

## GREAT EGG HARBOR FLEET (99)

### Central Atlantic District

Based on Great Egg Bay, Ocean City, N.J.

Fleet Captain ..... Bill Clausen III  
Fleet Secretary ..... Bill Clausen III

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
1723	Black Flash	Lester Asplundh
10895	Reject	William P. Clausen
11192	Sunbeam	Art Hartford
12550	.....	Robert Seidelmann

I wish I could report that Fleet 99 had an active racing season on Great Egg Harbor Bay, but I cannot. Fleet 99's activities involved day sailing only on the home front.

*Reject*, yours truly and many dependable crews from all over New Jersey enjoyed an active and successful year.

I would like to thank the following Yacht Clubs that we sailed at this season: Monmouth B.C., Met. River Y.C., Bay Head Y.C., Surf City Y.C., Ocean City Y.C., Red Dragon C.C. and Riverton Y.C. Last but not least the Buffalo Canoe Club where we sailed in the North American Championships.

With the help and dedication of the following crews, this season was a success for *Reject*. Mary Huntsman, Philip Dennis, Henry O'Hern, Chick Lloyd, Dosie Clausen, John Parker, Elenor Parker, Mark Schneider and Ed Kavle.

Many of us in the ILCA still hope Bob Seidelmann gets that Lightning rigged that he has in the yard and shows us "how it's done" again.

We are looking forward to 1978 and hope to see you at Monmouth B.C. in the Spring.

## SANTA MONICA BAY LIGHTNING FLEET (102)

### California District

Sailing on the Pacific at Santa Monica Bay  
and Los Angeles Harbor

Fleet Captain ..... Robert Newman  
Fleet Secretary ..... Robert Newman  
Fleet Champion ..... Wendell Harter

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
6543	.....	Greg Pierson
7343	Skeeter	Dick Curtis
7869	Paddlin Madelyn	Wendell Harter
8122	Rusalko	Dick Vianden
8525	Chapelo	Peter Aperlo
10792	Valkyrie	Robert Newman
11373	Sea Fever	Mike Boswell
12815	Lotsa Work	Ralph Stober

The 1977 season was very active for the Santa Monica Bay Fleet, with the fleet championship competition being closer than it has been in many-a-year. However, when the wind had died down and the boats were stored away for the winter, once again it was Wendell Harter who proved unbeatable. He retained the number one spot in our fleet.

Our season began in March and ended in November. During the year, Harter won the most regattas, winning the Spring Centerboard, Dinghy Day, The Cecil R. King, and the Fall Series Regattas. Mark Patty, who looked like he might have a chance to beat Wendell this year before he was transferred to San Francisco, won two regattas - The Spring One-Design, and the Hurricane Gulch Regattas. Mike Boswell was our other winner, in the Autumn One-Design. Other members who sailed well were Quintin Foster, who started off the year going great-guns, Don Rondeau, who seemed to improve with each outing, and Bob Newman, who finally got it going again at the end of the year.

In April, our fleet in conjunction with the San Diego Fleet, hosted the California Lightning Circuit. The turnout was good as eighteen boats were on the starting line. Tom Allen from Buffalo, and Brian Coleman from Richmond, B.C. joined our Regatta, and provided some close competition to our local sailors, with Tom winning the Regatta.

On July 9th and 10th we held the California District Championships at King Harbor Yacht Club. Myron Lyon of MYBC became the new District Champion by taking two firsts. Bruce Arnold of RYC was second. Lake Cachume, in Santa Barbara was the scene of our annual Billie Boswell Regatta, in September. The weather was warm and the

surroundings beautiful. While San Diego boats captured the first three spots, our fleet has two trophy winners in Wendell Harter, 4th, and Bob Newman 5th.

In October the fleet, along with Myron Lyon of San Diego, sponsored a new Lightning in the Long Beach Sailboat show. There was much interest in the boat. As a direct, or indirect, result of the show, we have added two new members to our fleet. Next year we hope to have a larger turnout for some of our regattas. Now that there are two new boats in our area, and two or possibly three new members who have bought used boats we are anticipating a renewed interest in Lightning racing in the Santa Monica Bay area.



George Zabrycki and Crew.

## LAVALLETTE LIGHTNING FLEET (104)

### Central Atlantic District

Sailing on Barnegat Bay, Lavallette, New Jersey

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

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
2067	.....	Chris J. Larsen
9250	Puck	Walter H. Krueger
9484	Spook	R. John Schneeberger
9539	.....	Anthony M. Ventimiglia
10633	STAR DUST	Fred Slovak & Aileen M. Mearea
11444	Too	George Zabrycki
11728	Artful Dodger	Bob Williams
12209	Blue Max	Dr. Ira Ross
12350	Flying Cloud II	Chris J. Larsen
	.....	J. Leslie White
	Honorary Life Member	

We will start this year's article with a little quiz. What do the Oakland Raiders, Portland Trailblazers, New York Yankees and Bob Williams have in common? The answer is absolutely nothing except for the fact that Bob also won in 77. For the second year in a row we congratulate our Fleet Champion. Bob's victory was well deserved especially in a year that many feel marked the beginning of a new interest in the Lightning class at Lavallette.

During the past season examples of this resurgence were: new skippers, Walter Kruger and Bill D'Costa; Chris Larsen making the grand entry with a new boat; John Schneeberger returning and with strong rumors he'll be back next year with a "hot" boat, and the fact that many of our skippers took advantage of the afternoon schedule to use more juniors as crew.

Our season started on the upbeat with the unveiling of our renovated clubhouse. Many of us, both members and visiting skippers, have developed a special affection for Lavallette and were pleased to see improvements that enhanced the spirit of the old club without changing its character.

We were blessed with fine weather which made this past season one of the most competitive in recent memory. Skills were tested in light and heavy air with only one race cancelled because of weather conditions.

It seemed that each week the standings would change as Ross, Zabrycki, Larsen and Schneeberger took turns trying to catch Williams. Fred Slovak continued his role as master of light wind and would on occasion race, take a pennant, puff his pipe and smile. Fred was the mentor this season, and many of our juniors got some excellent help crewing and skippering Fred's boat. Bill D'Costa and Walter Kruger made it through their "rookie" season with the usual "spinnaker dunks", capsizes, and confusion. However, they continued to smile, and that occasional "good leg" has hooked them both on the Lightning.

Doe Ross continued to be our most constant attendee of the regatta circuit with Zabrycki and Williams occasionally finding time to travel. In the future we hope to see more Lavallette boats on the road.

We look forward to next season, to strong competition, fun and good fellowship.

## GREAT SODUS BAY LIGHTNING FLEET (108)

### Central New York District

#### Sailing at Sodus Bay, Sodus Point, N.Y.

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

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

It's hard to believe a fleet of three could be so active. We get around...go under bridges, see the mist, sail over sunken villages, see an Alp. What a way to go — the ILCA Travel Club.

Next year, "Mr. Cheese" get his license to travel, after several years crewing.

Happy 1978 to all!

## HIGGINS LAKE FLEET (110)

### Michigan District

#### Sailing on Higgins Lake at Roscommon, Michigan

Fleet Captain ..... Gary Cutler

Fleet Champion ..... Ormond Barstow

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
11070	Serendipity	Michael Dow
11185	.....	Ormond Barstow
12108	Serenity	Gary Cutler
12784	.....	W. C. Dent
Life Member		Dr. Floyd R. Arnold

Once again Higgins Lake beckoned sailors throughout the mid-west with its clear water and sandy beaches for another fun and excitement filled summer.

The annual invitational regatta opened with 74 entries, 16 of which were Lightnings. It was under the competent direction of Commander Fred Krauss and his wife Jenny.

Mr. Tom Baldwin was instrumental in increasing the number of participants in our novice races, which are gaining in popularity.

The two week beginning sailing course, teaching the fundamentals of cruise and racing, was taught by Mr. Mike Dow and Mr. Gary Cutler.

Join us next summer for the best in Lightning racing.

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

### Midwest District

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

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

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
8644	Jenora	Lyle M. Bracker
9309	Old Hickory	J. Gagnon III & D. Whitton
10459	Hay Seed II	W. E. Hayes
13141	Banzai	Bill R. Dean

Delay in the repair of our committee boat, and unusually bad spring weather, prevented us from getting our markers in early for the spring racing series. Once started, we had a full summer and fall racing series for all boats fortunate enough to reach the racing area. Low water at the dock, prevailing southwest winds, and a pile of submerged rocks strategically located by a gudgeon manufacturer, stripped us of more rudders this year than we have lost in the last ten. Since the University's fleet of Tech Dingies suffered the same fate as our Lightnings, we have some hope that the dock area will be dredged before the next sailing season.

Our final race for the Walter Masse Memorial Cup and the Beaumont Pot was held on a Saturday afternoon in a gale. There were only six boats, but it was a spirited race. Brian Phelan, skippering *Hayseed II*, in trying to make up for a bad start, flew his spinnaker and paid the penalty during a jibe. The water was cold! Doug Olson's boat lost its rudder coming down the side of a large wave. Joe Gagnon won the handicap cup and Bill Dean in his new Nichols & Holman 13141 took the Beaumont Pot for being the first Lightning over the line.

The GBSC is seriously considering reinstating the Evans Regatta next spring and is planning a full range of activities for the coming year. With the excellent facilities shared with the University of Wisconsin, Green Bay, and the enthusiasm of our membership, the club is looking forward to a great summer of sailing in 1978.

## ROYAL HAMILTON YACHT CLUB (118)

### Lake Erie District

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

Fleet Captain	.....	Tom Robertson
Fleet Vice Captain	.....	Martin Gamelin
Fleet Secretary/Treasurer	.....	Max Ahlfors
"A" Fleet Champion	.....	Larry MacDonald, Jr.
"A" Fleet Runner-Up	.....	Max Ahlfors
"B" Fleet Champion	.....	Mike Vollmer

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
6851	Baleno	Harold I. Boyce
8366	.....	Rick Embleton
8903	Beverly Jane	Lloyd Ascah
9043	.....	Max Ahlfors
10292	KT	Tom Robertson
11734	Chance II	Ron Wadeson
12100	Momma	Bill & Doug Hunter
12262	Endavour	Larry MacDonald, Sr. & Jr.
12443	Cha Gheill	Mike Vollmer
12946	.....	Martin Gamelin
.....	.....	Lloyd Ascah

Fleet 118 started the season with a series of practice races in early May and an early spring seminar arranged by Larry MacDonald. This early practice is becoming a traditional function with our fleet, and helps us get an edge on the season with some valuable coaching from Larry.

Both our Fleet, and our Club are in the midst of some drastic changes. A new Club house is now under construction, and a new Committee Boat has been purchased to run our Club Races and Regattas. Many of you who attend our Regattas will enjoy these improvements in the coming seasons.

Within our Fleet changes are taking place as well. On the one hand, we are losing a number of long time Fleet members. Hopefully we will regain members in the coming seasons. On the other hand, competition within the Fleet is becoming keener. This is best exemplified this year by Max Ahlfors, who moved through the Fleet to finish the season as runner-up in the Fleet Championships.

Generally speaking, we have had a great season at Hamilton, and we look forward to even better sailing next year.

## MERRIMAC RIVER LIGHTNING FLEET (121)

### New England District

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

Fleet Captain ..... Tim Hays  
Vice Captain ..... Joyce Young  
Fleet Secretary ..... Steven Fram  
Fleet Champion ..... John Bouchard  
Runner-Up ..... Joyce Stoehr  
2nd Runner-Up ..... Steve Fram

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
518	.....	Robert H. Gustafson
10744	Nadine	Alan P. Lavender
11099	.....	Thomas Valeo
11145	Sissy III	Tim Hays
11222	.....	Robert H. Gustafson
11250	Gemini	Joyce Stoehr, Judy & C. Fredric Young
12749	.....	John Bouchard
12821	Remedy	Steve Fram
.....	.....	Al DeBernardi

The 1977 sailing season has come and gone, and what a season it was in Newburyport. We found ourselves with a whopping 18 boats as the season opened, and had 11 boats race on a regular basis. John Bouchard, showing us he hadn't lost any of his 1976 style, won two of the first three races and went on to win the tough 14 race series for the second year in a row.

The fight for second and third was very close between three boats, with the final standings not being decided until the results of an after the season protest was decided. The results found Joyce Stoehr in the second spot and Steve Fram in third. Al DeBernardi was a very close fourth, so close in fact, that if the protest had been found in his favor, he would have ended up second overall.

Al Lavender won our Twilight Series for the second year in a row. Al is becoming known as the night marauder of the fleet. If he could make *Nadine* go that fast in daylight, we'd all be in trouble.

The Young Memorial Race was won by Al DeBernardi in his new 13000 series boat (*DeeBee VI or VII or ??*). The Yankee Homecoming Regatta was won by Sue Tattersall in a boat that she borrowed for the event. Not bad Sue!

One of the highlights of the season came in Fleet 121's 1977 District Invitational Regatta, when hometown sailor Fred Young walked away with the gold. Considering some of the heavies who were there, the hometown fleet showed well with a 1st, 9th, and an 11th out of 26 entries. Perhaps our level of competition is finally being upgraded — 1978 could very well tell.

Fleet 121 wishes Lightning sailors everywhere a happy 40th anniversary. Let's make it 40 more!!

## RED JACKET YACHT CLUB (125)

### Central New York District

#### Sailing on Lake Cayuga, Seneca Falls, New York

Fleet Captain ..... Chet Abend  
Co-Captain ..... Arlene Abend  
Fleet Champions ..... Batty & Bodine  
Runner-Up ..... Jim Heckey

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
9133	.....	Tripp Blair
9239	Hex-A-Gone	Jim Heckey
9429	Kittywake	Marge & William MacPhee
9806	.....	Paul Wenderlich
11571	Taboma	Ken Soha
12012	ToLife II	Chet Abend
12480	Partners	Pete Bodine, Andy Batty & John W. Felton
	Choice	John W. Felton
12792	Thor	W. B. & Geoffrey Smith

High above Cayuga's waters a new spirit of Lightning competition has been re-born. Fleet 125 lives! After years of dormancy, held together by the grit and determination of three sailors, we have seen the growth of the fleet. We are seriously on the upswing and welcome the addition of even more racing companions by next season — we certainly have the room!

Favorably positioned on the site of the camping grounds of that great and noble Indian, Chief Red Jacket, Fleet 125 commands one of the most scenic views in all the Finger Lakes. With its ample grounds and large parking areas, 19th century gingerbread club house, spacious and sunny bar, generous docks, and 1000 feet of waterfront, as well as pool and social activities, Red Jacket Yacht Club is truly a tribute to family sailing. There is nothing formal here and we like it that way. On any given weekend it is the scene of lake and lawn activities of every variety, with participation by friends and neighbors from 1 to 92. The friendliness of our Central New York sailors extends to the places they call home — Rochester, Seneca Falls, Waterloo, and Syracuse, N.Y., among others.

This season the challenge of victory has spurred a camaraderie and rivalry which is being expressed in new racing interest and dedication. Our present boats are mostly skippered by new sailors whose boatmanship and competitive commitment is nothing short of astounding. This is best personified by Jim Heckey and his gung-ho crew of Dave and Dan. The guts of raising their spinnaker in 18 knot gusty, shifty winds is what put them in second place. Perhaps some of our other sailors still think that the pole is that funny looking paddle, without ends, that rolls around in the bottom of the boat...well never mind, what they lack in experience they make up for in sheer ferocity. They learn real fast and this has been accelerated by regular racing lessons.

No single race can be described as the best. Rather, what made our season so exciting was the changing positions with different winners from race to race. The winner was anyone's guess and surprises were frequent. Almost everyone had the opportunity at some time to get the finish gun. Whew! All of us worked our fingers to the bone. Even that intrepid and skilled jib-man Arlene Abend went through two pair of gloves and a fresh box of band-aids.

Cayuga Lake, 42 miles long, is no ocean, but we have on occasion, unexpected line squalls that would make the Caribbean seem like a bathtub. Does this concern Dave and Fran Wenderlich? Not a bit! Thunder and/or lightning, they manage to wobble back with the stick up. All this makes for hair-raising competition. Remember the time Maggie McPhee who was last seen as a dot behind the fleet showed up first at the finish line? Of course, you have to remember that regardless of the wind force, once Magee steps aboard no self respecting center-board would dare tilt up its luster; it merely stays planted in the water where it's supposed to. With all the excitement, we may have had a few mishaps, but nothing that ten square feet of Fiberglass wouldn't patch up. By comparison our co-fleet, those large Sunfish with keels, frequently called Star-Boats, generally stock up on 5,000 yards of bailing wire and a carload of thirty foot spars well before the season gets under way.

All this Lightning fever brings tears to the eyes of our champion sailors, Pete Bodine and Andy Batty, ably assisted by club Commodore, John Felton, a veteran Lightning sailor. When they see our growing fleet snapping and furling at the dock before the race, they think they are seeing visions — which, considering their time at the bar, is not to be disputed.

Fleet 125 lives, is growing, and is a hellava place to be. Come and join us whenever you're up in Central New York.

## CEDAR POINT YACHT CLUB (126)

### Connecticut - Rhode Island District

#### Sailing on Long Island Sound at Westport, Connecticut



Fleet Captain .....	Jack Lewis
Fleet Secretary .....	Wayne Atwell
Fleet Treasurer .....	Richard Thackaberry
Fleet Publicity .....	Phil Griffin
Fleet Champion .....	Phil Griffin
Runner-Up .....	Jack Lewis

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
9542	Sue	Charles D. Agnew
9888	Squirt	Robert & Lee Jackson
10431	Green Parrot	Jonathan Mandel
10555	Riot	David A. Crawford
10690	Tuned	Gianni Cuccio
10738	.....	Phil & Jennifer E. Griffin
11082	TNT	C. Dayton Titsworth
11143	Gizmo	Art Grayson
11220	Thunder	Allen & Glen Bemus
11381	.....	Richard Price III
11576	.....	Arie Van Breems II
11580	Gorilla	Harvey Weiss
12004	Shazam	Richard Freeman
12068	Germe'	Chris Wurster
12367	Frog	Dr. Richard & Kathleen Thackaberry
12744	.....	Ken Shauer
12853	Gotcha II	Mike Willetts
12876	.....	David & Kyle Fagin
13000	Les Trois Chats II	Wayne Atwell
13007	Greenfinger	Ted Juraschek
13055	Gemma	Tom Le Brun
13200	Red Peppers	Jack Lewis
13206	Giannina	John Cuccio



*Phil Griffin Fleet 126's 1977 Fleet Champ.*

Fleet 126 at Cedar Point had another fantastic, competitive, joyous, successful and fun racing season in 1977.

Phil Griffin, our (almost) perennial champion, copped about every prize available by combining his gigantic talent, a fast boat and the rather sneaky — but clearly legal — strategy of marrying one of his crew members (wife Jeffie, who also spends time as CPYC sailing instructor developing future Griffin-type sailors).

We had over 25 boats racing in our Fleet, several new members, new boats, the traditional CPYC Early Bird Regatta, our Season Series, Saturday and Sunday Series, Commodore's, Vice Commodore's and Rear Commodore's Cup regattas and, to cap it all off, this year we combined the annual Fall Invitational Regatta with the Atlantic Coast Championships at the end of the summer.

Fleet 126 was ably represented by a number of our boats at the Districts (grabbing two of the top five places), North Americans, and a host of other "away" regattas (including the always-fun Spofford event).

The gods of the winds were kind to us this season. We had only one or two "drifters" and no abandonments/cancelled races (things are getting better every year on Long Island Sound).

The top five performers in our season series were the ubiquitous Phil Griffin, tenacious Jack Lewis, rising star Mike Willetts, the ever-present Dr. Dick Thackaberry, and super-fast Chris Wurster.

Perhaps the best evidence of the strength and depth of Fleet 126 this year was the fact that, in addition to our "Fabulous Five," there were another half-dozen skippers who were always threatening those guys and who often nabbed first place. This made our racing much more exciting because on any given race day anyone could win.

Our Commodore's Cup series winner was Phil Griffin, with "Uncle" John Cuccio second and newcomer Ted Juraschek third. In the Vice Commodore's Cup regatta it was Phil Griffin again, followed by Jack Lewis and Mike Willetts (Mike's crew, in addition to being highly skilled, helps provide the "Mike Psych" via the "visual distraction" technique — needless to say, this ploy is effectively carried off by two quite lithesome females).

In the "boy-was-that-close" Rear Commodore's Cup series held over the Labor Day weekend, there were at least six boats in contention for first place after the first two days. Dick Thackaberry proved the old rule about consistency, coming out in front with Jack Lewis and Mike Willetts close behind.

The year the Cedar Point Fall Invitational was combined with the Atlantic Coast Championships, NEARLY 70 BOATS converged on CPYC for a weekend of fantastic racing and lots of laughs (especially for the spectators at the rounding marks). Bill Shore emerged victorious, but folks like Jack Elfman, Tom Allen, Phil Griffin, Dr. Don Delorme, Jay Lutz and many other "Lightning luminaries" gave Bill a run for his money (while others gave Bill money for a run by buying a chute or two while he was there).

We had a great time at Cedar Point in 1977.

We expect even more excitement in 1978. Come race with us — anytime!

## SAVANNAH LIGHTNING FLEET (127)

### Southeastern District

#### Sailing on Wilmington River at Bradley Point, Savannah, Ga.

Fleet Captain .....	James P. Black
Fleet Secretary .....	Betsy Daniell
Fleet Champion .....	Albert H. Berry, Jr.
Runner-Up .....	Randy Brooks

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
9098	.....	Chip Ogletree
10327	.....	Gary G. Oetgen
11017	.....	Dale Klemm
11336	.....	James L. & Betsy Daniell
12055	Urge	Randy Brooks
12705	Soggie	James P. Black
12786	.....	Fred D. Maner, M.D.
12828	.....	Albert H. Berry, Jr.
12897	.....	Larry Stuber
13013	Jinx	C. A. McMurray, Jr.
13190	.....	John McIntosh, Sr.
Life Member	.....	J. Wallace Aggett
.....	.....	Charles M. Kilpatrick
.....	.....	A. Neff McIntosh

Fleet 127's racing year starts with the Deep South Regatta. As always it gets us ready for the year and starts us off with enthusiasm. We appreciate the support the Lightning Class has shown for this Regatta over the years and we're proud to be a part of the Lightning Class Southern Circuit. Unfortunately, also as always, we showed our hospitality by letting our guests cart off the silver.

John McIntosh was our leading contender placing 8th in the Deep South and representing our fleet well in the Southern Circuit placing 8th in St. Pete and 9th in Miami for an 8th overall on the Circuit.

Fleet 127 and the Savannah Yacht Club are proud that the Lightning Class decided to honor Wally Aggett with a Life Membership for his many years of service as Deep South Regatta Race Committee Chairman.

Neff McIntosh rejoined the fleet purchasing Bob Sherman's Lightning and immediately proceeded to win the District Championship. It's

rumored to be the first time he sailed the boat after buying it.

The District Championships are a part of the 10 Regatta Southeastern District Circuit and we were well represented. In addition to Neff's victory at High Rock, John McIntosh won at Jacksonville, Charleston and finished up winning the Atlanta Cup to take an overall second on the Circuit followed by Bert Berry third, and Neff fourth. Randy Brooks, Gary Oetgen and Chip Ogletree also qualified on the Circuit.

In our own Lightning Invitational, which is a part of the Circuit, Neff McIntosh was second, Bert Berry third and Randy Brooks fourth. Those first places do seem to be eluding us. Neff McIntosh won one and John McIntosh won three out of the 10. Bert Berry didn't win any first place silver on the Circuit but sailed consistently well enough to place third overall, so he won a good share.

Bert did win the Lightning Class at the Savannah Yacht Club's annual 4th of July Open Regatta with Randy Brooks second and Charlie Kilpatrick third. Charlie, although presently without a boat, joins us now and then and we hope to see him full time again soon.

John McIntosh represented us in the Big Time sailing to a respectable 12th in the North Americans and 13th in the Worlds.

The final event in our Summer Series is the Labor Day Regatta won by Bert Berry with Randy Brooks second and Gary Oetgen third.

Bert ended up our Fleet Champion as determined by the Summer Series with Randy Brooks as runner-up. Jim Black sailed to third.

Sandwiched in between all his sailing, Bert Berry found time to serve as Commodore of the Savannah Yacht Club this year. With more time to devote to sailing next year he's going to be even tougher.

This was a year of growth for our fleet after a slow start. There are rumors around about boat sales and we hope to see the old boats in new hands in our fleet and some new boats too. We think we'll be bigger and better next year, so come help us start our new year at the Deep South Regatta.

#### MADISON BEACH CLUB (129)

##### Connecticut - Rhode Island District

##### Sailing on Long Island Sound at Madison, Conn.

Commodore ..... Jim Deepphouse  
Fleet Captain ..... Nancy D. Young  
Fleet Secretary ..... Jame Hilton  
Fleet Champion ..... Nancy D. Young  
Runner-Up ..... David Deepphouse

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
10689	Splash	Linda Baylis Zanes
11113	.....	Nancy Davidson
11207	Early Times	James R. Deepphouse
11773	Franste II	Jay W. Jackson

Despite its small size, the Madison Beach Club Lightning Fleet had another enjoyable sailing season. Our perennial champion, John Johnstone, however, was among the missing, having decided to spend his time sailing J-24s. Another boat was added to the fleet however, when Bill West purchased 10689, formerly owned by another Madison skipper, Linda Baylis Zanes.

The Fourth of July weekend marked the beginning of the Summer Racing, and Jane Hilton surprised everyone by winning the Roger Pape Memorial Race, an annual contest in which skippers draw lots for the boats they will sail. Many thanks go to Nancy Young's excellent crew of Chris deChabert and George Young.

Throughout the summer, our fleet travelled the Connecticut shoreline to several regattas. In July, a few of us raced at Black Rock in the Connecticut-Rhode Island District. David Deepphouse raced well and finished sixth out of a fleet of 33 boats, falling by one position to go on to the nationals. David then tried his luck at Niantic Bay in the Long Island Sound Championship, but suffered a broken shroud in the first race. Nancy Young was luckier, and finished fourth overall in the regatta.

As a result of these out-of-town regattas, the July series was rather short, and Nancy Young had little trouble taking first place, with David Deepphouse second.

August brought excellent weather, and we had several outstanding races: for once Long Island Sound produced more than drifting matches! Nancy Young finished first again in the August series, with David Deepphouse close behind. Labor Day weekend brought an end to the summer sailing season. In addition to the regular Saturday series,

the annual G. B. Fisher Race was held and was won by Nancy Young.

All in all we had a fantastic summer. First place for the season went to Nancy Young, with David Deepphouse and Jane Hilton finishing second and third respectively. Next year promises to be even better, especially if we manage to get more people involved. Many thanks go to everyone who helped make the season so enjoyable.

#### 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	Sun Kiss	Robert C. Colclough
7748	Thumper	Peter Phillips
8365	.....	Robert Jeffcott
8375	E.C.I.T.S.	Robert Bernhardt, Jr.
8704	Past Time	John Kern
11689	Got'cha	Rick Skinner
11712	Flo-N-Dee	Tom Ford, Jr.
12956	Sun Kiss Too	Robert Borneman
13011	Dutchman's Gold	Robert Bernhardt
13060	Bigeminy III	Barney March

Fleet 135 started the year at a party hosted by Bob Borneman. We had the current film for all to see. We invited several non Lightning sailors to enjoy the afternoon with us. A good party until it started to snow. Snow in Mobile?

We had two new boats brought into the fleet. Barney March was kind enough to let Jim Lippincott sail 13060 to 2nd overall on the Southern Circuit before he picked up *Bigeminy III*. And Bob Borneman checked the classifieds in March *Flashes* and purchased 12956. The new *Sunkiss too* allowed him to sail to a 3rd in the Fleet races.

Robert Jeffcott received the highest honor that can be received by a Mobile Bay sailor - The Arch McKay Trophy. An award given to a sailor for his unselfish devotion to other sailors, a true Corinthian.

With seven regattas held on Mobile Bay, our sailors don't have much travel time, but Barney March and Rick Skinner put miles on their cars. Skinner and crew went to the Districts to relax and captured a first. Barney and crew won one race and finished high in the series. In all, members made - St. Petersburg, Atlanta Cup, Jackson, Miss. Hospitality, and more.

A most enjoyable regatta was held by Fairhope Yacht Club where we were joined by skippers from New Orleans, Southern Yacht Club, Morgan City, La. and Baton Rouge, La. Good winds Saturday set everyone up for the buffet dinner hosted by the Barney March's. Sunday the winds were light until the last boat finished, then a squall raised cain with everyone left on the water. Cal Herman from New Orleans won the Ed Overton trophy.

The regattas, parties, and all have not been as nice as new owners - Bob Colclough, Tom Ford, Wesley Overton, Tom Pennington, and John Stringfellow joining us this year. We all hope that their enthusiasm continues through the coming years.

We finished our year on Nov. 13th with a party. Awarded trophies to Fleet Champion Robert Jeffcott and crew, also runner-up Robert Bernhardt, Jr. and crew. Robert Bernhardt, Jr. was elected Fleet Captain and Bob Borneman Fleet Secretary for the new year. Fleet 135 has had a very good year.

#### GULL LAKE YACHT CLUB (137)

##### Michigan District

##### Sailing on Gull Lake at Richland, Michigan

Fleet Captain ..... Tim Vander Meulen  
Fleet Secretary ..... Wes Cromie  
Fleet Champion ..... Carl Engels  
Runner-Up ..... Dan Chappell

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
6895	Pink Lady	Bob Ellinger
7911	Therapy, Too!	Kenneth B. Byerly
9734	Think Snow	David R. Crawford
9735	Mothers Mink	Dr. Robert Albright
10450	Blue Chip II	Dan Chappell

11016	Second Wind	Dr. Carter Brooks
11806	.....	William Patten
12103	.....	Fred Harrison
12188	.....	Kenneth B. Byerly
12595	Tim-Buck II	Tim E. Stewart
12938	Juju	Carl Engels
12958	Cyxobeu	Tim Vander Meulen

1977 was a year of Ups and Downs for the Gull Lake Lightning Fleet. Ups include gusts of up to 45 knots, and Downs include Bruce Goldsmith's mast bobbing down among the white caps. Other Ups include five new boats — they belong to Carter Brooks, Matt Howard, Scott Greenburg, Fred Harrison and Bill Patton. These new Lightning sailors also garnered two very important awards in our fleet. Matt Howard was recognized as our most promising new skipper and Bill Patton won the Transom Award. That means that though he finished last in most races, he still finished under some of the most difficult sailing conditions we've seen over the past five years.

Another Down was the Prestigious Turtle Award won this year by Tim VanderMeulen, last year's Fleet Captain. Tim won this outstanding achievement trophy for capsizing within one hundred yards of the starting line.

Carl Engels continued his "winning through intimidation" hold on first place while Dan Chappel was the first runner-up. We also crowned a new Floater Champion when Wes Cromie won the toughest light air race of the year.

In addition to our fleet faithfuls, the Ellinger's, Crawford's, Crookston's, Stewart's, Levin's, Byerly's, and those previously mentioned, our fleet will be up four new boats for next season. That is in addition to the new boats this year.

The Gull Lake Regatta was again a success as 27 boats showed up to watch Hank Hodgson win the event the week before he also won the Michigan Districts.

Fleet 137 continues to grow and have great races. Our only problem seems to be that we can't get anyone but the Nordwind's to sail to our annual *Sail To Breakfast*.

#### HAWAII FLEET (143)

##### Hawaii District

##### Sailing on Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii

Fleet Captain	.....	Fran Vaughan
Fleet Secretary	.....	Fran Vaughan
Fleet Champion	.....	David Fergusson
Runner-Up	.....	Fran Vaughan
District Champion	.....	David Fergusson

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

Lightning Fleet 143, sailing on Kaneohe Bay in gorgeous Hawaii had a slightly unusual problem this year. Whether it was caused by "Big Bertha" or the atom bomb, or what, we had weather problems. It seemed like for every other series you'd get down to the club to find the red rag flying and gusts up to 35 knots. That seemed a bit much, so we declined and sat in the bar and drank a lot instead.

But we did have some really hot racing, with Fran Vaughan and Dave Fergusson fighting it out on the starting line and the finish line and a lot of infighting between. Carl Meierdiercks has come way up in the fleet, giving all the usual winners a real hard time. He only seems to slow down a little on the downwind legs. Sounds like new spinnaker time. This coming year shows promise of being one of the better ones for our fleet with more of our old sailors coming back to join us having taken sabbaticals this past year for one reason or another.

Our fleet captain, Fran Vaughan, went to Seattle to compete in the Adams Cup Area "H" runoffs and came in a pretty creditable second place. Beaten by a Thistle sailor from Seattle! She's going to try again another year.

The Kaneohe Yacht Club is very honored to have the 60 foot Polynesian voyaging canoe "Hokule'a" tied up at the pier in December. She is an inspiration to all of us. It takes a really intrepid seaman to sail

from Hawaii to Tahiti in a canoe with no modern navigating equipment aboard and only dried fish, dried fruits and vegetables and the fish you can catch to eat. A really major accomplishment for our Hawaiian "kanes".

#### 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	.....	David Fitch
Runner-Up	.....	Fred Hamblet

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
8339	Wood Wind	Robert Pinard
9715	.....	Dr. Paul Stone
10093	Namy	H. Fletcher Willey
11210	.....	Frederick Turner, Jr.
11288	Bon Joy	Leonard & Robert Pratt
11346	Gail	Fred H. & Christopher B. Hamblet
12220	Razorback	W. R., Jackson & Thomas Wynn
12362	Three Cheers	David H. Fitch

The Spofford Fleet had good times at all the away regattas and hosted a super 30 boat regatta to wind up the New England season the last of September.

Most rewarding was Tom Wynn's 12th place finish in the Junior North Americans. Jody and Rick Turner did a nice job as crew members.

The Fleet enjoyed three good sailing days on Casco Bay at the Districts. Five boats participated with Fred Hamblet winning silverware for fourth, Len Pratt notching 8th and Dave Fitch 11th in the 32 boat fleet.

Weather played a big factor in the Spofford Championships with only two of the seven races sailed over the Fourth of July and only two of the five scheduled for Labor Day. Final standings saw Dave Fitch edge out Bud Hamblet, with Buck Wynn and Fred Turner tied for third.

Our hats are off to Len Pratt, Dot Fitch and volunteers who again taught mid-week sailing to our club members. This is the key to continued sailing growth at Spofford. Two proposed new fleet members will be most welcome next year.

#### 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 & Andre Sulsbeck
7495	ZRBST	Mario Montag & Mario Buckup
8495	Hummel	Wolfgang Aurbach
9746	Terrible	Dieter Waterkamp
11706	Waikiki III	Henricus Bocagae & Claudio Abramowitz
11708	Ciranda	Robert Buckup
11709	GTX II	Willi Carlos Tietze
11710	Irema	Dieter Heydenreich
12360	Brisa	Constatino Fraga
12414	Meia Noite IV	Claudio Kunze & Juan V. Metzner
12440	.....	Paulo Villares
12657	Perereca	Dietmar Heydenreich & Peter Zacher
12868	Yemanja IV	Cid Vieira F. deGodoy
13008	Viking II	Ruediger Ett
13027	Undine IV	Silvia Buchmann Batello



During 1977 our sailing season was very good and we had much fun. Our Fleet Championship was won by Robert Buckup. Our fleet was very well represented at the Worlds by Mario Buckup, who was the Runner-Up. Two of our crews also went to the very well organized South American Championship in Chile.

On November 12 to 20, Fleets 147 and 462 received Bill Shore's news about sails, boats and tactics. Many short races were sailed at this event with 14 boats participating. In each regatta Bill changed boats, to discuss specific problems with each skipper. We had a nice time and this activity will inject new blood in our fleet.

Our fleet and Fleet 462 will promote the Lightning National's and South American Championship on March 25th to April 2nd, 1978.

## 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 ..... Robert Konstam

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
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
11020	.....	Joseph Vivian, DDS
11161	Patience II	Alvin Bales, MD
11557	.....	Dr. Jerome Hurley
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

Fleet 150's season began in mid-May with our Principal Series. Come the end of August, the final tabulation showed Burt Preston reigning as Fleet Champion, with Bob Konstam in second and Bob Bonham in third.

Our Sunday Morning Series started Memorial Day weekend and concluded at the end of August. Burt Preston won the series while Bernie Dillon came in second and Bob Bonham took third.

The Wednesday Evening Series provided a welcome break in the week throughout the summer months. Prue Preston came in first overall with Tom McDermott in second.

The Fall Series, commencing with Labor Day weekend allowed us to enjoy Clearfork's finest sailing weather. The scoring, done on a handicap basis, showed Tom McDermott to be the winner with Bob Konstam in second.

Our Club Championship pitted the three best sailors in the Lightning Fleet against the top competition in the Flying Scot Fleet. After six grueling races, Burt Preston emerged the winner.

Several of our Fleet members have distinguished themselves in areas other than "tiller handling". Al Barbone reigns "Spaghetti Chef Supreme" for his annual club spaghetti feast prepared in September. Bill Woodrow was named to the Club Board of Trustees and he promises some drastic changes in the coming year (probably along the line of mandatory wine consumption prior to all racing events). Bob Konstam very capably headed up the race committee for the US1 Class National Championship, held at our Club in September. Finally, our newest fleet member, Jim Huffman, spent the summer becoming an expert in repairing broken masts. Perhaps next year, armed with his professional crew, Starboard and Port (identical twin sons), he'll join us more often on the race course.

## 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.
10212	Whisper	Peter V. Bent
10831	Reflex	Bruce P. Abbott, M.D.
12886	Mouette	Dr. Georges & J. Georges Peter

Fleet 151 activities were limited to the hosting of a Lightning Regatta that attracted fourteen boats in late June. Greg Fisher from Buckeye Lake and Newport demonstrated the ability that later in the summer nearly won him the North Americans, by winning top honors, followed by Jack Burwell, Georges Peter, Don Brush, Sr., and Stu Nickerson (in spite of a capsized). All three races were sailed in excellent breezes. Annisquam looks forward to another regatta in the near future with, we hope, as excellent conditions as we've enjoyed in past years.

## 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
11466	.....	Guy T. Moulthrop
11585	Merrie Mac	L. G. McKay, Jr.
11588	.....	Charles A. Pinkerton, III
12755	.....	R. Garrett Demarest III & Jeffrey Prince
12921	.....	Gary A. Cameron
Life Member		Charles H. Schreck

Fleet 152, located at Tawas Bay Yacht Club, East Tawas, Michigan, situated on the shores of beautiful Tawas Bay, had rather minimal activities in 1977.

Of the fleet members, Garry Demarest and Gary Cameron continued to be active on the Michigan District racing circuit. As usual, Demarest dominated, winning at Crescent, Tawas, Higgins, and Traverse, and coming in a very close second at the District Championship and Devil's Lake.

Cameron, with the usual outstanding crewing aid of Demarest, again won at Pontiac. On his own, he managed a second at Tawas and a close fourth at the Districts.

In the District Team Race, amidst cries of "break up Tawas," Demarest and Cameron temporarily switched to Douglas Lake and, along with Dave Peters and Bill Crow, won the Team Races once more.

Fleet 152 held its Lightning Invitational in mid summer. For the second year running there were only 11 entries due to a controversial entry fee arrangement. However, the sailing was superb as usual on Tawas Bay and Demarest prevailed again.

A change in policy has been arranged for 1978 and Fleet 152 will host the Michigan District Championship for the first time since 1973. With more reasonable cost figures we expect a large turnout as Michigan sailors come back to race on the great waters of Tawas Bay.

## WAWASEE YACHT CLUB (154)

### Indiana District

#### Sailing on Lake Wawasee at Syracuse, Indiana

Fleet Captain ..... Doug Schmahl  
Fleet Secretary ..... Keith Swihart  
Fleet Champion ..... George Buckingham  
Runner-Up ..... Bruce Baiden

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
5259	No Show	Louis Pletcher
9685	Boat	William L. Beard
9775	Hessteria	Paul E. Hess
9954	Big Red	George Wright
10134	Scud II	Paul Penn
10428	Fryheit	Garrett Van Derdine
10726	Lil Trout	Robert Troutman

11181	All Small	Douglas Schmahl
11699	Merry Crow	John C. Jarrett
11742	Deep Freese	Karl Freese
12001	Second Effort	Chris Nixon
12239	Starboard	Frederick & Rick Winter
12276	Gan Can	Ray Gans
12392	Gracefullee	George Witwer
12408	Laurie	Bruce Baiden
12463	Joe BFSPLK	George Buckingham
12521	The Sting	Richard Boerger
12586	Hymie	Gordon Medlock
12692	The Stitch	James A. Chase, M.D.
12963	Swi's Guys	Keith Swihart
13001	Why Us	John Nixon
13131	Boat	Jack Gibson

Our sincere congratulations to George Buckingham on another repeat performance as Fleet Champion. Skipper, Nixon was wrong when he said "Oh, he's just lucky." Three years in a row. Enough of George.

Our Club sponsors a full summer of races for its members, and an annual "Hoosier Invitation Regatta." This year approximately 40 boats attended the Hoosier from surrounding states. Excellent sailing was provided and we look forward to another big turnout next year.

Results of this year's sailing on Lake Wawasee are as follows: Memorial Day series - George Buckingham, first; John Nixon, second; Doug Schmahl, third. Early Bird Series - George Buckingham, first; John Nixon, second; Bruce Baiden, third. July 4th Series - George Buckingham, first; Bruce Baiden, second; Chuck Medlock, third. Labor Day Series - George Buckingham, first; Bruce Baiden, second; Chuck Medlock, third. Championship Series - George Buckingham, first; Bruce Baiden, second; Chuck Medlock, third. Commodore's Cup - Jack Girson, first; Rick Winter, second; William Stucky, third. Cynthia Cup - George Buckingham.

Again, Chuck Medlock represented our club at the Junior Nationals, and George Buckingham, Bruce Baiden, John Nixon, and Keith Swihart represented us at the Buffalo Nationals.

We wish to express our thanks and appreciation to our past Commodore, Robert Troutman and wife Marge, for their contribution to the Club, and effort as our Fleet Captain. Just a super job, Bob!

We should like to express our annual thanks and appreciation to the women of our club for their support as crews, cooks, committee boat chairman, hostesses, and all other thankless endeavors.

#### WILLOW BANK YACHT CLUB (164)

##### Central New York District

##### Sailing on Cazenovia Lake at Cazenovia, New York

Fleet Captain	Tom McAuliffe
Fleet Secretary	Drayton Jones
Fleet Champion	Dr. Jeff Penfield
Runner-Up	Merle Pindell
Third Place	Milt Rubenstein
Charter Member's Cup	Dr. Jeff Penfield
Crewettes Race (Female Skippers)	Janet Sinn

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
844	.....	J. P. Dougherty
9178	Family Affair	Bill Jenner
9305	.....	Dr. Gerald Bezner
9334	Inevitable	Houghton Carr, Jr.
9981	Silverhammer	William Coplin
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	Dr. Jim Preston
11853	Andiamo	Norman Washburn
12065	.....	Jerry King
12587	Tiger	Dr. Jeff Penfield
12646	Mimi	Ned Cabaniss

12929	Wild Fire	Merle Pindell
13050	Chapter XI	Tom McAuliffe
13052	Full Deck	Milt Rubenstein

The Willow Bank Lightning Fleet continued to grow in number and strength during the 1977 season as members launched an assertive campaign against local and regional competition. While the bulk of the fleet battled at home each weekend, we had aggressive representation in all Central New York regattas. Three boats (Penfield, Pindell, & McAuliffe) finished in the top five of the "Triple Crown" (three major regattas combined) and also represented us at the North Americans.

At home, the Rubenstein family (Milt, Elaine, & Jeff) abandoned a very successful Flying Dutchman career to join our Lightning Fleet. At first they had some trouble adjusting to awkward devices like spinnakers that are launched from the cockpit and jibs that don't wrap around the forestay (intentionally). Nevertheless, they soon caught on and finished third in the fleet standings. Looking ahead to next year, fellow Lightning sailors have asked that they race without a trapeze!

Norman and Dorothy Washburn finally began to taste the "...thrill of victory..." after two years of concentrated effort. In his quest, Norman invested in so much "go fast" gear that his boat is now the only floating sample of the entire Land's End catalog in North America.

Speaking of victory, Jeff Penfield and Merle Pindell battled down to the final gun for the Fleet championship once again and we congratulate both of them on a fine season. Next year the rest of us promise to make it an even more hotly contested campaign.

The Fleet did suffer a significant loss when Fred and Melinda Twichell moved to St. Louis in the Fall. Their substantial contributions to the Fleet and the Yacht Club will long be appreciated - many thanks!!! In recognition of his vast experience chasing spinnaker halyards, Fred volunteered to climb the club flagpole for minor repairs one more time as a parting gesture.

We may also have lost Jim Preston who, after winning his first race of the season, retired to the golf course for the rest of the summer so as not to risk spoiling a perfect record.

Nevertheless, competitive intensity at home and "on the road" continues to draw both new and experienced sailors to our Lightning Fleet. The ranks are strong and the enthusiasm high as we look forward to the 1978 season.

#### HELSINKI LIGHTNING FLEET (166)

##### Finland District

##### Sailing at Gulf of Finland, Helsinki, Finland

Fleet Captain	Paavo Korhonen
Fleet Secretary	Lauri Korpinen
Fleet Champion	Unto Maenpaa
Runner-Up	Leif Haglund

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
7887	Spino	Matti Pakkanen
10344	Lipla	Paavo Korhonen
11544	Kesaheila	Raimo Aromaa
12429	Pirla	Lauri Korpinen
12748	VEE	Jyrki Wirtavuori
12805	Charlie Brown	Antti Ruuskanen
12906	Triple	Ahti Immonen
12914	Vahine	Unto Maenpaa
12919	Ariana V	Leif Haglund, Veikko Valkama & Kurt Barman
13130	Masi the 3rd	Terho Aromaa
13135	.....	Pentti Puupera

This summer was special because the World Championship would be held in Europe. The main effort would be to participate in both the Europeans in Italy and the Worlds in Switzerland.

The first regatta of the season was held on Lake Tuusulanjärvi at the end of May. Of the 21 boats attending, seven were from our fleet. Antti Ruuskanen placed second, Terho Aromaa fifth and Leif Haglund seventh. The second regatta was held at Vammala on Lake Rautausi with it being the first for the New Vammalan Venekentto Yacht Club. Arrangements were very good. There were 13 boats this time with Lauri Korpinen from our fleet placing fifth. The following week 12 boats gathered in front of the harbor at Pori Town with four being from our fleet. Antti Ruuskanen was first and Leif Haglund fifth.

The European Championship followed, at Numana Italy with



thirty-five boats attending, six from Finland, Antti Ruuskanen in *Charlie Brown* sailed excellently to place second overall.

In the Worlds at Spiez, Switzerland, Antti Ruuskanen placed 29th and Leif Haglund 45th in a fleet of 53 boats.

The next large regatta was the Finland Districts held at Kontiolahti on Lake Hoytiainen with a record of 32 participating Lightnings. The weather was fine and living in a village of tents was not too uncomfortable. Of the seven boats from our fleet, Leif Haglund won the Championship and Antti Ruuskanen was fourth.

Antti also won our ranking series and is our Fleet Champion.

Next year will show at least one more good racer in that Pentti Puupera has purchased a new hull. The activity of the fleet is increasing but much more is to be done.

## LAKE DAVENPORT LIGHTNING FLEET (167)

### Midwest District

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

Fleet Captain .....	Jim Flick
Fleet Secretary .....	Ken Jensen
Fleet Champion .....	Mike Steffenson
Runner-Up .....	Henry Neuman
Club Commodore .....	Duke Pelton

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
5955	Twilight	G. W. Charlesworth
6033	Tippy T	Rufus Roys
8028	Scorpion	Edmund W. Barch
8222	Katie-D	Ron Hughes
9368	Ta De Win	Jerry Miller
10156	Misque "25"	William F. Quaintance
10232	.....	Chuck White
11032	.....	Russel Mueller
11270	Expecting to Fly	Kenneth Jensen
12022	Screamer	Mike Steffenson
12611	Joey's 12	Walt Bratton
12688	Clockwork	Edward Walker
12732	Gemma M	James Flick
12817	.....	Donald Morrison
12942	Hummer	Henry G. Neuman



Fleet 167 Champion "Screamer" skippered by Mike Steffenson with crew Jean Steffenson and Larry Liebscher.

At the Lake Davenport Sailing Club the 1977 season began by practice races on Memorial Day weekend with favorable river conditions and fair weather. Racing continued during the summer with two

races every other Sunday afternoon and throughout the fall on each Sunday. Day sailing was enjoyed by many who cruised on the ten miles of deep water between the navigation dams and who sometimes beached on an upstream island or docked at a riverfront restaurant. The season ended on the last of October after many rare days of good racing and day sailing.

Six scheduled race events were held with about a quarter to a third of the fleet participating. The summer series in June, July, and August were the most popular with Neuman, Steffenson, and Quaintance taking 1st, 2nd, and 3rd respectively. The fall series in September and October were sailed in brisk breezes and were won by narrow margins with Steffenson, Neuman, and Jensen taking the honors. The special two-day trophy races included the following winners: Fourth of July and also Founders Day were taken by Henry Neuman and crew of Jerry Holton and Joe Kelly. Labor Day and also the Polar Bear Regatta were won by Mike Steffenson and a crew of Jean Steffenson and Larry Liebscher. Other recipients of hardware at the Polar Bear were second place to Gene Matthews (L.G.Y.C.) and third to Neuman and clean up to Don Perkins, also, WOC Perpetual Trophy to Steffenson and Mayors Cup to Flick. The Fleet Champion and winner of the Ebert trophy was Mike Steffenson.

Lightning skippers and crews gathered early in the year for the traditional spring break-up party and annual meeting with '76 Fleet Captain Linda Neuman as host. Later, new skippers, Van Hyfte, Mueller, and Perkins were initiated to racing on a river with not much current this season. Several of the old salts did not shake out the sails often and were missed during the Sunday afternoon races. However the expert day sailors, Roys, Walker, Hughes, Gage, and White were out challenging the stronger northwest winds. Two families trailed boats to Wisconsin lakes for day cruising vacations on clear water. Four local boats sailed in three out-of-town regattas in the Midwest District Championship Series.

Social events were part of the L.D.S.C. activities and included a breakfast, several dinners, some special lunches and the Awards Banquet. A racing seminar was held early in the spring and boats were shown at the sea wall in mid-summer. The annual Polar Bear Regatta on the first weekend in October was the racing highlight of the season.

## LAKE OF NEUCHÂTEL FLEET (169)

### Switzerland District

#### Based on Lac de Neuchâtel, Switzerland

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

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
6739	Grogard	Gilbert Despland & Marc Lehmann
7934	.....	Marc-Antoine Lehman
8292	Ithaque	Bernard Linder
11858	Grandgousier	Dr. Pierre Grandguillaume
11859	Pinocchio	Hans Muhlbach
12572	Garoupa	Laurent Lambelet
12860	Garoupa	Claude Lambelet
13065	Gargantua	Aline Grandguillaume
13066	Sarcelle	Jean-Pierre Monnier
13067	Numana	Jean-Claude Dupasquier
.....	.....	Gilbert Despland

For our fleet the sailing season has not been much different from the other years with the exception that many of our crews took part in Italian regattas.

On last New Years Eve three of our crews took part in the President's Cup in Marsala (Sicily). In June and July we went to San Giorgio and then to Numana where we were happy enough to acclaim as European champion one crew of our fleet. Later we went to Gravedano and Trasimeno, and in all these meetings our crews were successful and brought back a lot of cups.

At the world's the three crews of ours finished with more or less luck.

As usual we closed our season with the "melted cheese regatta", our fleet championship. In spite of poor winds, but fair weather, we could nevertheless achieve four mini-runs. Our European champion, Jean-Claude DuPasquier won the event and our congratulations. Of the 15 crews who took part, six belonged to our fleet, and we were happy to welcome an Italian crew from Trasimeno. The results of this event are:

1st - J. Cl. DuPasquier 9.5 pts.; 2nd - G. Despland 9.6 pts.; 3rd - P. Wyler 15.9 pts.; 4th - E. Schaar 16.9 pts.; 5th - J. Hess 20.5 pts.; 6th - L. Lambelet 23 pts.; 7th - H. P. Schmid 28 pts.; 8th - J. P. Monnier 33 pts.; 9th - H. R. Rahn 38 pts.; 10th - R. Herzog 38.9 pts.; 11th - Cl. Lambelet 42 pts.; 12th - H. Zollinger 43 pts.; 13th - M. A. Lehmann 45 pts. and 14th - G. C. Chielli 52 pts.

We hope that next year new crews will increase the number of competitors in local and regional meetings.

### BRANT BEACH YACHT CLUB (173)

#### Central Atlantic District

#### Sailing on Little Egg Harbor at

#### Brant Beach, New Jersey

Fleet Captain ..... J. Edward Serrill  
Fleet Secretary ..... Robert L. Stephan  
Fleet Champion ..... Glen Reitingner  
Runner-Up ..... J. Edward Serrill

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
5837	Barracuda	J. Edward Serrill
9262	Valerie Two	Herb Twinning
9462	Marcelenda	Phillip J. Escole
11087	Spirit	Robert Stephan
11176	.....	Tom Hyndman & Bill Phillips
11235	.....	Herbert Streep & Peter Hyndman
11575	Six-Pac	Robert B. Roth
12872	Snooky	Glen & Carl Reitingner
12873	Quakers	J. Edward Serrill & C. W. Hitchler

Fleet 173 just wrapped up another year of rewarding sailing on Little Egg Harbor Bay, with the annual Indian Summer Regatta won by none other than the one and only Glen Reitingner and his super crew of brother Carl and Tom Monk. They are the Fleet champions for 1977.

Sailing on this bay of ours with steady winds and keen competition is the only way to spend a summer, and that is exactly what we did. We started off with an eighteen race series for the Summer, and mixed in the District Champs Warm Up Regatta and the District Regatta, with two of our sailors qualifying for the North Americans. Don't forget the Holiday Regattas and, last but not least, our Super Race Committee.

This year's mast rearranger award goes to Ed Serrill for over-simplifying his rig at the districts, and again the weekend after. The Reitingner brothers with crew Hubert Streep, put in a good show at the North Americans and in doing so they win the Rudder Rearranger Award. At times there was heavy air and the Reitingner Brothers, with Tom Monk as crew, had their share of HJs.

In light air, the true test is the skipper's patience. Again Bob Roth did his usual and convinced us all to follow him around the course. Nobody wins like he does in light air.

Our long list of steady crews here at BBYC deserves some recognition and this year several new faces joined the regulars in the fun - Tom Monk, Lance Bacchai, Hubert Streep, Mike Stephan, Barbara Serrill, Chuck Hitchler, Paul Barylski, Chris Quigly, Bev King, Diane Heeney, Steven Roth, Sue Phillips, Pete Hyndman. The crews put up with sometimes ornery skippers, but they do enjoy with him the feeling of competition and excitement that is racing a LIGHTNING.

### SHREVEPORT FLEET (175)

#### Southern District

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

Fleet Captain ..... Larry Lashley  
Fleet Secretary/Treasurer ..... Marcus Millican  
Fleet Champion ..... Marcus Millican  
Runner-Up ..... Marshall H. Walker

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
6116	Hunga	Larry Lashley
8099	Roundabout	Ben Miller
11081	.....	Henry C. Coutret
11385	Buglet	John Butcher
11562	Mahi Mahi	James H. Mills
11725	Laura	Dean Mayfield
12699	Cooter Poo III	Marshall H. Walker
12836	.....	Leroy Peters
12839	Knee Deep II	Larry Pledger
13040	Gray Ghost	Marcus Millican

As in the past, sailing has been a year round sport on Shreveport's Cross Lake, and the Lightning fleet has again set an example for the sailing classes both in participation and in interclass competition. In size, our fleet has remained essentially unchanged, but the level of competition has grown measurably keener. Our neighboring fleets are becoming increasingly aware of the Shreveport "boats to beat".

In late July our fleet suffered a very real loss in the death of Chapin Plumer, whom, with his wife Barbara, we have counted among our close friends for several years. Traveling from seventy-five miles away every Sunday to join the Lightning fleet on Cross Lake, they were an inspiration to all of us. We will miss Chape and the green-hulled *Rivet* he sailed so consistently and so well.

Additions to the fleet during the year are David McCary, Ben Miller, and Don Moore. David brings a vintage model 4158 with him that is in remarkable condition, and with a raked mast and new suit of sails, her performance should be excellent. Ben and wife Patty have brought 8099 back to life and already are providing lively competition to the glass-bottoms. The Moores have just purchased the notorious *Shady Deal*, and with their two teenage boys already experienced as crew members, they should make their presence felt very shortly.

Although our sailing season never really ends, it begins in earnest each year with the annual Holiday-in-Dixie regatta. Coming in the last week of April, this event serves as a "kick off" regatta for the eight most active sailing classes in Louisiana and neighboring states. Total entries from all classes in this event numbered ninety-five. Twenty-two Lightnings were registered. It is of special interest that young Stephen Craig from Dallas' Rush Creek Yacht Club was winner in the Lightning class since last year's winner was his father, Jim Craig. No shortage of sailing talent in that family. Rick Tears, also from Rush Creek, won second, and Cal Herman took the third place trophy home to New Orleans.

Shreveport boats had their share of the glory in out-of-town regattas during the year. The Southern District Championships were held in New Orleans. Marshall Walker captured a fourth in that event and gained his second invitation to the North Americans and, for the second time in as many years, he represented our fleet at the N.A.'s. At the GYA, also in New Orleans, John Butcher claimed a second, and at the Jackson invitational later in the year, he again earned a second. Marshall Walker placed fourth at Jackson. At the annual "Turkey Day" regatta, in Dallas, which ends the circuit, our fleet was literally blown off the lake and left the silver for the survivors.

On the local scene, Marcus Millican, after twelve agonizing years of defeat, finally put it all together and became fleet champ. His new boat and an exceptionally fine crew didn't hurt. Marshall Walker, a past champ, was the closest contender and kept the action very lively. The fleet championship is awarded as though a circuit were being sailed. The best composite score taken from four weekend series held on Cross Lake during the spring, summer and fall determines the winner. Although Millican led the four events, Walker pressed for a close second in three of them and Henry Coutret kept the pressure on in the fourth.

In interclass competition on Cross Lake, Lightnings proved their superiority, which none of us ever doubted. A new event was introduced at the club in the early spring, CLOI, the Cross Lake Offshore Invitational. The event consists of a forty mile course set up around the perimeter of the lake with a mark or two set interestingly in the middle. Our lake not being too large, it requires three times around the course to achieve the forty mile total. All classes compete on a handicap basis, separated into centerboard and keelboat divisions. In the first CLOI, Lightnings came in first, second and third on corrected time in the centerboard division. Winning Skippers were Walker, Pledger and Millican. Mild protests were heard from other classes concerning the handicap system. So, prior to CLOI II held in the fall, handicaps were adjusted to make a repeat occurrence less likely. CLOI II was sailed in winds 15 to 25 mph. It was a grueling forty miles, many boats dropping out. Lightnings again came in one, two, three. Skippers this time were Millican, Walker and Pledger. Next years' CLOI may see Lightnings in a division of their own, judging from the cries of the other centerboarders. Or perhaps exiled to another lake!

We have missed James Mills who is off to college, but look forward to his return during the summer especially since he's been sailing in collegiate competition while away. Leroy Peters will have to make a new start next year since he's lost his crew, the Moore brothers, who went off and bought their own Lightning as mentioned above. Last years' fleet champion, John Butcher, whose absence for several months can be attributed to a severe case of tennis fever, plans a comeback in '78. We all look forward to another active year and again invite our

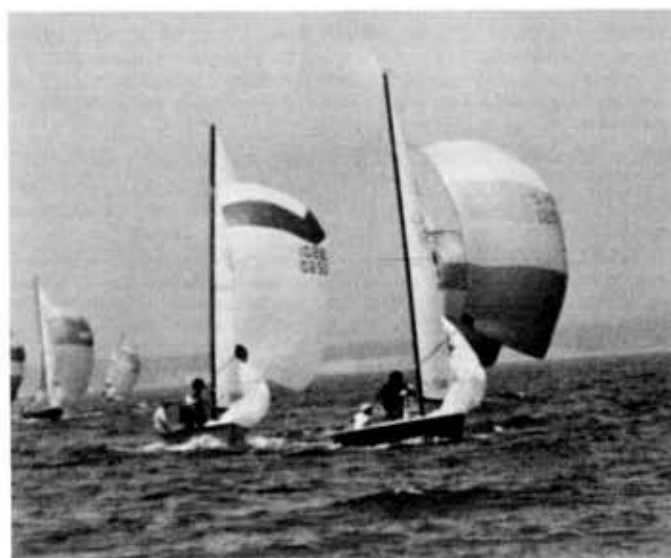
Lightning friends in other fleets to join us at the Holiday-in-Dixie regatta next spring.

## 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 ..... Frank Marinaccio  
Transom Trophy ..... Alan Pearlman

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
24	.....	Bob David
7020	Ted & Alice	Robert Weiner
8423	Toothache	Axel Paulsen
8780	Friendly Lady	Alan Hoffberg
9615	.....	Bruce Hafner
9804	.....	Richard Miller
10260	.....	Bruce, Frank H. & Frank H. Atkinson, Jr.
10283	.....	Arlene Graffa Goldsmith
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	Dionysas	Richard D. Kopka & Judy Bahr
11775	Mathiew 20'16	Joseph E. Geraghty, Jr.
11852	Endeavor	Mike & Neil Gargiulo
12042	Cookie Monster	Frank Marinaccio
12105	.....	Alan Pearlman
12656	The Sting	Stanley Stiansen
12987	Kow-A-Bung-A	Charles A. Ford



Frank Marinaccio and Frank Atkinson fighting it out for the Fleet Championship.

FRANK ATKINSON is again our Fleet Champion for the third consecutive season, but this year the rest of us made it more difficult for him! Frank also won the G.S.B.Y.R.A. season trophy and the Invitationals at Long Island Yacht Club, Race Week, and Sayville Yacht Club. Frank placed fourth at the Districts behind his son Frank Jr., and Frank Jr. won the Point O'Woods Invitational with his dad's boat.

FRANK MARINACCIO was runner-up in the Fleet Championship and also runner-up at the Districts. He also won the Spring Series and Fall Series at Narrasketuck Yacht Club and the Unqua Yacht Club Invitational.

TOM GREEN is the fleet's hottest skipper winning the Districts with three firsts, and has the highest average in the fleet. He would have won the Fleet Championship, but did not have enough races to qualify. Tom

goes to many 'away' invitationals and this year went to the N.A.'s, as did TOM TYLER. TOM also won the Babylon Invitational.

The Narrasketuck Yacht Club Invitational was won by MIKE GARGIULO and a bottle of the bubbly. MIKE, unfortunately, lost part of the season while dabbling in real estate.

JOE ROSSBOTHAM won his first race ever during the Fall Series. He got the traditional fleet christening (we threw him in the drink).

The fleet continues to grow; adding five (5) new members this year. We welcome MICHAEL FUNK, JEFFERY LAZARUS, JOHNDAVIDSON, VINCENT DEL CASTILLO and ANGELO DI MARTINO. The fleet lost only one valued member this year, RICHARD KOPKA, he married his crew.....Judy! They had a great wedding reception that was held in proper tradition.....on a boat.

On the social side, the fleet also did very well beginning in March with a party and meeting hosted by the DAVID's, and a cocktail party by the WEINER's in April. The KOLLER's hosted a shrimp and champagne dock-side party at Babylon, at which there were many foolish happenings. The GERAGHTY's hosted their Third Annual Meatball and Spaghetti Party again, with BILL WISE in charge of the meatballs. JOE added a new dimension in cruising to Regattas in a MORGAN O/I 41. He took almost the entire fleet for a cruise at Sayville. I do not think anyone will forget the night at Point O'Woods, when a midnight thunderstorm rolled through.

The ATKINSON's hosted a fine cheese and champagne party after the races at Long Island Yacht Club, which revived the spirits.

With so many members now bringing cruising boats to Regattas, there is always a get-together or party to revive us after the races.

The Fall Frostbite Series has just been concluded and the winners were KATHY GERAGHTY, RON THOMPSON and ANDY GOODWIN. They took turns skippering the boat.

With the same kind of spirit and enthusiasm we look forward to '78.

## CONNEAUT LAKE YACHT CLUB (180)

Lake Erie District  
Sailing on Conneaut Lake, Pennsylvania

Fleet Commodore ..... Att. Mark Prather  
Fleet Captain ..... Charles Good  
Fleet Secretary ..... Carol Prather  
Fleet Champion ..... Bob Lilly  
Runners-Up ..... John E. Shaffer &  
Skipper Ragghianti

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
7171	Of Blue	Dr. Duane & Charles Good
9427	.....	John N. Shaffer
10029	.....	Louis Deglau
10941	.....	Dr. John Hanek
11063	.....	Bob Lilly
11563	.....	John E. Shaffer
17747	Heid Aweigh III	Charles & Dr. Duane Good
12864	.....	Skipper Ragghianti

Our friendly fleet (180) started the season in mid June, and concluded on Labor Day weekend. Bob Lilly retained the championship with superb sailing, but his competition is getting closer. You should have been there to see him go overboard on a quick wind shift, and to have a crew member try the same thing a week later. Ed Shaffer wouldn't share his second place this year, but Skip Ragghianti breathed down his neck. Out of 16 races, five different skippers finished with one or more firsts — this made for a real close season. Our Labor Day weekend series saw Lilly, Ragghianti, and Dr. Good leading the pack, and each received an appropriate silver engraved bowl.

The upside-down trophy was passed on to our Commodore Att. Mark Prather, who couldn't handle a bad wind shift with the spinnaker on a broad reach. Several others came close to joining him. Generally speaking our winds and weather were quite satisfactory.

Each skipper and his crew were pleasantly surprised, as they received a lovely fiberglass serving tray with a color picture of their Lightning, in competition, printed on it, along with the fleet name and year. We are all indebted for this fine work to Ed Shaffer, this year's runner-up skipper. These trays will enable us all to relive 1977 summers races many times.

Several of our skippers like to see how other fleets handle races, as Bob Lilly and crew took 11063 to Pymatuning Yacht Club to compete. Skip Ragghianti and Dr. Good took their boats to St. Petersburg, Florida, and then also over to the Pennsylvania Governor's



Cup Regatta at the Susquehanna Yacht Club. They recommend more of this as the hospitality is great, and the experience very rewarding.

Our social activity started with a Spring banquet — then a July picnic at Ed Shaffer's and finally a Labor Day picnic at Dick Rentz. We all look forward to these friendly get-togethers. They provide a great opportunity to talk sailing.

## SHEBOYGAN LIGHTNING FLEET (187)

### Midwest District

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

Fleet Captain .....	John Visser
Fleet Secretary .....	John Visser
Fleet Champion .....	Rick Larson
Runner-Up .....	Tryg Jacobson

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
6283	.....	Anthony Kortenborn
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 Hag	Timothy Gottsacker
12280	Sun	Tryg Jacobson
12389	.....	Richard Bemis
12775	Tweety	Eric Larson
Life Member		F. C. Jacobson

The 1977 sailing season was considerably more placid than the 1976 season when Sheboygan hosted the North American Championship. Not only did we have less activity we had considerably less wind than we did during the 1976 NA's.

The Fleet was divided into an "A" and "B" Fleet in an attempt to give more enthusiasm to the skippers of the "B" Fleet. The results of the two series saw Tryg Jacobson taking first in Fleet A Gresholt and Rick Larson taking second. Dean Pratt took first in Fleet "B" of the Gresholt series. The Piper Series was won by Tim Gottsacker a newcomer to the trophy circle followed by John Visser in second and Dean Pratt in third.

One of our sailors, Tryg Jacobson, was lucky enough to sail in the World's in Switzerland this summer where he pulled off a 26th place.

The season "Bust-up" has been scheduled for November 19 during which time we plan to review slides of the World's taken by Frank Jacobson, and present trophies. With the new fleet captain installed we look forward to a fun, exciting and enthusiastic year on the shores of Lake Michigan.

## MARBLE HEAD LIGHTNING FLEET (189)

### New England District

#### Sailing on the Atlantic Ocean at Marblehead, Massachusetts

Fleet Captain .....	Gerald Hosman
Fleet Vice Captain .....	Robert Gauthier
Fleet Secretary .....	Donald Humphrey
Fleet Champion .....	John Collins
First Runner-Up .....	Joel Humphrey
Second Runner-Up .....	Thomas Stover

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
2593	.....	John Bozek & Jay Butler
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
11630	.....	Bernard Burke
12385	Shamrock	John Collins
12706	Courageous	Donald Humphrey
	Doe Doe III	
Life Member	.....	Dr. Louis Pocharski

The 1977 season for our Fleet was an exciting season of racing, social gatherings, individual exploits at the New England District Regatta, at the North Americans and here on the ocean at Marblehead as well as right in the harbor during starts of the Twilite Series. Much pleasant weekend and evening day sailing up and down the North Shore, up to Gloucester, past Manchester-by-the-Sea or around Baker's Island and the Misery Island and into Manchester Harbor or deep into Salem Sound to Beverly Harbor, (maybe the birthplace of the U.S. Navy,) also filled the Fleet's 1977 sailing agenda.

Early in the season, America's Cup contenders for Defenders honors — Independence and Courageous slipped their moorings at either Little Harbor or at local yacht club, launch floats and proceeded out onto the ocean for trails and training side by side with fleet members heading out for Spring Series starts. Yes, we had our share of turtles and near turtles, Rick Humphrey in the Twilites, Gerard Hosman in the Saturday Championship Series and even John Collins during Raceweek. John righted his craft and hung in for a respectable finish. Fred Juden got past Bob Gauthier in sufficient fashion to gleefully hand his cousin Bob the "Elephants Tail" trophy complete with hanging hooks for display in the Gauthier living room.

The season began with a lovely spring cocktail party at Fleet Captain Gerard and Marian Hosman's home in historic Salem. Raceweek in July saw visiting skippers and members of the fleet vying for awards, Thursday through Sunday and another mix of 14 Lightnings ready to cross the line for the State of Massachusetts honors on Saturday and Sunday. The two concurrent events went like this — Thursday it blew HARD for two back to back races, Friday a more gentle wind for two races, Saturday a total loss except for the scrumptious cook-out at the Stovers home in Marblehead. That day there was dense fog with the Lightning fleet, visitors et al strung out in a line moored to each other to the speed limit buoy at the mouth of the harbor. Every one had a snooze protected under the loose cover of their main sail. Sunday there were two salvage races in exasperating winds. Georges Peter and John Collins tied for first place in the State of Massachusetts Regatta, by a flip of the coin. Georges Peter gave John Collins the State of Massachusetts trophy. However, Georges took honors for Race Week overall. Georges name is now engraved on the "Larsen" Lightning Trophy along with many other outstanding skippers of years past.

The season's awards, as explained by Race Committee Chairman, Larry St. Clair went like this — John Collins won a large rear-view mirror for the season's Championship. John also received a lovely Revere Bowl for that feat. Joel Humphrey and his crew won a book "Plain Speaking" plus a mug for First Runner-Up position and Tom Stover won a can of helium to lighten his boat and a Revere Bowl for second Runner-Up position in the Championship Series. For winning the Tuesday Twilite's first place finish, John Collins received a stainless steel horn to call his flock following him; and for the Thursday Twilite's first place finish, John won a canvas bag to carry all his goodies home. Gerard Hosman won the Hourglass Trophy for his amazing feats with a spinnaker. The Best Performance of a Wooden Boat prize, a book on the new racing rules, went to Larry St. Clair. The Elbow Grease Award for the best brightwork went to Bob Gauthier and it was a package of very fine sandpaper. The Fog Award (it has nothing to do with the mental state of the skipper) went to Tom Stover for being able to miss all the marks in the fog, and it was a small compass. The Frank Shorter Long Distance Award goes to Charlie Pace for being the best skipper to drive from the furthest away. Charlie received a pair of sailing gloves that could also be used for driving. The Turtle Award goes to that skipper that tries the hardest to make his boat look like a turtle — Gerard Hosman won a clinometer. Fred Juden won the Never Give-Up Award, which was a set of tell-tails. The Bunker "All in the Family" Award went to Fred Juden and Bob Gauthier for being the best and most harmonious cousins to race this year. Their prize was a book on sailing tactics. The last and most coveted award was the Lou Pocharski Award which must be carried in the winner's boat for ever and ever. It is given to the skipper that wins the most trophies for the season so John Collins won a big cinderblock. Larry made these awards at the very wonderful and pleasant Awards Dinner attended by the full extent of the fleets stay at home and don't go away to school contingent Friday evening, October 28 at the Corinthian Yacht Club. The dinner so genteely chaired by Gerard Hosman closed our Fleet activities for the 1977 season.