## '86 N.A.'s - KINGSTON



Photo: Jake Jacobson

# WINNING THE WRONG SERIES ('86 Qualifiers) 

by Stu Nickerson

We arrived in Kingston for the 1986 North Americans prepared. I had spent the previous two weeks re-fairing the hull of 11136 and making the centerboard perfect. Hale Walcoff was making sure our sails were in order and Kip Hamblet was busy finding out what the competition was up to. Our team spent the weekend prior to the N.A.'s sail testing, rigging a new mast, practicing 720's, 360 's, coming from behind, checking all fittings etc. We knew we were ready.

We were pleased to see 116 boats participating at Kingston. Boats were parked all over the place.

Saturday's practice race was your typical practice race with $80 \%$ of the Fleet over the line sailing full speed with 15 seconds to go. On the first weather leg, a large dark cloud appeared on the right side of the course, with an increase in wind from the right. Everyone put up their chutes at the weather mark and just as quickly took them down as a mini squall passed through. Most boats returned to shore. We elected to stay out and do some speed testing with Larry MacDonald, Ched Proctor and Peter Hall. We were pleased with our speed.

Sunday's first qualifier was sailed in a 10 mph southerly. We started near the leeward end and held on starboard into the left corner. Phil Lotz followed close astern and the race for us turned into a two boat race with us comfortably ahead of Phil.

The second qualifier was sailed in 10 to 12 mph winds from the south with higher gusts. Ched Procter led this race most of the way with Larry MacDonald, Don Brush, Kirk Reynolds, Eric Larson and us in pursuit. On the last leg, we were forced to the right more than we wanted to go, but we found a small header, went back with the pack in more air and slowly ground down all of our competition. Near the finish, we were covering the Fleet as best we could, when out of the left corner came Kirk Reynolds. We were just able to get up in front of him to take the gun.

Monday morning brought a day of heavy air out of the west. With a crew weight of 490 pounds, we were grinning. The third qualifier was sailed in 15 increasing to 25 mph winds. Off the line, it was quickly Larry MacDonald, Mark Bryant, and us, with Larry leading at the first mark. We got by Larry on the first reach and from there, it was a simple matter of covering him. After this race, everyone headed for the beach as the winds and seas were still building.

Monday afternoon was spent visiting with other crews as we waited for things to calm down. Finally at 4 pm , the one hour gun was fired. The fourth qualifier was sailed in a strong veering westerly. This race turned into a three boat race between Bill Shore, Larry MacDonald and us. Bill led all the way with us passing Larry down wind. Bill made it very clear that he was very ready to defend his title.

Looking back on the qualifiers, it was different for us not to have to do well in the fourth race to qualify, however the series that we wanted to win was the second half of the week and we were not successful. The wind patterns that would
eventually show some consistency in the finals did not play a role in the qualifiers. Our game plan which worked well in the qualifiers netted two poor finishes in the finals. That's sailboat racing and it's why we will be back next year to try again.


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## 1986 North American Qualifying Series




59 13509 Wilam Layton, Paal White, Mark Stapleton 15933 Warren Lewss, Brisn Lews, Kurt Schuler 14009 Mike Dow, Rich Northrup, Enk Peterson 12081 Philp Grotheer, Ron Buchanan, Jon Lynch 12081 Philp Grotheer, Ron Buchanary, Jon Lynch
13659 David Spraque, Stewart Sprague, Alson Maboney 11929 Juan Santos, Carlos Lecaro, Ralael Lecare 13874 Thamss Hering, Lowell Copeland, Michwel Donohue 12hs! Sandy MacDonald, Paal Belaa, Sean Tormey 12405 Alan Ruiter, Cancy Ruiter, Jettrey Lutz 14096 Ronald Blair, David Blair, Jeff Fishman 10493 Chratopher Baubacher, Mike Beaver, Wil Thomas 10356 David Fretz, Ronald Hughes, Nina Cuccio 14004 Don Sherburne, Lynne Sherburne, Sterling Worrel 14004 Don Sherburne, Lynnes Sherburne, Stersing
13856 Gearges Petet, Alison Peter, Maria White 13899 Bob Harkrider, Andrew Addie, John Occhipinti 6345 John Swanson, Rob Zertan
14049 Bob Fider, Sean Fider, And, Greenstreet 11650 Dand Grogono, Lesle Tuttle, Pam Tutrle 14013 Gerry Paol, Steve Hern, David Searn 14043 Fred Mertes, Carol Mertes, Joe Reed 11177 Peter Sulman, Kahy Sulman, Wayne Sulman 13913 Jim Gocher, Krista Gocker, Dowg Fien 14070 Bob Mathers, John Mathers, Jim Duncan 13677 Arthur Levin, Rick Ten Eyck, Clwy Rumble 11289 Keth MacDonald, Brian Mirre. Camweren MacDonsld 13932 Jolnn Van Dason, Matt Schmadt, John Crow 11134 Joseph McCluskey, Ron Castaldo, Frank Paimer 10066 Davd Nichels, Karen Miltzet, Crasg Anderson 14011 Jim Allen, Dave Stark, Mike McGarry
13643 Bernie Moultsie. Willam Kerley. Barbara Kerliey 13966 Janws Ward, dr, Joe Cunningham. Chris Cunningham 13966 Janws Ward, Jr, Joe Cuniningham, Che
12621 Chris Varn, Barbara Venn, Mike Vann 12621 Chrs Vamn, Barbara Vann, Mike Vann
13665 Pral Comets, Jim Turison, Bran Beauchan 13665 Phal Cornets, Jim Turison, Bran Beauchamp
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10629 Dick Tuttle, Sharye Skinner, Alister Thompson 13940 Dwad Dicherson, Susan Dicherson, James Gannon 9390 George Deyett, Ken Deyett, Jason Gemmel 13957 Robert Costan, John Walker, Shirley Walker 14007 Haes Graf, Janet Gral, Christopher Gral 10537 Cully Ward. Barbara Ward, Jan Thompsor 1:666 John Teigland, Jr., Steve Warten, Lola Teigland 11666 John Teigand, Jf, Steve Wartet, Lola Tesja
11444 Tom Clark, John Valteris, Janet Pennewel 11631 Brian Curtner. Cathy McNally, Glen Scheels 11420 Mary Anna Portner, Tim Hansen, Ken Radey 10314000 Wilum Seaman, Limus lsabel, A. I Winchester 1058379 Franz Schneider, dr Shela Schneidef, Joe Feyder 10612545 Kerneih McGinity, Peter McGindy, Meghan McGinity 10712990 Lisa Parshley, Liz Phillips, Sury DeBenedetn 10810113 Jesse W Miler, Virginia Miller. Thomas Miler $10813<28$ Wiliam Hole, Karl Bausha, Jube Mann
10614015 Doug Steflemson, Ken Jensen. Mike Shaleshi
10814099 Crit Currie, Audrey Matieson, Greg Hatfeld
1129699 Larry Arburheot, Arn Crammond Neal Smith
11211387 Wiham Baxter, Cecile Boxter, Peter McDonnel 114 11800 F. G Burnidge, Ken Kriepmann, Stacy Henier 1154885 Bob Stoller, Mary McKecever, Lir Keliog 11614106 Asbery Blanchard. Ar., Brian Granert, Laura Grunert

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## LIGHTNING NORTH AMERICANS

by Betsy Alison

When we rolled into the parking lot of the Olympic Sailing Center at Kingston, there was definitely a feeling of excitement in the air. (Maybe it was just me, but somehow I don't think so.) There were a lot of people getting boats weighed, measured, and registration organized. It was great to see everyone in the Lightning crowd again. But now it was time to get on with what we had all come for.

We had quite a mixture of breezes for the Qualifying Series. Stu Nickerson dominated them with a final tally of finishes that included three firsts and a second! Boy, were, the boys on that boat HOT. The first two races of the qualifiers were sailed in light to moderate breezes. That was nice for all of us who needed a few races to get those legs back into the hiking spirit. The third and fourth qualifiers were blessed with the onslaught of a cold front; that gave us all some long and painful beats, with some wild and woolly reaches to contend with. Hot showers sure felt good that night.

When the points were combined and the splits made to divide the fleets, the blue fleet had 40 boats. Needless to say there were a lot of very talented people to contend with. Our early favorites to look for were Stu Nickerson, Mark Bryant, and the Brazilians, to name a few. It was time to go sailing.

Race 1 - The breeze was light and patchy, Interesting
racing to say the least. We went left after the start (Bill always wanted to go left for some reason) along with Jody Lutz, Jack Elfman. Stu Nickerson and a few others. To make a long story short, it was not the place to be. We rounded 32 nd at the first mark. Jim Crane rounded first after sailing a super beat by playing the shifts on the middle right. We picked up a few at the jibe mark and tried to close the gap. Second beat we went left, and picked up a large number of boats, rounding in the top 10 . On the reaches we went low with the chute, passing people to leeward. The final beat was an interesting one. As the blue fleet approached the finish line, the yellow fleet was reaching down the first reach. and the top 10 mixed it up with the other fleet (especially Don Brush, Carson, Biekarck, and Lotz). We were very happy to take a fifth.

Race 2 - This race did not exist for us as we had a breakdown right after the start. This gave us a nice chance to see Kingston and do some shopping. However, Lynn Jewell told us later that the clouds moved the wind way to the right. Most of the fleet went left, and a few went right. Middle was not the place to be. The boats on the right did the best. Ed Martin from Canada won the race, with Jody Lutz second. Some of the favorites had some problems, the Brazilians broke down, and Nickerson broke his pole. We considered the race a GIFT to us from somewhere.


Race 3 - Light and shifty up the first beat. Mark Bryant rounded first, hit the mark, and rerounded allowing Jim Crane to take the lead; we rounded right behind. The middle left seemed the place to go, with the breeze continually shifting left as the day went on.

Race 4 - This time the course was a little different. The weather mark was set just to the right of the island. Typically the mark had been set inside the point of the island. We wondered if this would change the way the race should be sailed. Our game plan was to protect the left as ususal, but keep an eye on the right for anything that might be there. Well, the middle right seemed to have some advantage. With one minute to go before the start, the wind went 20 degrees to the left so as to cause a big, and I mean Big. jam up at the pin end. We tacked and reached behind a bunch of starboard tackers, and were still in phase, even though we were reaching. Most of the fleet went left off the line and died out about 150 yards from the line. We went slightly to the right. tacked on a shift and played the shifts and fleet from there. The object, to stay between the fleet and the mark and protect the left.

Race 5 - Prior to this race, Kathryn Richic, crewing for Ched Proctor, asked me what she should do. They had already sacrificed several pairs of gloves and other gear to the sea gods. What could be done to make the gods favorable to them? I suggested a blood sacrifice. Well, they asked for mine. Before the start, the spinnaker pole got me and the
blood sacrifice was made. Bill asked where we should go, I hesitated for a moment (thinking some not so nice thoughts) and said "Go Left Young Man", and so we did. We looked for left handers while playing the shifts middle left. Kirk Reynolds, Gary Demarest, and Robert Wardwell all stayed a bit more to the right and made out like bandits. Good job guys, Left does not always pay off the best.

Race 6 - We decided it was time to hit a side hard. Which would it be? The breeze had gone pretty far around to the right. The points were such that we needed a very good race, as we had sailed our throwout in Race 2, but everyone in the top ten was so close in points that no one could really go after anyone in particular. Our game plan, Go LEFT. It looked okay at the start but two thirds of the way up the beat, it didn't look like it was going to pay off. The right hand side started to come in big, but we hung in there and hooked into a lefthander near the port tack layline. We rounded third or fourth together with Nickerson. Lisocki. and Sertl. We ground it out to be second behind Andreas Lisocki on the final beat, and were able to out boatspeed him in the final couple hundred yards.

We had a great time, especially so since it was such a close series in points the whole way through. The race committee and organizers did a super job, and it was definitely sad to see it all end (though in truth no tears were shed). Thanks to all, and see you next year.
P.S. The party at the banquet was excellent!

Photo: Jake Jacobson



# REFLECTIONS ON THE NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIPS 

by Steve Bachman

Wanda Delorme said it would take 11 hours to get there. We got there in $93 / 4$ hours! No speeding either. My van must have been excited.

We found our campsite next to our Connecticut friends, the Barretts, and survived a rainstorm in the van. What we thought were giant raindrops turned out to be acorns the squirrels were dropping on the roof of the van (Carol told me not to park under the trees). Barretts had a cooler full of beer, so we were off and running.

Measurement next day went pretty smoothly and we started with 70 others in the tune-up race. We went right and made out when a minor squall came through, but retired so as not to strain our new rags. Somehow, we bent a spreader tube, and so spent the next hours replacing it.

After breakfast at Larry's (Gordie Howe's picture was on the wall), we got into the qualifiers. These races were a challenge since they were mostly $1-1 / 3$ times around. The start was everything, and we got clobbered at (hard-to-fetch) pin end in race \#1 and staggered to a 24th. Breeze was better for the remaining races, so we qualified blue with a 5-3-11.

The North American Championship flight was loaded with talent - I've never seen a "deeper" blue fleet. Where
ever we were all week long, we could take consolation because there were heavies all around us. We did our "best" ( 18 \& 13) when the breeze eased up, but the Kingston southerlies toward the end of the week were absolutely unpredictable, except for Bill Shore.

All week, the promised "back-to-back" races were not that at all. In fact, we had $3+$ hours to kill between races each day. One of these waits provided certain people from Dixie (not me, of course) the chance to launch "incomings" into the snackbar via the FUNNELATOR - was that GREAT!

The weather was sunny for the most part, typically 75-80 high, with mid-50's at night - great for sleeping. The 116 boats made it old homeweek for me. This was my twelfth North American Championship. On to Buffalo in 1987!!

Editor's note: Steve was the first recipient of the "Thomas J. McDermott Memorial Improvement Trophy." presented in memory of Thomas McDermott: veteran Lightning Skipper, I.L.C.A. Officer, and author. The trophy is to be awarded annually to the skipper who improves his position the most from one year to the next during the Qualifying Series for the North American Championships.

## PRESIDENTS' CUP 1986

by 13613 Rangy Lil

Everyone wants to be Blue Flight at the North American's but we were really not even close to making it this time. Our weight, and boat set-up were not right for the heavy wind. After the qualifiers, talking to the hot shots helped us set up better once the President started. (Funny how helpful the bigs are when you are sailing in a different flight!)

Our boat speed in the Presidents' seemed the same as the guys around us - not good, not bad. First race, Edson White came out of the far left corner to win while the Ecuadorian, Juan Santos, came from the right for second. We went up the middle for a 6 th behind Dan Dressel and others. The second race was won by Fred Mertes who came out of the left corner while we again played the middle, shading left for another 6th. After two races, Dan Dressel and Santos looked like favorites. We also thought that Jim Dressel, Ed Roseberry, and Eric Larson would speak up some time soon. By the way, Santos and crew, the Lacaros of Ecuador, are three reasons Lightnings are fun to sail they were great guys to sail with.

On the course, winds came from $185^{\circ}$ to $270^{\circ}$ over the week, pretty steady with oscillations that always came back. Boats could come from anywhere and do well once, but you had to just sail your own boat and play the shifts to the left. The next day, we got a seventh in race three, which was won by John Lyon, and I then made my biggest mistake. We had been starting in the middle of the line for clear air and speed.

I thought that I had a pin end start and went for it. The wind shifted farther left, and I could not lay the pin, causing a jibe and scenic ramble across the transoms of the fleet to finish 17th while Dan Dressel won. So much for greed.

After that, we went back to the middle of the line for clear air and speed. It worked for race five where we led for three legs just ahead of the Fretz/Hughes/Cuccio conglomerate, then were passed by two boats coming from way back, got one back for a second, right behind John Lyon. Roseberry was coming on strong, Dressel and Santos fell back and White was hanging tough. Going into the final race we were tied with Santos and at last eleven boats ahead of White, Roseberry (sailing with son, Ned), Larson, and a couple of others. We banged the start, rounded in second or third ahead of White with Santos far back. White rolled us on a reach to finish in front and Santos was closing as the final gun went off. We still haven't seen the results of the final race, but we won our flight, which was nice. Eric Larson took a bullet in the final race to move up to the standings.

The Canadian Lightning sailors, including Sprague, Scrim, the MacDonalds and the Marshalls, were great hosts, as we knew they would be - they are old friends. Most importantly, sailng with me was Andrew Wetzler, who sailed hard the whole week, and Rob Schoelkopf, without who Rangy Lil would not have been nailed to the outhouse door.

| Fin. Pos. | Sail ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | Skipper \& Crew <br> Skipper's Hometown \& Fleet |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | 13613 | Tom Ingram. Andew Wetrler, Robert Schoelkopf White Plains. NY Cedar Point |
| 2 | 13652 | Edson White. Lisa Braver. Meredith Jones Westport, CT Cedar Point |
| 3 | 11929 | Juan Santos, Carlos Lecaro, Rafael Lecaro Guayaquil, Ecuador/Salinas Yacht Club |
| 4 | 13945 | Edwin Roseberry. Ned Roseberty, W. Todd Jones Buffalo, NY Buffalo Canee Club |
| 5 | 13862 | Eric Larson, Mike Peterson, Mike Kuechle Sheboygan. WI/Sheboygan Yacht Club |
| 6 | 11502 | Dan Dressel, Bill Kumler, Carolyn Evans Columbus, OH Buckeye Lake |
| 7 | 13953 | Warren Lewis. Brian Lewis, Kurt Schuler Dallas, TX Rush Creek Yacht Club |
| 8 | 13983 | John L.yon, Mike Belanich, Lynette Northrop San Diego, CA Mission Bay |
| 9 | 14100 | Jim Dressel. Karhy Dressel. Karl Enikson Columbus, OH Buckeye Lake |
| 10 | 12140 | Mark Schneider, Lucinda Schneider, Scot Brown Norristown. PA Paupack |
| 11 | 12405 | Alan Ruiter, Candy Ruiter. Jeffrey Lut, Matawan, NJ/Metedeconk River |
| 12 | 14076 | Clarence Holman, III, Amy Hodgson, Bert Okma Fenton, M1 Pontiac Yacht Club |
| 13 | 14095 | Scott Finkboner. Jon Finkboner. Perry Grueber San Diego. CA Mission Bay |
| 14 | 13889 | Bob Harkrider, Andrew Addic. John Occhipinti Augusta, GA/Clark's Hill |
| 15 | 14033 | Tim Rumph. Ray Rumph. Paul Krrenski Hampton Bays. NY/Southampton Yacht Club |
| 16 | 13874 | Thomas Hering, Lowell Copeland, Michael Donohue Huntington Station. NY/Hewlett Bay |
| 17 | 14004 | Don Sherburne, Lynne Sherburne, Sterling Worrell Nashville. TN/ Harbor Island Yacht Club |
| 18 | 13509 | William Layton, Paul White, Mark Stapleton Hawkesbury, Ontario Royal St. Lawrence |
| 19 | 11249 | David Jones, Christy Jones, Peter Coan West Newton, MA/Chequesset |
| 20 | 10024 | Rob Ruhiman, Abby Ruhiman, Gordon Pugh Cleveland, $\mathrm{OH} /$ Pymatuning |
| 21 | 14009 | Mike Dow, Rick Northrup. Erik Peterson Traverse City, M1/Higgins Lake Boat Club |
| 22 | 12081 | Philip Grotheer, Ron Buchanan, Jon Lynch Annapolis, MD Washington Sailing Club |
| 23 | 10482 | Raymond Harrington, Toni Harrington, Raymond Harrington Bomoseen, VT/Bomoseen Yacht Club |
| 24 | 13886 | Georges Peter, Allison Peter. Maria White Barrington, RI/Annisquam Yacht Club |
| 25 | 10356 | David Fretz, Ronald Hughes, Nina Cuccio Snyder, NY/Buffalo Canoe Club |
| 26 | 14043 | Fred Mertes, Carol Mertes, Joe Reed Indian Beach. DE Rehoboth Bay Sailing Assoc |
| 27 | 13831 | Richard Guinan, Brigid Guinan, Rick Guinan Rockwall. TX Rush Creek Yacht Club |
| 28 | 11728 | Tom Doran, Dave Lacey, Ed Hawkins Oswego, NY/Port of Oswego |
| 29 | 10413 | Gerry Paoh, Steve Hern, David Sears Belleville, IL/Carlyle Sailing Cluh |
| 30 | 6345 | John Swanson, Rob Zerban Buffalo, NY/Niagara Sailing Club |
| 31 | 12881 | Sandy MacDonald, Paul Belluz, Sean Torsney Hamilton, Ontario Hamilton Boating Club |
| 32 | 11505 | Matt Burridge, Cathy Burridge. Mark Polzin University City, MO/Carlyle Sailing Club |
| 33 | 13659 | David Sprague, Stewart Sprague. Alison Mahoney Toronto, Ontario/Toronto Bay |
| 34 | 13260 | Tony McBride, James Parkyn, Peter McBride Beaconsfield, Quebec/Pointe Claire Yacht Club |
| 35 | 14049 | Bob Fidler, Sean Fidler, Andy Greenstreet Troy, MI/ Pontiac Yacht Club |
| 36 | 11650 | David Grogono, Leslie Tuttle, Pam Tuttle Cazenovia, NY/ Willow Bank Yacht Club |
| 37 | 14017 | Russel Scrim, Harald Mueller, Kai Bjorn Dorval, Quebec/Royal St. Lawrence |
| 38 | 14096 | Ronald Blair, David Blair, Jeff Fishman Chicago, IL/Corinthian Yacht Club |
| 39 | 10493 | Christopher Raubacher, Mike Beaver, Will Thomas Dover,DE/Rehoboth Bay Sailing Assoc. |


| $1$ | Race Finishes |  |  |  |  | Pts. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |  |
| 6 | 6 | 7 | (18) | 2 | 10 | 31 |
| 1 | 10 | 12 | (DQ) | 9 | 3 | 35 |
| 2 | (DF) | 2 | 5 | 12 | 14 | 35 |
| (18) | 15 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 16 | 41 |
| 9 | 4 | 9 | 19 | (24) | I | 42 |
| 4 | 8 | 10 | t | 20 | (27) | 43 |
| 5 | 17 | (22) | 9 | 10 | 5 | 46 |
| 12 | (28) | 1 | 16 | $t$ | 19 | 49 |
| 7 | 5 | 16 | 12 | (18) | 13 | 53 |
| 11 | 22 | (23) | 11 | 7 | 6 | 57 |
| 10 | 11 | (26) | 23 | 4 | 11 | 59 |
| 21 | 14 | 4 | 6 | 19 | (29) | 64 |
| 15 | 9 | 6 | 10 | (31) | 25 | 65 |
| (35) | 11 | 30 | 3 | 23 | 2 | 69 |
| 8 | 30 | 5 | 21 | 11 | (DQ) | 75 |
| (33) | 27 | 17 | 7 | 17 | 8 | 76 |
| 27 | (29) | 11 | 8 | 3 | 28 | 77 |
| 17 | 3 | 15 | 26 | (36) | 22 | 83 |
| 29 | 12 | 32 | (33) | 6 | 4 | 83 |
| 19 | 2 | 18 | 15 | 32 | (DF) | 86 |
| (32) | 20 | 21 | 14 | 16 | 18 | 89 |
| 3 | (33) | 8 | 30 | 25 | 23 | 89 |
| 31 | 21 | 19 | 4 | (34) | 17 | 92 |
| 16 | (35) | 27 | 13 | 29 | 7 | 92 |
| 22 | 26 | 13 | 24 | 8 | (30) | 93 |
| 24 | 1 | 24 | (31) | 30 | 21 | 100 |
| 20 | 23 | 25 | 22 | (27) | 15 | 105 |
| 23 | (DF) | 14 | 27 | 37 | 9 | 110 |
| 25 | 25 | (36) | 29 | 22 | 12 | 113 |
| (38) | 18 | 20 | 17 | 28 | 32 | 115 |
| 13 | 24 | 38 | 34 | 14 | (DF) | 123 |
| 14 | (DF) | DS | DS | 13 | 20 | 127 |
| (34) | 31 | 29 | 20 | 26 | 24 | 130 |
| (DF) | 16 | 31 | 28 | 35 | 26 | 136 |
| 28 | 19 | 37 | 25 | (38) | 31 | 140 |
| 30 | 32 | 28 | 32 | 21 | (35) | 143 |
| (36) | 7 | 34 | 36 | 33 | 33 | 143 |
| 26 | 13 | 33 | 37 | 39 | (DF) | 148 |
| (37) | 34 | 35 | 35 | 15 | 34 | 153 |

# GOVERNORS' CUP <br> by James W. Ward, Jr. 

The North Americans is not a Sunday race! Richard Guinan, in his July Flashes column, stated "You can learn more about sailboat racing in five days at the North Americans than you can learn in a year of club racing. You will have the opportunity to race against some of the best sailors in North America, without regard to class of boat. You will learn very quickly how really incredibly good the best sailors are and will vastly improve your sailing trying to reach the level of competition."

In my opinion,our past President's above statement sums up the experience for many of us who are accustomed to racing on relatively small lakes in relatively light air. To look out over the sailing facility and watch 116 LIGHTINGS being rigged in the flag-surrounded yacht basin of Kingston, Ontario was, in itself, worth the drive. Sailors of Kingston, over the last several years, have put forth great effort in order to make their area a truly world-class sailing center, and, from our standpoint, they have certainly succeeded. Their efforts were continued as they measured boats and sails with accuracy as well as with compassion, often providing helpful advice as problems presented themselves. The measurer's job is never easy at a race such as this, and Peter Sulman and his assistants made it as pleasant and efficient as possible.


The Race Committee itself seemed to me to do a terrific job with facilities and equipment that allowed the setting of a course very quickly once the dominant wind had settled. They also seemed to do an excellent job with the starts of the various fleets which, at times, required several practice runs. (Aggressive sailors!)

The racing conditions at Kingston were probably about right for a North American Championship Race. During the practice race and early qualifying series, the winds were as high as to require postponement of races and abated just long enough to fire the gun, only to return with renewed strength. This allowed many of us small-lake sailors an opportunity to find out how to sail a Lightning in an upright position and still drive through the chop. (Quite a boat). It also afforded the opportunity for a few of us to 'go swimming' and to replace some gear which had seemed adequate at home but did not measure up to the conditions encountered at Kingston.

Once the Qualifying Series was completed, the winds seemed to settle a bit, but ranged from 8 to 10 in the morning, up to 10 to Ifive in the afternoon. Races were sailed back-to-back but, as a rule, there was enough time to touch base on shore between races if desired. In planning the strategy of the races, it seemed to me that the proper thing to do was consider the geography, warming conditions, wave condition, storm systems, and then to follow the best sailor you could find on the course. Unfortunately, this strategy failed to produce good results during the Qualifying Series, and therefore a new strategy was devised. In the actual races themselves, it was extremely helpful and instructive to be able to watch both the blue and the green fleets as they tacked out in the lake after their respective starts. This not only helped us plan our own approach, but reemphasized the learning experience of the North Americans with the better, more experienced sailors sharing their knowledge with everyone as they raced against their peers.

As the racing progressed, it became evident that the winds on the left side of the course were 2 five to 30 per cent stronger than on the righthand side of the course and that the shifts which occurred at the begining of the weather leg were more sustained, and should be tacked upon, while those toward the weather mark were short-lived and, in most cases, should not dictate tacking. The reaches seemed to us to be relatively tight (largely because of competition) and we learned the importance of lowering the board further than usual, as Lal Burridge drove over the top of us, to our dismay.
During the final race of the series, we had the memorable experience of battling George Deyett in 9390 up the entire weather leg, with each of us gaining inches on the other when he tacked out into the lake and either lee-bowing or starboard tacking the other as we approached the weather mark (which subsequently became the finish line). In the end, he won out, but we each felt we'd had a great experience.

The final banquet, after a full day of racing, was somewhat of a spectacle in itself (even without the antics of Mark Bryant). It emphasized the international scope, interest, and enthusiasm of the Lightning Class. The acceptance speech of the blue fleet leader - Bill Shore reflected the planning,
experience, and knowhow that must be put together to win in competition such as our class is able to muster.

As we left Kingston, we felt that we were truly fortunate to have a boat so versatile, and to be involved with a class so
capable not only to race but to run a class and put on a major regatta in such style. To those people, including Donna Foote, who help make all these things happen, we thank you.

# GOVERNORS' CUP 1986 

| Fin. Pos. | $\begin{array}{ll}  & \begin{array}{l} \text { Skipper \& Crew } \\ \text { Sail \# } \\ \text { Skipper's Hometown \& Fleet } \end{array} \end{array}$ |  | Race Finishes |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | Pts. |
| I | 13966 | James Ward. Jr., Joe Cunningham. Chris Cunningham Hendersonville, TN/ Harbor Island | 4 | 4 | 5 | I | (9) | 2 | 16 |
| 2 | 14070 | Bob Mathers, John Mathers, Jim Duncan Livonia, MI/Pontiac Yacht Club | 6 | 7 | 1 | 4 | (21) | 4 | 22 |
| 3 | 14056 | David Nickels, Karen Militzer, Craig Anderson Holly, MI/Lake Fenton Sailing Club | 5 | 1 | 3 | 9 | (19) | 6 | 24 |
| 4 | 9390 | George Deyett, Ken Deyett, Jason Gemmell Windham, NH/ Massabesic Yacht Club | 2 | 6 | 12 | (DQ) | 8 | t | 29 |
| 5 | 11666 | John Teigland, Ir., Steve Warren, Lola Teigland Allentown. PA | 3 | (15) | 6 | 2 | 3 | 15 | 29 |
| 6 | 13913 | Jim Gocker, Kristin Gocker, Doug Fien Rochester, NY/ Newport Yacht Club | t | 8 | 10 | 7 | 4 | (20) | 30 |
| 7 | 13677 | Arthur Levin, Rick Ten Eyck, Clay Rumble Beaufort, SC | 15 | (19) | 13 | 10 | 2 | 3 | 43 |
| 8 | 13853 | George Sereno, Donna Sereno, Tammy Jamison Rochester, NY/Newport Yacht Club | 8 | 13 | 7 | 6 | 10 | (27) | 44 |
| 9 | 11800 | R. G. Burridge. Ken Kniepmann, Stacy Heisler St. Louis, MO/Carlyle Sailing Assoc. | 9 | (12) | 8 | 8 | 12 | 8 | 45 |
| 10 | 10679 | Dick Tuttle, Sharye Skinner, Alister Thompson Syracuse, NY/Willow Bank | 10 | 9 | 2 | 12 | (14) | 12 | 45 |
| 11 | 13940 | David Dickerson, Susan Dickerson, James Gannon Waterford, CT/Niantic Bay | 12 | 5 | 17 | 5 | 7 | (19) | 46 |
| 12 | 11134 | Joseph McCloskey, Ron Castaldo, Frank Palmer Oswego, NY/Port of Oswego | (28) | 14 | 4 | 11 | 15 | 5 | 49 |
| 13 | 11289 | Keith MacDonald, Brian Milne, Cameron MacDonald Hamilton, Ontario/ Hamilton Boating Club | 14 | 2 | 15 | 3 | (18) | 17 | 51 |
| 14 | 11177 | Peter Sulman, Kathy Sulman, Wayne Sulman <br> Markham, Ontario/Toronto Bay | 13 | 21 | 18 | (22) | 11 | 7 | 70 |
| 15 | 12621 | Chris Vann, Barbara Vann. Mike Vann Unionville, CT/Niantic Bay | 7 | 22 | (DQ) | 13 | 17 | 13 | 72 |
| 16 | 13932 | John Van Dalson, Matt Schmidt, John Crow Traverse City, M1/Grand Traverse Yacht Club | 18 | 11 | (22) | 21 | 16 | 9 | 75 |
| 17 | 14099 | Crit Currie. Audrey Matteson, Greg Hatfield Memphis, TN/Memphis | 19 | 3 | 16 | (24) | 23 | 16 | 77 |
| 18 | 14011 | Jim Alten. Dave Stark. Mike McGarry Amherst. NY/Buffalo Canoc Club | 11 | (DF) | 9 | 20 | 1 | DF | 79 |
| 19 | 13665 | Phil Cornett, Jim Tunison, Brian Beauchamp Sidncy, OH/St. Marys | 16 | 16 | (24) | 16 | 22 | 14 | 84 |
| 20 | 8379 | Franz Schneider, Sheila Schneider, Joe Feyder Moorestown. NJ/ Paupack | 17 | (23) | 14 | 17 | 13 | 23 | 84 |
| 21 | 10537 | Cully Ward. Barbara Ward, Jan Thompson Nashville, TN/Harbor Island Yacht Club | 21 | (29) | 20 | 27 | 6 | 10 | 84 |
| 22 | 11444 | Tom Clark, John Valteris, Janet Pennewell Seaford. DE Rehoboth Bay Sailing Assoc. | 22 | 10 | 23 | 25 | (32) | 18 | 98 |
| 23 | 14007 | Hans Graf, Janet Graf, Christopher Graf Sheboygan, W1/Sheboygan Yacht Club | 23 | 20 | 19 | 14 | (26) | 24 | 100 |
| 24 | 14020 | William Seaman, Linus Isabel, A. J. Winchester Flint. M1/ Lake Fenton Sailing Club | 29 | 18 | (32) | 26 | 20 | 11 | 104 |
| 25 | 13957 | Robert Cotton, John Walker, Shirley Walker Nashville. TN/Harbor Island Yacht Club | 20 | DF | 27 | 15 | 5 | (DQ) | 105 |
| 26 | 12990 | Lisa Parshley, Liz Phillips, Suzy De Benedetti Portland, OR/Columbia | 24 | 24 | 21 | 19 | (25) | 21 | 109 |
| 27 | 13828 | William Hole, Karl Bausha, Julia Mann Sudbury, MA/Massabesic Yacht Club | 27 | 27 | 11 | 23 | 28 | (DQ) | 116 |
| 28 | 11420 | Mary Anna Portner, Tim Hansen, Kcn Radiey Washington. D.C./Severn Sailing Assoc. | 26 | (DF) | 25 | 18 | 29 | 26 | 124 |
| 29 | 14015 | Doug Steffenson, Ken Jensen, Mike Skaleski Davenport, IA/ Lake Davenport | 30 | 17 | 26 | 30 | (31) | 25 | 128 |
| 30 | 13643 | Bennie Moultrie, William Kerley, Barhara Kerley North Augusta, SC/Clark's Hill | (33) | 25 | 29 | 31 | 24 | 22 | 131 |
| 31 | 12545 | Kenneth McGinity. Peter McGinity, Meghan McGinity Carmel, in Indianapolis Sailing Club | 25 | 28 | (31) | 29 | 27 | 29 | 138 |
| 32 | 4865 | Bob Stoller, Mary McKeever, Liz Kellog Boulder, CO/Rocky Mountain Fleet | (3) | 30 | 28 | 28 | 30 | 28 | 144 |
| 33 | 14106 | Aubrey Blanchard, Jr. Brian Grunert, Laura Grunert Burlington, NC/ Wake Lightning Fleet | 34 | 26 | 30 | (DS) | DS | DS | 166 |
| 34 | 9809 | Larry Arbuthnot, Arn Crammond, Neal Smith Westminster, CO/Rocky Mountain Fleet | 32 | (DF) | DS | DS | DS | DS | 184 |
| 35 | 11631 | Brian Curtner, Cathy McNally, Gien Scheels Toronto, Ontario Toronto Bay | 35 | (DF) | DS | DS | DS | DS | 187 |
| 36 | 10113 | Jesse Miller. Virginia Miller, Thomas Miller Trumansburg. NY thaca Fleet | (DS) | DF | DS | DS | DS | DS | 190 |
| 37 | 11387 | William Baxter, Cecile Baxter, Peter McDonnell | (DS) | DF | DS | DS | DS | DS | 190 |

