

International Lightning Class Association Districts



Lightning Districts

BRAZIL DISTRICT

District Commodore Michael A. Norris
District Secretary Christina Norris
District Measurer Oscar Weckerle

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

In spite of the economic situation which our country is going through, our class has definitely consolidated its continuity by producing our own boats.

At this time, we feel very comfortable in our ability to deliver top quality boats. And as such we have already received requests from other countries in South America, and by the time this report is published we hope to have concluded our first exports.

Furthermore we had a good sailing record in 1987 with Claudio Bieckarek coming in fourth in the "Worlds" in Colombia and third in the "Pan Am's."

Our local championships have shown increasing interest, with some of our old friends getting their boats ready and joining us in the regattas.

This year we reactivated the "Campeonato Centro-Sul Taca Sonnervig", which hasn't been sailed in fourteen years, which brought a lot of enthusiasm to the class.

For 1988 we have great expectations for an increase in the number of sailors in the class (hopefully all buying new boats), and a greater participation in international regattas such as the "South Americans" in Chile and the "N.A.'s."

I wish at this time to thank Donna Foote and the staff at ILCA for all their help, and congratulate Anne Allen for her work and dedication to our class.

CALIFORNIA DISTRICT

District Commodore Larry Swearingen
District Secretary Mark Patty
District Measurers ... Bruce Arnold/Myron Lyon
District Champion John Lyon
District Runner-Up Scott Finkboner

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

The California District season started off with the Olympic Classes Regatta in Long Beach, April 3rd. Winds of 30 knots plus forced abandonment of Friday's scheduled races. We all hid in the lee of an oil island waiting for the wind to drop to 25 so that we could get off a race. It never did, at least not on Friday. The Race Committee abandoned races by about 3:00. During the three mile reach back to the yacht club, Scott Finkboner and Mark Patty decided to go glory sailing and popped chutes. Scott made it. Mark ended up with a two piece mast and an experimental smaller rudder. Ask Mark about the professional job the rescue boat did.

To make a series of long stories short, John Lyon won this regatta, and almost every other major district regatta, PCC's, CA Districts, Spring Cachuma, Billie Boswell Memorial, Midwinters, etc. The only exception being the California Lightning Circuit. We had excellent participation again this year, drawing 20 boats. The Allens came out again this year after competing in the Southern Circuit. The Tom's, Sr. and Jr., showed us the quick way around the courses in almost every race. Overall results were: Tom Allen, Jr., 1st, Tom Allen, Sr., 2nd, John Lyon, 3rd, Scott Finkboner, 4th, and Warren Gross, 5th. Scott was doing very well in the early races but a DSQ in the 4th race put him back in the standings and he was never able to pull back up again.

Scott made the trip back to the Buffalo Canoe Club for the "North Americans" again this year and finished a respectable second in the "Green Fleet". This was Scott's fourth "N.A.'s" in five years. Guess it really was time for a new van.

The California Lightning District has also been busy this year planning for the 1988 "North Americans" at Mission Bay Yacht Club in San Diego. We are looking forward to seeing a lot of you, so make your plans early,

pack up the boat and come on out here in August.

So it's been a big year for John Lyon; wins almost every major district regatta; was elected a vice-president in the ILCA; and to top it off marries the fair maiden, Lynette Northrup, in November. That's John Lyon, *Red Boat*, 13911. That's the boat to camp on.

See you at the "N.A.'s."

CENTRAL NEW YORK DISTRICT

District Commodore Richard Hallagan
District Secretary Daniel J. Koretz
District Measurer John Barnes
District Champion Richard Hallagan
District Runner-Up Jed Dodge

Fleets: Lake Delta (4); Crescent Yacht Club (9); Newport Yacht Club (77); Willow Bank Yacht Club (164); Henderson Harbor Yacht Club (225); Keuka Yacht Club (252); Galway Lake Yacht Club (338); Ithaca Yacht Club (484); Port Oswego Fleet (485); Selkirk Fleet (498).

The Central New York District started its sailing season with the Newport Invitational Regatta held at the end of May. With the opening of the Bay, we could enjoy sailing for the first time on the open waters of Lake Ontario and the small lake atmosphere of Irondequoit Bay.

Thirty-nine skippers and their crew enjoyed the sailing, and the buffet dinner and bowling which was the Saturday night's entertainment. The winner was Peter Hallagan with Larry McDonald coming in second and Dick Hallagan third.

Cazenovia held its Invitational Regatta in the middle of June. There were 23 boats at this one, and all the sailors enjoyed the great sailing and the steak dinner in the evening. The winner was Dick Hallagan, followed by Jed Dodge and Dave Grogono.

The District Regatta was held at Skaneateles in mid-July. This was a warm-up for the 50th Anniversary Regatta which will be held here in July, 1988. Thirty-two boats attended which was one of the largest turn-outs for a district regatta in many years. One of the skippers was eleven year old Chad Sinn, probably the youngest skipper in the history of the regatta. Dick Hallagan won, Jed Dodge was second, and Tom Doran was third. Jesse Miller won the Commodore's Trophy, Landy Atkinson won the Rookie Trophy and Dick Tuttle was presented the "Ugh" Trophy.

Keuka held its Champagne Regatta on August 1. Twenty-one boats attended this third leg of the Triple Crown Series which this year, besides Keuka, included the Newport and Cazenovia regattas. Walter Taylor and the Bully Hill Winery again sponsored the Champagne Regatta and supplied the liquid refreshment for the evening cocktail party. The winners in order of finish were Dick Hallagan, Tom Doran, and Jed Dodge.

The Triple Crown saw seven boats compete in all three of the regattas. Dick Hallagan was first, Jed Dodge was second and Tom Doran was third.

The Michelob Lightning Classic was held at Oswego on August 15. This event has grown over the last few years into one of the highlights of the sailing season in Central New York. Thirty one boats enjoyed the great sailing, the great food and the great beer supplied at a very reasonable price. Everyone particularly enjoyed the dunking barrel which was Saturday night's entertainment. One dollar bought three chances to throw a ball and send a lucky sailor into the tank. The line to try and send Dick Hallagan to Davy Jones' locker was endless. Peter Hallagan was the winner of this regatta, followed by Jed Dodge and Tom Doran.

The Lake Erie — Central New York Challenge this year was one of the Oswego and the Silver Lake Regattas. There was no question about the winner, as Central New York sent 10 boats to Silver Lake while Lake Erie sent only two boats to Oswego. Sheer numbers, if not skill, decided in favor of the Central New York District.

Lastly, sailors from our District did well at the national level. Jed Dodge was second at the North American Championships and came very close to being first. For the second year in a row, Dick Hallagan with his crew of Sandy Schrader and Len Tiedmann won the Masters Championship.

CENTRAL STATES DISTRICT

District Commodore/Secretary . Robert R. Pooler
 District Measurer Fritz Toussaint
 District Champion Dr. Rob Exon
 District Runner-Up John Gall

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

The Central States District Championship Races were hosted by District Commodore Richard G. Mallinson at Lake Hefner in Oklahoma City, June 13 and 14.

Members of the Lake Hefner Yacht Club served as our race committee and they did an excellent job. If the weather had been as accommodating as the host fleet, we would have had a wonderful time. The winds were light and variable (really variable!) and the temperature approached 100 degrees.

Tentative plans now are to have Fleet 60 host the 1988 races on Lake Shawnee, Topeka, Kansas, in June.

Officers for the 1987 season were: District Commodore/Secretary — Richard G. Mallinson; District Measurer — Fritz Toussaint.

CHILE DISTRICT

District Commodore Juan Fco. Novion
 District Secretary Manuel Gonzalez M.
 District Champion Manuel Gonzalez M.
 District Runner-Up Juan Fco. Novion
 Junior Champion Pablo Amunategui

Fleet: Aculeo (490).

The 1986-87 season included six championships starting early October at Aculeo Lake, home of Fleet 490. We had a pretty nice regatta during two weekends. Aculeo is one hour and a half south of Santiago and is characterized by smooth water, oscillating and medium winds. It is the only place we sail, aside from the ocean. Then we moved in November to Algarrobo in order to practice before the Odesur Games held at the same site in December.

Usually we don't sail in January and February because there is a lot of

activity in I.O.R. boats and almost all of the Lightning skippers and crews are involved in different boats.

The first weekend of March we sailed the trials for the South American Championship and then the Chilean Championship. The last one was the trials for the Pan Ams and the World Championship. The regatta was won by Manuel Gonzalez with Rodrigo Zuazola and Jorge Zuazola. Runner-up was Juan F. Novion with Luis Herman and Andres Novion.

Three crews went to Salinas, Ecuador, to race at the S.A. Championship. All of us who went there had a great time. It was a wonderful regatta. The same three crews were expecting to compete at the "Worlds" but we could not transport our boats, so only one went, and fortunately won the Championship in a borrowed boat. Cartagena is a beautiful city and we were shown great hospitality there.

After the "Worlds" results almost everybody wants to sail a Lightning. Add to this, next year between April 9-16, 1988, Chile will be host of the 34th South American Championship. We are expecting over 20 boats at each regatta this year. So, hope to see the sailors of South America at Vina del Mar.

CONNECTICUT/RHODE ISLAND DISTRICT

District Commodore Phil Lotz
 District Secretary James Deephouse
 District Vice Commodore Vaughn Lee
 District Treasurer Gary Davis
 District Champion Jim Crane
 District Runner-Up Franz Edson

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 Jim Crane winning the Winter Championship at St. Pete.

The Early Bird Regatta at Cedar Point enjoyed a large turnout due mainly to the excellent reputation of the Regatta, and that the Pan Am

CONNECTICUT/RHODE ISLAND 1988 DISTRICT SCHEDULE

May 21, 22	Early Bird Regatta — Cedar Point Yacht Club
June 11, 12	Lightning Seminar — Shore Sails: Bill Shore/Brad Read Black Rock Yacht Club
July 16, 17	DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIP — Madison Beach Club
July 22, 23, 24	Atlantic Coast Championship — Newport/Fort Adams
September 10, 11	Connecticut Governor's Cup — Niantic Bay Yacht Club
September 17, 18	Eastern U.S. Championship — Cedar Point Yacht Club (a.k.a. "Fall Classic")
October 8, 9	Warm Water Regatta — Newport/Fort Adams

Selection Trials were to be held ten miles down the coast the following weekend. This Regatta was up for grabs after three races with any one of five contestants having a shot. Ched Proctor won the Regatta by winning both races on Sunday leaving Jim Crane and Bill Shore with second and third place.

Cedar Point was also the host of this year's District Championship. Up to a point it looked as though Jim Crane would keep his race winning streak going. His winning streak stopped at five when Franz Edson won the second race of the regatta. Jim did come back to win the third race and the Championship. Franz, outailing the World Class Fleet, finished second, and Phil Lotz third.

Our District's showing at the NA's this year was one of the best we have ever had: eight entries, three of those in the top ten, four in the Blue Fleet, and the Governors' Cup Champion, Wiley Crockett. All this with two of our stalwart sailors, Phil Lotz and Ched Proctor staying home to tend to future crew. Each of their wives gave birth the week prior.

On to Niantic. The Annual Governor's Cup Regatta, always a hot District Series, was won this year by Ched Proctor. He sailed a brilliant set of three races in very windy conditions to win the Regatta with three firsts. Donald Barrett was second followed by another up and coming sailor Dave Dickerson.

Cedar Point also had the kind of wind that this area is becoming famous for. Super heavy winds on Saturday resulted in a lot of sailors turning into swimmers and three broken masts. This weekend, it was Jim Crane's turn as he won every race. Off the water, everyone had a great time at the Saturday evening cocktail party and lobster dinner.



Frank Gallagher — Would you buy a used boat from this sailor?

DIXIE DISTRICT

District Commodore	Reed Barrett
District Vice Commodore	Jim Richards
District Secretary	John Ogle
District Treasurer	Kitty Racine
District Measurer	David Racine
District Champion	Joe Friebele
District Runner-Up	Simeon Cox
Women's Champion	Mary Anna Portner
Women's Runner-Up	Carol Bachman

Fleets: Washington D.C. (50); Susquehanna (253); Sassafras River (314); Rehoboth (325); Severn River (329); Swift Creek Fleet (496).

The year of 1987 will be remembered for the great sailing conditions in the District, except for the District Championship. This event was blessed with the doldrum winds that are characteristic for the Chesapeake Bay in the August - September time frame, but usually not in July. Fleet 325 hosted the Atlantic Coast Championship at Rehoboth Bay. Out-of-towners Brad Read and Greg Fisher took home the silver after giving the rest of the participants a lesson in sailing skills. Fleet 329 in Annapolis, Fleet 50 in Washington, Fleet 496 in Richmond, and Fleet 253 in Pennsylvania all sponsored events that provided a variety of conditions and entertainment. Success stories range from Phil Grotheer and his "Swill Dog" crew finishing sixteenth and Chris Raubacher charging right behind in blue fleet in the "NA's", to Joe Friebele wrapping up another win as the District Champion in extremely light air and Mary Anna Portner's tying the knot with Hugh Elliot in addition to winning the District Women's Championship. There are still attendees trying to recover from the wedding reception.

Fleet 50 is showing signs of resurrection after experiencing a few years of loss of boats and interested sailors. Frank Gallagher has been singularly instrumental in this improvement through his buying of boats and then finding a buyer that plans to keep the boat in the area and will actively race the boat in fleet and district events. Over the 26+ years that Frank has been sailing Lightnings, the number of boats that have passed through his ownership would probably surprise everyone and would make him the envy of every used boat salesman in the Washington/Annapolis area. Fleet 50's major regattas, have witnessed only four or five boats on the line, are now attracting ten to fifteen boats. There are even some "woodies" competing and they are giving the glass boats a run for their money. Another means of increasing the interest in sailing the Potomac is the creation of the Potomac Cup Regatta held in late April-early May. This is sailed at the site of a new marina being developed south of Washington just north of the Quantico Marine Base. This event has been sailed for three years now and has grown from five to fifteen boats. The water in the area is deep and the river wide, relatively free of power boats and accompanied by a great cookout on the beach. Watch the *Flashes* for the announcement in 1988.

The annual Lightning-Thistle challenge, also held on the Potomac, drew over twenty boats this year (11 Lightnings). The Lightnings prevailed again,

but the Thistle folks are getting serious as this event was an item of discussion at the Thistle NA's. They are talking of elevating this regatta to a national level. That should prove interesting, but in the meantime this annual event will continue and hopefully increase in participation.

Early in the season, the newest fleet in the District, Fleet 496, sponsored their "Swift Creek Invitational for Lightnings." This event is held on a very picturesque lake in southern Virginia and attracts a host of partying sailors that are challenged by a variety of winds and a contest as to who (what) will be sacrificed to the Wind God. Usually a "Barbie Doll" is the chosen article, but this year a pair of old deck shoes also bit the dust. Phil Grotheer and his "dogs" took the honors thorough aggressive sailing on the second day. Shortly thereafter, Fleet 329 sponsored the "No Gas Regatta" which had twenty one boats representing several areas "up north" in addition to local talent. The object of this regatta is to run short courses and have as many races as possible. If everything cooperates there could be as many as twelve to thirteen races held. This year the wind did not cooperate but six races were held and when the dust cleared Peter Hall from Canada was in front with Larry MacDonald second and Mark Sertl third. Steve Bachman and Doug Heussler representing local talent capturing fourth and fifth.

The annual finale is the "Frigid Digit" at Annapolis and the "Borderline" at Kerr Reservoir on the Virginia/North Carolina border sponsored by Fleet 481 out of the Southern District. These events have been tied together with an overall championship trophy. They are always on sequential weekends and attract boats from several areas which result in thirty to forty boats on line skippered by many of the top Lightning sailors in the eastern U.S. This year both regattas had over thirty boats on the line. The Borderline event had 34 with representatives from several states. Simion Cox upheld the Dixie District reputation by placing a strong fifth with Allen clan and a guy named Hallagan grabbing first, second and third respectively. "Doc" Gilbert won the best natured award by using an experienced crew just to have fun. The hospitality and social events complement the great sailing that always occurs. If you haven't sailed these events, you're missing a most enjoyable time.

Mark your 1988 calendars for the last two weeks in October....

FINLAND DISTRICT

District Commodore	Pentti Laitinen
District Secretary	Sirkka-Liisa Laitinen
District Junior Commodore ...	Pekka Hurskainen
District Measurer	Marjatta Ollila
District Champion	Chris Winter
District Runner-Up	Jussi Karkkainen

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

Once again the sailing season has finished, and so it's time to look to the past, present and future of the Lightning Class in Finland. After a few years

stagnant situation, our different activities are again increasing, which was noticed already in the last Year Book. New sailors have found our Class, some new boats have been built and also used boats are again wanted among sailors. The number of active sailors has increased thanks to the possibility to get new boats from our country. Our training system for all members of the Class has gained a lot of interest both with the top sailors and those sailing in the middle of the Class. Next year will be an anniversary year and we expect to gain some new sailors and perhaps some publicity. The future of the Lightning Class seems to be good.

In this season the sailing activities concentrated on the beginning of the season and around the District Championship the beginning of August. However, already in December two crews took an early start and participated in the Winter Championships in Marsala, Sicily. Hartti Nisonen was third and Jussi Karkkainen sixth. We'd like to thank again the hosts and especially the C.V.M. for lending us a boat.

In Finland we started our season with some training. Bill Shore visited us in April and an opportunity for discussions and sailing was arranged. The sailing was done literally "on the rocks" when three boats and some sailors took their first taste of salt water and tried to avoid collisions with ice blocks.

The beginning of the sailing season was scheduled to be very tight because the Europeans were arranged so early as the middle of June. The crews who planned to sail in the Europeans needed training and so they participated in every possible race, and used every possibility for training. We had organized three of our ranking regattas and many training sessions trying to get the team properly drilled before participating in the Europeans. Only three boats travelled to the Europeans in Italy, Chris Winter with *Sure Sales*, Terho Aromaa with *Masi IV* and Hartti Nisonen with his

new *Asterix*. In Numana there was a wonderful time both in the race area and ashore. Despite our efforts the success was not very good, Chris Winter being 14, Terho Aromaa 15, and Hartti Nisonen 16.

After the Europeans, the next major event was the District Championship. This year the Districts were sailed at Hanko, which is located on the coast about 100 km west of Helsinki. Twenty-four boats participated, which was a little less than last year. The whole summer had been cold and it was the same in Hanko. This decreased the activity because camping in cold and rainy weather is something only for masochists. However, the clubs sauna was warmed every day and this was a real pleasure after a few hours freezing on the sea. As usual, we had all kinds of weather ranging from total calmness to a real storm. Kari Maenpaa, Erkki Meenpaa and Kimmo Aromaa with *Vahine* and Chris Winter, Petri Cederlof and Mikko Maatta with *Sure Sales* were the top boats. Once again Kari was the best, but this time he had to do more work than in the past few years. Pertti Pyy sailed with his daughters Leena and Maija and finished third.

This year the Finland District ranking series included a total of eight regattas. The first was sailed in the middle of May and the last the beginning of September. Thirty-three boats gained a result in the series. Chris Winter was first, Jussi Karkkainen, who used a different name for his boat in every race, was second and Terho Aromaa third.

1988 will be an anniversary year both for the International Lightning Class and for the Lightning sailors in Finland. The District of Finland has the pleasure to arrange both the European Championship and Youth Championship in 1988. These regattas will be sailed at Tampere the end of July and beginning of August. We hope and expect to see many sailors all over the World this next summer in Finland.

INDIANA DISTRICT

District Commodore	Doug Schmahl
District Secretary	Judy Schmahl
District Measurer	George Buckingham
District Champion	Alan Fox
District Runner-Up	Doug Schmahl

Fleets: Wawasee Yacht Club (154); Indiana Sailing Club (270).

There are two active fleets in the Indiana District. One is Fleet 154 sailing at the Wawasee Yacht Club on Lake Wawasee in Syracuse, Indiana and the other is Fleet 270 sailing at the Indianapolis Sailing Club on Geist Reservoir near Indianapolis, Indiana. There are thirty five registered Lightnings in Indiana affiliated with Fleets 154 or 270, and about thirty more that are not.

Fleet 270 hosted the Indianapolis Open on May 2 and 3, which has become the popular "season opener" for the Midwest Lightning racing season. Thirty one boats from Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Illinois and Wisconsin competed in what turned out to be a very unusual (weather-wise), light air, two race regatta won by Bill Faude from Milwaukee. The light air lead to some spirited shoreside volleyball and other whatnotery, including some sort of weight loss wager between George Buckingham and Bruce Goldsmith.

Fleet 154 hosted the District Championships on June 20 and 21, and ten boats competed. After five races on Saturday and Sunday, in light to medium air conditions, Alan Fox won convincingly with two firsts and three seconds. Alan proved again that there is no substitute for consistency. Doug Schmahl was runner-up with 9½ points and Fred Buckingham was third with 11¼ points. Had Fleet 154's John Nixon not been a no-show on Saturday (Old age caused him to forget?), he could have placed much higher.

Although not an Indiana District event, the 1987 Pan American Games were held in Indianapolis in 1987, and the Michigan City Yacht Club, sailing on Lake Michigan, was the venue for the yachting competition. Several Indiana District skippers, crew and friends observed the final Lightning race from "Ruyiyat", a Hatteras 57 out of Michigan City, and when the squall blew in shortly after the race ended, I can assure you that fifty seven feet of motor yacht is more comfortable than nineteen feet of Lightning!

Fleet 154 hosted the 28th annual Hoosier Regatta on Lake Wawasee on October 10 and 11. Seventeen boats from Michigan, Indiana and Wisconsin competed in a cool (cold?), light air (no air?), two race weekend. Mastering the unusual conditions, Colin Park sailed to two firsts, and won the regatta for the third year in a row. The unfavorable weather forecast and a conflict with Buckeye Lake's Snowball Regatta hampered attendance this year, but this is a fun, easy going regatta and next year will be a good one.

HOOSIER HOSPITALITY—IT'S TRUE!! Next year come to Fleet 270 the first weekend in May and Fleet 154 the first weekend in October, and find out for yourself, first hand!



Winner of the Finland District Ranking Series — Chris Winter.



International Lightning Class Association

Lake Erie District

1988 DISTRICT REGATTA SCHEDULE

EVENT	HOST CLUB	DATE
SPRING DISTRICT MEETING	NIAGARA SAILING CLUB	April 23
EBY SERIES	BUFFALO CANOE CLUB	May 14,15
#REUNION REGATTA	NEWPORT YACHT CLUB	June 4,5
CORNBALL REGATTA	CHAUTAUQUA LAKE YACHT CLUB	June 11,12
NIAGARA RIVER INVITATIONAL	BUFFALO CANOE CLUB	June 18,19
CANADIAN OPEN	ROYAL ST. LAWRENCE Y.C.	June 24-26
50TH ANNIVERSARY REGATTA	SKANEATELES COUNTRY CLUB	July 2,3
ONTARIO-CANADIAN YOUTHS	BOULEVARD CLUB	July 11,12
NIAGARA RIVER CHAMPS	NIAGARA SAILING CLUB	July 18, 19
DISTRICT WOMEN AND JUNIOR CHAMPS	SILVER LAKE YACHT CLUB	July 21,22
DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIPS	SILVER LAKE YACHT CLUB	July 23,24
ONTARIO CLASSIC (MICHELOB)	OSWEGO YACHT CLUB	August 2,3
WOMEN, JUNIOR & MASTERS	MISSION BAY YACHT CLUB	August 9-12
NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIPS	MISSION BAY YACHT CLUB	August 12-19
OLD SALTS REGATTA	BUFFALO CANOE CLUB	August ?
CUBA LAKE REGATTA	CUBA LAKE YACHT CLUB	TBA
#*HARVEST REGATTA	SILVER LAKE YACHT CLUB	September 10,11
*HURRELL SHAKER REGATTA	BOULEVARD CLUB	September 17,18
*HAUL-OUT REGATTA	SANDY BEACH YACHT CLUB	September 24,25
*BCC FALL REGATTA	BUFFALO CANOE CLUB	October 2,3
		Tentative Only

= LED—CNY DISTRICT CHALLENGE

* = LED FALL CIRCUIT (3 out of 4 Regattas to count)

THE LAKE ERIE DISTRICT IS VERY PROUD OF OUR NEW CHAMPIONS



The 1987 North American Champion and District Champion
(L to R) Larry MacDonald Jr. with crew Ian Jones and Trevor Born



The 1987 Junior North American Champions
(L to R) Jim, Skipper David and Tom Starck

To confirm regatta dates, please contact District Secretary, Judy Walker at home 716-839-3552 or work 716-893-1100.

LAKE ERIE DISTRICT

District Commodore	Tom Ward
District Executive Secretary	Ron Hughes
District Corresponding Secretary ...	Judy Walker
District Treasurer	Anne Allen
District Measurer	David Sprague
District Assistant Measurers	Todd Jones/ Norman Clegg
District Junior Commodore	Ned Roseberry
District Champion	Larry MacDonald, Jr.
District Runner-Up	Mark Bryant
Womens Champion	Sue MacDonald
Junior Champion	Ned Roseberry

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

With each passing year, sailing in the Lake Erie District gets harder, tougher, and more competitive. The most noticeable changes are coming from our Women and Junior competitors who are not only winning, but beating many of the Old Timers. The Juniors of yesteryear have grown up and are competing in major regattas all over the world.

The Women especially took home an increased amount of hardware. Jody Swanson led the way with a first at the Harvest Regatta at Silver Lake Yacht Club in a fleet of 36 boats from both Central New York and the Lake Erie Districts. Jody also traveled to Annapolis for the Frigid Digit and took first place away from many of top male sailors from the east coast.

Sue MacDonald Rogers won the LED Women's Championship, and with her hard working first year crew, went on to take an impressive second in the Women's North Americans, closely followed by Judy Walker, also of the LED in third place. Brenda Allen Crane, formerly of the LED, and sailing in her home waters of Abino Bay, took first place in the Women's in the fleet of ten top women sailors from North America.

Our new ILCA President, Anne Allen, really set the establishment on its ear by winning the "Ole Salts Regatta". Anne is now the third member of her family to serve as an ILCA President, following her Father Karl, and Brother Bob. It is sure "Mr. Lightning" is not only a very proud Father but Grandfather as well. The District also took great pride in having David Sprague, Past ILCA President continue to use his many talents for the betterment of the Class.

David Starck and brothers, Jim and Tom, won the Junior North Americans in close racing. Also at the junior level, Ned Roseberry met the mark and led the way with three first place finishes at the LED Junior Championships.

The Lake Erie District flourishes with a fantastic line-up of Leaders and Champions for all the Class to follow. Once again, we have one of our own winning the North American Championships. Larry MacDonald, Jr. with crew Ian Jones and Trevor Born, took the top silver after many years of hard work and close calls. They also won our District Championships with just a half point over the second place boat.

The District as a whole seems to be in a healthier position with the Juniors, Women, and the Seniors getting on the race course with more frequency to better their sailing skills. We entered twenty boats in the North



1987 DISTRICT JUNIOR CHAMPIONS (L to R) Matt Sanders, Skipper Ned Roseberry, and Lance Kinerk.

Americans. Sailing in our home waters at Point Abino certainly helped but we have been able to fill our quota at the North Americans almost every year regardless of where they are sailed. Many of us are already planning the trip to San Diego with doubledeck rigs for the 1988 North Americans.

The District had an extensive regatta schedule (also see our 1988 Schedule) including the Canadian Open Championship won by Peter Hall of the Royal St. Lawrence Yacht Club. We, in the past have listed each winner but this year we feel that only the major achievements of those listed above must be pointed out. Our District is strong with such names as Smither, Allen, MacDonald, Roseberry, Swanson, Jones, Bryant, Swanson, Sprague and many, many more, so please come and join us in a regatta or two during the 50th Anniversary Year of sailing a great boat, the Lightning.

LONG ISLAND DISTRICT

District Commodore	Bruce M. Atkinson
District Secretary	Thomas Hering
District Measurer	Bruce Atkinson
District Champion	Bruce Atkinson
District Runner-up	Tim Rumph

Fleets: Little Neck Bay Fleet (55); Hewlett Bay (58); Great South Bay Fleet (178); South Hampton Yacht Club (431).

As the 1987 sailing season draws to a close, it has been a year of growth and vigor for the Long Island District. Several newcomers, as far as Lightning owners are concerned, showed their enthusiasm on the race course and will help support the ILCA on Long Island for future seasons. Hats off to Ray Rumph for his turn at the helm as District Commodore, for his help and support of the Class, and to Tom Hering for "Keeping the Books Straight" as District Secretary.

Several Regattas kept sailing interest high, and were enjoyed by good fleets of skippers as compared to previous years. Lightning sailing is once again showing an increase in interest after a few slower previous seasons.

The District is planning some new ideas to be tried in the upcoming year to allow for increased participation on the race course, and to try some variety, such as a Summer Circuit, or Perpetual Trophy. Details will be worked out over the winter and passed around to members for discussion.

The Hewlett Bay Fleet, sailing out of East Rockaway, NY, has been showing promise of some new sailors, as well as existing ones. Peter Neyland and his family have been serious on the starting line, and Ed Reckenwald, who has been crewing with Tom Hering for a number of years, now has a boat and shows good potential. On a sad note, one of Hewlett Bay's sailors passed away last season, and Bud Dailedouze will be missed by all who knew him for his competitive spirit, and sportsmanship both on and off the water. (April '87 *Flashes*).

Congratulations also go to Betsy Weiss for winning Fleet 178 honors. This is the first time the Fleet Championship has been won by a woman skipper. Congrats, Betsy!!

The District Championship was held July 11th and 12th at Southampton Yacht Club on the east end of Long Island, sailing out of Shinnecock Bay. After the fog cleared (literally), Bruce Atkinson emerged the 1987 District Champion, won by a tie-breaker with Tim Rumph. Robert Shewan was third, followed by Alan Pearlman and Paul/ Joe McCann. Nineteen boats



1987 DISTRICT WOMEN'S CHAMPIONS (L to R) Helene Michoud, Skipper Susan MacDonald Rogers, and Annie Amendolia.

put their bows on the starting line, and a good weekend of racing was had by all. Next year we are hoping for a 20-25 boat fleet with the increase in new boat owners in the district.

Three boats made their way to Buffalo in August for the North Americans. Bruce Atkinson, sailing his first, qualified for the Blue Fleet, while Tom Hering and Bob Shewan sailed in the Yellow Fleet. Buffalo Canoe Club lived up to its reputation for wind, and those who have not sailed there were greeted by a first-class run ILCA event.

Hope to have an even better year next, and for those who may have not heard, Lightning sailing is alive and well in Long Island.

MICHIGAN

District Commodore	Louis Nickels
District Secretary	Bill Seaman
District Measurer	Tom Vickers
District Champion	Garry Demarest
District Runner-Up	Colin Park
Womens Champion	Bonnie Nickels
Junior Champion	Sean Fidler
Junior Runner-Up	George Sipel

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); Saginaw Bay (216); Grand Traverse Yacht Club (326); Pentwater (340); Douglas Lake (374); Lansing Sail Club (387).

The Michigan District had a very good racing season. The 1987 season will be remembered as having unusually high temperatures with a good breeze all season. Out of eleven regattas we only saw rain and thunderstorms in three regattas, causing a total of five races to be cancelled. Best of all we saw an average wind speed of 10 to 15 m.p.h. all season long.

The regatta season got started with sunny skies and good wind in May, with the third Devils Lake Tune-Up and Great Lakes Euchre Championship Regatta. The format is no crew limits, no entry fee, no trophies, no protests and sail as many races as possible. This is a great way to start the sailing season.

The first weekend in June Lansing Sail Club hosted their regatta on Lake Lansing. Five races were sailed in two beautiful days with open water sailing on Saginaw Bay. Saturday was also the first bad weather, with a thunderstorm causing the boats to run for shelter after one race. Sunday was clear and sunny. Crescent Yacht Club on Lake St. Clair hosted their annual Father's Day Regatta. Saturday was clear and bright for all three races. Sunday, however, was gray and windy causing a two to three foot chop. Hank Hodgson, sailing with his daughter, Lisa and Bruce Goldsmith as a third were the winners of the Father's Day Trophy. The last weekend in June Lake Fenton hosted the annual Team Race Regatta. Team racing is done with four boat teams with each team racing one another in a round robin fashion. This makes for some interesting racing with team tactics coming into play. The Pontiac Team sailed a perfect series to win the championship.

In July the District Championship was hosted by Tawas Bay Yacht Club on beautiful Tawas Bay. 32 boats sailed five races in three days with winds out of the south-southwest of 12 to 18 m.p.h. with waves of one to two feet. Garry Demarest and Colin Park demonstrated how competitive they are with Garry winning two with three seconds and Colin winning three with two thirds, giving Garry the win by one point. Special thanks to Dave Maralott for a great job as Race Committee Chairman and the Tawas Yacht Club for a superb regatta. A week later the Juniors and Women got together for their Districts hosted by the Pontiac Yacht Club. Sean Fidler won the Juniors followed by George Sipel. Both were able to be in the Junior N.A.'s. Bonnie Nickels won the womens with her mother and sister for crew.

On the first two weekends of August we sailed two regattas in the beautiful north country. Higgins Lake Yacht Club is on an island about one mile offshore. Everything is ferried out to the island where the boats are moored in about two to three feet of water, making getting wet coming and going a must. However, the hospitality overcomes any problems. We sailed five races on Higgins Lakes' crystal clear water. A week later we moved farther north to Grand Traverse Bay for some big water sailing. Three races were sailed on Saturday back to back with gray skies. That night many Lightning sailors could be seen sampling the night life of Traverse City. A Sunday morning forecast of thunderstorms became a reality, letting those with a long drive home get an early start.

In the fall we have a Fall Series of four regattas with an overall winner of the series. The winner is chosen by the best of three regattas. Pontiac Yacht Club on Cass Lake hosts their Whitecap Regatta the first weekend after

Labor Day. The Whitecap always has a large turn out of 35 or more boats meaning lots of competition. The week following, Devils Lake hosted their 44th Just-For-Fun-Regatta. Devils Lake has a large turnout from all over the Midwest. With a week off, unless you go to the Red Flannels, Gull Lake is the next one in the series. Gull Lake was windy and gray on Saturday and bright and sunny on Sunday adding up to a great weekend of sailing. The last but not least in the series is Lake Wawasee, Indiana which is always great fun. This was an unusual year for Wawasee because there was very light wind after three years of heavy wind. Colin Park won the series going away. **GOOD SAILING**, to Colin and crew! The Michigan District is very competitive and even more friendly. We can't say enough about Michigan hospitality. So come join us for some of the best sailing in the Midwest.



Three generations of Lightning Sailors in the Michigan District. R to L: Herman, Son David, David's Niece Mirell Secore, and his son Kevin.

MIDWEST DISTRICT

District Commodore	Mike Huffman
District Secretary	Vernal Equinox
District Measurer	Robert Smither
District Champion	Mike Huffman
District Runner-Up	Ric Larson

Fleets: Chicago Corinthian (5); Milwaukee Yacht Club (69); Green Bay (112); Lake Davenport (167); Sheboygan (187); Lake Geneva (345); Manitowoc (393); Fond Du Lac (442); Quarter Barrel (494).

The 1987 season began in May with a pre Pam-Am Regatta in Michigan City, Indiana. An assortment of Midwest, Mississippi Valley and Michigan District Sailors came to challenge Canadian Pan-Am qualifier Peter Hall. The entry fee was excessive and the winds were not; each knot of wind cost \$30. In the few races completed, Peter Hall held off Ric Larson of Sheboygan for the win. Ric's performance was an indication of things to come.

Next stop on the tour was a new one: Fond du Lac, where Mike Elmergreen and friends are reviving the local fleet. The regatta was scored by Portsmouth ratings and the Lightnings came out on top. Larson won, followed by Doug Olson of Green Bay, Tryg Jacobson of Sheboygan, Elmo, a Rebel, various Force 5's, Flying Scots, etc. For 1988 the Lightnings may have their own start.

At the Evans, held at and on Green Bay the boats were challenged by huge rollers coming down the bay and a big rain on Sunday. Larson did it again, this time followed by Brian Phelan of Green Bay and Kevin Blair of Milwaukee.

The P&T at Milwaukee also featured some wild weather. The wind Sunday built as the day progressed; some boats claimed to have seen

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REGATTA SCHEDULE

May 21-22	Devils Lake
June 4-5	Lansing S.C.
June 11-12	Fenton Team Race
June 18-19	Crescent Sail Club
June 24-25 -26	Districts at Pontiac Y.C.
July 1- 2- 3	50th ILCA Anniversary Regatta, Skaneateles, N.Y.
July 9-10	Bay City
July 23	Women and Juniors one day regatta at Fenton
July 30-31	Traverse City
Aug. 6- 7	Higgins Lake
Aug. 9-19	N.A.'s San Diego, Calif.
Sept. 10-11	Pontiac
Sept. 17-18	Devils Lake (45th Anniversary)
Oct. 1- 2	Gull Lake

We Salute our 1987 Champions

District Champion — Garry Demarest

Runner Up — Colin Park

Womens Champion — Bonnie Nickels

Youth Champion — Sean Fidler

Joe Stueland Award — Colin Park

Team Champion — Pontiac, Y.C.

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A celebration of what was and will be.

waterspouts. Bill Faude, who calls both Chicago and Milwaukee home, was leading the race and the regatta when the last race was cancelled at the last mark. As it was, Mr. Larson triumphed with Ron Blair of Chicago second, Faude third and Gene Matthews of Lake Geneva fourth.

Next were the Districts held for the first time at Manitowoc. The local Fleet did a great job running the regatta and Tom Phelan came down from Green Bay to help run the races. Friday's races were cancelled due to high winds and seas. With Saturday came light, variable winds and two races were held. Ric Larson won the opener and Mike Huffman of Chicago took the second. Hans Graf of Sheboygan (3,2) Dan Dressel (5,4) and Byron Roe of Milwaukee (7,7) all had good days.

Sunday saw two winds battling each other all day. Huffman won the third race and enjoyed a 3 point lead over Larson going into the final race. This race saw many position changes and Larson won it. Huffman survived a tacking duel with Ronnie Blair to take the Championship by a point. Kevin Blair had two second place finishes Sunday and moved up to third, followed by Graf and Gene Matthews (4,4 on Sunday).

Sheboygan then hosted the Brotz. Hank Hodgson came over from Devil's Lake to win this one in two light air races.

Warm, sunny weather visited Chicago for the Red Flannels. John McCree of Bay City, Michigan showed the way Saturday with Gerry Paoli and John Walter second and third. McCree did it again Sunday and won the regatta going away, with Matt Burridge of Carlyle coming back for a second place finish and Dave Nickels of Fenton third. Dave Boucher and Ric Larson finished 4 and 5. Faude got the "aw nuts" award this year.

Final stop on the 1987 Circuit was the Polar Bear sailed on the Mississippi River at Davenport, Iowa. Mike Steffenson played host and won the regatta. Visitors Gene Matthews, Brian Phelan and local Ken Jensen finished 2, 3, and 4.

Clearly Mike Kuechle, Mary Reid and their skipper Eric Larson were the boat to beat this year. Great speed, good team work and smart moves put them near or at the top of every regatta they entered in 1987. They travelled outside the District, too; their strong finish at Devil's Lake is notable. Ric and his blue boat are the Lake Michigan Champions for 1987.

Other sailors, some of them not named here, also represented their District elsewhere. Bill Faude deserves mention for his enthusiasm in this area. Kudos also go to Chicago sailors Geary Gaspord, Dean Jacobson and Kirk Walter for their video production efforts.

Looking ahead to 1988, support of the revitalized Fleet at Fond du Lac is vital. The District must also consider switching the Championship to a 2 day format.

MISSISSIPPI VALLEY

District Commodore	Lloyd Irish
District Vice Commodore	Jim Ward
District Measurer	Stu Bernstein
District Champion	R. "Lal" Burridge
District Runner-Up	Brad Currie
Junior Champion	Glen Carr
Junior Runner-Up	Bill Baxter, Jr.

Fleets: Decatur (74); Harbor Island (262); Carlyle Sailing Association (266); Memphis (274); Valley Sailing Association (486).

The founders of our district made the decision to schedule our District Championship in early June. The basic reason was to avoid the light winds of summer, when those high pressure areas have a habit of sitting down in the Mississippi Valley. Nobody's perfect!

When we arrived at Harbor Island on pre-race day, there was a beautiful 12 kt breeze from the N.W. On race day our loyal race directors, Jack and Betty Caldwell, gave the skippers their thorough briefing, including that no race would be started with winds under 4 kts. Need I say more! The first race was started and completed with total frustration with the exception of the early finishers. The second race was started in a fickle breeze that caused the course to be shortened, but didn't reduce time in "competition".

Thanks to the friendly power-type boats that towed us back to the Y.C., we entered the cocktail hour with anticipation of improving our attitudes. Thanks again, to the shore party, who served a delicious steak dinner, before our attitudes got out of hand.

The next day was a beautiful morning which was enjoyed by all, as the power-types towed us out to the racing area. The social hour began with rafting, swimming, and a sprinkling of wet objects thrown about.

There was no social hour aboard the beautiful Baba 40, which served as our committee boat. Jack Caldwell stationed himself on the stern with a firm grip on the backstay. You didn't have to be at a distance to see his jaw set, his knuckles white around the backstay, and his dark eyes searching for

wind.

It was almost as if he had the "force with him", as a south breeze worked its way toward the fleet. The marks were soon set and before the wind could change it's mind a good solid race was completed.

The District winner was Robert "Lal" Burridge, who sailed a very consistent 1-1-3 under those adverse conditions. Brad Currie finished 2nd, Cully Ward, 3rd, Greg Florian, 4th, and Bill Hofmeister captured 5th.

The scene shifts to the Junior Championships held at Lake Carlyle, Illinois in late July. Lake Carlyle is known for its winds. Dennis and Reggie Heisler were generous enough to donate their new C & C 33 as the race committee boat.

The first race was started at 10:40 a.m. in a fresh 5 kt SE breeze. There were seven entries, two from the Memphis Fleet and the remainder from Carlyle. The first race was finished in exactly one hour. Bill Baxter, Jr., had a commanding lead over Glenn Carr and Rob Zerban, who finished second and third respectively. The next race was started back-to-back. The winds diminished and the race was finally terminated. Again the friendly power-types appeared and towed the distraught sailors to shore for a 3 hour volleyball game. This culminated in a bar-b-que feast catered by Rob Zerban.

Early Sunday morning was foggy and little hope of anything but a lazy Sunday. The C & C 33 was positioned and seven young skippers and their crews drifted around demonstrating exuberance only youth can bring forth. What I'm trying to say is water fights, swimming, batting practice with tennis balls — you name it. Finally a breeze turned into a light wind which was enough to start the race. A good start sent all to the windward mark, but on the turn spinnakers went slack. The race was shortened to a 100 yard windward finish. Glenn Carr placed first, Falwell was 2nd, followed by Rob Zerban.

Our Junior Champion is Glenn Carr sailing out of Carlyle Sailing Association, Bill Baxter, Jr. from Memphis was second and last years champion Rob Zerban from Carlyle was third.

Congratulations to all our winners and thanks to those that worked so hard to make our district regattas so successful.



1987 Mississippi Valley Junior Championship winners: Glenn Carr, Bill Baxter, Jr., Rob Zerban.

NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT

District Commodore	Christopher Hamblet
District Secretary	Pat Macqueen
District Measurer	Don Brush

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

Sailing in New England is a multi-dimensional experience with regatta sites ranging from Lake Champlain, to Wellfleet and Spofford Lake, just to test the mettle of our competitors.

Our season opened with the Maple Leaf Classic at Lake Bomooseen, Vermont. Ray and Toni Harrington reside in that "neck of the woods" (pun

NEW ENGLAND LIGHTNING DISTRICT

1988 Schedule

June 4-5	Lake Champlain, Mallet's Bay	Burlington, VT
June 11-12	Open	
June 18-19	Newburyport, State of Mass. Champ	Newburyport, MA
June 25-26	Bomoseen, Maple Leaf Classic	Bomoseen, VT
July 1-3	50TH ANNIVERSARY REGATTA	Skaneateles, NY
July 9-10	Androscoggin, State of Maine	Androscoggin, ME
July 15-17	DISTRICTS	Wellfleet, MA
July 23-24	Open	
July 30-31	JUNIORS	
August 6-7	Squam Lake	Bomoseen, VT
August 13-14	Open	NH
August 12-19	NORTH AMERICANS	San Diego
August 20-21	Lake Champlain, Mallet's Bay	
	Race Week	Burlington, VT
August 27-28	Open	
September 3-4	Labor Day	
September 10-11	NH/VT Championship	Massabesic, NH
September 17	Bow Lake	NH
September 24-25	Spofford Lake	NH

intended) and won their own regatta. Seventeen boats participated including eight from the local fleet.

Next came the State of Maine Regatta, hosted by the Fosters, George and Bob, on Lake Androscoggin, which is about 30 miles inland from Augusta in the village of Wayne. The outstanding features of this event, besides the quaintness of the club, are the hospitality, the Saturday night steak fry and the Sunday morning brunch. Twelve boats competed, with Ray Harrington in first, George Dyett second and Alex Gemmell third.

Most fleets race at home over the Fourth of July weekend, which leads us to the Newburyport, MA, regatta, which provides an interesting combination of tides, currents and sea breezes. This year, the weatherman provided gale winds conditions. It was a real equipment and crew tester; if your mast didn't break you were a winner.

The New England Districts were held at the Mallets Bay Yacht Club on Lake Champlain, a class organization who did a first rate job sponsoring this championship. Thirty-two boats raced, with a noticeable increase in young competitors skippering boats.

The Spofford Yacht Club in Southwestern New Hampshire hosted the New England Junior Championship. Jason Gemmell with his sister Amy and Jennifer Mann bested the six boats competing.

Next was the Wellfleet regatta on Cape Cod which usually provides strong sea breezes and good racing.

Squam Lake on "Golden Pond" was to be the final tune up for the North Americans, however, perhaps most had their boats in dry dock preparing for the "N.A.s".

September was a busy month with three regattas in southern New Hampshire. The Massabesic regatta was held in moderate to light conditions with intermittent rain showers that turned to torrential rains on Sunday. We did manage to get three races together with Ray Harrington again taking first with the Gemmells second and George Dyett of Massabesic third. The Dyett family was well represented on this regatta with three skippers and Shirley as crew in a fourth boat. Norm "Pappy Goose" Dyette is the old "pro", with sons George and Kenny each skippering their own boat. Kenny, a relatively new skipper, managed to win the third race for a fifth overall.

Bow Lake held a one day regatta hosted by Ned and Jeannie Hines. This

unfortunately competed with a regatta at Cedar Point, our neighbors to the south, which many of us like to attend.

The Spofford Regatta, held the last weekend in September, ends the New England season. We average about 30 boats from all around New England and central New York. Stuart Nickerson won the regatta which was sailed in southwesterly winds gusting to 25. It was tough sailing with a lot of knock down puffs and a few capsizes. The front passed through overnight and with typical high pressure settling into New England, there was no wind on Sunday. So, we had lunch, awarded the prizes and sent everyone packing for another year.

Lightning sailing is a growing participation sport in New England. We averaged 25-30 boats at our major regattas. We sent 12 boats to the North Americans this year. We had fun, we learned a lot and we improved, experiencing some measure of success... so we look forward with anticipation to next year.

OHIO DISTRICT

District Commodore	Phil Cornett
District Secretary	Bertie Werley
District Champion	George Fisher
District Runner-Up	Matt Fisher

Fleets: Indiana Lake (23); Leatherlips (27); Turkeyfoot (33); Pymatuning (36); Buckeye Lake (43); Rocky River (71); Mansfield (150); Atwood Lake (212); Cowan Lake (303); Hoover (353); St. Marys (400).

The Ohio District began its sailing season with the annual seminar held at Leatherlips Yacht Club. This year's seminar theme concentrated on "Starts and Tacking", with some very fine on-water demonstrations by the experts. The members of the Leatherlips Yacht Club always "go all-out" to put on a worthwhile program that fits the wide range of sailing skills of those in attendance. Our hats are off to the club for making it go, year after year, and donating funds to the Ohio District Newsletter. Pymatuning Yacht Club followed up the seminar with the first district regatta of the year on May 16th and 17th. Wind conditions were light, yet sailable, making "under-the-

tree" discussions a profitable additive to the weekend. New skippers to the lake got a good preview of what they would have in store at the district.

Ten boats showed for the St. Marys Boat Club's "Thundermug Regatta", a big light for that spring event, probably due to the conflict with the Michigan City extravaganza. In spite of that, all those who came enjoyed the big water and flat terrain, just perfect for sailing. Tom Varley & Company walked away with honors.

On the third week end in June, action shifted back to Leatherlips for the Windshift Regatta (certainly appropriately named). A lot of the old regulars supported Leatherlips as usual.

Twenty six boats showed up at Pymatuning for our district regatta, and were surprised to find a dramatic difference in weather conditions from the spring. Threatening storms kept participants on shore most of the first day, yet we made up for it with plenty of excitement in the one race scheduled between "thunderboomers". Some of us managed to get in a swimming lesson or two during race time. At the conclusion of the three races scheduled on Sunday, Ed Werley won the Challengers' division, followed by John Collier, Vic Maras, Greg Maras, and Phil Cornett. George Fisher captured the Championship Division, followed by Matt Fisher, Matt Frymier, Dick Pugh, and Tom Varley. George's repeat of his 1964 feat was a real crowd pleaser. The Sportsmanship trophy went to Jake Rider; Best Finish, 1st Time At District to Ed Werley; and Best Junior finish to Matt Frymier. Results of the Harvest Moon, Snowball and Fall-In were not available at this writing.

I would like to thank John Werley for the leadership he has provided to the district for the past two years as Ohio Commodore. John's enthusiasm and sincere interest in the Lightning Class had helped bring our district back from the "brink". Over the course of the coming year, John will be working with other committee members trying to bring the North American Championships to the Ohio District.

As a testament to the fact that we have some very fine sailors in our district, Matt Fisher of Hoover Yacht Club was selected to represent the United States in the PAN AM Games in Michigan City. Our hearty congratulations to Matt and his crew for this rare honor.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST DISTRICT

District Commodore Bruce Deitz
District Measurer Dick Hickman
District Champion Eric Lindahl
District Runner-Up Lisa Parshley

Fleets: Maple Bay (64); Vancouver (90); Seattle (132); Chinook (229); Columbia (283); Okanagan (368); Klamath (453).

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 and this year was no exception. For the first time in at least eleven years less than four races were sailed. Quite a few less than four, in fact. On Saturday one race was sailed. Immediately after the start Eric Lindahl took the lead. He was soon overtaken by Mark McBride, who was soon overtaken by Jerry Neuburger, who was soon overtaken by Bruce Deitz who was soon re-overtaken by Eric, who was soon overtaken by Dave Hickman, who was soon re-overtaken by Bruce, who was over taken by John DeBenedetti, who was overtaken by Philip Parshley, who finally won. On Sunday we sat around the club grounds until the early afternoon when the Lightnings took to the water for some rabbit starts. When the wind finally came in around 3 o'clock the Race Committee cancelled the remainder of the races declaring it a one race regatta.

The Vancouver Lake Sailing Club Regatta was a great success this year, especially under the trying conditions of low water in the lake. Contrary to past years there were many other boats on the lake, sailing in a very confined space. The regatta was sailed with a large Laser fleet, several of whom did know how to sail, and several of whom didn't. Alan Hunt and Ken Dunkelberg duked it out in the heavy air with the win going to Alan on the tie breaker.

Tide is an important factor to consider when sailing on English Bay in

1988 OHIO DISTRICT REGATTA SCHEDULE

Spring Classic*	Pymatuning Y.C.	May 14-15
Thundermug Regatta*	St. Mary's Y.C.	June 4-5
Windshift Regatta*	Leatherlips Y.C.	June 11-12
District Championship	Cowan Lake Y.C.	TBA
Independence Day Regatta	Pymatuning Y.C.	July 4-5
C.Y.C. Regatta	Cleveland Y.C.	July 30-31
Harvest Moon*	Atwood Lake Y.C.	Sept. 10-11
Snowball Regatta	Buckeye Lake Y.C.	Oct. 8-9
Fall-In Regatta*	Cowan Lake S.A.	Oct. 15-16

*Sailing 3 of 5 qualifies for Ohio Governor's Cup Series

HOME OF THE 1989 NORTH AMERICANS

Vancouver B.C., one of the most beautiful cities on the west coast. In one race, Father Lightning (John DeBenedetti) was the only boat to cross the starting line within 15 minutes of the starting gun, but the tide on the left side of the course where he sailed was actually stronger than at the starting line so he ended up within 2 boat lengths of the second boat to cross the line. Alan Hunt is making a habit out of winning this regatta: he won it again this year as he did last year. The final Circuit Regatta of the year is sailed in Seattle. This Regatta has traditionally been dead calm or a twenty knot plus blowout. This year we sailed in absolutely perfect conditions: sunny skies, 15 knots, and little current. Due to an excellent job by the Race Committee, seven races were sailed in two days. Bruce Deitz sailed hard to win this one followed by Phil Parshley, Sr. who skippered for the first time in several years.

In the Northwest District there are two major trophies sought after: the District Championship and the Circuit Trophy. The Circuit Trophy is awarded to the skipper who does the best in at least three of the seven circuit regatta. This year Alan Hunt won the Circuit Trophy handily with wins at Vancouver Lake and Kitsilano.

ST. LAWRENCE VALLEY DISTRICT

District Commodore	Russ Scrim
District Secretary	Tony McBride
District Measurer	Bill Layton
District Champion	Peter Hall
District Runner-Up	Bill Layton

Fleets: The Royal St. Lawrence Yacht Club (215); Pointe Claire Yacht Club (499).

The Saint Lawrence Valley District enjoyed one of the best sailing seasons in years. Sunshine and fair winds prevailed. On the racing scene, it was a quiet year, as compared to 1986 when we hosted the North American and Canadian championships. But that didn't keep a number of our sailors from competing actively and successfully in many major competitions.

Three boats travelled from the frozen north to the warm and inviting south to compete on the Southern Circuit. Social activities aside, the journey was not for naught. At St. Petersburg, Peter Hall with Alain Boucher and Scott Morgan crewing finished ninth, while Eddy Martin, Jay

Mann and Perry Owen were eighth. The trip to Miami from St. Pete was an eye opener. First, we traversed what has to be the highest bridge in the world. Next, there was lunch on the beach at Sarasota with time for a dig in the Gulf and a crash course in bikini appreciation. Finally, we ogled the alligators along the Tamiami Trail before we moved on to the beautiful Coconut Grove Yacht Club. The weather and winds on Biscayne Bay were excellent and Eddy and Peter again did very well. This time Eddy was fourth, while Peter finished tenth.

Back at home, training for the Pan Am Games and the "Worlds" began on Easter weekend. Fortunately the ice had gone out about two weeks before. The training was intensive. It included travelling every weekend to pace against the class' best on the east coast and in up-state New York. But the hard work paid off. Eddy and crew copped second at the "Worlds" while Peter Hall gained the same spot at the Pan Am Games. It's clear our district has some pretty competitive sailors.

The District Championship was hosted this year by Pointe Claire Yacht Club (Fleet 499) on the weekend of July 4th & 5th. Saturday's strong westerly winds brought eight boats to the starting line. Peter Hall proved unbeatable all day but there was some tight racing between Dave Browne, Russ Scrim, Bill Layton and Tony McBride. Sunday the winds were light and southerly. Again Peter dominated. Bill Layton squeezed out Tony McBride for second. Tony was third and Russ finished fourth. Tim Harris came on to finish fifth.

For the "Canadian Open," hosted this year by the Boulevard Club of Toronto, five boats travelled down the 401 to compete. Again our district fared well with some familiar names appearing at the top of the results. Peter Hall came first with Eddy Martin chasing him, finishing second. Our District Commodore and Great Leader, Russ Scrim, didn't go home empty handed. He'll be spending the winter polishing the Corby trophy which he won for finishing — exactly mid-fleet.

It's October when this is being written and already planning for 1988 is underway. The Royal St. Lawrence Yacht Club (Fleet 215) will host the "Canadian Open" to mark the club's one hundredth anniversary. Work to build our existing fleets and to add to them will continue. To attract sailors and to boost participation in our events a number of things are being discussed including, crew and newcomer races, team racing and increased inter-club racing. 1988 will be the best year ever for our district. Don't miss out, participate!

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*Mens Ties
Club Design
Navy*

and

*Ladies Scarves
Oblong
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Both with red Flashes

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SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT

District Commodore	Bob Harkrider
District Secretary	Clay Rumble
District Measurer	Bill Sloger
District Champion	Lenny Krawcheck
District Runner-Up	Bob Harkrider

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); Tennessee Valley (500).

The 1987 Southeastern District circuit started off with a bang at the Augusta Sailing Club in April. Sixteen boats showed up for a heavy air regatta that provided plenty of thrills for us light air, inland lake sailors. Bob Harkrider ran off with the accolades, finishing with five firsts.

At the 1986 district annual meeting we elected to have a five race format for those regattas which included only Lightnings. Unfortunately, the light air in the Southeast usually precludes five races but we will continue this format in the future.

The High Rock Regatta brought the 15 participating boats and very light air, but we were able to get in four and a half races; only three boats finished within the time limit for the last race. Once again, Bob Harkrider collected the top silver.

Only six boats showed up for the light air in the Western Carolina Open Regatta as this regatta conflicted with several club activities in our district. Bill Sloger was the winner in a come from behind effort.

At Lake Murray 13 Lightnings teamed up with a large group of Thistles for the always fun, annual event. Again the air was light and Bob Harkrider demonstrated his proven light air techniques and won the top honors.

Our District Championship Regatta was held at the quaint little fishing village of Oriental, NC, located on Pamlico Sound. The regatta was sponsored by the Raleigh fleet who did an excellent job. We were only able to get in four races due to inclement weather but those four races provided lots of excitement for all. The winds were 15-20 mph and the seas 2-3 feet and there was plenty of planing and surfing for the 19 participating boats. Lenny Krawcheck reasserted his dominance in the Southeastern District by taking four firsts to win the regatta.

Beaufort, SC, provided its usual problems of tides, current and sandbars but without the usual amount of wind. Starting against the tidal current in light air made for some riotous situations. Arthur Levin showed how local knowledge combined with good technique can win a regatta.

After a six week mid-summer layoff to avoid the heat and lack of wind, 11 Lightnings convened at Charleston to race in the South Atlantic Yacht Racing Association's championship. A coastal high pressure system brought fairly light air but the local knowledge of Lenny Krawcheck allowed him to negotiate the air and tides well enough to win the regatta.

At Waccamaw the North Carolina boats turned out in force to provide a fun 19 boat regatta. Krawcheck and Harkrider battled it out for the top spot with Krawcheck nosing out Harkrider.

The Columbia Sailing Club provided such light air that 11 Lightnings and 20-some Y-Flyers were only able to get in two races. After postponing the first race so long that the race committee had to go to the clubhouse and bring the beer keg out on the water, the wind filled in enough to start what looked to be a reasonable race. However, it died quickly and resulted in ghosting conditions. Krawcheck took home the silver once again.

Our final regatta was the Atlanta Cup held in October. For the third straight year the wind blew hard, real hard. This year a hand-held anemometer clocked it at a steady 29 gusting to 35. Two tough heavy air races on Saturday made for a quiet evening for tired sailors, but Sunday was much more genteel with light, shifty breezes. Bob Wardwell invaded the Southeastern District and won the regatta for the second year in a row.

Ten boats qualified for the season championship: Lenny Krawcheck, Bob Harkrider, Clay Rumble, Bennie Moultrie, Jeff Annis, John Pelosi, Bob Shingler, Gil Klemann, Carl Muska and Bob Wilkins.

A new fleet was chartered last year in Knoxville, TN, and this fleet will sponsor a regatta in 1988 which will be added to the Southeastern district schedule. Welcome to the district, Knoxville sailors!

At the 1987 annual meeting, David Sears was elected Commodore and Clay Rumble repeats as Secretary/Treasurer. Also, at the meeting we resolved to hold informal, instructional meetings next year after each Saturday's racing. These meetings will be conducted by that day's winners and they will discuss briefly the tactics, strategies and boat tuning which allowed them to win that day. Those of us not regularly finishing in the top two look forward to these sessions.

Although our sailing season has only been over for two weeks now, life seems a little empty and we are already looking forward to next season. Come join us at any of our Southeastern district regattas.

SWISS DISTRICT

District Commodore	Gilbert Despland
District Vice Commodore	Jacques Perret
District Secretaries	Kathi Herzog/Res Hofer
District Treasurer	Margrit Brugger
District Measurers	Urs Wyler, Oscar Weber
District Champion	Urs Wyler
District Runner-Up	Hanspeter Schmid

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

Five marvelous races with four Swiss teams again made Marsala an unforgettable event. The Italian crew Messina sailed strong and beat our best team Schmid/Hofer/Knopfli with a slim advantage of 0.3 points. Plenty of head wind gave us some problems putting the boats in the water and sailing free of the shallow waters and rocky coast. Italian hospitality was, as usual, at its best.

The traditional eight-boat-participation continued in 1987. We sailed at Hallwil, Sempach and Murten, light winds prevailing. Urs Wyler our District Champ showed us his stern most of the time. Nobody was around to beat him.

"Nobody" emerged at the Europeans in Numana calling himself Attina. After six tough races in tricky wind conditions and plenty of current the Italian crew of Attina/Rallo/Spino were 5 points ahead of our Swiss crew Wyler/Gasser/Stauffer. Third was Vitaggio with our teams Perret and Schmid finishing 5th and 6th. Spicy Italian pasta and red wine was served free of charge to all crews upon returning to the harbour. The rush to the pasta stand was at least as ferocious as the action on the race course.

Fallanden on the idyllic Greifensee marks the beginning of fall. Despite a poor weather forecast the northerly "bise" set in and allowed 3 races, this time with Chris Luthy first, ahead of Wyler and Schmid.

Our Fondue-Regatta, which is the final event of the season, was extended by one day to count as District Championship. The local "Joran"-wind privileged the native crew of De Cerjat, who won both races on Friday. Saturday saw no wind at all, whereas on Sunday the familiar strong "Bise" with force 6 enabled us to sail two beautiful races with Schar and Schmid winning ahead of Wyler. The final count set Wyler in front of Schar and De Cerjat.

On Saturday evening we had our district meeting with some "Old Salts" like Ruedi Herzog and Hans Luthy attending. Our district got a new management. Gilbert Despland will take over the helm as District Commodore, assisted by Jacques Perret. Good luck to them! The fondue was as delicious as ever and plenty of Neuchatel white wine represented the wet element which is all we sailors need.

TEXAS DISTRICT

District Commodore	John B. Waskom, III
District Measurer	Dr. Sylvan Newman
District Champion	Warren Lewis
District Runner-Up	Richard Guinan

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

It was good to see past ILCA President George Hatfield get his touch back and win the Thanksgiving Regatta at Rush Creek Yacht Club last fall as reported in the *Winter Flashes*.

Both fleets held their regular races on a split season basis as reported before. In addition, our sailors participated in the Hernando DeSoto Regatta in Mississippi, Holiday in Dixie Regatta in Shreveport, Indian Summer Regatta at Chandlers Landing Y.C., the Centerboard Regatta at Rush Creek Y.C. and the State Fair Regatta at White Rock Lake.

Fleet 435 and the rest of us hated to see Gil Mercier and Sandy move back to Canada as we lost an enthusiastic sailor and a District Secretary, but he did take his Lightning back with them and we hope to get word that he is active there. 435 has a new member in Bill Keating to help keep their number up.

Fleet 35 lost one member this year but has added three new members and two new boats to bring their total to 19 boats.

To J. C. Penney employees and other sailors moving to Dallas: DON'T SELL YOUR LIGHTNING. We have heard of two sailors who sold their boats before moving. Do as Rodger Parks did and check your Yearbook as we have two fleets here. Rodger brought his boat with him from St. Louis and will be joining one of our fleets shortly.

The Fleet Secretaries will be reporting on the awards and activities of each fleet in more detail.