

CEDAR POINT YACHT CLUB (126) **Connecticut-Rhode Island District** **Sailing on Long Island Sound** **at Westport, Connecticut**

Fleet Captain..... Gianni Cuccio
 Fleet Secretary..... James DeCesare
 Fleet Champion..... Gianni Cuccio
 Runner-Up..... Richard Thackaberry

Skipper	Boat Name	Boat No.
David Dellenbaugh	Fob	0
Thomas Hagan	.....	0
Fergus Henderson	Silver	0
Thomas Ingram	.....	0
Philip Lotz	.....	0
Edson White	Entropy	0
Charles Simonds	Uncle Mills	6350
Scott Evans	Crescit Eundo	10383
Gavin Watson	Cygnus	11097
Richard Thackaberry	Ol' Blue	11385
Bud Titsworth	Tnt	11486
Cary Shaw	.....	12119
John Stewart	.....	1285
Steven Wexler	Lloyd	13056
Stephen Nosal	.....	13708
James De Cesare	Dates From Hell	13708
John Cuccio	G.T.O.	13871
Christopher Miller	.....	14030
Kjell Heitmann	Warp 9	14238
Dave Curtis	Palindrome	14441
Jody Lutz	Palindrome	14441
Jim Crane	Cat	14572
Charles Proctor	.....	14591
Thomas Glynn	.....	14630
Whit Batchelor	.....	14646

The season of '95 will be remembered for the successful restructuring of our racing schedule and individual excellence. Fleet 126, like many other fleets and yacht clubs, has faced a gradual decline in membership. Cedar Point Yacht Club decided to run its one design racing on Saturdays as a multi-race day in an attempt to maximize the number of competitors on the race course. The change was an overall success. In previous years 3-4 boats were seen on the starting line each weekend day. This summer we averaged 6-8 boats.

With more boats on the line, competition increased. Gianni Cuccio continued to dominate by winning the Vice Commodore's Cup over Memorial Day Weekend. He would continue to win all the club's major regattas and repeat as fleet champion. Lightning veteran Dick Thackaberry had a strong season and often exchanged leads with Gianni. Dick and wife Kathy in their beautifully restored Allen #11385 held on to second place overall and placed in every club regatta. Bud Titsworth rounded out the top three of Fleet 126. He placed third in the July 4th Commodore's Cup and throughout the season had excellent speed in heavy air. Dick Price once again demonstrated the meaning of sportmanship. Despite having to use the fleet boat when his own #11381 needed extensive repairs to the hull midway through the season, Dick was probably the most consistent competitor.

The racing format change allowed Steve Wexler to be seen with regularity. Steve challenged fleet leaders Gianni and Dick

and sailed his way into the second position on percentage points. In the end, he was four races short of qualifying. Tom Glynn, a relatively new Lightning owner, also showed speed by capturing a third Memorial Day weekend and a second on Labor Day Weekend. New fleet member and Lightning owner, Chris Miller, #14030, is proof that the Lightning Class will continue to grow and attract excellent people. Chris continued to improve throughout the season by competing at home and on the circuit. By the end of the season he had caught up to the leaders and finished in the top 50% at the Last Chance Regatta in Nyack.

On the Lightning circuit Cedar Pointers continued to show their strength. Two time defending North American Champion, Ched Proctor continued his winning ways. David Peck racing primarily out of Niantic, also showed his boat speed at various regattas. Gianni Cuccio took home a third in the Long John Regatta, a sixth in the hotly contested Connecticut-Rhode Island District Championship, and an impressive 27th in the Blue fleet at the National Championships.

If you are looking for great competition in an idyllic setting for racing Lightnings check out Fleet 126. We hope to see you May 18-19 at our Early Bird Regatta. Our Fall Classic will be September 14-15, join us! - - - Steve Wexler

SAVANNAH LIGHTNING FLEET (127) **Southeastern District** **Sailing on the Wilmington River** **at Bradley Point, Savannah, Georgia**

Fleet Captain John McIntosh, Sr.
 Fleet Secretary Kathryn O. McIntosh
 Fleet Treasurer Neff McIntosh
 Fleet Champion John McIntosh, Sr..
 Runner-Up Neff McIntosh

No new information.

Skipper	Boat Name	Boat No.
Wallace Aggett - Life	.....	0
John McIntosh, Sr. - Life	Red Boat	13911
Neff McIntosh	.....	14622
No report.		

MADISON BEACH CLUB (129) **Connecticut-Rhode Island District** **Sailing on Long Island Sound** **at Madison, Connecticut**

Fleet Captain..... James R. Deepphouse
 Fleet Secretary..... Timothy McG. Millhiser
 Fleet Champion..... Tim Millhiser
 Runner-Up..... Leighton Lee

Skipper	Boat Name	Boat No.
Tom Crowley	Southern Cross	9011
James Deepphouse	Early Times	11207
John Ronshagen	P.F.D.	11773
Michael Sulzbach	Rosie	11933
Harmon Leete	Moonshine	13230
Alex Ross	.....	13575
Timothy Millhiser	S.S. Oshpoodle	14342
Leighton Lee	Static	14441
Steven Adkins	Whits End	14624
	.....	→ please

It was a great season. We started out hosting the Districts with 27 boats. In the two days, we had everything from the Long Island Sound drifter (briefly, thankfully) until the southerly sea breeze filled to a breezy northly with all its shifts. Bill Shore showed us how it is done. We had a great time hosting and look forward to the next time.

Our Sunday races usually got nine boats out and that was often without the defending champion John Ronshagen. Unfortunately, he was stretched out as our Commodore and father of two mini sailors. Tim Millhiser won the series; second went to Leighton Lee in his newly acquired boat. It is good to see his wife and crew smiling again in their nice new boat. Chuck Poindexter was right behind in third. - - Tim Millhiser



Photo: Fleet 129

1995 Fleet 129 Champion Tim Millhiser sailing in front of the club house.

SEATTLE LIGHTNING FLEET (132) Pacific Northwest District Sailing on Shilshole Bay at Seattle, Washington

Fleet Secretary.....Alan Hunt
No new information

Skipper	Boat Name	Boat No.
Tom Foulds	Scarecrow	0
Ronald Morse	Skal	8122
William Cabral	Blue Moon	11457
Alan Hunt	Are We Having Fun Yet?	11636
David Estroff	Off Call III	11873
Eric Lindahl	.....	13242
Kenneth Dunkelberg	Wheaties	13704
Tom Anderson	Lunatic Fringe	14246
No report.		

MOBILE BAY FLEET (135) Southern District Sailing on Mobile Bay at Mobile, Alabama

Fleet Secretary..... L. M. Bohnenkamp

Skipper	Boat Name	Boat No.
Robert Bernhardt, Jr.	Captain Crunch	10812
Robert Borneman	Sun Kiss II	12956
Dr. Russell March, Jr.	Bigeminy III	13060
Nick Blakeney	Dulcinea	13200
John Bohnenkamp	.....	14136
L.M.(Mitch) Bohnenkamp	Bohdacious	14136

Fleet 135 enjoyed a good year, with a new owner, Dennis Hermecz, as well as a new boat purchased by Robert Bernhardt. Dennis had crewed for Robt. Jeffcott as a young man on 8365 which he is restoring and reliving some fond memories. He sailed in the Wadewitz Regatta in the Fall and took a well sailed fourth.

Mitch Bohnenkamp won the Buccaneer Yacht Club Spring Regatta while Robert Bernhardt was second. Robert and Mitch sailed in the Districts in New Orleans with a second, and third respectively. The Gulf Yachting Championship was blown away by one of this year's numerous hurricanes, but we all agreed that it was the best regatta of the year. The party that is! We resailed the regatta in September on Lake Pontchartrain where Bernhardt enjoyed second, Bill Culberson a third, and Mitch Bohnenkamp a fourth. We finished our season in October with the Wadewitz Regatta at Fairhope Y.C. where Robt. Bernhardt won the last race to take first in the regatta over John Bohnenkamp. Seven boats sailed including two from New Orleans. - - Mitch Bohnenkamp

GULL LAKE YACHT CLUB (137) Michigan District Sailing on Gull Lake at Richland, Michigan

Fleet Secretary.....Thomas Hudson
No new information

Skipper	Boat Name	Boat No.
Carl Engels	Juju VI	0
David Watt	.....	0
Ron Ryan	.....	13293
Peter Woodruff	.....	14241
David Decker	.....	14474
Thomas Hudson	Be Calm	14712

The sailing action for the members of the Gull Lake fleet had spent most of their time roving thirteen different regattas hosted by other fleets. At their annual fall regatta, in which the winds became extremely (!) strong, two-thirds+ of the twenty-seven boat fleet took an unexpected swim. - - Tom Hudson



1995 Beautiful Gull Lake Regatta winners:
Colin and Karen Park (and Glen Hallett)

Among the first on the water Sunday, Colin and crew practiced capsizing. It was noticed but it did not deter anyone from going out..
Oh, boy!

The Beautiful Gull Lake Regatta

Fleet 137 - Richland, Michigan



2nd Place

Jim Allen, Becky Nelson and Jane Allen



3rd Place

Dave Corcoran, John McCree and their fill-in crew from Pontiac



4th Place

Craig Cobburn, Ryan Miller and Ned Merrick



5th Place

Diana Fernando, Eric Fernando and Dave Rink



6th Place

George Nickels, Meaghan Kyrolainen and Jim Reach



7th Place

Chris Jacobson, Scott Hopin and Tom Stegink

Photos: Tom Hudson

PLAN Ahead

Who will:

go through the Constitution and By-Laws for a fleet meeting; see that \$25 fleet dues are paid;
strive to see that ILCA dues are paid by all boats and crews;
take photos of fleet activity; of regatta activity; donate some for district report;
write an article - humorous, tactical, etc., special interest - send May-Oct. 1;
write the annual report of 1996 season, including officers;
see that the annual report and photos are sent during Oct. 1;
double check with district officers to see if the district report is written and sent during Nov. 1 ?

SPOFFORD LAKE FLEET (145)
New England District
Sailing on Lake Spofford
at Spofford, New Hampshire

Fleet Captain..... Fred Turner
 Fleet Secretary..... Patrick MacQueen
 Fleet Champions..... David Fitch
 No new information

Skipper	Boat Name	Boat No.
Raymond Fitzpatrick	.....	10254
Frederick Turner, Jr.	Smurf'n' Along	11210
Randal Locke	.....	12362
David Fitch	Three Cheers	13835
Thomas Fitch	Three Cheers	13835
Christopher (Kip) Hamblet	.....	14446
Fred Hamblet - Life	.....	14446
No report.		

TORONTO BAY LIGHTNING FLEET (146)
Lake Erie District
Sailing on Lake Ontario
at Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Fleet Secretary..... Brian Curtner
 No new information

Skipper	Boat Name	Boat No.
J.R.G. Bleasby - Life	.....	0
P.E. Sulman	Pampero	11177
Peter Willings	Splash Gordon	12246
Yvette Willings	Splash Gordon	12246
Stewart Sprague	In Lieu	14174
David Sprague - Life	In Lieu	14174
Brian Curtner	Flat Out	14347
Allan Leibel	.....	14479
John Gorrie	.....	14483
James Gorrie	.....	14483
No report.		

SÃO PAULO FLEET (147)
Brazil District
Sailing on Lake Guarapiranga
at São Paulo, Brazil

Fleet Captain..... Peter Zacher

Skipper.	Boat Name	Boat No.
Carlos Biekarck	Perereca	0
Anton Kittler	Perereca	0
George Sulzbeck	Meia Noite IV	0
Joao De Deus Assis Filho	.....	3090
Romeo Ragusin	Iris	6591
Antonio Villanueva	Flamingo	11041
Pedro Alberto Serpe Neto	Ciranda	11708
Willi Carlos Tietze	Canarinho	11709
Dietmar Heydenreich	Irema	11710
Peter Zacher	Irema	11710
Frederico Perego Costa	Goiabada	11721
Carlos Richard Prado	Scambau	12254
Francisco Del Re Netto	Perkeo	12407

Hugo Richter	Xiriana	12472
Juan Jose Ramos De La Fuente	Abuelo	12513
Bertel Bojlesen	Foxfire	12524
Karin Thielemann	Foxfire	12524
Xavier Gouveia Thielemann	Foxfire	12524
Claudio Biekarck	Phreskura	14203
Luciano Cesar Grassano Borges	.....	14335
Fernando Ricardo Hackerott	.....	14596
Bruno Ruthenberg	.....	14596
Ricardo Perego Costa	Diners Club Int	14596
No report.		



Photo: Tore Schjeldsoe
 Robert Buckup, BRA 11709, in a gust during the São Paulo State Championships at Guarapiranga Lake in São Paulo

MANSFIELD SAILING CLUB (150)
Ohio District
Sailing on Clearfork Reservoir
at Lexington (Mansfield), Ohio

Fleet Captain..... Augie Bales
 Fleet Secretary..... William Woodrow
 Fleet Champion..... Augie Bales
 Runner-Up..... William Woodrow

Skipper	Boat Name	Boat No.
Chandler Stevens	.....	6944
Rick Fox	Blew-Bye-U	7785
William Woodrow	Wiki-Wiki	9581
Donald Walter	Merrimax	10047
Augustus Bales	Close To The Edge	13485

Fleet 150 continued to prosper in 1995. We added two members, one new and one veteran, to bring our fleet to eleven boats, nine of them actively racing.

Enthusiasm is at a level that is a throwback to the "old days" when our fleet had 25 to 30 boats. (In 1990 we had two boats on the water) and there are lots of signs that we will add new members in the coming year as interest in our fleet continues to grow.

Augie Bales dominated the fleet this year, winning the Fleet 150 Principal Series, Sunday Morning Series, Wednesday Evening Series, and to top it off, he won the overall Mansfield Sailing Club Championship in a series between our Lightning and Flying Scot Fleet. About the only thing he didn't win was the Fall Series which Bernie Dillon captured.

Bernie Dillon, son-in-law of the late and well known Lightning skipper, ILCA Judge and author, Tom McDermott, reentered the fleet in mid-summer after purchasing Lightning #14321. Bernie promises to heighten the competition in our fleet next year, and we're glad to have him back. His crew consists of Maureen Kuiper, daughter of Tom McDermott, and his son, Shawn Dillon, a potent trio.

Other developing skippers are Rick Fox, who in late summer put Lightning #14643 in the lake, and began to move toward the forward segment of the fleet, Quazi Ahmed, our textbook sailor, and Chuck Shaw, our converted catamaran skipper. These three will add a new dimension for our more established skippers to contend with next year.

We sent three boats (Augie Bales, Bernie Dillon and Rick Fox) to the Harvest Moon Regatta this year, the first time Fleet 150 has been represented at a Regatta since the late 1980's.

Our rebuilding program is progressing well. We not only have growth, we have quality growth; in our skippers, crew and the enthusiasm that is apparent in our midst. It all signals the continuing and energetic renaissance of our fleet. - - - William Woodrow

ANNISQUAM YACHT CLUB (151) New England District Sailing on Ipswich Bay at Annisquam, Massachusetts

Fleet Captain.....Allison Peter
Fleet Secretary..... Georges Peter, MD
No new information

Skipper.	Boat Name	Boat No.
Georges Peter, M.D.	Mouette	0
Brad Read	Maggie	12071
No report.		

WAWASEE YACHT CLUB (154) Indiana District Sailing on Lake Wawasee at Syracuse, Indiana

Fleet Captain..... David Tranter
Fleet Secretary..... Bill Allen
Fleet Champion.... John Nixon/Craig Cobbum
Runner-Up..... Doug Schmahl

Skipper.	Boat Name	Boat No.
Blair MacDermid	.....	10428
Dale Fulkerson	.....	11181
Ray Gans	Yellow Bellied Sap Sucker	12276
William Stucky	.....	12316
Donald Musselman	.....	12463
George Buckingham	Joe Bfsplk	13721
Virgil Snyder	On The Verge	13851
David Tranter	Late Edition	13860
Douglas Schmahl	Brandywine II	13895
Bill Allen	Golden Harvest	13910
Alan Fox	Divine Wind	13975
Stephen Miller	Millers Merry Manor	14125
John Nixon - Life	Why Not?	14475
Brad Wagnon	Wolf Cookies	14600

The winds did not favor us in the Midwest this year. We had several races cancelled due to a lack of wind. Several more should have been cancelled; but the skippers were itching to race. The racing was very tight, quite different from John Nixon's first place runaway last year. Half way through the season the first five skippers were separated by just 58 points. That's on a scale of 1600. Brad Wagnon was first; Alan Fox second; John Nixon third; Doug Schmahl fourth; and Bill Allen fifth. The end of the season had Nixon moving to first to take the Club Championship for the second year in a row. Schmahl was runner-up and Wagnon slipped to third. Bill Allen won the Commodore Cup.

Brad Wagnon won the Memorial Day Regatta followed by Alan Fox and John Nixon. Bill Allen took the Independence Day Regatta by a half point over Doug Schmahl. Steve Miller was third. Schmahl came through big with three firsts to win the Labor Day Regatta. Nixon was second and Miller had another third.

George Buckingham, a devoted Lightning sailor and WYC member of thirty plus years, retired from the fleet. George has won the club championship more times than one wishes to count. He had the uncanny knack of sailing to the corner, usually the right one, to lead the fleet by a large margin at the first mark. It seems that the rest of us "just never got it". Best wishes George, in your new adventures. After George's retirement, Bill Stucky purchased his Lightning. He promptly took it out and placed second in his first race—watch out skippers in 1996. Hey, maybe it was the boat and not George; I don't think so.

Frank Yaggi, skipper of 14187, did not return to the fleet this year due to his retirement. Frank was the fleet's connoisseur of fine wine and excellent food. It was always a welcome sight to see Frank at the grill for those Saturday night cook outs.

John Nixon's "Why Not" was mysteriously parked 180 degrees out of phase on the lift. John, not fully recovered from the night before, kept trying to drive from the bow end. The following week someone squealed to John the name of the culprit. Shortly there after Steve Miller's "Miller's Merry Manor" was found anchored in the middle of the lake, "TPed" and had several one fingered gloves hanging from the shrouds. In the midst of all of this foolishness, poor old Alan Fox was just trying to keep his boat together. During the Independence Day Regatta a back stay fitting parted while under spinnaker during a 18 plus puff and down came the mast. Later in the season the tiller broke; later yet, the spinnaker blew out. In spite of these misfortunes, he was still pushing the leaders for first place in the season standings. Unfortunately, this didn't end when the season was over. Alan made his second trip of the year to the Fenton patch factory to have "Divine Wind" revitalized. He picked the windiest day of the year to bring her home. The borrowed cover, which Dave insisted he use, ripped. It in turn tore one of the mast stays loose and separated the light bar wiring. Both were considerably shortened due to being dragged along the highway. It really will be tough for Alan to top this next year. We're betting on Alan.

Gordon Medlock, at the young age of 72 years, made it out to our last regatta with his seven year old grandson. He said, "We will see more of him next year now that he has a crew." Ed Webber, a new skipper from last year, announced from the end of the club pier to each Lightning returning from racing that he had capsized and survived. He was so excited about this event, we didn't have the heart to tell him that was the normal operating procedure.

Bill Allen took "Golden Harvest" to the NA's this year. After having Bill crew for him for several years at the NA's, Brad Wagnon returned the favor and crewed for Bill. He made the

green fleet and finished twelfth. Colin Park said he could have done better if he had turned those eleven year old bed sheets in for some new ones. Not bad for his first time, but Taboada set a record that will be difficult to beat.

The weather was great and a good time was had by all at the Hoosier Open this year. This was the best attended Hoosier in several years with 27 registered boats. The wind cooperated Saturday with twelve plus. Sunday saw light, moderate and one lull. After taking two first places in the Saturday races, Craig Gabel (4 1/2) held a slim lead over the perennial favorite Colin Park (6 1/2). They were followed by George Nickels and Jeff Hagman with 14 points each. Hank Hodgson (20) was fifth. Sunday, Colin continued to sail consistently. He garnered a second and a third to wrap up another Hoosier win. Karen did another superb job keeping Colin focused during the lull. Craig slipped to second with fifth and sixth finishes. George broke the tie with Jeff to finish third. Bill Faude moved into fourth with the help of a first place in the fourth race. Hank hung in there to keep his fifth place. Bill Allen led the local WYC troupe of eight with a dismal fourteenth. Next year, "Come on Down" or up or whatever. It's a great regatta. - - Bill Allen

FLOTILHA DE FLORIANOLOPIS (162)

Brazil District

Sailing at Veleiros de Ilha Club on Baia Sul, Florianopolis

Fleet Captain..... Walmor Gomes Soares

Skipper	Boat Name	Boat No.
Joaquim Bello	Viva Vida	7854
Lauro Fernanres Santiago	Sozinio	11243
Walmor Gomes Soares Filho	Babao	14290
Walmor Gomes Soares	Babao	14290

WILLOW BANK YACHT CLUB (164)

Central New York District

Sailing on Cazenovia Lake at Cazenovia, New York

Fleet Captain.....Clay Murphy
Treasurer.....Geoff Roth
Fleet Champion.....Federico Miera
Runner-Up.....Richard Tuttle

Skipper.	Boat Name	Boat No.
W. Craig Thayer	The Cheese	10370
Ray Cudney	.....	11010
Joe Homola	.....	11010
Jonathan Brodock	.....	11650
Jeffrey A. Bassin, Dmd	Andiamo	11853
Robert Frazee	.....	12004
Jonathan Carter	Notacal	12776
Mark Jenner	.....	12929
Richard Roth	Ghost	13011
Steve Burrell	Full Deck	13052
Steve Richards	.....	13083
Geoffrey Roth	Ceann Saile	13369
Michael H. Brock	Prince Charming	13601
Christine Woodcock	.....	13749
Tadd Helmer	Trivial Pursuit	13933
David K. Bull	No More Bullship!	14369
Clay Murphy	.....	14418
Pamela Murphy	Reddy Too	14418
Richard P Tuttle	Motion	14465
Federico Meira	Manolete	14470

Lightning Fleet #164 had terrific season in 1995. Active on the regatta circuit and busy at home, the core group battled it out in the club races. With NA's in the district, activity was up and the district championship was held at our club. Twenty-plus boats attended, and everyone had a great time.

Point races for the year saw a new group of contenders enter the mix. Firsts were harder to come by and the season went down to the wire. Federico Miera used his Columbian training to finish out first. Federico is still getting used to his new boat and nobody except him is excited about seeing him in it all next year.

The hit of the season was our season final, Caz One-Day. Another 20+ boats came down for seven short races, some chill and fast fun sailing. This event continues to be one of the highlights of our season, and we highly recommend other clubs and districts fill the holes in their schedule with events like this one.

Next year has a lot of promise. We are focused on having our core sailors go out and bring the fringe sailors in to the mix, either as crew or by crewing. We are staging events to simplify and open up the learning process to get more boats out there.

Meanwhile, our core group is very balanced, and the fast sailors will be testing each other every weekend and every race. . . .Geoff Roth

HELSINKI LIGHTNING FLEET (166)

Finland District

Sailing on the Gulf of Finland at Helsinki, Finland

Fleet Captain.....Kimmo Aromaa
Fleet Secretary.....Jari Aromaa

Skipper	Boat Name	Boat No.
Raimo Aromaa	Life
Kari Maenpaa	0
Pekka Sayra	13435
Tuomo Silenti	13560
Turo Nummi	14093
Kimmo Aromaa	14534
Terho Aromaa	14534
Lauri Hemming	14559

The Year 1995 was full of work for the Finland District and for the Helsinki Fleet. All the available class members were needed to assist the organization of the World Championships at Kuopio and European and District Championships at Helsinki. Many old faces were seen again on the shore, hopefully sometime also on the sea. The active boats in Fleet 166 were the Aromaa family's *Masi* and *Gamma* sailed by Olli Muroke, Erkki Lempiäinen and Tuomas Pihkala. The crews of both boats had been concentrating on the World Championships. *Masi* had qualified already on the previous year, but *Gamma* had to try to qualify from the District Championships. Our District Commodore, Lauri Hemming, sold his boat *Minmax* to Lahti, but neither he nor the boat retired from the racing.

Our season began traditionally with the On the Rocks Regatta, also the first ranking regatta, in the middle of May at Lake Tuusulanjärvi. This year we had very light winds on Saturday and a heavy storm on Sunday. Though the race committee decided to race on Sunday, this was soon abandoned. No races were sailed on Sunday, but the boats already on the lake had difficulties getting back. The Lähteinen family from the arranging club had the worst fate; after capsizing on the far side of the lake, local rescue men ordered the guys out from the water, leaving the boat drifting. On the small and shallow lake this resulted in broken mast and torn sails. Based on the results of the first day, *Masi* was first and *Gamma* second.

Our next race was the District Championship, this year also called Terho Aromaa Regatta. The regatta was sailed in the last week of May off Helsinki and it was organized by the club Merenkävijät. The Districts were held so early, because it was also the last possibility to qualify for the World Championships. The regatta will be remembered from the thick fog that remained for the racing days, grounding of a passenger ship just outside the club and comments from a police boat due to infringement of right-of-way rules. This year 17 boats participated, perhaps the early season, i.e. very cold water and very changeable weather, caused the less crazy sailors to stay home. Leo Korhonen from Tuusulanjärvi fleet won for the third time in a row. *Gamma* was very fast and was second overall. Only a disqualification after a protest hearing separated them for the Championship. The Lähtinen family were back again with new mast and sails. They sailed also fast and finished third overall. Our fleet's second boat, *Masi* from the host club, was seventh.

The next ranking regatta was sailed at Tampere two weeks later. Good weather and a good regatta, and the last chance to practice for the big events. *Masi* was fourth and *Gamma* eighth. After this regatta it was time to prepare for the European and World Championships, a two-week period full of racing, travelling and good times. The Europeans were in the last week of June outside Helsinki. Twenty-three boats from five countries were present. The arranging club, HSK, is perhaps the most capable race organizer in Finland. The common wind on a clear and warm day is a 8-10 m/s SW in the afternoon, which makes the race area in less than one hour quite choppy. The reason is that the mass of buildings of the city get warmer and create a strong local wind system. Otherwise the passing weather fronts may result in any wind direction and speed. This year we had good weather and good winds, which made the race enjoyable and very interesting. The first day was sailed in light winds (or in no wind), for the other days we had 7-11 m/s westerly winds and choppy sea. The results show, that for the first 5-6 boats the race was very even. The only boats who won more than one race were the winner Bram Palm and the World Champion Tito Gonzalez. Had Tito been little less greedy in the first two races (two PMS) he would have probably won the Europeans also. Bram Palm won, Paul Wurtzebach was second and the talented young Italian Mario Noto third. Our fleet's *Gamma* was ninth and *Masi* eleventh.

After the Europeans a rapid travel up to Kuopio, boat checks, practice races and the highlight of the season, the Worlds. The races gained a lot of publicity in newspapers, television news and even in Eurosport sports channel. The race area at Kallavesi is small, just outside the town, surrounded by hills and mostly tricky. The weather was quite good except the rainy Tuesday and stormy Wednesday, which was recorded as the heaviest storm last summer. The races were full of incidents, which made for the headlines; disqualification of Mario Noto in first race, capsizing of Tito when leading the second race, and the storm. Out of the 35 boats, twelve did not finish in the first race and eight in the second race. Four boats were not able to start in the second race, most of them due to broken masts. Fortunately, only material damages happened; broken masts, booms, boomvangs etc. Perhaps the campaign flag which was tied on the backstays was a good omen, "Paras A-ryhmä pysyy pinnalla" (The best A-class stays afloat.)

Already after the Europeans a lot of Finnish sailors thought that Tito Gonzalez will be the next World Champion; there in Helsinki he was fastest in four races, but was disqualified in two. In Kuopio he sailed two first places and two second places

and secured the Championship already before the last race, showing clearly that he is a true Champion. The Allens were his strongest opponents, Bill Faude and Steve Hayden being next closest. Urs Wyler from Switzerland was the only European, who managed to sail in the top ten. Our fleet's *Gamma* was 15, and *Masi* 17., both Olli and Kimmo skippered their first Worlds.

The last regattas after the big events were sailed on lakes. The most active ten boats had still enough interest to race. The Tampere regatta was in the middle of August and Jyväskylä in the first week of September. Ten boats were present in both races, *Masi* in both races but *Gamma* in neither. The last race was a match between Leo Korhonen and Kimmo Aromaa for the first place in our Districts ranking series. Leo won the last regatta and thus also the ranking series. *Masi* was second again and *Gamma* was fifth, a total of 23 boats got a ranking series result. Some match-racing was also tried in August at Helsinki, also this year four boats participated. The future of Lightning Class in Finland may depend much on this kind of racing. The Lightning is fast and lively but stable, so it suits well for match-racing.

For a few years we have been concentrating only for the big events of this year. Therefore our training and other class activities have been mostly for the top sailors. The following year is dedicated for the common sailor and we are trying to encourage new sailors to select our class and to draw former active sailors back. . . .Jari Aromaa

Europeans: Kimmo and Mika Aromaa with their uncle Tapio Paukku



Worlds: Ollie Muroke



Photos: Jari Aromaa

LAKE DAVENPORT LIGHTNING FLEET (167)

Midwest District

Sailing on the Mississippi River at Davenport, Iowa

Fleet Captain..... Rick Kuebler
 Fleet Secretary..... Jean Steffenson
 Fleet Champion..... Ken Jensen
 Runner-Up..... Rick Kuebler

Skipper	Boat Name	Boat No.
William F. Quaintance	Second Wind	0
Wesley L. Johnson	Kasara	6033
Patrick J. Goff	Maine-Eac	8520
Charles E. White	.....	10232
Donald L. Johnson	Clam Digger	11456
Perry Hansen	.....	12843
Henry L. Strieder	Moxie	13202
Reed H. Doughty	Warp Drive	13286
Ken Jensen	4x0 Kazoom	13901
Rick Kuebler	Galidreil	13941
Ron Taber	Bodacious	13991
Doug Steffenson	Hot Flash	14015
Michael Steffenson	Hot Flash	14015

A quick reading of the score sheets for our 1995 season (end of May till the end of October) indicates that this has been a pleasant year weather-wise for most every thing but sailing!! Our Mississippi River cooperated and didn't give us any serious flooding but a number of scheduled races weren't sailed because of a lack of wind.

Ken Jensen won both the Summer Series and the Commodore Series before selling his boat and retiring as an active racing skipper. By virtue of those two wins he was declared the 1995 Fleet Champion. We will all miss seeing "4x0 Kazoom" on the race course but know Ken will be monitoring the races closely either from the committee boat or from a shore observation post.

Rick Kuebler was an active participant in the Commodore Series and finished second in that series for the season. Rick also got to do some lake sailing as he traveled to a couple of Midwest District regattas during the season.

We welcomed former crew member Mike Higgins as a new Lightning owner when he bought Dave Jarrin's boat late in the summer. We were happy to have Don Johnson's brand new boat in the fleet and hope that we'll have some wind to give it a good test in the '96 season. We were pleased to add former crew Brandon Holton to our list of new skippers in September when he bought Don Johnson's former boat "Clam Diggers".

Our fleet's Polar Bear Regatta was held in light to moderate winds on September 9-10 with eight boats registered. We enjoyed showing Sheboygan's Ric Larson the finer points of Mississippi River sailing. Mike Steffenson won the regatta - his 10th win since 1969. . . . Jean Steffenson

Mike Steffenson with crew, Ken Jensen and Jean Steffenson



Photo: Fleet 167

LAC DE NEUCHÂTEL FLEET (169)

Switzerland District

Based on Lac de Neuchâtel at Neuchâtel, Switzerland

Fleet Captain.....Jean-Pierre Monnier
 Fleet Secretary.....Claude Lambelet

Skipper.	Boat Name	Boat No.
Hans Muhlbach	Pinocchio	11859
Bernard Comtesse	.....	12860
Claude Lambelet - Life	Garoupa	12860
Gilbert Despland	Chiloe	13840

During this season three Lightnings from our Fleet 169 left our Lac de Neuchâtel to race the Italian Championship on Lake Trasimeno, situated in the center of Italy. We had, as usual, a wonderful time with our Italian friends, and our fleet finished as follows: 5th-12860, GAROUPA- Jean-Claude Vuithier, Annika Vuithier-Lambelet, Patrick Sandoz; 8th-13840, CHILOE-Gilbert Despland, Claude Lambelet, Jean-Pierre Monnier; 11th-12951, SANTA FIAMMA -Jacques Perret, Jean-Claude DuPasquier, Yvonne Perret.

On October 22 and 23, we organized the Swiss District Championship and the traditionnel REGATE FONDUE. Saturday we were gratified by strong winds and cold weather, three Lightnings capsized. Sunday, the calm came with the sun and two races were sailed. Here are the results:

1	13790	Urs Wyler, Dürr, Dürr
2	12860	J.P. Monnier, Glauser, Inversin, Lambelet
3	14530	Jacques Perret, Perret, Robert
4	13692	Hanspeter Schmid, Baumgartner, Baumgartner
5	14664	Peter Graf, Graf, Knopfler
6	12951	Christoph Lüthy, Hecker, Steiner
7	13840	Gilbert Despland, Schneider, Hecker
8	13161	Silvio Merz, Brugger, Briker
9	12572	Panther, Compondu, Paul

Saturday night, the Swiss District met for the annual meeting and some boats decided to go to Marsala to race at the end of the year. At the end of the meeting, we all raced to the restaurant du Cercle de la Voile de Neuchâtel to eat the wonderful "Fondue". . . . Claude Lambelet



Europeans: Jacques Perret

Photo: Claude Lambelet

BRANT BEACH YACHT CLUB (173)
Central Atlantic District
Sailing on Little Egg Harbor
at Brant Beach, New Jersey

Fleet Captain..... Peter Pierce
 No new information

Skipper	Boat Name	Boat No.
Keith Lesser	.....	13567
Peter D. Pierce	Old Age & Treachery	13809
David W. Long	Skal	14059
Jeff Herrick	.....	14120
Carl Reitingier	Verbal Abuse	14325
Glenn Reitingier	Verbal Abuse	14325
J. Edward Serrill	Quakers	14660
Bob Seybold	911	14660
No Report.		

SHREVEPORT FLEET (175)
Southern District
Sailing on Cross Lake,
Shreveport, Louisiana

Fleet Captain..... Will Bittick
 Fleet Secretary..... Gay Means
 Fleet Champion..... Will Bittick
 Runner-Up..... Gay Means

Skipper	Boat Name	Boat No.
David McCary	Buglet	0
Larry D. Pledger	Knee Deep II	0
Gay Griffith Means	.....	10987
Charles O. Hardey	Knee Deep	12839
Joseph F. Hunt	Whoopernapper	13212
Will Bittick	.....	14629

The major event of the season for Fleet 175 was the 48th annual Holiday-In-Dixie Regatta hosted by Shreveport Yacht club. The weather was extremely precarious for this event. After a Friday night hail storm all participants awoke to find very high winds. We are appreciative of all those Lightning sailors who came from out of town to make this regatta a success. We welcome John Marion and Doug Wynne to the Southern District and appreciate all of the contributions that they have made. This regatta was won by Steve Harris of Lake Conroe fleet with Larry Frost III taking second place. Will Bittick, Gay means, and Nathaniel Means represented Fleet 175. This regatta is traditionally sailed on the last weekend of April which is normally a time of turbulent weather for our part of the country.

Will Bittick with crew of Chris LaBorde and Josie McCulaugh sailed in the GYA Lightning Regatta at Ponchartrain Yacht Club on September 9 and 10, 1995. This regatta was won by John Marion of Pontchartrain Yacht Club in Mandeville, Louisiana. The regatta was originally to be sailed in July at Pass Christian, but weather did not permit. We welcome David and Christine Wasner as new member of our fleet. We have races every Sunday afternoon except during the summertime when we race on Wednesday evenings.

We are very saddened about the death of John Waskom III, former commodore of the Texas District and a longtime member of Corinthian Sailing Club, on White Rock Lake in Dallas, Texas, and one who was a constant promoter of Fleet 35 in Dallas as well as one who helped to encourage Texas sailors to attend the Holiday-In-Dixie Regatta at our club. We will not forget all of the good times that we had over the years with him and his family. We extend sympathy to John Waskom IV. . . . Gay Means

GREAT SOUTH BAY FLEET (178)
Long Island District
Sailing on Great South Bay
at Amityville, New York

Fleet Captain..... Alan Pearlman
 Fleet Secretary..... Bill Weiss
 Fleet Treasurer..... Betsy Brewer
 Fleet Champion..... Betsy Brewer
 & Joe Tripodi

No new information

Skipper	Boat Name	Boat No.
Joseph F. Tripodi	Stardust	2671
Gary Sortino		8780
Angelo Di Martino		9670
William I Orchard	Windblown	10243
Elizabeth Brewer	Bullshit	10260
William P. Weiss	Bullshit	10260
Teresa Bouchard		11219
Alan Pearlman	Alevai	11774
Thomas E. McDonald		13544
No Report		

CONNEAUT LAKE YACHT CLUB (180)
Lake Erie District
Sailing on Conneaut Lake, Pennsylvania

Fleet Captain..... Ken Pote
 Fleet Secretary..... Carole Waldschmidt
 Fleet Champion..... Skip Ragghianti
 Runner-Up..... Chad Waldschmidt

Skipper.	Boat Name	Boat No.
Dr. Stan Gurney	.....	0
Chad Waldschmidt	.....	11563
Charles S. Good	Hied Aweigh II	11747
Kenneth Pote	Windwalker	13372
Lawrence Levine	.....	13506
Edward J. Benevent	.....	13602
R. Duane Good, M.D.	Hied Aweigh III	13711
Robert C. Asmus	.....	13899
Michael Mercatoris	In Between	14041
Ronald Ragghianti	Cool Breeze	14146

The Conneaut Lake Yacht Club's 1995 racing season was a mixture of tradition and change. Our traditional spring banquet, hosted by Commodore Chad Waldschmidt, had to be changed to a new location because the old Conneaut Lake Hotel and Amusement Park did not open for financial reasons. The traditional two-series race schedule was kept - but with a new scoring system. We combined the old stand-by regular skippers with two new members - Corey Altabet and later in the season Art Ketcham. Even the fleet's newest boat was purchased by - you guessed it - the oldest member.

Over the course of the season we had thirteen different boats entered in races. While the wind gods were not as kind to us as last year, we did manage to sail 15 of 24 scheduled races in the Championship Series and 9 of 12 in the Holiday Series. The "dog days of summer" held true in August as the lake had many windless weekends. However, as most sailors are an enterprising lot, our fleet soon discovered that a keg of beer and a few pontoon boats can make even drifters fun.

This year we adopted the "High Point Percentage Scoring System" which was highlighted in an article by Dick Rose in Sailing World magazine. Although Skip Ragghianti claimed he

could never figure out this new system, it didn't prevent him from winning the Championship Series. Chad Waldschmidt ran away with the Holiday Series, winning all but one race. Third place finishers were Ed Benevent in the Championship Series and Mike Mercatoris in the Holiday Series.

Our season ended with the annual Labor Day Picnic and Awards Presentation. In addition to the traditional trophies, several skippers were "roasted" with special recognition including the Upside-Down Trophy, Sideways Spinnaker and Wrong-Way Corrigan Awards (all to Fleet Champion Skip Ragghianti), the Sandbagger Award (Corey Altabet), the Most Unusual Starting Sequence Award (Doc Good) and the Perseverance Award for the most consecutive years of asking his wife for a new Lightning and not getting one (Chad Waldschmidt) - maybe next year Chad. Of special note was that R. Duane "Doc" Good, at 81, took possession of his new Lightning #14711. He still has #13711 and reportedly has asked to reserve #15711 when that number becomes available!

For 1996 the Conneaut Lake Yacht Club plans to expand its Learn to Sail program by adding one or two adult sessions. We want to not only promote more sailing awareness on our home waters, but hope to also gain new Lightning skippers and crew members. . . . Ken Pote

SHEBOYGAN LIGHTNING FLEET (187) **Midwest District** **Sailing on Lake Michigan** **at Sheboygan, Wisconsin**

Fleet Captain..... Dan Reichelsdorfer
Secretary/Treas..... Bruce VanDommelen
Fleet Champion..... Bruce VanDommelen

Skipper	Boat Name	Boat No.
Rev Tom Schroeder	.....	10034
Phillip Walker	.....	10363
John Schott	.....	11589
Timothy J. Lorenz	.....	11622
Dr. Jonathan Moulton	Sosumee	12389
Sheboygan Youth	.....	12389
Roger Klettke	.....	12806
Steven Bannow	.....	12942
Dr. John Kastendiek	.....	13193
Lindsay Vogel	.....	13224
James Hanson	White Caps	13565
Eric R. Larson	Virtual Reality	13862
Bruce Van Dommelen	Think Twice	13872
Jay Hogfeldt	Think Twice	13872
Michou J. Braun	Zorch	13930
Daniel Reichelsdorfer	Silent Movie	13994
Christopher Graf	I Saw Elvis	14007
Hans C. Graf	.....	14007
Richard Bemis	.....	14142
Jason Bemis	.....	14142
Vytas Kerpe Md	? ?	14234
Herbert V. Kohler	Cimarron	14380
Tryg Jacobson	Christiana	14390

Fleet 187, sailing out of Sheboygan, WI on the waters of Lake Michigan, had an exciting year of growth and learning. After last year's participation average of four boats on race night, Fleet Captain Dan Reichelsdorfer decided we needed to get going early. Our first fleet meeting was held in March, with the major topic of discussion being how to get more boats on the line for our Lightning races. Besides having fourteen boat

owners show up (an increase of three boats over last year), some good discussions on how to encourage Lightning sailing took place. It was decided that moving the races from Wednesday night, which was big boat night, would be the best way. And boy, did it pay off! We had an average of nine and as many as twelve boats on the start line every Monday night! Our Yacht Club even accommodated us by opening the bar,

With some new boats and owners, and the wily veterans, we had some exciting and fun racing. We raced from Memorial Day until well past Labor day, with the help of Rich Reichelsdorfer, Tara the Chocolate Lab and Jake the Golden Retriever running our races. Our Fleet Champion was Ric Larson, with Dan Reichelsdorfer as Runner-up.

Fleet 187 sailors also did some traveling. Some words of advice from both Dan and Ric are "remember to check and grease your bearings." Dan Reichelsdorfer and crew Michou Braun and Peter Orlebeke started the season off with a 2nd place finish in the Lighthouse at Fond Du Lac. Ric Larson and crew consisting of son Eric, and Audrey Matteson also traveled to Fond Du Lac. The Fleet 187 group was rounded out by Hans and Chris Graf with crew Ray. Next was the Evans with Ric Larson and crew, Eric and Dino Cady, winning the event. Dan Reichelsdorfer and crew were third.

Our District Championships were hosted by Chicago this year. The event was hard sailed, and won by Mike Huffman and crew from Chicago, Dan Reichelsdorfer and crew were in hot pursuit, but ended up 2nd. Ric Larson and crew sailed to a 4th. Unfortunately, none of us could make it to the P&T due to the Chicago-Mac race. That will change next year with the 50th P&T happening over the weekend after the fourth of July. Fleet 187 then hosted the annual Brotz Regatta in Sheboygan. We had a couple of visitors from Lake Carlyle come to sail due to their tough year at home with flooding. Thanks to Lal and Matt Burridge for coming up to sail. Winning the event was Paul Wurtzebach and crew. Matt Burridge was second with Ric Larson 3rd. We had a number of Sheboygan sailors participating.

Next was the North Americans in Henderson Harbor, NY. A blown bearing later, Dan and crew arrived to sail to a Runner-up in the President's Cup. Ric and crew ended up 10th in the President's flight. Both crews thank Henderson Harbor for putting on such a great event.

Ric and crew traveled to Davenport, IA, for the Polar Bear. They sailed on the mighty Mississippi to a 2nd place. On the way home, his bearing went.

Congrats to Ric Larson for winning the Great Lakes Championship for our Fleet! . . . Dan Reichelsdorfer

LAKE DESCHENES LIGHTNING FLEET (188) **St Lawrence Valley District** **Sailing on Lake Deschenes** **at Ottawa, Ontario, Canada**

Fleet Captain..... Terril Scott
Fleet Sec'y/Treasurer..... Thomas Shenstone
No new information

Skipper	Boat Name	Boat No.
Terril D. Scott	Elektra	9666
Thomas Shenstone	.....	13668
No Report.		

**It is impossible to make anything
foolproof because fools are so ingenious.**