the Winter Meeting at St. Petersburg (Pertti and Ritva Pyy) and the ILCA World Meeting at Spiez (Antti Aromaa, Lauri Heikkila, Pertti and Ritva Pyy) and we can say that these contacts with other Lightning sailors from all over the world are very important to the future of the Class in Finland.



Helping to promote the Lightning at a Finnish Boat Show.

FLORIDA DISTRICT

District Commodore	Jim Pinion
District Secretary (acting)	Jim Pinion
District Champion	Fred Hutchinson, II
District Runner-Up	Jorge Freeland

Fleets: Biscayne Bay (226).

At this time the only organized Lightning activity in the Florida District is taking place within Fleet 226, which is located on beautiful Biscayne Bay. However, just a few miles north of Miami, at North Palm Beach, a new interest in Lightning Sailing is coming on strong; Dr. John Swenson recently accepted delivery of Boat 13218 and there is a promise of more activity in that area.

In Fleet 226, a new enthusiasm has prevailed all year. One of the reasons is the interest sparked by the annual gathering at Mid-Winter time of the Southern Circuit Races. This same spark has stayed around all year.

Our District Championship Races, hosted by Coconut Grove Sailing Club, as usual, set up super race courses and conducted an excellent race series. The races were held on April 30 and May 1, 1977.

Fred Hutchinson, II took top honors, while Jorge Freeland finished

INDIANA DISTRICT

1978 Regatta Schedule

Indiana Open Regatta *	May 6-7
Indianapolis Sailing Club Geist Reservoir, Indianapolis, Indiana	
Hoosier Regatta	June 10-11
Wawasee Yacht Club Lake Wawasee, Syracuse, Indiana	
Indiana District Championship**	June 17-18
Wawasee Yacht Club Lake Wawasee, Syracuse, Indiana	
Lake Monroe Sailing Association Bloomington, Indiana	September 16-17
Fleet 420 "Wanfinlapimup"	October 7-8
Mississinewa Lake, Peru, Indiana	

* First Regatta in the Northern Spring Circuit

** Annual Indiana District Meeting will be held

with a very close second. Third place was claimed by Sam Pearl. The top three places were taken by people all under 17 years of age. This is indicative of the competition in our area.

We were fortunate to have Jorge Freeland, along with his crew, Mara Freeland and Jim Alman to represent our District at the Jr. North Americans and North Americans.

Overall it was a very active year for the Florida District. We are expecting an even greater year in 1978.

INDIANA DISTRICT

District Commodore	Bill Saeger
District Secretary	June Schubert
District Measurer	John Leath
District Champion	Tom McDermott
District Runner-Up	Bruce Baiden
Junior Champion	Charlie Medlock

Fleets: Wawasee Yacht Club (154); Indianapolis Sailing Club (270); Mississinewa Reservoir (420); Tippecanoe Lake Yacht Club (425); Muncie Sailing Club (460); Lake Monroe Sailing Association Lightning Fleet (464).

Hoosier is Indiana! And we hear it at all our regattas. Hoosier skipper? Hoosier crew? Hoosier competition? Hoosier race committee? Hoosier scorer? Hoosier purveyor of fine food and grog? Happily, — we seldom hear Hoosier protest committee?

This year's Indiana Open was sailed on April 30 and May 1 at Geist Reservoir. Host Fleet 270 Indianapolis Sailing Club came up with some lovely light to medium air and nice temperatures. Forty boats participated from Iowa, Illinois, Michigan and Ohio with of course a liberal sprinkling of Hoosier entries. Top skipper was Jack Mueller from Cleveland. Hank Hodgson of Devil's Lake, Michigan was runner-up with third spot going to Bill Crow.

Fleet 270 promises to continue its post race super supper and cocktail hour, however, watch out next year. Hoosier hospitality has its limits. We'll try to keep more silver at home next year.

On June 18-19, Fleet 154 presented the Hoosier Regatta. Wawasee Yacht Club filled their lovely punch bowl and brought on a wind to be remembered. Wawasee's Loch Monster devoured several boats in the ensuing melee. Ron Scherrer's watch along with several assorted sailors was thrown in as sacrifice but the wind monster was not to be appeased. All surviving hardy sailors retired to a great roast beef dinner. Winner Bill Buckles, second place Ron Blair, third Bill Crow, and fourth George Buckingham were toasted with blistered hands around the great bottomless punch bowl.

Muncie Sailing Club Fleet 460 was the setting for the Indiana District Championship and the Annual District Meeting on June 25-26. Weather Saturday morning was not auspicious, however, one very fine wind chant executed by our resident Indian, Ray Trotta, scared up some fine breezes for both days. The District Championship was won by Tom McDermott! Second spot went to Bruce Baiden and third to Keith Swihart. The District Meeting was conducted under the capable direction of George Buckingham and was concluded rapidly. New officers are Commodore Bill Saeger and Secretary-Treasurer June Schubert, both from Fleet 270. The reason business was concluded rapidly was because we all could smell the steak and corn roast subtly urging us on. By the way they certainly have unique pepsi cola in Muncie.

Lake Monroe Sailing Association Fleet 464 gave us all her best weather on August 27-28. A first regatta for this fleet showed the way with strong winds and medium chop on this largest lake in Indiana. We were favored with beautiful skies, spectacular sunsets, and moonlit night waters. Saturday showed us good wind but blew us in safely for a fine supper and happy hour. The wind came up on Sunday and gave us all enough to keep skippers happy and crews hopping. Let's hear a cheer for Sam Ertle's cure for a chipped elbow and cracked rib — a cheer for Fleet 464's great hospitality and help in launching and hauling everyone. Blowing into first place was Brad Wagnon of Muncie (this in spite of a man overboard) second went to Bob Schubert, Indianapolis and third to Bob Carter, Indianapolis. We all enjoyed this first Zephyr Regatta but have rechristened it in light of their winds "Big Blow at Monroe".

Wanfinrapmup Fleet 420 Mississinewa Lake — That's where the action was on October 1-2. We've been building winds all season but Fleet 420 mixed them up and we had light air on Saturday leaving standings of Hank Hodgson in first and Jack Mueller in second.

Sunday morning after a particularly lovely party given by some very special people, the wind came up a little too much, and with the safety boat's engine protesting, John Nixon decided someone was telling him something. So — Sunday's races were cancelled leaving the regatta winners as of Saturday's standings and leaving all of us with good feelings about our Lightning Sailors, friends and great plans for next year's regattas....And the winds up!.....

ITALIAN DISTRICT

District Commodore C. V. Mario Lo Sardo
District Secretary Nando De Amicis
District Champion Bruno Magoni
District Runner-Up Luigi Merola
Junior Champion Umberto Talamonti

Fleets: Marivela (235); del Garda (249); di Roma (271); di Anzio (278); Lega Navale Italiana Anzio (312); La Spezia (321); Lido degli Estensi (355); Formia (389); Flotta del Faro Cervia (390); Marsala (449); Trasimeno (453); Conero (466); Flotta del Lario (467).

The past year has been a very important one for Lightning sailors in Italy. The European Championship was hosted by our district and was held at Numana on the Adriatic coast with 33 boats participating from Switzerland, Finland and Italy. For the Italians the final results were valid for the District Championship. Magoni, with DeAngels and Rizieri in 13068 *Sistiana* of fleet 235, was the new Italian Champion. Merola, with Mario and Francesco Lo Sardo in 13061 *Lola uno* of fleet 235, was the runner-up. DeAmicis, with his son, Alberto, and Matteo Bortolaso in 8763 *Sindbad* of fleet 249, was third. Other results were as follows: Viviani, Armenii and Moroni were fourth in 12427 *Julia* of fleet 466; Bardi, Mandrioli and Gasperini were fifth in 9316 *Cap. Morino* of fleet 321; Crucitti, Giacalone and Martinez were sixth in 12905 *Easy Wave* of fleet 449; Salvetti, Saulini and Salvetti were seventh in 13037 *Joe Condor* of fleet 453; De Segni, Mieli and Federici were eighth in 12475 *Coed* of fleet 312; DeRegis, Ciurnelli and Rustichelli were ninth in 12297 *Gargantua* of fleet 453; and Tremante, Tezza and Perin were tenth in 9450 *Tretepe* of fleet 249.

Six Italian boats took part in the World Championship at Spiez, but the results were not good. Luigi Merola with 32nd place and Nando DeAmicis with 43rd place were the best.

Very important for the district was the building of a new glass boat in Italy. 13061 is the prototype of the Salver of Brindisi and is of very solid glass construction and is a very competitive boat. There is possibility of diffusion of the new glass boat during the next year with the help of promotional activity by the District.

We are very happy to welcome Lightning Fleet 467 "Flotta del Lario" on Como Lake in north Italy. The situation of the other fleets has ameliorated. Fleets 449, 453, 466 and 467 constitute a solid base for increase of activity in the respective areas. Fleets 235 and 249 include skippers most available for large transfers, but the Trasimeno's skippers (F 453) found the best way and took part in a large number of regattas.

Altogether there are about 200 members of the I.L.C.A. in Italy at the present time and more than 50 boats took part in 1977 regattas. These are meaningful figures!

LAKE ERIE DISTRICT

District Commodore Bill Hunter
District Corresponding Sec'y Judy Walker
District Executive Secretary Cal Schmiede
District Treasurer Dave Duchscherer
District Measurer Bill Potter
District Asst. Measurer Mark Bryant
District Champion Mark Bryant
District Runner-Up Jay Hansen
District Jr. Champion Chris Jones
District Jr. Runner-Up Doug Hunter

Fleets: Buffalo Canoe Club (12); Chautauqua Lake Y.C. (19); Silver Lake Y.C. (47); Niagara Sailing Club (59); Sandy Beach Y.C. (78); Buffalo, Y.C. (81); Cuba Lake (115); Royal Hamilton Y.C. (118); Toronto Bay (146); Conneaut Bay (180); Chautauqua (198); Dunkirk

Harbor (311); London (347); Parkway Sailing Club (406); Lake Arthur L.F. (441); Lake Glendale Y.C. (444).

BULLETIN: TOM ALLEN WINS 1977 LIGHTNING WELT- MEISTERSHAFT IN SWITZERLAND.

This has to be the biggest news in the Lake Erie District this year. Our boy did it!!! Tom won the World's for the fourth time. The District is proud of him and congratulates Tom and his crew, daughter Brenda and son Tom. Congratulations too to Jim Neville and his all-girl crew, sisters Candy and Nancy, for a very respectable fourth place finish. This "all in the family" thing really works.

Back to the basics—the Spring District Meeting was held at Buffalo Canoe Club in April. In the afternoon, there were "Tales of the 1977 Southern Circuit". After dinner ILCA President Bob Adams, our guest speaker, let us know what was new in the Lightning Class. Following this there was a unique and outstanding video entertainment provided by Fleet 118, RHYC.

Our sailing season began as usual with the Eby Series at BCC. Also, as usual, the weather was not very cooperative, but the heartiest souls were there. Of 18 boats, Stu Anderson was first followed by Jay Hansen and Ed Roseberry...all BCC members.

At the Niagara Frontier Invitational Regatta, 52 Lightnings were on the starting line. Overall winner was Ed Roseberry-BCC with Jim Dressel of Buckeye Lake second and Stu Anderson-BCC third. The afternoon race was blown out on Saturday and the NFIR ended as a two-race series.

The interdistrict competition, combining the results of The Newport Yacht Club Invitational (Central New York District) and the Niagara Frontier Invitational (Lake Erie District), produced Fisk Hayden (CNYD) as the winner with Kirk Reynolds (CNYD) second and Stu Anderson (LED) third. The Lake Erie District will have to "try harder" in 1978.

For those who chose to ravel, there were Lightning regattas at various clubs in the District every weekend throughout the sailing season. Stories on these will be found in the Fleet Reports.

Another first for the Lake Erie District—the District Regatta was held at Niagara Sailing Club with the golden opportunity to compete in the current and fluky winds of the upper Niagara River. The John Y. Sloan Junior District Championship was won by Chris Jones-BCC with Doug Hunter-RHYC second and Skip Wilday-CLYC third. There were six enthusiastic young skippers on hand for the starting gun. Under the capable direction of Race Committee Chairman Doug Hooper, five races were completed in the District Regatta with forty-four boats competing. Mark Bryant-SBYC was the winner with a two-point margin over Jay Hansen-BCC who was second. The others who qualified for the North Americans, in order, were Bill Neal-SLYC, Stu Anderson-BCC, Ron Cochrane-NYC, Bob Starck-NSC, Ed Roseberry-BCC, Dave Sprague-BYC, Dave Ingram-Chautauqua, Peter Bone-SLYC, Matt Bryant Jr.-BCC, Don Cutler-CLYC and Judy Walker-NSC. A vote of thanks to Regatta Chairman Jack Swanson and the Niagara Sailing Club.

Meanwhile, back at the World's in Spiez, Switzerland, the District was represented by Tom Allen, Larry MacDonald Jr., Cal Schmiede and Jim Neville.

The 1977 Canadian Open was held in far away Thunder Bay on cold, cold Lake Superior. Twenty-seven boats competed and the Lake Erie District took the first three places. First was Jay Hansen, second-Larry MacDonald Jr. and third-Pete Sulman.

The Lake Erie District placed nine boats in the Blue Fleet in the North Americans at Buffalo Canoe Club. The best finisher was Stu Anderson with an overall 8th.

The fourth annual Old Salts Regatta, all skippers and crew under 100 but over 50 and young at heart, was won by young Ward Wilday.

The Northern Fall Circuit includes regattas at Dunkirk on Lake Erie, Silver Lake and Sandy Beach Yacht Club on the upper Niagara River. At Dunkirk, the racing was blown out on Saturday, but on Sunday two races were sailed. The next two weekends, at Silver Lake and Sandy Beach, black rain clouds followed the Lightnings, but we sailed in spite of Mother Nature's handicaps. There were 28 boats at Dunkirk, 50 at Silver Lake and 33 at Sandy Beach. Nineteen boats completed the three-regatta circuit. First place in the "A" Fleet went to Larry MacDonald Jr. followed by Stu Anderson and Matt Bryant Jr. In the "B" Fleet, Judy Walker was first, Gordy Compson was second and Dale Taulbee was third.

Overall the Lake Erie District had a very successful season. A special thank you goes to Commodore Bill Hunter who did a super job in directing District affairs.

LAKE ERIE DISTRICT

REGATTA SCHEDULE

1978

REGATTA	HOST CLUB	TENTATIVE DATE
EBY SERIES	BUFFALO CANOE CLUB	May 6,7, & 13,14
REUNION REGATTA	NEWPORT YACHT CLUB	May 20-21
ERIE OPEN	ERIE YACHT CLUB	June 3,4
CORNBALL REGATTA	CHAUTAUQUA LAKE YACHT CLUB	June 10,11
NIAGARA FRONTIER INVITATIONAL	BUFFALO CANOE CLUB	June 17, 18
HAMILTON HARBOUR INVITATIONAL	ROYAL HAMILTON YACHT CLUB	June 24, 25
PARKWAY INVITATIONAL	PARKWAY SAILING CLUB	July 8,9
40TH ANNIVERSARY REGATTA	SKANEATELES YACHT CLUB	July 8,9
NIAGARA RIVER CHAMPIONSHIP	NIAGARA SAILING CLUB	July 15,16
GEORGIAN BAY REGATTA	GEORGIAN BAY	July 22,23
JUNIOR DISTRICTS	BUFFALO CANOE CLUB	July 26-27
DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIPS	BUFFALO CANOE CLUB	July 28-30
CANADIAN OPEN	NATIONAL YACHT CLUB	August 5-7
CHAMPAGNE REGATTA	KEUKA YACHT CLUB	
CUBA LAKE REGATTA	CUBA LAKE YACHT CLUB	August 12,13
NORTH AMERICANS	-----	-----
TRI-CLUB REGATTA	NIAGARA SAILING CLUB	August 26,27
OLD SALTS REGATTA	BUFFALO CANOE CLUB	August 30
DUNKIRK REGATTA	DUNKIRK YACHT CLUB	September 9,10
HARVEST REGATTA	SILVER LAKE YACHT CLUB	September 16, 17
HAUL-OUT REGATTA	SANDY BEACH YACHT CLUB	September 23,24
TURKEY REGATTA	ROYAL HAMILTON YACHT CLUB	September 30
PUMPKIN REGATTA	LONDON CLUB	October 7-9