

International Lightning Class Association Districts



Lightning Districts

ARGENTINA DISTRICT

District Commodore Heraldo Tramaglia
 District Secretary Liliana B. de Schenone
 District Measurer Angel Vila
 District Champion Angel Vila
 District Runner-Up Heraldo Tramaglia

Fleets: Olivos (206).

The '85 season was not a very good one for our Class in the Argentine District. Our country has big economic troubles and it is difficult for yachtsmen of small one-design classes to race, or small cruising boats to sail to the beautiful anchorages at the Orient shore of River Plate, Uruguay country. Another factor in decreasing activity is that the Pan-American Games are still too far away, and many very good skippers like racing Snipes or Stars which have international events later this season in our country. Also, for market reasons, sail factories don't make Lightning sails and we need to buy imported sails, increasing the cost.

Wherever you go in Argentina you can find a Lightning on the lakes, but all are wooden boats with wooden masts and very old sails, racing against other classes (Portsmouth numbers), but it is too difficult to gather them to make fleets and race against boats with oval masts even using separate scores.

Starting the season, in early January we were worried because we couldn't get airplane tickets at lower rates to attend the South American Championship at Lima, Peru. At this moment some crews are looking forward to the '86 event at Colombia.

This year we worked to help the people who are making wooden boats with the new system, and we hope that the first one will be launched in December at Lake Pellegrini, near Cipolletti, 740 miles from Buenos Aires. However some Lightning "fans" sailed weekend regattas, and at the season's end in late December we will have about 40 races sailed. The best events of the year were at Lake Salto Grande, 250 miles from Buenos Aires, and the Escuela Naval Trophy, sponsored by Yacht Club Centro Naval, in which we had 10 entries in each regatta.

At this moment, late October, we are waiting for our National Championship in November and the International Olivos Race week in December. In both events we hope for 12 entries, but in the last one also entries from other districts in South America.

We are looking forward to the '86 season and the Youth World Championship at Club Nautico Olivos, home of Fleet 206. Juniors from all countries will be welcome to the River Plate and Argentina.

BRAZIL DISTRICT

District Commodore Jens C. Ruschmann
 District Secretary Michael A. Norris
 District Measurers Oscar Weckerle
 District Champion Claudio Bieckark
 District Runner-Up Mario Buckup

Fleets: Sau Paulo (147); Guanabara (401); Guarapiranga (462).

The current year has been particularly happy for our District.

In May we sailed the Districts in the home waters of Fleet 401 Guanabara with the presence of two of our best sailors, Claudio Bieckark and Mario Buckup. Claudio won the Championship with 5 wins.

Due to the expenses involved in traveling to the US, Mario Buckup and his crew Michael and Cristian Norris were the only crew to represent Brazil in the Worlds. However, we feel very proud of them, as the result achieved (2nd) was beyond any expectation.

However, the most important happening in the District, was our agreement with Tom Allen to start producing fiberglass Lightnings in Brazil. We are sure now of the definite expansion of the class in Brazil and in South America, and in that sense we would like to thank George Hatfield, and Anne and Tom Allen for their dedication in helping us so much in expanding our class in South America.

CENTRAL ATLANTIC DISTRICT

District Commodore Bill Clarke
 District Secretary Glenn Reitingner
 District Measurer James Carson
 District Champion Jack Elfman
 District Runner-Up Dave Coward
 Junior Champion Brian Taboada
 Junior Runner-Up Chris Krautheim

Fleets: Bay Head (3); Metedeconk River (34); Brant Beach (173); Surf City (196); Riverton (228); Barnegat Light (335); Ocean City (430); Tobickon Creek (491).

1985 was the year the Central Atlantic District and Barnegat Bay was shown to the world. The Lightning Worlds were held at Little Egg Harbor Yacht Club in June with the CAD as co-host. It was a great opportunity and we made the most of it. The CAD was in charge of measurement and it was done in a professional manner thanks to the conscientious work of co-chairmen Jack Elfman and Bill Clausen. The major plaudits, however, must go to the Little Egg Harbor Yacht Club. They managed six fine races and made everyone very much at home. Many thanks to Bill Bentley, who ran a great regatta. Bill Shore sailed a great regatta and edged our Mario Buckup to win. The Worlds is a magnificent event and we feel proud to be part of it.

The 1985 Central Atlantic Districts were held at Metedeconk River Yacht Club and proved to be very interesting, with confusion, protests and litigation combined with fine sailing. Jody Lutz won the first race and was leading the second race when he began to sail the wrong course. Some followed Jody, some followed Jim Carson, others didn't know what to do. Carson won the race with Lutz and others saddled with DNFs. Sunday morning brought a protest, and the throwing out of the second race. Back on the race course, Keith Taboada edged out Lutz to win the third race and Lutz took the final race and an apparent third consecutive districts win. Further appeal reinstated the second race and reshuffled the standings to make Jack Elfman winner. The litigation and protests discolored the series, but some fine sailing was performed by Lutz, Elfman, Dave Coward, Mark Forhecz, Alan Ruiter, Glenn Reitingner, Jim Carson and Bob Adams.

Several members ventured to Tawas Bay for the North Americans. Jody Lutz led the CAD contingent, sailing a great series to finish third after flirting with the lead. Jack Elfman sailed an excellent qualifying series but couldn't keep it going, finishing a bit further back in the blue fleet with Jim Carson and Dave Coward. Glenn Reitingner and Mark Forhecz also made the trip sailing in the Presidents' Cup.



A Brazilian Championship Spinnaker Leg.

An active local calendar ensued during the sailing year. The Surf City Memorial Day Tuneup was won by Glenn Reiting, followed by Jack Elfman and Dave Conard. The Long Beach Island Yacht Racing Association Regatta was won by Elfman, with Reiting second and Tieglund third. Alan Rutter took the Barnegat Bay Yacht Racing Association Championship, over contenders Paul Gelenitis and the Jim Carson Racing Team. Jody Lutz won the Manahawkin Bay Cup (yes, again), edging out Jack Elfman and Ralph Messersmith. Several district members visited the Huntsman Yacht Club for the N.J. States and performed with Lutz, Carson and Elfman taking second, fourth and fifth respectively.

Again, District MVP: Little Egg Harbor Yacht Club. Although they have no Lightning fleet, they gave the Worlds a piece of their heart. Many thanks to them and many thanks to all CAD members who made 1985 a remarkable year.

CENTRAL NEW YORK DISTRICT

District Commodore Richard Hallagan
District Secretary Daniel J. Koretz, MD
District Measurer John Barnes
District Champion Kirk Reynolds
District Runner-Up Richard Hallagan

Fleets: Skaneateles Country Club (1); Lake Delta (4); Newport Yacht Club (77); Great Sodus Bay (108); Conesus (140); Willow Bank Yacht Club (164); Henderson Harbor Yacht Club (225); Keuka Yacht Club (252); Brockport Yacht Club (267); Galway Lake Yacht Club (338); South Skaneateles Lightning Association (439); Ithaca Yacht Club (484); Port Oswego Fleet (485); Selkirk Fleet (498).

Our District had another successful year sailing on the waters of western and central New York State. We started with the traditional opener of our season, the Newport Invitational, sailed on Irondequoit Bay. This was the first part of the Central New York-Lake Erie Challenge which was started several years ago, to encourage more competition between our two districts. It has been very successful, and approximately 10 out of the 35 boats were from the Lake Erie District. The winner was Kirk Reynolds, a sailor who has recently resumed Lightning racing. Dave Sprague was second, and Dick Hallagan was third.

Our next regatta was the Cazenovia Invitational sailed in late June on a beautiful lake southeast of Syracuse. Fleet 164 did its usual excellent job and 22 skippers and crew had a delightful time. The beer ferry (fairly?) was most helpful in doling out liquid refreshment to the racers out on the water. The winner of this one was Dick Hallagan, followed by son Peter Hallagan, and then Dick Doherty.

The District Championship Regatta was held in mid-July at Henderson Harbor located at the eastern end of Lake Ontario. Kirk Reynolds continued his impressive come-back by winning another one. Dick Hallagan took second and a newcomer from Skaneateles, Dave Grogono, was third. A District meeting was held on Saturday night after a delicious steak cook-out. Dick Hallagan was elected Commodore, replacing Ric Klug who had served in that position for the last two years, and John Barnes was elected Measurer, replacing Tadd Helmer. Tadd and Tom Doran agreed to help John as Assistant Measurers. John has ties to the Lightning Class which go back a long way as his father built the first Lightning. John and Ric have also been actively campaigning for the 50th Anniversary Regatta to be held at Skaneateles. A special thank you go to Ric and Tadd for the great job they did over the last two years.

The Central New York Yacht Racing Association was held in late July. Jean Hallagan repeated as winner, having won this event last year.

The Champagne Regatta was held at Keuka Lake on the first weekend in August. Fleet 252 always does a great job and this year was no exception. While the weather did not always cooperate, the fantastic champagne cocktail party, followed by a great dinner and then dancing to a live band, certainly made it easier to forget the drifters earlier in the day. In first place was Dick Hallagan, followed by Peter Humphrey and then Peter Hallagan.

At the end of August we traveled to Port Oswego, where Fleet 485 outdid their fine regatta of last year. There were 18 boats and they were treated to a magnificent time made possible by the local Michelob distributor. He has expressed an interest in continuing his sponsorship of this event, and we certainly expect that attendance will increase in the years to come as the

word spreads. The winners were, in order of finish, Mark Sertl, Dick Hallagan, and Jean Hallagan. This regatta was also the final leg of the Triple Crown, a series established by Dr. John McIntosh several years ago to foster interest in racing in the District. Participants must sail in the three regattas of the series to be eligible. This year's winners were Dick Hallagan, Dick Tuttle, Dan Koretz, and Neal Smith.

The final event of the year was the Silver Lake Regatta held in early September. This was the other half of the CNY-LED Challenge and for the first time in living memory, the Central New York District was able to keep the Lake Erie District from winning the series. The bad news was that we were unable to win the trophy outright and the final result was a tie. We seem to be making progress and firmly believe that 1986 will be our year!

CENTRAL STATES DISTRICT

District Commodore Arthur Jones
District Secretary Martin Klotzbach
District Measurer Fritz Toussaint
District Champion Dr. Robert Exon
District Runner-Up Ralph Persson

Fleets: Jayhawk (60); The Sooner Fleet (343).

The main event this year in the Central States District was the District Regatta, hosted again by Fleet 60 at Lake Shawnee, Topeka, KS. One boat from the Sooner Fleet was in attendance. We all look forward to the Sooner Fleet's continued growth and their hosting the District Regatta on Oklahoma waters in the near future.

The Central States District Commodore for 1986 is John Gall.



Central States District Champion Dr. Robert Exon with crew Rob Davis and Karen Exon.

CHILE DISTRICT

District Commodore	Manuel Gonzalez M.
District Vice Commodore	Javier de Vicente
District Champion	Manuel Gonzalez M.
District Runner-Up	Felipe Cubillos
Junior Champion	Pablo Forno
Master Champion	Luis Herman G.

Fleets: Algarrobo (318); Aculeo (490).

We had a very successful season last year in international regattas. We went with four boats (2300 miles by car) to Lima, Peru to participate in the South American Championship, where Chilean Alberto Gonzalez (J. Fernandez, G. Novion) won the races.

Then we went to Beach Haven, New Jersey with two boats to race in the Worlds. Manuel Gonzalez finished fifth (R. Zuazola, A. Gonzalez) in the series and then with the same crew finished Runner-Up at the North American Championship at Tawas Bay, Michigan.

At the Chilean Championship we had 18 boats and a very competitive fleet. Manuel Gonzalez won the series and Runner-Up was Felipe "plumifero" Cubillos. Luis Herman won the Masters and Pablo Forno the Juniors.

We are already looking forward to an active international 1986 season hoping that many Chilean sailors will participate in major international races besides the ones at home. We want to be in good shape for the next Worlds at Cartagena, Colombia.

CONNECTICUT/RHODE ISLAND DISTRICT

District Commodore	Edson White
District Secretary	Sandy Peterson
District Vice Commodore	Charles Walz
District Treasurer	Nelson Hoffman
District Champion	Jim Crane
District Runner-Up	Ched Proctor

Fleets: Black Rock Yacht Club (17), Niantic Bay Yacht Club (85), Cedar Point Yacht Club (126), Madison Beach Club (129).

The season for many of us began in March down south at the Southern Circuit. An impressive number of boats from this area went down with Ched Proctor winning the Midwinters at St. Pete. Ched also finished second for the overall.

Ched returned to Cedar Point to host a tune-up, tactics and boathandling seminar the week prior to the Cedar Point Early Bird Regatta. Two days of excellent instruction complete with two days of perfect wind prepared all the attendees for the upcoming season.

The upcoming season took a weekend off as the wind gods were not so kind. Contestants at the Cedar Point Early Bird Regatta were greeted on Saturday morning with winds gusting over 30 knots. Just as all the contestants arrived at the starting area, the wind increased to over 35 knots. The wise decision was made and everyone was safely back at the CPYC clubhouse for a great cocktail and dinner party. The following morning we were greeted by identical wind conditions prompting the inevitable three guns.

On to Newport; instead of Twelve Meters, this year, we raced against the Maxis! Newport for the third straight year proved itself as the sailing capital of the world. The conditions under which this regatta were sailed were incredible: super winds, excellent race management, fantastic weather, and above all, the hottest sailors in the class. Bill Shore put it best after the regatta was over when he said, "there are a lot of good sailors here. One of them is going to win the Worlds next week."

He could not have been more correct! The winner of Newport however, did not even get to go to the Worlds. Ched Proctor, fresh off his southern victory sailed a consistent series to edge out incumbent Stuart Nickerson and Bill Shore for the series.

The Madison Beach Club was the host of this year's District Championship. A big hand to Madison for a job well done! The race committee did a super job when faced with difficult and changing wind conditions. Difficult for most, that is. Jim Crane with "relative" ease walked away with the regatta winning three out of four races (he raced with his fiancée and his brother.) Close behind was Ched Proctor, Bill Shore, Tom Ingram, and John Oldham.

Niantic Bay Yacht Club was the next stop in a very active summer as they won the honor to host this year's Atlantic Coast Championship. A hot field from Maryland to New Hampshire was on hand to see Don Barrett return

from an embarrassing 17th at the Districts to win this event. Niantic Bay lived up to its reputation as the most hospitable club in the district with their Saturday evening festivities.

Our District's showing at the North Americans this year was by far the best we have ever had. Seven entries (it would have been eight if not for a lost transmission.) Six of those seven in the blue fleet. Four of the top seven boats, and, of course, Bill Shore the North American Champion. Congratulations to all!

Back to Niantic. The annual Governors Cup Regatta always a hot district series was won this year by Neil Hayes. He sailed a brilliant set of three races in shifty conditions to win the regatta with a 1,1,2. Djoerd Hockstra was second followed by Tom Ingram, Phil Lotz and Randy Browning.

Cedar Point hosted the season's wrap-up with their Fall Classic Regatta. Four races sailed in light and shifty air intensely tested the contestant's abilities. After three races, it was anyone's regatta. Stu Neff grabbed the victory with a win in the last race. Phil Lotz was second and Ched Proctor third. Off the water, everyone had a great time at the Saturday evening cocktail party and steak dinner. Even a "DJ" was on hand playing requests for all kinds of dancing.

What a great year it was. Congratulations are due to: Ched Proctor Midwinter Champion; Jim Crane, District Champion; and Bill Shore North American and World Champion.

Good Luck next year.

DIXIE DISTRICT

District Commodore	Tom Clark
District Secretary	Reed Barrett
District Measurer	David Racine
District Champion	Joe Friebele
District Runner-Up	Steve Bachman
Women's Champion	Lisa Foulke
Runner-up	Pam Racine

Fleets: Washington D.C. (50); North East River (192); Susquehanna (253); Sassafras River (314); Rehoboth (325); Severn River (329); Smith Mountain Lake (377); Swift Creek Fleet (496).

The new year was started at Fleet 329 in Annapolis with the annual No Gas Regatta. This year the concept of many short races could not be accomplished, but nevertheless, it provided the participants the opportunity to tune up and get the football cobwebs out of their systems. Shortly after, Rehoboth Bay Sailing Association held the Delaware Governors Cup Regatta which provided one windy day and one wait-for-the-seabreeze-to-fill-in (which it always does) day. But regardless, Rehoboth is always an excellent experience. As usual Kitty Racine presided in an effective manner. The first Womens District Championship Regatta was held at Podickory Yacht Club, hosted by the Grotheer family. Rules had to be 'bent' a little to get more boats on the starting line by allowing one male in the crew. As it turned out the winner was an all women crew skippered by Lisa Foulke. Mary Anna Portner, who won the Womens North Americans this year, also participated. We are looking for more 'all women' boats next year. And the word is look out '86 North Americans, the Dixie District women are coming on strong.

Fleet 50 hosted the 5th annual Lightning-Thistle Challenge on the Potomac River. A combination of 19 boats were on the line for the one day regatta. Lightnings were first and second with Frank Gallagher and Lisa Foulke and her all-girl crew taking the top two spots. The Districts were moved into July and held at Annapolis. Joe Friebele demonstrated his mastery of the Chesapeake chop with a very comfortable and well deserved win.

The later and best attended regattas for the year began at Rehoboth Bay with the Purnell Memorial Regatta. Twenty-eight boats turned out for the event that saw Peter Jones of Annapolis take top honors. October brought the Frigid Digit at Annapolis where 42 boats tested their skills for three races in beautiful fall conditions. Bob Wardwell traveled from Tennessee to pick up the win and remind us how good a sailor we lost when he was transferred to Tennessee. The final event of the year is the second half of the combined Barney Meade Memorial Series which is held on Kerr Reservoir on the border of N.C. and Va., hence the name Borderline. Wardwell was not content taking the Dixie District silver so he showed up for the Borderline Regatta as well. After three races of typical lake sailing Wardwell was just nosed out by Dick Hallagan for the top spot. But Bob got the last laugh as he walked away with the combined win. This regatta has surely made it to the big time as the Allen's Bus was needed to bring the full Allen

family team. The list of top name competitors grows each year for the combined regattas.

Overall the Dixie District continues to provide excellent sailing for the old and new sailors. If you want a variety of sailing — lakes, salt water, rivers — along with top level competition come visit the Dixie District which has it all.

FINLAND DISTRICT

District Commodore Pentti Laitinen
 District Secretary Sirkka-Liisa Laitinen
 District Junior Commodore .. Hannu Hurskainen
 District Measurer Marjatta Ollila
 District Champion Kari Maenpaa
 District Runner-Up Aulis Naykki

Fleets: Helsinki (166), Kotka (298), Oulu (307), Kemi (310), Jyväskylä (328), Tuusulanjärvi (456), Valkeakoski (468), Jamsa (469).

1985 was a very active year for the Finland District. Fleet Championships, ranking series as well as Women's Championship and Finland District Championship were held during the season.

Four crews were also participating in the European Championship in Switzerland, and one crew took part in the Worlds in the United States. The results obtained in the Europeans were quite satisfactory. Kari Maenpaa took fourth place and Terho Aromaa was seventh.

The winner of the ranking series, Kari Maenpaa won the Districts also. Aulis Naykki was second and Terho Aromaa third. The Women's Championship was won by Sari Nummela.

We are very keenly looking forward to the 1986 season. Now that Hartti Nisonen, as a new enterpriser, will start building Lightnings in Finland by using an American mold, we are confident that interest towards Lightning sailing will grow here and we will see many new sailors getting into Lightnings in the near future.

FLORIDA DISTRICT

District Commodore John Schoendorf
 District Secretary John Foster
 District Measurer Eric Stibitz
 District Champion Knute Young
 District Runner-Up Fisk Hayden

Fleets: Biscayne Bay (226); Lake Eustis/North Florida (461); Old Port Yacht Club (477); Cedar/Ft. Myers (478).

The Florida District was represented in the Worlds by Fisk Hayden and Jim Alman and in the North American Championship by "Team Hayden" with Eric Annis of Sarasota as fore-deck crew, Fred Hutchinson sailing *Honeycomb* and by "Miss Florida Fay" Regan sailing her *Booby Trap*. Steven Hayden skippered *Shazam* in the Junior North Americans. Fisk and Steve Hayden sailed in all three Southern Circuit events. Bob DeFosses and John Foster of Cedar Fleet #478 sailed with Herm Nickels in the Masters at St. Pete.

The second annual "Triple Crown" was won by Jim Alman of Miami with Fisk Hayden of Eustis second and John Foster of Sarasota, third.

This year a new event was inaugurated, "The Commodores Cup Regatta". It was held in Ft. Myers on the Caloosahatchee River, home of Cedar Fleet 478 and coincided with the "Edison Pageant of Light Regatta". Jim Alman of Miami, sailing *Loose Lucy*, won first place.

The Florida District Championship was held on Lake Eustis, home of Fleet 461. Fisk Hayden cooked burgers and hot dogs Saturday night for all the hungry sailors and was assisted by Bert and Shirley Lacey. After dinner the annual meeting was held and new officers were elected. Sunday, Knute "Gatorbait" Young and his "bring it to Miami" crew wrapped up the championship by winning first place. Fisk and Steve Hayden sailing *Shazam* came in second place, Fred Hutchinson of Miami in third place, Frank Atkinson in fourth place and Jim Alman of Miami in fifth place.

In March Eric Annis bought #12170 the *Blue Light Special* (sorry K-Mart), and rumor has it a Wisconsin will soon transplant to Ft. Myers and join Fleet #478. Look out Fleet #226. Fleet #478 is growing!

The Florida District is growing and the level of competition is rising which is good for the Florida District and the Lightning Class.

Here is an invitation to all snowbirds who are thinking of moving, "Come to Florida!" We sail all year long!



Florida District Champions: Knute Young, Kevin Burnham and Mark Pincus.

ITALIAN DISTRICT

District Commodore Admiral Luigi Merola
 District Secretary Sergio Rustichelli
 District Junior Commodore .. Salvatore Tremante
 District Measurer Gianni Battisti
 District Champion Alessandro Attina
 District Runner-Up Sergio Rustichelli

Fleets: Garda (249); Lega Navale Anzio (312); Marsala (449); Trasimeno (453); Flotta Del Conero (466); Flotta Del Lario (467); Flotta Del Savio (276).

The 1985 season has been a revival of Italian District activity. This year in fact, seven Italian crews have taken part in European Championships in Switzerland and the boat *Dove Vai* (Galetti, Alalogri, Mazzola) finished in second place. Good placings for *Wind III* (Vitaggio, Scarpocchi, Vicarolli) fifth, and for *Wanted III* (Attina, Attina, Rallo) eighth. The Italian District Championship has developed on Trasimeno Lake at Passignano, and it was won by *Wanted III* of Attina, Attina, Alagna in front of *Areknames II* of Rustichelli, Nicchiarelli, Barbacci, and then *Lily-Bay-Tan* of Viataggio, Messina, Cudia. Seventeen crews have taken part in the Italian District Championship. They all were very well prepared and in particular the crews of Anzio, Falconara, Marsala, Garda and Trasimeno. In the season there have been a dozen regattas, in which many competitors have taken part. Next year the Italian District Championship will be in Marsala (449), the home of the Champion.

So we say to our friends: Good Bye.



Spinnakers being hoisted for the first reach — Italian District.

LAKE ERIE DISTRICT

1986 REGATTA SCHEDULE

EVENT	HOST CLUB	TENTATIVE DATE
SPRING DISTRICT MEETING	NIAGARA SAILING CLUB?	APRIL 12
EBY SERIES	BUFFALO CANOE CLUB	MAY 10 - 11
REUNION REGATTA #	NEWPORT YACHT CLUB	MAY 31 - JUNE 1
CORNBALL REGATTA	CHAUTAUQUA LAKE YACHT CLUB	JUNE 7 - 8
ONTARIO OPEN	BRONTE HARBOUR YACHT CLUB	JUNE 14 - 15
INVITATIONAL	BUFFALO HARBOR SAILING CLUB	JUNE 14 - 15?
ONTARIO-CANADIAN YOUTHS	BOULEVARD CLUB	JUNE 21 - 22
CANADIAN OPEN	ROYAL ST. LAWRENCE Y.C.	JULY 4 - 5 - 6
NIAGARA FRONTIER INVIT.	BUFFALO CANOE CLUB	JULY 12 - 13
ONTARIO CLASSIC (MICHELOB)	OSWEGO YACHT CLUB	JULY 19 - 20
NIAGARA RIVER CHAMPS	NIAGARA SAILING CLUB	JULY 19 - 20
DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIPS	BOULEVARD CLUB	JULY 26 - 27
DISTRICT WOMEN & JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS	BOULEVARD CLUB	AUGUST 2 - 3
CHAMPAGNE REGATTA	KEUKA YACHT CLUB	AUGUST 2 - 3
WOMEN, JUNIOR & MASTERS		
NORTH AMERICANS	HENDERSON HARBOR Y.C.	AUG. 4 - 8
NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPS.	KINGSTON, ONTARIO	AUG. 8 - 15
OLD SALTS REGATTA	BUFFALO CANOE CLUB	AUG. 20
CUBA LAKE REGATTA	CUBA LAKE YACHT CLUB	AUG. - TBA
HARVEST REGATTA # and *	SILVER LAKE YACHT CLUB	SEPT. 6 - 7
HURRELL SHAKER REGATTA *	BOULEVARD CLUB	SEPT. 13 - 14
HAUL-OUT REGATTA *	SANDY BEACH YACHT CLUB	SEPT. 20 - 21
BCC FALL REGATTA *	BUFFALO CANOE CLUB	SEPT. 27 - 28

#=LED—CNY Challenge

*=LED Fall Circuit (3 out of 4 Regattas to count)

To confirm dates, call
Judy Walker (716) 839-352

LAKE ERIE DISTRICTS. District of Champions, salutes its champions:

Jody Swanson — District Champion

John Swanson, Jr. — Junior North American Champion

We start them young in the Lake Erie District.



Jody Swanson (C) with Crew, Mike Montani (L) and Joe Starck (R) District Champions.

Photo credit: Roger Steck, Buffalo, N.Y.



John Swanson, Jr. (C) with Crew, Joe Donovan (L) and Scott Kinerk (R) Junior NA Champions.

LAKE ERIE DISTRICT

District Commodore	Tom Ward
District Executive Secretary	Hugh Roper
District Corresponding Secretary	Judy Walker
District Measurer	David Sprague
District Junior Commodore	Jim Allen
District Champion	Jody Swanson
District Runner-Up	Tom Allen, Sr.
Junior Champion	David Starck
Junior Runner-Up	Jim Allen
Women's Champion	Sue Ferrick

Fleets: Buffalo Canoe Club (12); Chautauqua Lake Yacht Club (19); Silver Lake Yacht Club (47); Niagara Sailing Club (59); Cuba Lake Yacht Club (115); Royal Hamilton Yacht Club (118); Toronto Bay (146); Conneaut Bay (180); Chautauqua (198); Bronte Harbour (492).

The 1985 sailing season will be remembered by Lake Erie District Lightning sailors as a year of outstanding achievement by its younger members. Last year's Youth World Champion, Jody Swanson won the District Championship and her brother, John Swanson won the Junior North Americans.

District sailors got off to a good start by Larry MacDonald, Jr., winning the Southern Circuit. The first regatta of the regular season was the Newport Invitational Regatta in the Rochester, New York area in early June which is the first leg of the Challenge Series with the Central New York District. David Sprague of Toronto placed second behind Kirk Reynolds of the Central New York District. Dick Hallagan of Central New York captured first place individual honors by placing third at Newport and winning the Harvest Regatta at Silver Lake Yacht Club in September. Overall, the two districts ended in a tie for this challenge event.

The Niagara River Championship was won by Cal Schmiede of the host Niagara Sailing Club with David Fritz second and Kathy Taylor third. The Niagara Frontier Invitational Regatta at the Buffalo Canoe Club had twenty-six Lightnings competing. This regatta was won by Tom Allen, Jr. Todd Jones placed second with Jody Swanson, third.

The District Championship was held at Buffalo Canoe Club with twenty-five entries. The Junior Districts were won by David Starck with Jim Allen second. Sue Ferrick won the Women's District Championship. Jody Swanson, with a crew of Mike Montani and Joe Starck won the District Championship. Tom Allen, Sr. and Larry MacDonald were close behind in second and third. Ed Roseberry placed fourth. The Buffalo Canoe Club also hosted the Canadian Open Championship the weekend following the District Championship. Jim Crane of Norwalk, Connecticut was the winner followed by Tom Allen, Sr. and Tom Allen, Jr. in second and third place.

The district was well represented at both the World Championship in New Jersey and the North American Championship at Tawas, Michigan.



Action at Lake Erie District Championship

Photo Credit: Roger Steck, Buffalo, New York

The seven district entries at the World's were led by Mark Bryant who placed seventh. Bryant again was the best of the local eight entries at the North Americans, placing ninth. In the Junior North Americans at Tawas, the district swept the first three places with John Swanson, David Starck and Jim Allen, placing first, second and third respectively.

The eleventh annual Old Salts Regatta at the Buffalo Canoe Club was won by Cal Schmiede of Niagara Sailing Club. The twenty-first annual Corn Ball Regatta at Chautauqua Lake Yacht Club was won by Jim Neville.

The traditional Fall Circuit was expanded to include a fourth regatta at the Buffalo Canoe Club. The Harvest Regatta at Silver Lake Yacht Club was the most successful regatta of the year with forty entries enjoying good winds and warm September weather. Dick Hallagan and Mark Sertl, both from Central New York took first and second place respectively. Larry MacDonald, Jr. was third. The second regatta at the Boulevard Club in Toronto was won by Larry MacDonald, Jr. with Matt Bryant capturing the third leg of the circuit at Sandy Beach Yacht Club. The Fall Regatta at the Buffalo Canoe Club was won by co-skippers Mark Bryant and Jim Gocker. The overall circuit winner was Mark Sertl of Rochester, New York who placed second at Silver Lake, Toronto and the Canoe Club to take overall honors.

Our congratulations to our champions, especially the up-and-coming youth. We also wish to congratulate Chief Measurer David Sprague and Class Secretary Anne Allen on their election to the Executive Committee of the Class. Bill Neal, and Larry MacDonald, Sr. are also serving as officers of the Class as National Vice Presidents for the U.S. and Canada.

I.L.C.A. ADDRESSING SERVICE

Most of the Fleet and District Officers listed in this Year Book held office during the calendar year 1985. Names and addresses of current officers may be obtained from I.L.C.A. Headquarters.

Some of the Members listed in the Registry of Lightning Owners have moved since the Registry was prepared. Current addresses may be obtained from I.L.C.A. Headquarters.

We offer addressing service to Fleets, Districts, and Yacht Clubs. Will address labels at .07¢ per name or envelopes at .14¢ per name for any District. Additional charge is made for the amount of postage required to mail them to you. Names available are those of Lightning owners who are in good standing for 1985 and 1986. This service is also available to commercial advertisers at .10¢ per name for labels and .20¢ per name for envelopes. Contact I.L.C.A. Headquarters, 808 High Street, Worthington, Ohio 43085, giving sufficient lead time.

1986
MICHIGAN DISTRICT
REGATTA SCHEDULE

MAY

17, 18 Devil's Lake
31-1 Lake Lansing

JUNE

7, 8 Crescent
14, 15 Bay City
21, 22 Fenton Team Race
26 - 29 **DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIP**
Grand Traverse

JULY

12, 13 Junior District Championship
Women's District Championship
Devil's Lake

AUGUST

2, 3 Higgins Lake

SEPTEMBER

6, 7 Pontiac
13, 14 Devil's Lake
20, 21 Clark Lake
27, 28 Gull Lake



SAIL

! N A G I G I M

LONG ISLAND DISTRICT

District Commodore	Ray Rumph
District Secretary	Thomas Hering
District Measurer	Frank Atkinson
District Champion	Frank Atkinson
District Runner-Up	Tim Rumph

Fleets: Hewlett Bay (58); Great South Bay Fleet (178); South Hampton Yacht Club (431).

The Great South Bay Fleet hosted the 1985 Long Island District Championships at their home away from home, the Long Island Yacht Club in Babylon, New York on July 20-21.

Saturday's races were sailed in a moderate, shifty westerly; the breeze never did swing to the typical southwest sea breeze that the bay is famous for. Peter Neyland from Hewlett Bay jumped out to a quick lead and rounded first in race one, followed by Tim Rumph and Frank Atkinson. The Atkinson team (Frank, Frank Jr., and Christina Kaufman) crewwork proved to be decisive as they took the lead at the leeward mark and never let it go. Tim Rumph from Southampton was second. In race two, another Hewlett Bay sailor, Tom Hering, found a lift on the right side, and rounded first. But the Atkinson offwind performance again was the difference—Atkinson finished first, Hering second, Bill Weiss third, and Tim Rumph fourth. After day one, Atkinson was leading, with Rumph and Hering tied for second. All contestants were glad that all three fleets had a competitor in the running.

On Sunday, hazy sunshine and a spotty, moderate southeasterly prevailed. Tim Rumph battled to an early lead in race three, and fought off a persistent challenge from Atkinson to win by a few boatlengths. With Mike Gargiulo third, Atkinson entered the final race with a three point advantage over Rumph.

The breeze veered toward the southwest for race four. At the weather mark, it was anybody's race as four boats rounded together. Atkinson managed to gain the inside position, and he led at the jibe mark. He held off a challenge from Tom Hering to clinch a convincing victory for the series.

Many Long Island District sailors were surprised to learn that this was Frank's first Districts victory. After countless successful years on the Lightning circuit, Frank had captured the elusive District Championship.

MICHIGAN DISTRICT

District Commodore	Hank Hodgson
District Secretary	David Hatfield
District Measurer	Dave Furey
District Champion	Bruce Goldsmith
District Runner-Up	Clarence Holman, Jr.
Womens Champion	Bonnie Nickels
Junior Champion	George Sipel
Junior Runner-Up	Valerie Marriott

Fleets: Devils Lake (31); Crescent Sail Club (51); Lake Fenton (53); Pontiac Yacht Club (54); Higgins Lake (110); Gull Lake Yacht Club (137); Tawas Bay Yacht Club (152); Leland Yacht Club (184); Saginaw Bay (216); Grand Traverse Yacht Club (326); Douglas Lake (374); Lansing Sail Club (387).

It has been written that "A harbor, even if it is a little harbor, is a good thing, since adventurers come into it as well as go out." Some of our Michigan District harbors are small, but many of them provided adventures for our Lightning skippers during the 1985 racing season.

Who will forget the final District race when the motorboat traffic going downriver to watch the Detroit hydroplane races, combined with a total lack of wind, to challenge the stomachs of even those who had not partied the night before? The time limit finally ran out, cinching the championship for Bruce Goldsmith, with Clarence Holman one point behind. Colin Park, Dave Nickels and Dave Marriott rounded out the top five.

Then there was the opposite end of the spectrum — the terror of Traverse Bay when Lightnings planed to the starting line under mainsail alone. This writer recalls the conversation going something like this — "Make sure the spinnaker halyard is fastened down" — then "Even if we go with it, we won't jibe it" — finally, "Untie the spinnaker and put it away". Jim Sayre of Devils Lake Yacht Club was the true adventurer that day — being the only one to pop his colors after a good first weather mark rounding. It didn't take long for intelligence to overrule the adventuring spirit however, and soon the entire fleet was back under control. Goldsmith again found the

conditions to his liking, placing first in the series, followed by Park, and Garry Demarest.

The Juniors can probably relate the best stories. Their mid-July District races at Pontiac Yacht Club required the "light-weights" to survive 20 m.p.h. gusty winds on both days, completing a five race schedule. George Sipel, Jr. of Devils Lake finished first for the third consecutive year. Valerie Marriott of Pontiac overcame a capsized to be runner-up, and Amy Hodgson, also of DLYC, finished third with the only all girl crew.

Michigan fleets hosted 11 regattas from June 1-September 30. Mike Caterino of Lake Lansing started the season out in great shape by winning his home club's regatta; Mike Rathbun of Gull Lake was runner up. Bay City was our warm up for the Districts. Dave Nickels and Hank Hodgson found their way around the right marks of the course to finish first and second respectively.

Fenton bested a field of eight teams in a blustery weekend of team racing at Lake Fenton. The winning team consisted of Herman Nickels, Dave Nickels, George Nickels, and Paul Militzer. Bay City was runner up in the event.

The warm-up series for the North Americans was held at Higgins Lake where Colin Park steered his boat into the winner's circle, followed by Hodgson and Demarest.

The fall regattas got underway at Pontiac Yacht Club where fleet member Clarence Holman played the part of a good host, showing all of the other contestants around his "home" waters. Colin Park and Dave Nickels were "good followers" finishing second and third in the series.

Indian summer arrived for the Devils Lake series — cold nights, early morning fog and NO WIND. A spinnaker start proved rather interesting in the first race, but none of the turn of events rattled Jim Dressel who came from the Buckeye state to "adventure" with us "wolverines", and took home a first place trophy. Park was again in close pursuit, with Holman third.

Colin Park posted a second victory for the season at the Gull Lake finale. Demarest was second followed by Dave Hatfield of Gull Lake.

Of course, our big event was hosting the North American Championships. It had been 13 years since the Championship Fleet had last visited Michigan — Tawas Bay to be specific. Facilities are not glamorous in the Tawas area, but it would be difficult to find a location where the sailing conditions could compare. We had three perfect days of sailing for the Womens, Juniors, and Master's Championships followed by a full week of ideal conditions for the championships. We had a great time hosting this series, and count ourselves very lucky to have had the likes of Charlie Schreck and Gary Cameron come out of "Lightning" retirement, to run a flawless race committee for us. The success of such a large event cannot be measured accurately, but you can't go too far wrong with good winds and good competitors. Thanks to all of our gracious guests who came to adventure at our Tawas Harbor, and helped out when needed. We willingly pass on the paperwork to our Northern Neighbors — hosts for 1986 — the memories are ours to keep!

MIDWEST DISTRICT

District Commodore	John Walter
District Secretary	Robert Johnson
District Measurer	Robert Smither
District Champion	James Gagnon
District Runner-Up	Michael Huffman

Fleets: Chicago Corinthian (5); Milwaukee Yacht Club (69); Green Bay (112); Lake Davenport (167); Sheboygan (187); Lake Geneva (345); Manitowoc (393); Racine (489); Quarter Barrel (494).

The Midwest District's regatta season opened with the Evans Regatta at Green Bay. With many sailors anticipating Green Bay as host for the Districts, there was stiff competition. With others trading first place finishes, Tryg Jacobson turned in the most consistent series and placed in front of Pat Considine, Rick Larson, Mike Huffman and Byron Roe.

Psyched up about that regatta, we moved south the following weekend to Manitowoc for the Ice Breaker. But, alas, the winds were roaring all weekend and we went home without even a race.

We then pushed further south down the Lake Michigan coast to Milwaukee. Lal and Matt Burridge came up from the Mississippi Valley to see if they could win some Milwaukee silver. And they did. Matt finished first ahead of Rick Larson, Lal, Kevin Blair and Gene Matthews.

With the North Americans in the adjoining district this year, many midwesterners were shooting for qualifying positions. The district was eligible for seven boats, so the races were very competitive. Twenty-seven boats gathered at the Green Bay Sailing Club. Jim Knorr and measuring

crew got us through the hurdles and Tom Phelan set up excellent courses in the sometimes strong, sometimes moderate winds. At the end of the first day, it looked like Pat Considine was out to do a "Horizon" job on us with two firsts. However, the third race had fluke winds that proved the downfall of many sailors, including Pat with a 16th, Rick Larson with a 14th and Kevin Blair with a 24th. Meanwhile, Jim Gagnon and Mike Huffman were sailing consistent races within the top five.

By Sunday Jim Gagnon prevailed over Mike's efforts and became the first District winner from Green Bay in 34 years. The former winner was Jim's father, Jim, back in 1951.

In Sheboygan, the Burridges thought they would come up and show us how once again. They duplicated their Milwaukee performance with Matt, first, followed by Rick Larson, Lal Burridge, Tryg Jacobson, and Jim Knorr.

The Hobelman in Chicago was close but Pat Considine held off Mike Huffman in the last race to win with John Walter third.

Then, while some continued to fight it out in home fleet duels, our district qualifiers went to Tawas Bay for the North Americans. There, Pat Considine and Mike Huffman finished in the middle of the Championship Fleet while Sheboygan's Rick Larson won the President's Cup. Kevin Blair finished in the middle of the President's Fleet while Gene Matthews, Brian Phelan and Wally Nickerson fought off breakdowns in the Governor's Cup.

Later at the crossroads of the Midwest, Michigan, and Indiana Districts was Chicago's Red Flannels Regatta. Bruce Goldsmith and Dave Nickels accepted our invitations and it was a strong field of twenty-one boats. Pat Considine held on in the last race to defeat Dave Nickels by a point with Rick Larson third. Bruce and Mike Huffman were fourth and fifth. Pat received the honorary full suit of red flannel underwear while Gene Matthews received the "aw nuts" award for his sixth place finish.

The Polar Bear in Davenport was held to three races this year because of the winds and current. Gene Matthews prevailed over Mike Stephenson by a point.

So with season's end we totalled up the regatta finishes for the Lake Michigan Championship. Eight boats qualified by sailing in the Districts and three other regattas. First was Rick Larson followed by Gene Matthews

and Kevin Blair. Other qualifiers were John Walter, Jim Knorr, Brian Phelan, John Esser and Wally Nickerson.

The season was very competitive and strong this year with many more sailing the regatta circuit and more people investing in new boats. With the season over it's now on to Milwaukee for the Midwest's midwinter meeting in Milwaukee beer, exchanging of stories and planning for next year.



Back Row: (l. to r.) Skippers Kevin Blair, Rick Larson, Pat Considine, Mike Huffman, Jim Gagnon. Middle Row: (l. to r.) Jim Blair, Mike Peterson, Dave Wagner, Scott Harrison, Gregg Bartz. Bottom Row: (l. to r.) Dean Cady, Jr., Susie Pratt, Steve Diaz, Carol Simmons, Maureen Gagnon.

MIDWEST DISTRICT 1986 REGATTA SCHEDULE

June 14th - 15th

June 21st - 22nd

July 5th - 6th

July 11th-12th-13th

July 26th - 27th

August 2nd - 3rd

September 20th - 21st

October 4th - 5th

Evans Regatta — Green Bay

Ice Breaker — Manitowoc

P & T Milwaukee

Districts — Sheboygan

Brotz — Sheboygan

Hobelman — Chicago

Red Flannels — Chicago

Polar Bear — Lake Davenport

1986 NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT SCHEDULE

June 7, 8	Lake Champlain	Burlington, VT
June 21, 22	Maple Leaf Classic	Bomoseen, VT
June 28, 29	Great Harbor	Provincetown, MA
July 12, 13	State-of-Maine	Androscoggin, ME
July 18, 19, 20	Districts	Annisquam, MA
July 23, 27	Race Week	Marblehead, MA
July 26, 27	Junior Championship	Wellfleet, MA
August 9, 10	State-of-Massachusetts	Wellfleet, MA
August 16, 17	NH./VT. Championship	Squam, NH
August 23, 24	Newburyport	Newburyport, MA
September 6, 7	Massabesic	Massabesic, NH
September 13	Bow Lake	Bow, NH
September 20, 21	Spofford	Spofford, NH

NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT

District Commodore	Stu Nickerson
District Secretary	Dick Fastiggi
District Champion	Ray Harrington
District Runner-Up	Don Brush

Fleets: Centerboard Yacht Club (14); Newburyport (121); Spofford Yacht Club (145); Annisquam Yacht Club (151); Marblehead Harbor (189); Bomoseen Lake Y.C. (227); Massabesic Yacht Club (273); Chequeset (280); Lake Champlain (301); Squam Lake (332); Androscoggin Lightning Fleet (450); West End Racing Club (487); Bow Lake Lightning Fleet (493); Pioneer Valley Lightning Fleet (495).

The highlight of the New England District's year was the return to fun, and relaxed sailing which was summed up by the annual Spofford Regatta. We have noticed in New England that the smaller regattas which emphasize the whole range of competitive sailing are better attended and more thoroughly enjoyed by everyone. After the competition of the World Championship in June, our district seemed to demand more relaxed sailing and more opportunities for everyone to learn.

As evidence of this new direction, thirty-one boats participated in the Spofford Regatta to wrap-up the New England season. Excellent weather, tricky winds, and lots of socializing, plus a race committee headed by Fast Fred Hamblet made for good times. As usual, Dick Hallagan won (4th year in a row)! He was chased by Stu Nickerson, Tom Doran, Dick Hale, Bob Shapiro and Russ Cavanaugh.

Another regatta that features hospitality and fun sailing is the State-of-Maine Championship held each year at Lake Androscoggin. Twenty-one boats competed with Ned Hines besting the fleet. Ned was closely followed by Rob Pratt.

Our Districts were hosted by the Marblehead Fleet this year, under the leadership and hard work of Rick Humphrey. Five races in all varieties of wind and shifts produced a first time win for Ray Harrington, with his wife and father crewing. Nice going Harringtons! The racing was very close,

with one point separating the top three boats. Don Brush was second, followed by Stu Nickerson, John Collins, George Peter, Rob Pratt, and Rick Humphrey.

The annual Great Harbor Races held at the end of June in Provincetown were once again a highlight of our season. Thanks to the work of the Abare family, competitors enjoyed excellent sailing, a great party/dinner and the opportunity to sail on the most scenic bay on the East Coast. Rob Pratt won with David & Christie Jones second, Amy Kling and Maria White third, Kurt Kling and Charlie White fourth and Bob Shapiro fifth. Keep up the good work Provincetown!

The Lake Champlain Fleet in Burlington, Vt. hosted an early (chilly) regatta in June. This regatta was used as a tune-up for many of the New England boats that were participating in the Worlds one week later. Bill Shore won convincingly, followed by Don Brush, Phil Lotz and Stu Nickerson.

Elsewhere in New England, Len Pratt won the Newburyport Regatta with John Hughes second, and Steve Fram third.

Rick Humphrey won the NH/VT Championship held on Lake Massabesic.

Stu Nickerson won the annual Wellfleet Regatta with Curt Felix second, and Don Barrett, third.

Outside of New England, Stew Neff won the fall Cedar Point Regatta with Kip Hamblet and Christie Jones crewing. Hale Walcott with a vareity of skippers was fourth in the Southern Circuit. Stu Nickerson was third in the Newport Regatta. Don Brush crewed with Bill Shore winning the North Americans.

The New England District is still growing. With leadership being provided by Dwight Gertz, the once active fleet on Squam Lake is back again. Our District Championship will be hosted by the Annisquam Yacht Club next summer. We all look forward to returning to this quaint sailing center to test our skills with the current and open ocean.

In summary, New England sailing remains strong, and we have learned that a more relaxed approach is the key to keeping interest high. See you in '86.

1986 OHIO DISTRICT REGATTA SCHEDULE

Spring Seminar*
Spring Classic Regatta*
Windshift Regatta*
Thundermug Regatta*
DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIP
Independence Day Regatta
C.Y.C. Regatta
Harvest Moon Regatta*
Snowball Regatta
Fall-In Regatta*

Cowan Lake Y.C.	May 10-11
Pymatuning Y.C.	May 17-18
Leatherlips Y.C.	June 14-15
St. Marys Boat Club	June 21-22
St. Marys Boat Club	June 27-29
Pymatuning Y.C.	July 5-6
Cleveland Y.C.	July 26-27
Atwood Y.C.	August 13-14
Buckeye Lake Y.C.	October 11-12
Cowan Lake Y.C.	October 18-19

* — Included in Ohio Governors Cup Series.

OHIO DISTRICT

District Commodore John Werley
District Secretary Phillip Cornett
District Champion Matt Fisher
District Runner-Up Jim Dressel

Fleets: Indian Lake (23); Leatherlips (27); Turkeyfoot (33); Pymatuning (36); Buckeye Lake (43); Mansfield (150); Atwood Lake (212); Cowan Lake (303); Hoover (353); St. Marys (400).

The Ohio District started the 1985 season with our annual spring seminar, once again hosted by Fleet 27 of Leatherlips Yacht Club. George and Matt Fisher led both on and off the water instruction, this year concentrating on the weather leg. Fair weather and a good breeze complimented shore lectures and panel discussions. Everyone learned a lot!

In its second year, Pymatuning Yacht Club's Spring Classic continues to grow, drawing sailors from as far away as New York and Minnesota. With its focus as a spring tuneup, PYC tries to run as many four leg races as possible. Saturday's gray skies and brisk wind tuned both racing skills and rescuing technique, but everyone was off the water in plenty of time for the bounteous cocktails and party. Sunday brought us fair skies and a good breeze — a perfect sailing day to solidify the standings. Matt Fisher, tuning for the Worlds, finished first; Dick Hallagan from New York was second; with Dale Keltner from Minnesota third.

Next, we're off to west-central Ohio for the St. Mary's Thundermug, followed by Leatherlips' Windshift. The Thundermug consisted of a five race series under sunny skies with a fair breeze, and super home-cooked pies!! Colin Park from Michigan finished first, Mike Hein was second, and John McCree was third.

The Leatherlips Yacht Club Windshift Regatta lived up to its name with shifty, puffy winds blowing across the river. Participation suffered a bit with only 17 boats, as our District representatives were off to the Worlds. Tom Varley played it the best; John Werley was second; and Carl Clipp, was

third. And as usual, our favorite sailor Terry Ottenweller promises to return for more fun next year!

The Ohio District sent our strong contingent of father-son teams to the Worlds, with George Fisher, Matt Fisher, Jim Dressel, and Dan Dressel all vying for top honors against the best in the World. Also, Rob Ruhlman from PYC had the opportunity to crew with Mark Bryant. Matt was the top finisher from the Ohio group — fourth in the World! Yea, Matt!

Fleet 27 from Leatherlips Yacht Club and Fleet 212 from Cowan Lake Sailing Association took us to Vermillion, Ohio on big Lake Erie for its steady and always-present winds. Our thanks to Terry Sheeche and all of Vermillion Boat Club for their outstanding hospitality! The hard work of all the members of both fleets, particularly Mary Rider (for the super meals) and Bucky Powless & family (for all their work on Race Committee under trying conditions) made this a grand success! Light winds from many varying directions was the order Friday and Saturday, making our small puddle hosts feel right at home! Sunday was a blowout, as storms rolled in a typical Lake Erie fashion. Horse racing broke the tie for first, giving Matt Fisher the championship. Jim Dressel was second, Willy Petersilge was third, George Fisher was fourth, and Dan Dressel was fifth. Best finish for a first time sailor went to Bill Kumler. Recognizing her contributions to the District and her ever-present Corinthian attitude, Bertie Gerling was rendered speechless (for once) when presented with the Ohio District Sportsmanship Award.

This year Rob Ruhlman (PYC), Jack Borland (PYC), Peter Swartz (PYC), Carl Clipp (LYC) and Tom Varley (LYC) made the trip to Tawas to represent the Ohio District in the North Americans. Robby did us proud not only qualifying for the Blue Fleet, but finishing fourteenth overall. Yeah, Rob!

Atwood Lake held another typical Harvest Moon Regatta, with lots of boats, lots of good times, lots of a fabulous cocktail party, and very little wind! Tom Varley drifted the fastest, stealing away the regatta from two-time past champion, Jay Mueller in the last race. Jay finished second, and Dick Pugh was third.

Once again the Buckeye Lake Snowball Regatta read like a Who's Who in Lightning sailing. Bucky Powless did another splendid job as Race Committee chairman, making the best of the existing conditions. Even with good wind, this year's highlight was not the last race but the super party and band the night before! Chris Varvarosky made history lunging through the "Hoop" feet first. . . no man has done this before (or ever again!). New but familiar faces dominated the top positions. Greg Fisher made a triumphant return taking top honors. Rob Ruhlman failed to choke as predicted around the martini bowl, and finished second overall. Willy Petersilge was third, Jim Dressel was fourth, and Mike Huffman from Chicago was fifth.

The season ends for most of us at Cowan Lake's Fall-In Regatta. With as much hospitality as they have peanuts (and peanuts were everywhere!) the folks of Cowan make this regatta one not to miss. Even this year, as we slogged around the course in 4½ inches of rain! John Werley was best through the drops, winning his first regatta. George Auer was second, and Dick Pugh third.

The Ohio Governor's Cup, comprised of the best three finishes of the five regattas (Spring Classic, Thundermug, Windshift, Harvest Moon, and Fall-In) found a new home. Tom Varley finished first, with two regatta firsts and a fourth. John Werley finished second, and past Champion Dick Pugh was third.

We are eagerly awaiting the 1986 season, and expecting increased participation at our regattas. If you're in the neighborhood, stop in and see us. You're always welcome, and it's always fun!

PACIFIC NORTHWEST DISTRICT

District Commodore Bruce Deitz
District Measurer Dave Hickman
District Champion Eric Lindahl
District Runner-Up John DeBenedetti

Fleets: Vancouver (90); Chinook (229); Okanagan (368); Portland (283); Seattle (132).

Although most of the fleets in the Pacific Northwest District actually start their season sometime in April or early May the real gathering of the Northwest Lightning clan begins on Fern Ridge Reservoir near Eugene, Oregon on Memorial Day. This classic regatta usually draws as many boats as the Districts and offers the best facilities of our entire circuit. It also offers some of the most interesting wind conditions imaginable as line squalls bounce their way east up the valley from the ocean, some going by south of the lake, some north of the lake, and some right through it. This year the regatta was won by Mark Fisher, who absolutely blew everybody else off the lake in the most lopsided win we've seen in a long time: Four firsts and a fourth!

This year's District Championship Regatta was held at Sand Point, on Lake Washington, about 5 miles from the sight of the '84 North Americans. The University of Washington Sailing Club, under the Chairmanship of Dan Callahan, served as race committee and did a super job for us. Eric Lindahl and Father Lightning, John DeBenedetti, duked it out with Eric winning his second districts in five years.

Every once in a while somebody gets psyched up enough to drive 2,500 miles from the northwest to attend the North Americans. This year John DeBenedetti made the trip to Tawas and Bruce Deitz remains eternally grateful to John for bringing back his new boat. Now all Bruce has to do is rig it. Some of the rest of us may make the North Americans next year...we've now had enough time to recover from hosting the '84 North Americans.

The district lost a good friend this past summer. Paul Anderson was killed in a tragic biking accident. Paul bought his first boat in 1976. The following winter, while everyone else was relaxing and getting rusty, Paul was either out sailing his Lightning or at the library devouring every word written about sailboats and sailboat racing. He did well his first season and came back the next two years to win the Portland Fleet Championship both times. People will remember Paul for his sailing ability, but they will remember him even more for his spirit and love of life. He had a profound effect on all who knew him. We will miss him.

"The Dunk" is coming on strong... Rumor has it that he (Ken Dunkelberg) might have won the circuit trophy this year. We'll find out next February for sure. He definitely won a tough light air regatta on English Bay in Vancouver, Canada, and almost won the Seattle Fleet Championship.

A relatively new sailor from Portland, Jerry Newberger, gave people a scare at the Seattle Circuit Regatta last October with a couple of good races. It gets tougher and tougher every year, but its more fun than ever...



1986

SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIP SCHEDULE



April 26-27	Augusta Lightning Invitational Augusta Sailing Club, Augusta, GA
May 10-11	Western Carolina Sailing Club Open Lake Hartwell, Anderson, SC
May 31-June 1	Lake Murray Lightning Invitational Lake Murray Sailing Club, Columbia, SC
June 14-15	High Rock Lightning Invitational High Rock Yacht Club, Lexington, NC
JUNE 27-29	S.E. DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIP Beaufort Yacht & Sailing Club Beaufort, SC
August 23-24	SAYRA Championship Regatta Charleston Yacht Club, Charleston, SC
September 6-7	Waccamaw Lightning Invitational Waccamaw Sailing Club Lake Waccamaw, NC
September 20-21	Lightnings and Y-Flyers at Lake Murray Columbia Sailing Club, Columbia, SC
OCTOBER 4-5	Atlanta Cup Regatta and DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETING Lake Lanier Sailing Club, Atlanta, GA

These regattas are scored for the S.E. District Season Series.
See District Newsletter for dates of additional Lightning regattas.
Visitors from other districts are welcome!

SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT

District Commodore Gil Samuelson
District Secretary Rick Ferguson
District Measurer Paul Rodesiler
District Champion Lenny Krawcheck
District Runner-Up Bob Harkrider
Season Champion Bob Harkrider
Season Runner-Up Bill Sloger

Fleets: Savannah (127); Clark Hill (257); Lake Lanier (348); Catawba (365); Lake Hartwell (391); Triad (415); Greater Charleston (429); Palmetto (440); Waccamaw (463); Wake (481).

We sail a series of nine regattas which make up the Season Championship, some of which are Lightning-only invitationals, and some of which are multi-class regattas. Attendance at all regattas was up this year over last year, and the level of competition has increased as well. We have seen some new boats, new sails, and new trailers in the district this year, which also points to increased activity and interest; all good omens for the future! All you old Southeastern District sailors with boats in mothballs, get 'em out and come racing — you'll be pleasantly surprised.

Our district sent Lenny Krawcheck, Bob Harkrider, and Arthur Levin to the North Americans; Lenny represented us well in the blue fleet, and Bob and Arthur carried the flag in the President's Cup. You can expect to see more of these guys and other Southeastern District sailors in the big regattas.

Seven skippers qualified for the Season Championship by sailing in at least 5 of the 9 scored regattas; they were (in order of season standing): Bob Harkrider, Bill Sloger, Rick Ferguson, Arthur Levin and Hendrix TenEyck, Gil Samuelson, Clay Rumble, and Bob Shingler. We will race at the same locations next year for the 1986 Season Championship (see schedule elsewhere in the yearbook), and there will be other regattas with Lightning fleets throughout the district, so there is a regatta within driving distance virtually every weekend of the season. Watch the district newsletter for dates of other events.

The Southeastern District Championship was held at Augusta Sailing Club this year with 15 boats competing, and ASC's hospitality and beauti-

ful club site more than made up for the uncooperative weather (rain, no wind, and major shifts when there was wind); Lenny Krawcheck prevailed, followed by Bob Harkrider, Rick Ferguson, Arthur Levin (in a boat hastily borrowed after his was destroyed by fire on the way to the Districts), and Bill Sloger (who took a big loss in a late race major wind shift).

We were all saddened by the loss of Paul Rodesiler this year after a long illness. Paul made many significant contributions to Lightning sailing in the southeast and was always a gentleman on and off the water; he will be missed.

We're all delighted to have Lenny Krawcheck actively campaigning a Lightning again with his new boat; now if we could just get this guy from Orangeburg, SC (initials Tom Waters) going again...

Check the schedule and mark your calendar right now — and watch *Flashes* and the Spinnaker Sheet for other events. See y'all at Savannah, OK?



Southeastern District 1985 Season Championship qualifiers. Front row (left to right): Rick Ferguson, Arthur Levin, Bob Harkrider (season champ), Bill Sloger, back row: Hendrix TenEyck, Clay Rumble, Gil Samuelson, Bob Shingler.

SWISS DISTRICT

District Commodore Jurg Weilenman
District Vice-Commodore Gilbert Despland
District Secretary Paul Gmur
District Measurers Urs Wyler, Oscar Weber
District Champion Urs Wyler
District Runner-Up Hanspeter Schmid

Fleets: Lac de Neuchatel (169), Zurichsee (219), Sempachersee (250), Greifensee (309), Murtensee (358).

What we had hoped for at the end of last year did not materialize in 1985: participation was still at a meager 8 boat average. But nevertheless. Four Swiss boats went down to Marsala for the year end and found tough conditions with hot competitors and a wild sea. Yet, the combined efforts of the Swiss naval forces were good enough to beat the Sicilians and win the overall first. Schmid, Wyler, Hofer did it.

Little wind was the main feature of the season. Both spring regattas at Sempach and Hallwil as well as our Districts at Murten suffered from it. Wyler, Stauffer, Gasser won them with Perret, Bossart, Hausammann second.

Except for the wind which continued weak the Europeans at Grandson were a superb event, perfectly organized by Gilbert Despland's Cercle de la Voile de Grandson. Both, the races and the social gatherings lived up to the expectations of the crews from Greece, Italy, Finland and Switzerland. After six races our Swiss teams Luthy, Taschler, Sonderegger and Wyler, Stauffer, Gasser were first and third with the Italian crew Galetti second.

The Alpine Lakes of Upper Italy are getting more and more popular with Swiss Lightning sailors, so popular that the Swiss outnumber the Italians in their own district. Brenzone on Lake Garda and Gravedona on Lake Como again proved that sailing can be great fun with good wind. Urs Wyler and

his crew were the winners of these two regattas.

The year finished with the traditional heavy-air, ice-cold Fondue-Regatta on Lake Neuchatel which is famous for the biting "Breeze" at this time of the year. Claud Lambelet with his Cercle de la Voile de Neuchatel was our host for the delicious fondue that warmed up the chilled sailors. Urs Wyler won again demonstrating his supremacy in heavy conditions. The following district meeting confirmed the officers of the class and fixed the regatta calendar for 1986. We expressed the same hope as last year: More wind and more boats would greatly increase the fun.



Lightnings sailing in Switzerland.

TEXAS DISTRICT

District Commodore John B. Waskom, III
District Measurer Dr. Sylvan Newman
District Champion Rick Tears
District Runner-Up Gil Mercier

Fleets: Dallas Corinthian (35); Rush Creek Yacht Club (435).

In order to assure the unaffiliated Lightning owners and other boat owners that we had not contacted recently that they were still members of the Fraternity our notice of the District Championship race dates was sent out in the form of a newsletter.

To encouragement payment of dues as well as help the Fund, we had the following announcement in our newsletter:

"The Texas District has made a donation to the ILCA Fund and has 10 raffle tickets for Lightning #14000 in the name of the Texas District. If the District wins the drawing for Lightning #14000, a drawing will be conducted to determine the ILCA member from the Texas District who will receive Lightning #14000.

This is one more good reason to join ILCA."

Our District races were held June 15-16. As reported in September *Flashes*, the wind began to die on the 16th and we had to settle for four races. Fortunately there were no ties and the results were Rick Tears first and Gil Mercier second. Fleet 435 is pleased to have Gil with his experience in other boats, as an active fleet member. He is going to keep all of the previous winners on their toes. Vern Goldberg did his usual excellent job as Race Chairman and we promise to eventually pay him for those early morning donuts.

Warren Lewis won the Hernando DeSota Regatta near Memphis, with Ex-President George Hatfield third. This was billed in the *Flashes* as a Tennessee/Texas shootout.

The Holiday in Dixie Regatta in Shreveport is also a must for our sailors. We had several boats go over, but no one seems to remember how we made out. Must have been quite a party.

In October we had seven boats in the State Fair Regatta at White Rock Lake in Dallas with John Waskom IV the winner and Ignatius Urbanek second. Ignatius is new to Fleet 35 and the Lightning and is learning too fast for comfort.

Final preparations are being made for the annual Thanksgiving "Turkey Day" Regatta at Rush Creek Yacht Club, November 29-30. Invitations have already been mailed.

The "Bad News" is that during the year both Paul Emens and Steve Thomas of Fleet 435 moved to Houston. We have been working on a fleet down there for over a year so the "Good News" is that this may help us to finally get a fleet launched in Houston.

We are still very positive about the Lightning in the Texas District.