

# International Lightning Class Association Districts



# Lightning Districts

## ARGENTINA DISTRICT

District Commodore .....	Oswaldo Bordino
District Secretary .....	Liliana B. de Schenone
District Measurer .....	Mario Abinzano
District Champion .....	Oswaldo Bordino
District Runner-Up .....	Javier Pascuchi

**Fleets:** Olivos (206), Club Universitario de Buenos Aires (446).

One year smashed for hyperinflation in our country, brought us to one of our poorest seasons.

Despite this situation, we've increased the number of class members and raced two championships with seven boats each.

Now we are next to begin the District Championship — Campeonato Argentino — and hope to get at least 10 good boats and skippers.

Oswaldo Bordino raced the South Americans finishing in 5th position, and so does Robert Ricoveri in the Presidents' Cup with same position in the NA's.

We hope to improve this situation for next year, next to Pan Americans.

## BRAZIL DISTRICT

District Commodore .....	Michael A. Norris
District Secretary .....	Christina Norris
District Measurers .....	Oscar Weckerle & Nelson S. Schmitt
District Champion .....	Claudio Biekerck
Runner-Up .....	Mario Buckup

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

The Brazilian District sponsored the XXXV South American Championship and the IX Naval Schools South American Championship which was held in the city of Ilhabela during the month of April.

The tropic atmosphere with beaches, palm trees, sun and plenty of wind were the right ingredients for an enjoyable and competitive regatta.

We had civil and naval crews from Argentina, Chile, Ecuador and Peru. The naval crews which have recently regained racing together with the civil crews, brought new enthusiasm to the championship.

We are very enthusiastic with sailing conditions and the general environment of Ilhabela and therefore are offering the location for the next world championship in South America.

Two crews represented Brazil in the European and World Championship in Greece and brought back many lessons and ideas on boat handling and championship organization.

The boat building in Brazil is already paying off since several young crews have recently joined the class and are planning to give the Youth World's a try.

Maintenance of our Pan-American status has been very important for us, since several sailors are looking at the Lightning as a good and relatively low cost boat to try to qualify for the Pan Am's, this is the first step to try to retain these sailors in the class.

## CENTRAL NEW YORK DISTRICT

District Commodore .....	Tom Doran
District Secretary .....	Dan J. Koretz
District Measurer .....	John Barnes
District Champion .....	Kirk Reynolds
District Runner-Up .....	Dan Fien

**Fleets:** Skaneateles Country Club (1); 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).

"It's easy to get there from here", were the key words heard in Central New York this summer.

All eight active CNY fleets are located within a relatively compact geographic area, so it was the rare traveler indeed who needed to spend much time on the road en-route to one of our six regattas.

With the obstacle of distance largely neutralized, three of our 1989 regattas drew more than 30 entries and all were well attended. Additionally, the level of competition improved. Twelve skippers tasted victory in district races this year compared with a mere five in all of 1988.

Good regatta attendance can have its down side though; the motivated crews tend to focus on regattas rather than club racing. In fleets where two or three boats missing from the starting line affects the success of an entire racing series, this problem is surely as old as one design racing itself.

After a dismal 1988 club racing season, Oswego Fleet 485 decided to shoot a corner and change fleet races from Saturday to Tuesday nights. Bingo! The 14 member fleet reported EVERY boat out several times, and averaged eight to nine starters through the summer series, up from three to four last year. If you wonder how this could happen, ask yourself, what did I do on Tuesday nights last summer? Can't remember? Case rested. On Tuesday skippers didn't have any trouble finding willing crew, and the travelers were able to scratch the itch twice a week instead of once. As a bonus, the after-sail parties were better attended in their new twilight time slot.

Elsewhere, Central New York's long established fleets "kept on keepin' on". Fleet 77, our largest, worked on learning to love powerboat wakes and lake rollers. Fleet 164, Cazenovia, held its usual successful Sunday series. Fleet 225, Henderson Harbor, conducted its colorfully named racing events once more — say, just what is the "Pickslay Ramble" guys? Everyone had something new and exciting to talk about too. For Newport it was being named to host the upcoming 1990 North Americans; in Cazenovia it was Dave Bull dumping the "sub" and ordering a light new coat ("No More Bullship", Dave?); and in Henderson it was the emergence of the first traveling HHYC skipper of the 80's — Jack Jones.

The comeback story of the summer took place at Keuka Yacht Club, home of the fabulous Champagne Regatta. Fleet 252 rebounded emphatically after several off seasons, gaining several new members and experiencing a major increase in participation and enthusiasm.

Oh yeah, the regattas. Fleet 77's Newport Invitational opened our season as is the tradition in CNY. Thirty-three teams enjoyed the stimulating early season double challenge. To win at Newport, a crew must sail well not only Saturday on the open water of Lake Ontario but also beneath the towering bluffs of narrow Irondequoit Bay where Sunday's races are sailed.

Dick Hallagan got the first of his four CNY victories by virtue of his consistency. His winning point total included two sixth places in the five race event but almost everyone else had at least one race in double digits. Tri-skippers Bram Palm, Peter Hallagan, and Jean Palm (team ("Round Robin")), finished second overall after taking strutting rights into Saturday night's dinner party.

The top five was rounded out by 1987 North American Champion Larry MacDonald, 1987 North American runner-up Jed Dodge, and about-to-be 1989 North American Champion Tom Allen Jr. Takes your breath away, doesn't it fellow guppies!

Two weekends later 25 crews snuck over to Willow Bank Yacht Club for our district's best kept secret — The Cazenovia Invitational. The lake is tiny, the winds unfathomable, and everyone has an equally frustrating time of it. Year after year they go away earnestly swearing they'll never come back. Yet somehow this regatta has charm and personality and tests skills as no other. The hard core sailors wouldn't miss it for anything.

Since Saturday's winds were in the 15 knot range, A#1 Race Committeeman Art Dieffendorf went ahead and banged off four races in anticipation of a possible return to normal Sunday. After the evening steak dinner and associated goings on, participants were greeted by an anomaly Sunday morning; the light air didn't develop and race five was also sailed in stiff breezes. Hallagan grimly refused to yield the slightest hint of satisfaction to the watching perpetrators as he discovered his Mainsail installed backwards and neatly rolled and secured to the boom Sunday morning. On the water he couldn't be touched again and won with 7.5 points. Jedder Dodge was next followed by the torrid Don Barter. Dave Bull and George Sereno were fourth and fifth.

Ithaca Yacht Club hosted the 1989 CNY District Championship Regatta. Through the efforts of Jessie Miller and others, the club put on a fine event which also was blessed with great winds.

For many of the newer skippers this was the first regatta they had ever sailed where top amateur Dick Hallagan was not present (Worlds).

Sailmaker Kirk Reynolds filled in for Dick very nicely, winning the first and last races of the series and holding off sailmaker Chip Evald by two points overall. Oswego amateurs Joe McCloskey, Art Tirrell and Clay Murphy were third, fourth and fifth. McCloskey won race three for his first CNY District victory. Encore, Joe!

The gray boat was back for the ELYC Regatta held at Henderson Harbor YC on the eastern end of Lake Ontario July 23-24 and in usual form as well. Dick "try a little of this Ouzo fellas" Hallagan put together three deuces and two bulletes to win by more than ten points over Class President Bob Wardwell. Kirk Reynolds teamed up with Bill Wilson for third, and Jed Dodge hung on for fourth.

The 1989 Michelob Lightning Classic was held August 5-6 at Oswego YC. Put simply, this was a good regatta. Entries from seven states and Canada joined with Lake Erie and CNY boats to form a 60 boat fleet, up eight from 1988.

Team "Round Robin" won Saturday's only race in a dying westerly to forge an early lead. Sunday's breezes were more reliable until race three which began with a 30 degree veer just after the start. Boats that started to the right were rewarded with a dandy lead. Once again the Palm/ Palm/ Hallagan team was well positioned and won the regatta with Edson White second, Chip Evald third, Jed Dodge fourth and Bob Wardwell fifth. This regatta is becoming established as a top regional lead-in to the annual North Americans and is now beginning to rival the largest one design regattas sailed anywhere.

Last on the district agenda was the Dulles Cup Regatta established by revamped Fleet 9 in 1988. Dick Hallagan made it four wins for the season. Others in the top five were Clay Murphy (2), Dave Bull (3), Jack Jones (4) and Landy Atkinson (5).

Around the District there were numerous signs of vitality. Central New York grabbed back the CNY/LED Challenge crown by the sheer force of numbers. The Challenge uses a convoluted scoring system which only Judy Walker of LED seems to understand. But that's all right. As long as LED keeps naming the Silver Lake Harvest Regatta as it's event, there's no way we'll ever lose again. Our guys like that one better than theirs do!

We mentioned that the competition got better this summer. Names like Barter, Beuchner, Carnes, Finn, Gocker, Kuhns, Mastro, Raham, Thompson and White all showed up in the top half of the fleet at many events to challenge those with an edge in experience. The top sailors have been put on notice; in '90, it'll be "same game, NEW winner!"

## FLORIDA DISTRICT

District Commodore .....	Eamonn DeLisser
District Secretary .....	William Meyer
District Measurer .....	Eamonn DeLisser
Assistant Measurer .....	Dave White
District Champion .....	Steve Hayden
District Runner-Up .....	Fisk Hayden

**Fleets:** Biscayne Bay (226); Lake Eustis/North Florida (461); Suncoast (502), Clearwater (504).

The Florida District 1989 year showed growth with the addition of Fleet 504 sailing out of the Clearwater Yacht Club. It was also a year in which regatta participation increased, and a year that showed some high levels of sailing from the former middle and back of the pack sailors. Among the notable improving skippers are Ed Cabassa and Enrique Torruella sailing *Top Gun*, Carol Stout sailing *Olivia*, Clark Higgs sailing boat 13285, and Bill Meyer sailing *Fired-Up*.

Nineteen Lightnings competed in the districts hosted by Fleet 502 at the Davis Island Yacht Club. Steve Hayden, Fisk Hayden, and Eamonn DeLisser showed us once again why the top Florida sailors are among the best in the Class. Eamonn DeLisser, Clark Higgs, and Carol Stout competed in the North Americans in the Presidents' Cup Fleet, and all had strong individual races in the series.

The Adams Cup was hotly contested by seven outstanding teams of women from sailing clubs around the State, with Sandy Scheda and crews Gail Hauesler and Penny Hall of Suncoast Fleet 502 advancing to the finals and placing fifth overall. At the end of their first day of racing they were in first place, and a mishap in the heavy air of the next day dropped the 379 lb. team back in the standings, but we are certainly proud of them and all our women Adams Cup Competitors.

The Triple Crown is a three Regatta series held at Coconut Grove, Davis Island, and a third Regatta set by vote at the annual Meeting. This year the series ended at the Red Lobster Regatta in Sanford. The results of the last

regatta were held for weeks before the participants knew where they stood, and the Florida sailors were furious with the race management at the "Red Lobster". The paper trail finally revealed the Triple Crown overall winners: first, Eamonn DeLisser; second, Kevin Downey; third, Cabassa/Torruella; fourth, Bill Meyer; fifth, Carol Stout.

There are several regattas that Northern sailors can thaw out in the winter months aside from the Midwinters held in March. In the first week of February, the Ft. Myers Sailing Club hosts the Edison Pageant of Light Regatta. The second week is the Melbourne Fun and Sail Regatta, and the third week is the Washington's Day Regatta at Lake Eustis. The Sarasota Sailing club even has a regatta in January. Call 813-886-1962 (allow 2 rings only) for information on Florida District sailing events, and join in the year round fun of Florida Lightning sailing.

## INDIANA DISTRICT

District Commodore .....	Greg Miles
District Secretary .....	Susan Calder
District Champion .....	George Buckingham
District Runner-Up .....	Brad Wagnon

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

The Indiana District apprehensively awaited the 1989 sailing season hoping that the drought would come to an end. To everyone's relief water levels were restored at both lakes (How soon we forget the over eight-foot deficit at Indianapolis' Geist Reservoir last fall!).

With the water level up and fair winds and cold temperatures the sailing started at Geist in early April. The Indiana Open was hosted on May 6-7 with at least one unexpected surprise—SNOW! Many of us awoke in disbelief as we tried to convince our out-of-town guests that it surely wouldn't accumulate. Although the turn out was lighter than usual (only 16 boats) due to the weather conditions the competition was tough and participants travelled from Michigan, Ohio, Illinois and Missouri. Strong winds caused Hank Hodgson and Karl Suter to capsize on Saturday during and between the three races sailed. On Sunday the winds diminished to light and shifty and the race committee (Chairman Paul Dovey) had to scramble to provide two more relatively fair triangular courses. The usual steak dinner prepared by the Y-Flyer Fleet was superb and the Casino Party provided a fun night of "gambling" and an auction for sailing related equipment to cap off the evening's entertainment. After five races, congratulations were extended to Bruce Goldsmith, first and John McCree, second. The top five was rounded out with three Indiana District members—Wagnon, Suter, and Whalen.

The Indiana District Championship Regatta was planned at Lake Wawasee on June 24-25, but someone forgot to schedule the wind. We spent a frustrating weekend watching the motor boaters, swimming off the dock and playing volleyball. Karl Suter was elected District Commodore Saturday evening at the annual meeting and out-going Commodore, Doug Schmahl was applauded for this two years of leadership. To everyone's dismay and disappointment the regatta had to be rescheduled as a one day event on July 16. Unfortunately, we should have scheduled prayers and wind dances on the preceding Saturday. Fifteen boats turned out for the dismal conditions and patience and light air expertise became the determining factors. Many were continually disappointed by motor boat wakes and their backwards movement. After two races the series was concluded and top honors went to George Buckingham, first, Brad Wagnon, second; and Alan Fox, third.

A few weeks later, three Indiana boats represented our District in the North Americans at North Cape Yacht Club. Thanks to Brad Wagnon, Karl Suter, Greg Miles and their crews for their dedication and perseverance. We hope that their interest will spark even more participation in the future.

Wawasee Yacht Club, Fleet 154 sailed their usual season Memorial Day through Labor Day and hosted the ever popular Hoosier Regatta on October 7-8. No one was disappointed when we were greeted with winds of 10-20 mph on Saturday. Nineteen boats from across the Midwest sailed three Olympic courses the first day with past North American Champion Colin Park and John McCree dueling for first except for an unfortunate incident which caused John to remove himself from one race. On Sunday, it looked as if we would have to abandon the remaining races, but long-time WYC member Paul Penn assured us that fair winds would fill in from the northwest by 11:00 a.m. Two more races were sailed under near perfect conditions with previous winner Colin Park again on top of the fleet. Remaining silver was presented to Bill Faude, second; Steve Thomas, third; Dave Stix, fourth; and Karl Suter, fifth.

A late season district meeting was held at the Hoosier Regatta to elect a

# Central New York's Celebration of Spring

Newport Yacht Club, Rochester, New York



## The Newport Invitational Regatta June 2 - 3, 1990

Sight of the 1990 North Americans

Top Competition – 5 Race Series – Racing on Lake Ontario

For Information Call:

Dick Hallagan (315) 331-5664

Landy Atkinson (716) 436-9315

## Don't miss any of the 1990 Central New York Regattas

June 2-3	Newport Invitational	*,#	Newport YC
June 16-17	Cazenovia - CNY Districts (closed)		Willow Bank YC
July 7-8	Champagne Regatta	#	Keuka YC
July 21-22	Henderson Harbor Invitational	#	Henderson Harbor YC
July 28-29	CNY YRA - Centrals		Ithaca YC
August 11-12	Michelob Classic Regatta	%	Port Oswego YC
August 14-17	<b>North American Championships</b>		Newport YC
August 17-24			Rochester YC
Sept 8-9	Harvest Regatta	*	Silver Lake YC

# Central New York - Triple Crown

\* Central New York - Lake Erie District Challenge

% LSLS





# International Lightning Class Association

*Lake Erie District*

## 1990 DISTRICT REGATTA SCHEDULE

EVENT	HOST CLUB	DATE
SPRING DISTRICT MEETING	NIAGARA SAILING CLUB (tentative)	April 7 or 8
EBY SERIES	BUFFALO CANOE CLUB	May 12,13
#REUNION REGATTA	NEWPORT YACHT CLUB	June 2,3
CORNBALL REGATTA	CHAUTAUQUA LAKE YACHT CLUB	June 9,10
NIAGARA FRONT. INVITATIONAL	BUFFALO CANOE CLUB	June 16,17
CUBA LAKE REGATTA	CUBA LAKE YACHT CLUB	June 23, 24
CANADIAN YOUTHS	ROYAL ST. LAWRENCE Y.C.	June 23, 24
ONTARIO OPEN CHAMPS	HAMILTON YACHT CLUB	June 30, July 1
ONTARIO YOUTHS	HAMILTON YACHT CLUB	July 7,8
NIAGARA RIVER CHAMPS	NIAGARA SAILING CLUB	July 14,15
DISTRICT WOMEN AND JUNIOR CHAMPS	BUFFALO CANOE CLUB	July 19,20
<b>DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIPS</b>		<b>July 21,22</b>
ONTARIO CLASSIC (MICHELOB)	OSWEGO YACHT CLUB	August 11,12
WOMEN, JUNIOR & MASTERS	NEWPORT YACHT CLUB	August 14-17
NORTH AMERICAN	ROCHESTER YACHT CLUB	August 17-24
OLD SALTS REGATTA	BUFFALO CANOE CLUB	August 29
#*HARVEST REGATTA	SILVER LAKE YACHT CLUB	September 8,9
*HURRELL SHAKER REGATTA	BOULEVARD CLUB	September 15,16
*HAUL-OUT REGATTA	SANDY BEACH YACHT CLUB	September 22,23
TURKEY REGATTA	HAMILTON YACHT CLUB	September 29

# = LED—CNY DISTRICT CHALLENGE

\* = LED FALL CIRCUIT

## CONGRATULATIONS TO.....

Tom Allen IV and crew David Adams and Bill Pictor—1989 North American Champions



**DISTRICT JUNIOR CHAMPIONS**  
Gretchen Jehle, Greg Millar, Frank Ernst



**WOMEN'S DISTRICT CHAMPIONS**  
Susan Rogers (R) with Crew.

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

new District Commodore—congratulations to Greg Miles. Best wishes to the Suters as they leave us to transfer to Atlanta, Georgia.

In closing, the district would like to welcome our new members and encourage our "old" members to continue to promote Lightning sailing in Indiana. Congratulations to Fleet Champions Karl Suter (270) and George Buckingham (154). We would like to invite you to join us for some Hoosier Hospitality in Indianapolis on May 5-6 for the Indiana Open and again in October for the Hoosier Regatta.

## ITALIAN DISTRICT

District Commodore .....	Luigi Merola
District Secretary .....	Sergio Rustichelli
District Measurer .....	Gianni Battisti
District Champion .....	Marcello Attina
District Runner-Up .....	Giuseppe Alagna

**Fleets:** Garda (249); Marsala (449); Trasimeno (453); Flotta Del Conero (466); Flotta Del Savio (476); and Bracciano (479).

The past 1989 sailing season has been a very active and busy one for our Italian District.

Many Italian boats participated in the major championships in our area. Marcello Attina won the Italian District Championship at Lido del Savio. Italy was well represented in the European Championship in Athens where Marcello had the best finish with second place. Marcello also paced the Italian District with a fourteenth place finish in the World Championship which followed the Europeans in Greece.

We look forward to next year's season and continued success in the Italian District.



*Italian Lightning leaders all together: Sergio Rustichelli, Secretary; Luigi Merola, Commodore; Paolo Rosi, Italian Sail Federation.*

## LONG ISLAND DISTRICT

District Commodore .....	Richard Warren
District Secretary .....	Thom Hering
District Measurer .....	Gary Sortino
District Champion .....	McCann Brothers
District Runner-up .....	Thom Hering

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

The Long Island District is pleased to report another season of excellent sailing conditions and good participation. This was the second year of the L.I. Circuit Series, which had proven to be a successful idea. It is based on four District regattas on Long Island with cumulative scorekeeping (Cox/Sprague), determining the L.I.C.S. Champion at season's end. Anyone attending our regatta's is entered into the scoring system, but, must have sailed in at least 51% of the races to qualify for the championship.

The 1989 season tallied 32 different boats/skippers entered in the series, with Tim Rumph as the champ, and Thom Hering as runner-up. A special thanks goes to Lowell Copeland, our District scorekeeper and resident computer king.

The season kicked off with the Southampton Spring Invitational in early June, with Southampton Yacht Club displaying its usual warm hospitality with host names like Glanz, Warren, Rumph, etc. But the best part of the weekend were the conditions and competition. The winner was Judy Lutz and Tim Rumph was the runner-up.

The second District event was at Babylon Yacht Club for the annual Firecracker Regatta. This is certainly our most colorful gathering with 10 different one-design classes sharing the same courses in a well organized event with excellent race management. Top honors here went to the McCann boys.

The L.I. Districts has always been the peak of our season. Kudos go to Bill Weiss and Doug Meyhoefer for doing a super job at race committee, who continually monitored slight wind changes and adjusted the courses accordingly.

A special thanks also go to the Pearlman's for their annual district banquet, where everyone was treated to tubesteaks, filet hamburgers and salad. Next year the Pearlman's have already promised us filet mignons and three pound Maine lobsters!

On the water at the Districts, consistency was the name of the game. After blowing the start of the first race the McCanns fought back from DFL and finished second to Thom Hering. They went on to sweep the remaining three races to win the second District Championship in as many years. The Hering boat was runner-up with Bob Shewan winning in the protest room to secure third. Many thanks to our host club, Long Island Y.C.

Bayshore Race Week would have been a more difficult regatta for the Hering boat to win if only Adam Kohler had set his alarm clock. After missing the first start by about 15 minutes, Kohler went on to prove he "has arrived" in his new navy blue boat, 1990 will see Adam winning his share of races on Long Island.

The final District Regatta of the season has grown to be the most popular with boats outside Long Island...the Southampton Fall Classic, held the first weekend in October. With almost twenty-five boats the fleet was very fast. After a relatively light air day on Saturday, Sunday filled in with a typical L.I. 15 knot southerly by 10 A.M. The top three boats rounded out like this: 1st place - John Oldham; 2nd place - Chris Vann; 3rd place - Reiting Brothers.

For those of you who have never had the privilege of sailing the South Shore of Long Island, it is among the best conditions on the East Coast bar none. A typical day delivers a southerly of 15 knots, 5 degree shifts, and wide open deep water.

Lightning sailors have an open invitation to attend any of our regattas. Look for our ad in *Flashes* for the Southampton Spring Regatta in early June.

## METROPOLITAN DISTRICT

District Commodore .....	Mark Schneider
District Secretary .....	Ralph Wilson
District Measurer .....	Franz Schneider
District Champion .....	Jack Huntsman
District Runner-Up .....	Sandy Huntsman

**Fleets:** North Shrewsbury (11); Paupack (16); Lake Mohawk (25); Chelsea (39); High Tor (41); Red Bank (70); Nyack (75); Awosting (95); Harvey's Lake (350).

It was a good year for our district, a small district consisting of rivers and lakes. The fleet races were fun, and the regattas were a special treat for all.

As Commodore of this district what I enjoyed most this year was the participation of all the fleet members in their local races. Even if they are young in the sport, they are showing that competitive edge!

Regarding invitational regattas, our district held its share of events this year, drawing boats from the Ohio, Central New York, CT/RI, Dixie, and C.A.D. districts. It started with the Long John Regatta at Monmouth, and ended with the Last Blast Regatta at Chelsea.

Highlights were our District Championship, and the Atlantic Coast Championships. The Districts consisted of a few less boats than last year but the competition was strong. Jack Huntsman took the honors, followed by Sandy Huntsman, and Mark Schneider. With four good races, an excellent party, and okay weather, the regatta was a success.

The Atlantic Coast Championship regatta was held at a new location to Lightnings — Atlantic Highlands, New Jersey on the sound protected by Sandy Hook National Park (what a course, excellent for national regattas!). Mother nature did not provide us with the winds we all hoped for but the regatta was a success. We all had a great time thanks to our hosts Monmouth Boat Club.

The Metropolitan District had a good 1989 and are looking forward to an even better 1990. We offer the greatest combination of every type of sailing, lakes, rivers, and plenty of diversity to keep you interested for a long, long time. Come join us for our regattas and our local fleet races — look for details in future issues of *Flashes*.

## Michigan District 1990 Regatta Schedule

MAY	
19-20	Devils Lake Tune Up
JUNE	
2-3	Lake Lansing
9-10	Bay City Yacht Club
16-17	Crescent Sail Club
22-24	Districts at Higgins Lake
30-1	Lake Fenton Team Races
JULY	
7-8	Lake Macatawa
21	One Day Districts for Women & Juniors at Cass Lake
AUGUST	
4-5	Traverse City
14-24	N.A.'s Newport & Rochester Yacht Clubs
SEPTEMBER	
8-9	Pontiac Yacht Club, Cass Lake
15-16	Devils Lake 47th Annual Regatta
29	Gull Lake
29-30	Gull Lake

The Michigan District congratulates Colin Park (14384), Winner of the 1988 North Americans and Runner-Up in the 1989 N.A.'s, also winner of the 1989 Joe Strueland traveling trophy. Sean Fidler (below center with crew), Winner of the '89 Junior N.A.'s. Joe Dissette for finishing 4th in the Masters. Amy Hodgson, 1st in the Michigan Womens and 5th in the Women's N.A.'s. George Sipel, Michigan Junior Champion, John McCree, Michigan District Champion.



# SAIL

# MICHIGAN!



Michigan District Champion John McCree with crew, wife Robin and Greg Bull.

## MICHIGAN

District Commodore .....	Colin Park
District Secretary .....	Phyllis Callahan
District Measurer .....	Tom Vickers
District Champion .....	John McCree
District Runner-Up .....	Dan Norton

**Fleets:** Devils Lake (31); Crescent Sail Club (51); Lake Fenton (53); Pontiac Yacht Club (54); Higgins Lake (110); Gull Lake Yacht Club (137); Macataw Bay (204); Saginaw Bay (216); Grand Traverse Yacht Club (326); Pentwater (340); Douglas Lake (374); Lansing Sail Club (387).

Lightning sailing in the Michigan District was highlighted by good sailing against many fine sailors. Michigan was well represented at the North Americans, with Mike Dow, Dan Norton and Sean Fidler qualifying in Blue Fleet for the first time, to join Bruce Goldsmith, Garry Demarest and Colin Park. Colin later gave us all a chance to second guess his strategy, as if we each had the opportunity to let a second North American championship slip away in the last race. Sean Fidler put together a good series to win the Juniors, Joe Disette led the Masters until a tough third race, Bob Mathers was second in the Master's, 1, 2 in the Governors' fleet. Dave Decker enjoyed a good first day in the Presidents' fleet, but lost the handle.

The season started with the increasingly popular Devil's Lake spring tune-up. The name of the regatta, the rules of the game, and the guest celebrity change each year, but the fun's the same. Steve Thomas and sons Mike and Bill devised a winning strategy, taking the short course with a new skipper at the helm every other race.

The Mathers team survived to win the Father's Day Trophy at Crescent YC. George Sipel gave away a great race by slamming a death roll into the leeward mark, estimated at 6.4 on the Richter scale.

The Lake Fenton Team regatta remains a one-of-a-kind. The new three-boat format seemed to make all teams competitive, with the Bay City team somehow overcoming the absence of Colin Park to out-drift the local perennial winners to take the abbreviated series by tie-breaker. Clark and Ruth Howell deftly distracted the opponents, while Jim Schofield sailed through the fleet in the last race to carry the team.

Tawas did a great job putting together a last minute show. Bill Seaman didn't let on that he was the first of a crowd of Lightning sailors expecting a regatta until Friday night at the club bar. The locals reacted as you might expect from a club capable of hosting the North Americans, hustling up an RC and several local boats with just a few midnight calls. Those who didn't travel because the mis-informed club bartender might have denied all rumors that a regatta was scheduled, missed a weekend of perfect sailing and fine regatta management that is the hallmark of Tawas Bay.

The District Championship on Saginaw Bay drew 40 boats and many familiar faces, but turned into a playground for the youngsters. George Sipel and Sean Fidler dominated the early races, while Dan Norton slayed the fleet to win the last three races. John McCree was the only "veteran" able to pace the young hot shots, somehow staying out of trouble in all five races to win the series.

Amy Hodgson won the Women's Districts at Devil's Lake. George Sipel squeaked by Sean Fidler to win the Junior Districts.

Traverse City still gets "those who have strayed from the fold" off their J/24's to entertain those of us who make it up there. Young Tom showed us what race committee work is all about, singlehandedly raising flags, firing the shotgun, and calling Colin Park and Bill Seaman over early, with time

to motor in to pick up a sandwich before scoring the finishes.

The Higgins Lake folks made the tow over to Treasure Island worthwhile, with fine racing—in wind!! Sunday brought a rare howling northerly to the lake-of-many-drifters. We humored the RC by considering the possibility of a race, but those wearing all the warm clothes in the van were preoccupied with plans to get the boats off the anchor lines and back to the mainland with minimum numbness and maximum dryness.

We enjoyed a textbook fall series, sailing between T-storms at Pontiac, in a cool but quickly clearing drizzle at Devil's Lake, and an Indian Summer complete with geese checking out their autopilots, rustling fall colors, and acorns dropping into the boats as we put them away to end the season at Gull Lake. Sean Fidler capped a fine season by holding off Greg Fisher to win the White Cap trophy; Colin Park made a comeback in the last race to take the Devil's Lake trophy away from John McCree, and then added insult to injury by repeating at Gull Lake, with Karen Park and John's fine crew Greg Bull taking turns at the helm.

## MIDWEST DISTRICT

District Commodore .....	Bill Faude
District Secretary .....	Vernal Equinox
District Measurer .....	Mike Huffman
District Champion .....	Andy Dillon
District Runner-Up .....	Bill Faude

**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).

The Midwest District started 1989 with its annual meeting at the Milwaukee Yacht Club. Brad Read from Shore Sails gave a seminar. District Commodore Bill Faude led a discussion about race management and the scheduling of our district's regattas.

Our first on-water encounter was in June on Lake Winnebago. Host Mike Elmergreen ran the races, leaving Tryg Jacobson free to sail with Mike Huffman on Bill Faude's boat. They won four out of five races, then Elmo and Sue hosted the sailors at their Fond Du Lac retreat.

The Evans at Green Bay was cancelled due to low water in the launching area. Lake Michigan continues to drop so we have to find another way to sail in Green Bay — or get wheels for our boats.

The P & T was held the weekend after the fourth of July. Mr. Faude won on his home waters, becoming the favorite for the District Championship two weeks hence. Jacobson was second.

At this time word reached the states regarding the World Championships in Athens. Bob Smither, Ric Larson and their crews were representing our district and Ric finished a strong seventh place, we're all proud of Ric, Mary and Matt.

Back to Milwaukee for the Districts. Strong winds meant strong finishes on Friday for Mr. Faude, but the wind lightened as the weekend went on. It was Andy Dillon with brother John and Ian Nickerson as crew who finished on top, sailing a very consistent series. They were the first boat from Milwaukee Y.C. to win the Districts since 1969! Two through five were: Faude, Jacobson, Brian Phelan and Geary Gaspord.

Paul Wurtzbach won the Brotz regatta at Sheboygan. Matt Burrige travelled from St. Louis to take second and Jacobson was third.

The district sent seven boats to the North Americans: Faude, Reichelsdorfer, Gaspord, Adrian Irving, Carey Long, Chris Kronich and Hans Graf (whose dad Chris sailed in the Masters). The real story was in the Women's Championship. Karen Johnson, long-time maven of the Chicago fleet took a close third. Mom and Terrence Fox crewed, and to top that Christine Kronich of Sheboygan with Carolyn and Christine Kieffer won in their first attempt at the Women's North Americans. Our district has its first North American champ in many years!

The Adams Cup, the USYRU — sponsored national women's championship was held in Lightnings this year. Chicago Corinthian hosted the regional eliminations. Milwaukee's Karen Balistreri, Dana Cady and Liz Merrifield finished first out of seven boats.

The finals were held in Milwaukee at the end of August. The top four boats were sailed by regular Lightning sailors. A team from Buffalo won and Karen, with Vickie Matthews filling in for Dana, finished a close fourth. Vernal wishes he could have been there to watch these vixens do their things.

Both events were sailed in boats borrowed from Sheboygan, Milwaukee and Chicago sailors. Thanks guys, and to everyone else who helped make the Adams a success.

The Red Flannels was a blustery affair. Wurtzbach of the home fleet won it; visitors Burrige and Steve Thomas followed. Wurtzbach's



clinched his first LMSRF Lake Michigan championship, a three regatta series.

The Polar Bear at Davenport was also won by a local. Doug Steffenson bested Gene Matthews and Long to end our district's season.

The Midwest District is going strong with new boats and sailors appearing each year. With Commodore Faude's term coming to an end, it's time to look ahead to continue our progress.

## Mississippi Valley District

### Regatta Schedule

The Tennessean	Harbor Island, Nashville	April (To Be Determined)
The Hernando DeSoto	Lake Arkabutla, Memphis	May 19 and 20
District Championship	Lake Carlyle, Carlyle IL	June 8, 9 and 10
Intercity	Lake Decatur, Decatur IL	June 16 and 17
Junior Championship	To Be Determined	To Be Determined
The Cotton Pickin'	Lake Arkabutla, Memphis	September 29 and 30
The Impromptu	Lake Carlyle, Carlyle IL	October 6 and 7
The Bluenose	Harbor Island, Nashville	November 3 and 4

### MISSISSIPPI VALLEY DISTRICT

District Commodore	Terry Burke
District Secretary	Lynn Jones
District Measurer	Terry Burke
District Champion	Matt Burridge
District Runner-Up	Jim Ward
District Junior Champion	Peter McDonnell

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

Sailing conditions across the Mississippi Valley were excellent this year as compared with the past recent years. Activity within the district at both the fleet and regatta levels was at an all time high. Nineteen boats started out the year in Memphis at the Hernando DeSoto. Warren Lewis from Dallas won this event that had more than the usual amount of excitement when a squall line hit the race course during the second race. The sailors got soaked but managed to survive the storm and continue this successful event.

The District Championships occur early in the Mississippi Valley and thus this years event was held on June 9-11 at Harbor Island Yacht Club, Nashville, Tennessee. We hold our Districts early because traditionally there are light winds across the district during July when most districts hold their championships. Of course this year, there was hardly a whisper of a breeze on the weekend of the Districts and late June and July showed some

of the best winds of the summer. This year's Districts was a two-race event. Saturday dawned with Old Hickory Lake "flat as a pancake". We decided to hold our district meeting while we waited for a breeze to appear. Finally in the afternoon, a light shifty breeze came up long enough for two short races. Saturday night's dinner was held in the great Nashville tradition. Saturday had all the racing there was to be because on Sunday the wind never came up. All the past District Commodores present gathered on Sunday and proclaimed the two-race regatta as meaningful. The top five in order were Matt Burridge, Jim Ward, Chan Owen, Bill Baxter, and Terry Burke.

The next weekend brought the Intercity Regatta at Lake Decatur. This regatta draws boats from throughout the midwest generally highlighted by a great party on Saturday night. This year's highlight was final race finishes: Gerry Paoli had three bullets, Matt Burridge had three seconds, and of course Greg Florian had three thirds.

At the Districts, many of the younger sailors got together and determined that there was enough interest to hold a Junior Championship in July at Arkabutla Lake (Memphis fleet). Seven boats representing three fleets gathered on July 15-16. Five races were held in light but steady breeze. The top three skippers were Peter McDonnell, Jim Renschen and Stacy Heisler.

North Cape had successes from the district including Gerry Paoli's third place finish in the President's Cup, Don Sherburne's third and Lal Burridge's seventh place in the Masters'.

The 6th annual Muddy Rudder was held on September 9-10. Nineteen boats came to enjoy five races on the scenic Mississippi river at Alton Lake.

Rick Conaway became the first local member to win the regatta (come to next year's regatta on September 8-9). Memphis fleet's Cotton Pickin' Regatta was held on September 23-24 with good strong winds on both days. Bill Hofmeister was the winner followed by Cully Ward and Crit Currie. Carlyle's Impromptu Regatta was held on the following weekend which brought 21 Lightnings and 4 Finns to Lake Carlyle. Races were tight in light winds. Auggie Paoli won followed closely by Cully Ward and Matt Burridge.

There probably is no better way to finish off a sailing season than sailing with some of the best at Nashville's Bluenose Regatta held this year on November 4-5. Nearly sixty boats showed up for one or more exciting events of the year. Racing conditions were great on Saturday and Sunday's sailing was in nearly blasting conditions that created a grave yard at the jibe marks. This year's event was won by Mark Bryant followed by Greg Fisher and Brad Read.

Well it is now at a season's end. It was a successful year. We are working to make next year even better.

### NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT

District Commodore	Patrick MacQueen
District Secretary	Curtis Felix
District Measurer	Don Brush
District Champion	Bruce Atkinson
District Runner-Up	Curt Felix
Junior Champion	Josh Adams
Junior Runner-Up	Chris Wright

**Fleets:** Centerboard Yacht Club (14); Newburyport (121); Spofford Yacht Club (145); Annisquam Yacht Club (151); Marblehead Harbor (189); Bomoseen Lake Y.C. (227); Massabesic Yacht Club (273); Chequesset (280); Lake Champlain (301); Squam Lake (332); Androskoggin Lightning Fleet (450); Bow Lake Lightning Fleet (493).

As is tradition, 1989 started off with the Champlain Regatta at Mallet's Bay. This was won by a Canadian fellow by the name of Peter Hall from Montreal. Lot of nerve beating up on us like that. Local Don Brush was second and Stu Nickerson third. Next followed the Maple Syrup at a blustery Bomoseen. George Deyett took the Jug at this beautiful regatta with Curt Felix and Bruce Atkinson second and third, respectively. We were all expecting a new arrival, but it was not to be. Baby girl 'Sidney' decided to do it her way and took her good ol' time in presenting herself to Ray and Toni Harrington. Congratulations!

Provincetown out on the tip of the Cape was the first leg of our district's new New England District Lightning Circuit Championship. Stu Nickerson won this event with Kip Hamblet second and Eric Cutting third. P-town is worth the trip for the hospitality alone not to mention the great sailing. The second leg of the Circuit Championship was next with quite a few stories coming back about the changing places going on all over the lake. Again wiley sailor George Deyett came out on top with John Hughes

and Jeff Wright second and third.

The New England Districts were held at Annisquam in Gloucester, Mass. The air was on the light and variable side but the competition was great. Bruce Atkinson became our District Champion in the end beating Curt Felix out in a tie-breaker. Congratulations Bruce and Curt! We then had a three way tie for third between Eric Cutting, Georges Peter, and Kip Hamblet. It took several rounds with the ILCA rules and great scholarship to break this one. It was done though leaving Eric, Georges, and Kip in that order.

We have combined our Juniors and Master's championships which were held at Massabesic. Saturday was fairly blustery while Sunday was lighter. Josh Adams of Wellfleet did a superb job in becoming the Junior's Champ with Chris Wright of Bomoseen and Michelle Deyett of Massabesic second and third. The Senior's Champ was Ray Harrington Sr. with Ray Jr. and Toni as crew. Sidney waited patiently on shore. Walter Colantuono and Norm Deyett rounded out second and third.

The tune-up for the North Americans was the Wellfleet regatta. This regatta marked by heavy air was won by co-skippers Christy Jones and Stu Nickerson with John Hughes and C.B. Currier second and third. The North Americans at North Cape were well represented by district sailors Don Brush, Curt Felix, Bill Fastiggi, and Kip Hamblet.

The last leg of our Circuit Championship was held at Squam Lake. In heavy air on Saturday and lighter air on Sunday, John Hughes, Eve, Shelley, and Brian (4?) proved their consistent mettle winning both the regatta and the Circuit Championship having garnered a fourth at P-town and a second at Androscoggin. Congratulations to the Hughes for being the first with the consistency to stop this series.

The Massabesic regatta was held with all the usual flair but a little lacking in air. Only one race could be mustered and that was a drifter. District Champ Bruce Atkinson won that and the regatta. Ray Harrington took second and Brian Hughes third.

As always the season finale was held at Spofford Lake. Because of 'Hugo' attendance was down, but those who had faith were treated to good (but not hurricane) air on both days, not to mention the chicken 'n ribs. Stranger Stu Nickerson took his trophy again with Don Brush and Kip Hamblet second and third. As usual the season went too quickly, but we can look forward to a brand new season next year.

## OHIO DISTRICT

District Commodore .....	Bertie Werley
District Secretary .....	Jake Rider
District Measurer .....	Ralph Powless
District Champion .....	Greg Fisher
District Runner-Up .....	Dick Pugh

**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 had one of its most exciting seasons ever, not only with its district regattas, but also as the hosts of the 1989 NA's.

Our season began in early February with our winter meeting, graciously hosted by Greg Fisher at the Fisher Sails loft. Special thanks to Karl Ericson who provided the "How It's Done" Tour before hand. Planning for the NA's dominated the agenda, as we began finalizing the tricky coordination effort required to host the NA's on a district-wide basis. Members young and old contributed to the meeting (including young Ryan, actively contributing to the demise of the deli lunch)!

One of the Ohio District's greatest strengths is the closeness of its members. As a district, we believed that it was time for us to step forward and "take a turn" at hosting the NA's. We also felt that hosting the NA's would be a good experience for us by boosting interest and participation and allowing some of our members who'd never been to a North American Championship the chance to be a part of it all.

The North Americans was, therefore, a truly district-wide event, with members of nearly all of our yacht clubs actively participating in the planning, execution and competition of the event. Coming together from literally all corners of the state (and Pennsylvania!), each club pitched in and shared in the work, the fun and the learning experience that comes with hosting an event of this kind.

When all was said and done, 47 boats competed in the Womens/Masters/Juniors, and 110 boats competed in the North Americans. Key to the success of it all, along with the dedication of the members of our District, was the extraordinary effort put forth by North Cape Yacht Club. Bill Rogge, Skip McCullough, Mike Comer and their

# NEW ENGLAND LIGHTNING DISTRICT

## 1990 SCHEDULE

June 2-3	Champlain, Mallet's Bay	Burlington, VT
June 9-10	PROVINCETOWN*	Provincetown, MA
June 16-17	Maple Leaf Classic	Bomoseen, VT
July 7-8	ANDROSCOGGIN*	Wayne, ME
July 13-15	DISTRICTS	Mallet's Bay, VT
July 28-29	JUNIORS/MASTERS	Squam Lake, NH
August 11-12	Wellfleet	Wellfleet, MA
August 25	BOW LAKE*	Bow Lake, NH
Sept. 8-9	NH/VT Championship—	
	Massabesic Lake	Manchester, NH
Sept. 22-23	Spofford Lake	Spofford, NH

\*NEW ENGLAND LIGHTNING CIRCUIT CHAMPIONSHIP

many co-workers from North Cape were marvelous hosts and wonderful workers.

Special thanks go to many folks... some very familiar names and some not so familiar. The Powless Family, the Pugh Family, the Fisher Families, the Clippes, the Werleys, the Colliers, the Jestels, the Caleys, the Frymiers and many more all deserve a special vote of thanks.

Also, thanks to the club members who continue, year after year, to sponsor and support our district regattas. The Governors' Cup Series, made up of Pymatuning's Spring Classic, St. Mary's Thundermug, Leatherlips' Windshift, Atwood Lake's Harvest Moon and Cowan Lake's Fall-In, is the five-regatta circuit which is the lion's share of our District schedule. Congratulations to this year's Governor's Cup Trophy winner Tom Varley. In addition, the CYC Lightning fleet continues to build, and this past year's CYC regatta was complete with a pig roast! Put-In-Bay's Race Week Steeplechase offered a true cliff-hanger — after five hours of racing, the winning margin of John Mueller over Ken Irwin was less than one boat length! And the traditional Snowball Regatta at Buckeye Lake rounds out our season of sailing.

Our District Championship was held this year at Pymatuning Yacht Club. Congratulations to our District Champion this year, Greg Fisher, followed by Dick Pugh, George Fisher, David Werley and Robert Thompson. Also congratulations to John Werley, this year's winner of our Sportsmanship Trophy. A special note of thanks to Rob Ruhlman (GT Sails) and Greg Fisher (Fisher Sails), who provided high tech duffle bags and a Lightning jib, respectively, as raffle give-aways for the participants. Keep that in mind, Ohio Sailors, as you're planning your regatta traveling schedule for next year!

This season offered the very best of Lightning sailing experiences — strong local racing, a warm and friendly regatta circuit offering all varieties of wind and water, and a memorable learning experience with the North Americans, both on and off the water. Hopefully we'll remember all we learned next season.... And don't forget — Rochester in 1990!

## PACIFIC NORTHWEST DISTRICT

District Commodore .....	Bruce Deitz
District Measurer .....	Dave Hickman
District Champion .....	Eric Lindahl
District Runner-Up .....	Bruce Dietz
Circuit Champion .....	Bob Bazett
Circuit Runner-Up .....	Bruce Deitz

**Fleets:** Maple Bay (64); Chinook (229); Columbia (283); Okanagan (368), Seattle (132).

All roads don't lead to Seattle, but for the last several years the Seattle Circuit Regatta (the Seattle Corinthian Yacht Club's Annual Fleet Championship Regatta) has been the showdown regatta of the year. This year was no exception — going into the regatta (the last circuit regatta of the year) four skippers were tied for first, all with three points: Gerry Neuburger, with a first at Kitsilano and a second at Klamath Falls; Verson Pandian, with a first at Klamath Falls and a second at his home Regatta in Eugene; Bob Bazett with a first at the Kelowna Regatta and a second at Kitsilano; and Bruce Deitz, with a first in Eugene and a second at Vancouver Lake. Others trailing by just a point or two were Lisa Parshley, John DeBenedett, and Phil Parshley. Unlike the past few years the weather was terrible, rain and no wind, but the race committee did manage to get one race off which was won by Phil Parshley followed by Bob Bazett giving Bob the circuit trophy. The final standings were: Bob Bazett - five; Bruce Deitz - six; Gerry Neuburger - seven; Phil Parshley — seven; Lisa Parshley — eight.

The Districts were sailed in Seattle this year in conjunction with Seattle Corinthian's Summer Olympic Regatta. The CYC race committee was extremely cooperative, ensuring that we started well behind, or in front of, other fleets so that we were not impacted. They also stayed on station for a sixth race on Sunday to ensure that we would have a throw-out. Racing was extremely close. Going into the last race any of the following skippers had a

## 1990 OHIO DISTRICT REGATTA SCHEDULE

Winter Meeting & Seminar		February 17
Spring Classic*	Pymatuning Y.C.	May 12-13
Windshift Regatta*	Leatherlips Y.C.	June 9-10
<b>District Championship</b>	<b>Undetermined</b>	<b>TBA</b>
Independence Day Regatta	Pymatuning Y.C.	June 31, July 1
C.Y.C. Regatta	Cleveland Y.C.	July 28-29
Harvest Moon*	Atwood Lake Y.C.	September 8-9
Snowball Regatta	Buckeye Lake Y.C.	October 13-14
Fall-In Regatta*	Cowan Lake S.A.	October 20-21

\*Sailing 3 of 4 qualifies for Ohio Governor's Cup Series

shot at winning — Eric Lindahl, Phillip Parshley, John DeBenedetti, and Bruce Deitz. Eric Lindahl sailed very consistently to win his fourth Districts in the last eight years.

Dave Hickman, John DeBenedetti, and Bruce Deitz travelled to San Francisco Bay's Richmond Yacht Club for the Pacific Coast Championships last September. All skippers and crew heartily praised RYC's race committee and the efforts of the San Francisco Bay fleet, particularly Bruce and Sue Arnold, for putting on a fantastic regatta. We all went expecting at least 15 knots of wind and sunshine. We got the 15 knots and more on Sunday, but no sunshine. We, of course, were accused of bringing the rain with us and more than one of us wishes there had been a throw-out...

## SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT

District Commodore .....	Clayton Rumble
District Secretary .....	Timothy Hagen
District Measurer .....	Bill Sloger, Jr.
District Champion .....	Will Sloger
District Runner-Up .....	Lenny Krawcheck

**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 1989 Southeastern District circuit was comprised of 12 regattas held at various clubs in our three state district from April through October, some of which are Lightning only invitationals, the others being multi-class regattas. This year nine boats qualified for the season championship by sailing in at least six regattas. In order of finish they are: Lenny Krawcheck, Bill and Will Sloger, Bob Harkrider, Clay Rumble, Gil Klemann, John Pelosi, Tom Hudgens, Tim Hagen, and Bob Wilkins. Through Commodore Clay Rumble's help the district was able to raise additional funds from advertising in our district newsletter, *The Spinnaker Sheet* (a special thank you to all advertisers that helped us), which provided us to present beautiful trophies to skipper and crew for this year's qualifiers.

In keeping with Southeastern District tradition, the Augusta Sailing Club was proud to host our first regatta on April 22-23. Sixteen boats arrived for what turned out to be a beautiful weekend to renew our sailing spirits. Light to moderate winds all weekend provided us a great opportunity to get back in the swing of things. Lenny Krawcheck sailed a consistent four race series and took the accolades in this first district event.

The following week the Knoxville fleet sailed their Dutch Treat Regatta in which the Lightnings teamed up with Windmills. The weekend turned out to be a very enjoyable one with eight to fifteen knot winds and a steak dinner and keg party Saturday night. Jonathon Lange finished first showing that local knowledge does provide an edge.

On May 6-7 district sailors found out what heavy air sailing was all about. High Rock Lake was located in the middle of a tornado that passed through North Carolina that weekend. Saturday, as we ventured our way out to the starting line, the racing was cancelled due to torned watches in the area. Some of the fleet made it back to the dock while other had to hide in coves waiting for the storm to pass over. Sunday's racing was sailed in much lighter(?) conditions, but it still provided planing conditions on main and jib alone. When the scores were finally totalled up, local sailor Gordon Kellog took home the honors.

The Western Carolina Open was held the following week bringing nice winds on Saturday, but ghosting conditions on Sunday. Bob Harkrider claimed two wins that weekend; first being crowned the new champion of our unofficial bowling tournament held annually at Hartwell Lake (in which can provide some hilarious entertainment and great laughs, especially if you are bowling with Bennie Moultrie), and secondly winning the regatta with his consistent finishes.

Following a short layoff, fourteen boats showed up to attend the Bottoms Up Regatta at Lake Murray, our annual event with the Thistles. With a couple of great starts in the regatta, Will Sloger came up as a winner in the moderate winds that we were provided over the two days.

Our District Championship was held the following week, June 9-11 in the fishing village of Oriental, NC. The regatta was sponsored by the Raleigh fleet who once again did a wonderful job, on and off the water. Twenty-one boats came to compete for the district title, only to find Friday's racing cancelled due to 40 mph winds. Friday then turned into one big Lightning

party with plenty of beer drinking, story telling, more boat preparation and tuning, and frisbee football games. Saturday we awoke to conditions that were near perfect; 10 to 12 mph with smooth seas. As the day progressed it became evident that the right side was favored. Will Sloger obviously figured this out to claim two bullets and a second to lead the championship after the day's racing. Our final day brought heavier winds and great planing conditions. Lenny Krawcheck put up a strong challenge by finishing with two bullets for himself, but it was Sloger who sailed two consistent races to win the District Championship by a single point.

The following week we went back to lake sailing at the Governor's Cup in Raleigh, NC. This weekend was an exciting one for district sailors. We learned how to sail a Lightning both on and off the water. Greg and Matt Fishes were on hand to conduct a racing clinic the day before. The two brothers, with Matt skippering, then went out and took three bullets to win the regatta.

Ten Lightnings attended the Beaufort Open ready to try and tame the tricky tides of the river. Light breezes and incoming tides make for some frustrating sailing, but Lenny Krawcheck handled it well finishing first.

Charleston, S.C. was the sight of our next regatta, the SAYRA Inshore Championship. Only five boats were in attendance for this regatta as most of us were attending the nuptials for Sharon and Bob Harkrider. (Congratulations to you both!) The weekend provided great sailing conditions with steady 12 to 15 mph winds and long championship courses. Lenny Krawcheck used his home town knowledge and was able to capture first place.

The month of August arrived which meant North Americans. The Southeastern District sent six boats this year and had some of the best results ever. Lenny Krawcheck sailed a great series, which included finishes of a first and second, to finish fifth in the Championship fleet. John McIntosh also made the Championship fleet after a "tough-luck" Masters regatta. Congratulations to you both for sailing a fine regatta.

The stronger fall winds brought our District circuit back and seventeen boats arrived at Waccamaw for the Lightning Invitational. For the second year in a row light air was the norm all weekend long which allowed us to only get two races in. Will Sloger showed us his light air techniques to win the regatta with two first place finishes.

The following week was the Columbia regatta. After a mix up in the regatta dates was settled only five boats showed up for what turned out to be one of our best weekends with nice steady breezes and great race committee work. Lenny Krawcheck showed us the way around the race course finishing first.

As usual our last chance for glory was in the Atlanta Cup regatta. This year's regatta was sailed in very heavy rain on both Saturday and Sunday. Fortunately there was enough wind that was steady in both velocity and direction to provide for some exciting tactical racing. For the second year in a row it was worth the long trip Fisk Hayden made from Orlando as he won another Atlanta Cup.

Well, even though we are trying to get over our post district circuit blues, the new season is only a short while away. Our newly elected district officers, Commodore John Pelosi and Secretary/Treasurer Clay Rumble promise us even more fun for the 1990 season. So make a commitment to come out to a handful of regatta, you'll be glad you did. Look for the Southeastern District schedule in future issues of *Flashes*.



Crowded leeward mark action in a Southeastern District circuit regatta.



## SOUTHERN DISTRICT

District Commodore ..... Cal Herman  
 District Secretary ..... Roger Evans  
 District Measurer ..... John "Buck" Ballatin  
 District Champion ..... Larry Frost  
 Runner-Up ..... John A. "Buck" Ballatin

**Fleets:** Mobile Bay (135); Shreveport Yacht Club (175); New Orleans Yacht Club (209).

The 1989 season began with a very successful Sugar Bowl Regatta on New Year's weekend in New Orleans.

The area Lightning's met for the first time in a number of years on Lake Charles, LA for the Contrahand Days Regatta where everyone enjoyed a festive Cochon De Lait (that's a pig roast for all y'all north of the bayou's). Everyone had a great time.

The Districts were held at Southern Yacht Club in New Orleans. Larry Frost walked away with a convincing victory leaving the real contest for the runner up position.

The Sugar Bowl Regatta will again be held New Year's Eve weekend, December 30-31. Call Cal Herman 1-800-535-9747 for more info!!



The winning team at the European Championship: (l to r) Walter Durr, Beat Gasser, and skipper Urs Wyler.

## SWISS DISTRICT

District Commodore ..... Gilbert Despland  
 District Secretaries Kathy Herzog/Stephan Scharer  
 District Measurer ..... Urs Wyler  
 District Champion ..... Urs Wyler  
 District Runner-Up ..... Christoph Luthy

**Fleets:** Lac de Neuchatel (169); Sempachersee/Hall-Wilersee (250); Greifensee (309); Murtensee (358).

The highest point of this season for our District is the victory of Urs Wyler and his crew at the European Championships in Athens. Congratulations!

This year there was no Swiss participation at the traditional Winter Championship at Marsala. It's a shame, we hope that we will have a revival of youth for 1990. We started our season in April at Beinwil on the Lake of Hallwil. Only six boats participated in the four race series with very shifty winds. Urs Wyler was the winner with Hasu Schmid in second. This was followed by the Swiss District Championships held on Lake of Sempach. The conditions were very good and we were able to sail six races in only two days. Unfortunately, only seven boats attended the regatta. Urs Wyler was once again victorious, placing ahead of Luthy and Scharer. The event was topped off with a wonderful awards banquet. In June we had the Pfauen Cup on Lake Murten. Eight boats sailed two races with Wyler first and Scharer second.

During the summer, four of our representatives went to Athens to participate in the European and World Championships, which was raced in Phaleron Bay. With a super series Urs Wyler with his crew, Walter Durr and Beat Gasser, won the European Championship. The other boats did not finish among the leaders, but enjoyed it very much.

In autumn we had very nice weather in Switzerland, but just no wind. We

therefore couldn't sail "Criterium Aventure" and the "Fonduregatta" at Nuenburh. In Fallanden on Lake Greifensee we have only three boats. The general meeting from Fleet 309, resulted in a decision to dissolve this fleet. This seems to be the problem for our district, the activity is going more and more down. We have no builder in our country, so nobody buys new Lightnings.

We invite you all to La Neuveville on the Lake of Biene July 7-14 for the European Championship of 1990. Come one and all, the atmosphere will be great.

## TEXAS DISTRICT

District Commodore ..... John B. Waskom, III  
 District Secretary ..... Janelle Garrett  
 District Measurer ..... Dr. Sylvan Newman  
 District Champion ..... Warren Lewis  
 District Runner-Up ..... Rick Tears

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

The news for the 1989 year for the Texas District was highlighted by our District Regatta in June. The winds were very shifty all weekend, but we had more air than usual for the summer. Warren Lewis and crew Kurt Schuler and Suzie Thompson won the five race regatta as reported in the August *Flashes*.

Fleet 35 had four boats go to the Holiday In Dixie Regatta in Shreveport, and Ralph Bilnoski from Fleet 35 took the first place trophy. Warren Lewis from Fleet 435 took home the first place trophy again at the Memphis Regatta in May.

An important event for us was the Adams Cup (USYRU Women) eliminations. The Texas Yachting Association races were held in June at Rush Creek YC and Fleet 435 provided assistance in rigging, repairing broken equipment in the 25 mph winds, and in race duty. Then in July the Area F eliminations were also sailed at RCYC in our boats.

Fleet 35 and 435 will report more detail on their activities in their separate reports.

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### TROPHIES

First thru Fifth

Skipper  
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Oswego, NY - August 1989.

1989 MICHELOB LIGHTNING CLASSIC - 60 Boats -

Oswego Yacht Club, on Lake Ontario at Oswego New York, hosted the best attended Lightning Class regatta held in the United States in 1989. Excluding official Lightning Class Championship events, the sixty boat turnout marked the 2nd consecutive year the Michelob Lightning Classic has been the best attended U.S. regatta.

Crews from Canada, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New Hampshire, Vermont, Connecticut, Ohio and Massachusetts joined New Yorkers from the CNY and Lake Erie Districts to form the large fleet.

With the 1990 North Americans scheduled to be sailed on Lake Ontario at nearby (one hour) Rochester, NY beginning the week after the 1990 Michelob Classic, Classic organizers are hoping to attract new competitors to Oswego to join the existing fleet in a competitive tuneup that will be sailed in almost identical open water conditions.



### Call for Information:

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Bill Pirillo 315-342-4887  
Joe McCloskey 343-4051



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