Southern Circuit - sometimes -"a kind of match racing" or "just beat that boat next to you"



The 39th DEEP SOUTH REGATTA

Savannah Yacht Club, Savannah, GA, March 4-6, 1995
33 Boats, 3 Baces, No Throwout

33	Boats.	3 Haces. No Inrowout				Total
1	14441	Larry MacDonald, Jr., Jody Swanson, Rick Hayden, Carlisle, ON	2	2	3	7
2	14701	Brian Hayes, Carter Utzig, Allison Peter, Marblehead, MA	6	5	4	15
3	14552	Josh Adams, Randy Shore, Phil Kinder, Newport, RI	3	6	6	15
4	14695	Len Krawcheck, Chris Jankowski, Jules Ivester, Charleston, SC	11	1	8	20
5	14255	Dick Hallagan, Craig Thayer, Tom Schroder, Rochester, NY	5	15	2	22
6	14519	Josh Kerst, Geoff Moore, Mason Woodworth, Ann Arbor, MI	1	4	20	25
7	14705	Bill Shore, Peter Allen, Meghan McQuern, Newport, RI	8	12	5	25
8	14050	Patrick Hogan, Bunky Wichmann, Scott Lane, Charleston, SC	4	7	16	27
9	14066	Bill Mauk, Reid Hutchinson, Stuart deLisser, Miami, FL	7	17	7	31
10	14139	Jack Elfman, Cindy Lister, Carter Hubbard, Surf City, NJ	12	8	12	32
11	14611	Tom Allen, Sr., Eric Oetgen, Mike Baczynski, Buffalo, NY	9	11	15	35
12	13970	Steve Hayden, Barr Batzer, Rob Zerban, Orlando, FL	15	3	17	35
13	14592	Ross Griffith, Devin Hull, Annie Jeffries, Charleston, SC	10	25	1	36
14	14702	Sam Booke, Cindy Booke, Jeff Eilser, Charlotte, NC	13	9	18	40
15	14678	Tom Allen, Jr., Tom Ray, Lisa Currier, Kenmore, NY	17	16	10	43
16	14698	Bill Fastiggi, Joann Jones, Ray Harrington, Burlington, VT	14	20	11	45
17	14550	Joe Buczkowski, Mike Buczkowski, Peter Longhini, Mantoloking, NJ	20	18	13	51
18	14190	Pierce Barden, Joe Pitcarage, Pete Marriott, Raleigh, NC	16	21	19	56
19	14579	Jim Davis, Les Lashaway, Audrey Matteson, Toledo, OH	19	14	25	58
20	14344	Jim Harris, Steve Harris, Becky Nelson, Berkley, MI	23	13	23	59
21	13911	John McIntosh, Kelly Oetgen, Todd Ripley, Hilton Head Island, SC	27	24	9	60
22	14322	Frank Atkinson, Jr., Mike Weber, Pauline Pennell, W. Palm Beach, FL	21	23	21	65
23	14595	Jim Carson, Bill Bogardus, Ryan Dunn, Brick , NJ	24	19	22	65
24	14338	Frank Kelly, Jr., Joe Cunningham, Mark Stanley, Brentwood, TN	22	10	34	66
25	10956	Brian Starck, Kevin Robinson, Joe Starck, Kenmore, NY	34	22	14	70
26	14073	Gary S. Hurban, Joan Hurban, Doug King, Palisades, NY	25	31	24	80
27	14700	George Nickels, Bill Hopkins, Kelli Levesque, Linden, MI	26	27	28	81
28	11153	Bruce Atkinson, Brian Hughes, Alan Keyes, Rutland, VT	18	32	34	84
29	14680	Bill Killebrew, Ruth Gamble, Bruce Campbell, Nashville, TN	31	29	26	86
30	14106	Bill Sloger, David Sears, Lamar Walter, Mt. Pleasant, SC	29	30	27	86
31	12876	Bob Shapiro, Wern Daigneault, Brad Winslow, North Andover, MA	30	28	29	87
32	14622	Neff McIntosh, Olivia McIntosh, Josh McIntosh, Savannah, GA	28	26	34	88
33	12828	Henry Morgan, Nash McIntosh, Gene Brooks, Savannah, GA	32	33	34	99





SAVANNAH - Some Lessons Learned

By Brian Hayes Connecticut-Rhode Island District

North American Champion Crew, 1993



Photo: Mary Huntsman



Photo: David Sprague

Sometimes things just fall into place and work out better than you could have hoped for. That's precisely what happened for us at this year's Deep South Regatta. I was fortunate enough to have Allison Peter sailing the front. Allison is definitely one of the best forward crew sailing in Lightnings today and I felt very lucky to have her on the team. During the fall I was fortunate enough to have two opportunities to sail with my middle crew (and boat owner) Carter Utzig. Carter is the perfect teammate. He is always willing to work on the boat at any time (well it was his boat!) and his attitude and personality fit right into the style of sailing I am used to.

If you have never sailed in Savannah it is a very unique place. The sailing area is right where the Skidaway River and the Wilmington River meet. There are many strange tide rips and places where you have to be on the course at certain times to insure a good finish. I have heard many times from people trying to win the Southern Circuit, "Just get out of Savannah without shooting yourself in the foot." Even though we were not intending on doing the entire Circuit it still seemed like sound advice to me.

Our strategy was simple. Find the end of the line where everyone was trying to start and go to the other end. We did no wind checks and put the cover on the compass. It was a long starboard reach to a mark in front of the yacht club. At the jibe mark Spinnakers came down and jibs went up as we beat/reached to the channel marker that had to be honored. At this point it became very much a parade with the top five boats legging it out on the fleet and us left alone in sixth with no one very close until the end.

The finish mark was at the club so that we could sail in for lunch immediately following the race. When we rounded the last weather mark those top five boats were so far ahead I couldn't read their numbers.

We decided that the wind was dying and that we would first sail down, across the river and get to the leeward shore. As we were doing this I noticed the leaders were going very slow in little or no wind. Within five minutes we were 150 yards from finishing and abeam of Larry MacDonald, Dick Hallagan, Josh Adams and Patrick Hogan!! If the wind held for us we might pull off a 2nd. However, as the river gives so doth it take away and just as our breeze died Larry, Josh A., Patrick and Dick sailed

over top of us to finish in that order behind Josh Kerst who sailed a terrific race to win by a comfortable margin. We relearned a very valuable lesson that morning. You're never out of the race in Savannah. And just in case we tried to forget, Larry would remind us on Monday.

In Race #2, with the course and wind direction the same as the morning race we decided to stick with our same starting tactic, stay away from the pack. As in the previous race the leaders seemed to be able to sail away from the pack and with long reaches positions seemed to stay the same with only the distances between the boats varying. By the time we got to the last weather mark, with only a spinnaker reach to the finish, Lenny Krawcheck had nearly a 1/2 leg lead on Larry (2nd), Steve Hayden (3rd), and Josh K. We were in 5th about 300 yards behind Josh K and about 300 yards ahead of Josh A, who in turn was about 500 yards ahead of Patrick, who in turn was about 300 yards ahead of the pack. It was very weird. We had only been sailing for about an hour and the distances that could be lost or gained were incredible! And all of this happening in such a small racing area. Weird! In any case, Lenny sailed great and we were real happy for him since it was the first day the boat had ever touched the water. Lesson learned: It's just as important to be lucky, like we were on the first spinnaker reach, as it is to be good.

We were very satisfied with our day's results. Two very solid finishes and no bullet wounds in our toes. The standings at the bar after the first two races had Larry (2.2) in first followed byJosh K (1,4),Josh A (3,6), Patrick (4,7), Driving Blind (us 6,5) and Lenny (11,1). There was a large group of boats tied with 20 points but so many of the names listed (Tom Allen, Sr., Bill Shore, Jack Elfman, Dick Hallagan) were names from the 60's and 70's we figured there must have been a glitch in the computer program that did the scoring. If anyone knows who these guys really were please notify me so I can congratulate them on sailing so well and ask them to adopt new aliases!! We made a friendly wager with our two closest competitors, Mr. Krawcheck and Mr. Hogan, and went off to our host's house where hamburgers, hot dogs, beer and wine were awaiting.

Monday morning the race committee had set up the "Savannah Course" (as I call it), something I love to sail. Ever since my first trip to Savannah in 1987 when I was sailing with Ched Proctor I have always had fun sailing the river with the condition that was set up for Race #3. The tide was high and beginning to ebb. This meant that going upwind you were going with a very strong current and going downwind you were going directly into the same current. Each time I sail this course I find out some new trick that helps my final result. This year was no exception.

Our start was to be near, but not at the weather end of the line. As soon as we cleared the mouth of the Skidaway River we would dive to the starboard shore of the Wilmington River and hope that our tacking was up to snuff as we were going to short tack all the way up the shore. And it actually worked!! With about 20 seconds to go we were 1/4 of the way from the weather end of the line when I noticed a huge midline sag. As the outgoing current had not started in full force yet we trimmed in hard and were going full speed on the line when the start gun went off with no one to weather and no one to leeward. Dick Hallagan won the start at the weather end and was looking very good as was Ross Griffith of Charleston SC just below us to leeward. The three of us swapped ducks and crosses with Josh A and at the weather mark Dick led followed by us. Ross and Josh A. Larry and Josh K were both in the 20's. The three of us had a slight lead overJosh A and Bill Shore as we headed down the marsh staying out of the current. The jibe mark was up the Skidaway River and as we went around the end of the marsh the spinnakers came down and the jibs went up. At the jibe mark Dick was still first, Ross had snuck by us to get 2nd, we were 3rd, Bill was 4th and Josh A was 5th. Josh K was still back in the pack but Larry was moving up, maybe to 12th, At this moment I began to do some quick calculating and determined "If this holds up we could win this regatta!" Big mistake!! (See lesson learned, Race #1).

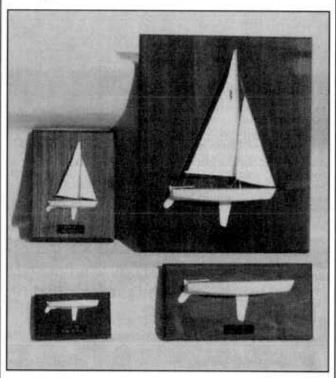
By the time we got to the leeward mark in front of the club the top five were the same but Larry was in 7th!! The next beat was uneventful except that Ross passed Dick and Larry just kept passing everyone in sight! By the next windward mark we were still 3rd, Bill was still 4th and Larry was now 5th. The reach to the jibe mark brought no changes but during the second reach Larry, went high into the current, carried more wind with him and passed both Bill and us. On the final beat to the finish we stayed close to Larry and put a bit of distance on Bill. At the end we initiated a short, but heartfelt, tacking duel trying to get by Larry, but as the song goes, "Ya don't tug on Superman's cape, Ya don't spit inta' da wind, etc., etc." In the end Ross hung on to win Race #3, with Dick 2nd, Larry 3rd, Us 4th and Bill 5th.

The final results had Larry McDonald, Jody Swanson and Rick Hayden in first. 2nd place was a tie between Driving Blind, with myself, Carter and Allison, and Josh Adams' team which consisted of Randy Shore and Phil Kinder. Lenny Krawcheck with Chris Jankowski, Jules Ivester and David Archer (on Monday) in 4th and close behind in fifth was Dick Hallagan with Craig Thayer and Tom Schroeder.

Larry and his team were awesome. Their comeback ability and teamwork made the difference in some very tricky sailing conditions. This is the second year in a row I have brought a boat for Larry to use in Savannah. It is at least the second year in a row he has won. Maybe I'm on to something. Maybe I should tow my own boat next year. Or better yet, "Brian's Lightning Towing Service." Put your bids in for next year's delivery now!!

In conclusion I would like to thank the Savannah Yacht Club, John McIntosh and his race committee and also my team, Allison and Carter, as well as his family. With Cathlean, Meghann and Anna traveling the Circuit it really felt like the family event I think the Southern Circuit was intended to be. Thanks to all you guys.

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The 39th WINTER LIGHTNING CHAMPIONSHIP

St. Petersburg Yacht Club, St. Petersburg, FL, March 9-12, 1995

57	Boats,	5 Races, 1 Throwout	1	2	3	4	5	Total
1	10956	David Starck, Maria White, Kevin Robinson, Kenmore, NY	1	1	2	6	1	11
2	14441	Ched Proctor, Kathryn Josenhans, Jeff Eiber, Southport, CT	5	5	1	5	3	19
3	14546	Matt Fisher, Rob Ruhlman, Jim Sminchak, Westerville, OH	3	4	3	12	2	24
4	14139	Jack Elfman, Cindy Lister, Will Jeffers, Surf City, NJ	8	20	6	2	4	40
5	14695	Len Krawcheck, Chris Jankowski, Dave Archer, Charleston, SC	4	2	12	9	13	40
6	14678	Thomas Allen, Jr, Tom Ray, Curtis Felix, Kenmore, NY	2	27	7	1	7	44
7	14705	Bill Shore, John Muir, Ed Sherman, Newport, RI	18	9	8	7	6	48
8	14485	Bob Wardwell, Rob Wardwell, Charlie Wardwell, Richmond, VA	11	10	9	14	16	60
9	14345	George Fisher, Tom Emch, Joe Starck, Hilliard, OH	7	6	17	28	14	72
10	14592	Ross Griffith, Devin Hull, Annie Jeffries, Charleston, SC	29	13	10	13	8	73
11	14700	Colin Park, Karen Park, Kyle Militzer, Midland, MI	12	26	20	4	18	80
12	14519	Josh Kerst, Geoff Moore, Mason Woodworth, Ann Arbor, MI	31	3	16	19	15	84
13	14698	Bill Fastiggi, Joann Jones, Ray Harrington, Burlington, VT	19	21	23	3	19	85
14	14050	Patrick Hogan, Bunky Wichmann, Scott Lane, Charleston, SC	32	14	5	27	11	89
15	13970	Steve Hayden, Barr Batzer, Rob Zerban, Orlando, FL	10	19	4	8	DNF	99
16	14255	Dick Hallagan, Robert Cole, Tammi Jamison, Newark, NY	30	24	13	22	12	101
17	14640	Don Brush, Joe Dayton, Ann Brush, Charlotte, VT	15	34	14	17	25	105
18	14530	Bill Faude, Jared Drake, Mike Elmergreen, Chicago, IL	17	16	PMS	10	5	107
19	14657	Skip Dieball, Christy Synowiec, Ernie Dieball, Toledo, OH	14	8	39	26	22	109
20	11153	Bruce Atkinson, Brian Hughes, Alan Keyes, Rutland, VT	25	12	33	18	21	109
21	14552	Josh Adams, Randy Shore, Phil Kinder, Newport, RI	PMS	7	19	16	9	110
22	13886	Georges Peter, Allison Peter, Christopher Vann, Barrington, RI	13	25	34	11	28	111
23	14084	Jeff Linton, Mark Taylor, Judah Rubin, Tampa, FL	22	15	28	30	17	112
24	14701	Brian Hayes, Laura Milne, Carter Utzig, Swampscott, MA	9	29	30	24	32	124
25	14595	Jim Carson, William Bogardus, Tadd Pearce, Brick, NJ	34	11	31	31	23	130
26	14704	Dan Norton, Linda Norton, Dave Laidlaw, Manitou Beach, MI	16	23	15	21	PMS	134
27	11136	Stu Nickerson, Lisa Brauer, Kip Hamblett, Milton, MA	PMS	22	11	33	10	135
28	14119	Tom Niles, John Lauderbach, Glenn Hallett, Auburn, MI	37	35	38	20	20	150
29	13911	John McIntosh, Todd Ripley, Eric Oetgen, Hilton Head, SC	28	38	27	39	24 26	156 157
30	14644	Michael Huffman, Meg Huffman, Betsy Altman, Chicago, IL	33	41	32	25	30	159
31	14579	Jim Davis, Derek Gauger, Christine Davis, Toledo, OH	20	40	37 41	32 29	29	159
32	14066	Bill Mauk, Reid Hutchinson, Alice Warner, Miami, FL	21	39 17	21	DNF	PMS	161
33	14621	Michael Considine, Dan Moriarty, Eric Bernstein, Chicago, IL	6 35	28	24	23	DNF	168
34	14610	David Wagner, Jane Long, Lars Hansen, Chicago, IL	36	43	26	37	27	169
35	13930	Dan Reichelsdorfer, Michou Braun, Pete Orlebeke, Sheboygan, WI	23	36	25	36	DNC	178
36	14478	Paul Wurtzebach, Peter Sherman, Dirk Hacker, Woodridge, IL	24	18	22	DSQ	DNF	181
37	14424	Paul Gelenitis, Matt Reiser, Stephanie Ruiter, Kearny, NJ	42	32	35	48	33	190
38	14611	Thomas Allen Sr, Meredith Allen, Buffalo, NY	27	33	29	43	PMS	191
39	14220	Mark Whatley, Leslie Whatley, Allan Whatley, Northville, MI Frank Atkinson, Jr, Ken Davis, Pauline Pennell, West Palm Beach, FL	PMS	30	42	15	DNF	204
40	14322	Gary Hurban, Joan Hurban, Jim Taylor, Palisades, NY	26	DSQ	45	44	31	205
41	14073	Jim Harris, Steve Harris, Becky Nelson, Berkley, MI	39	DSQ	18	35	DNF	209
42		Alexandre Jacob, Alfonso Fidalgo, Marcela Ricaman, Bogota, Columbia	43	42	44	46	35	210
43		Bill Killebrew, Bill Hofmeister, Mandy Hofmeister, Nashville, TN	41	37	36	38	DNF	210
44	14680	Adrian Irving, Cheree Dillon, Ben Wallace, Chicago, IL	38	46	43	34	DNF	219
45		Bob Shapiro, Werner Daigneault, Brad Winslow, North Andover, MA	45	49	49	42	34	219
46		Joel Humphrey, Jeff Umsted, Lauren Mistor, Keego Harbor, MI	46	DNC	40	41	36	221
47		Bill Meyer, Dave Mickelson, Keith Donaldson, Tampa, FL	47	44	46	40	DNF	235
48		Larry Frost, III, John Marion, Doug Wynne, Baton Rouge, LA	PMS	31	48	45	DNF	241
49		David Bull, Audrey Matteson, Erkki Lempiäinen, Cazenovia, NY	40	50	47	47	DNF	242
50 51		Rick Bukowsky, Traci Bukowsky, John Bukowsky, Clarkston, MI	51	51	51	49	DNF	260
52		Allan Crew, John Haiges, Henry Weinteld, Palmyra, NY	48	48	50	DNF	DNF	262
53		Carey Long, Sue Fox, Bill Fox, Dyer, IN	44	45	DNF	DNC	DNC	263
54		Duane Good, John Andrews, Phil Andrews, Conneaut Lake, PA	DNC	DNC	53	DNF	37	264
55		Thomas Hopkins, Scott Ingram, Brian Moriarty, Radnor, PA	49	47	DNF	DNC	DNC	270
56		Alfred Morton, John "Curt" Morton, David Kuykendall, Sea Girt, NJ	50	DNC	DNC	DNC	DNC	282
57			DNF	DNC	52	DNC	DNC	284
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THOUGHTS ON THE 1995 WINTER CHAMPIONSHIP

By David Starck Fleet 12, Buffalo Canoe Club, Lake Erie District

North American Junior Champion, 1987

> Canadian Open Champion, 1990

V American Airlines Cup of Champions, Salinas, Ecuador, 1994





David, Maria White and Kevin Robinson and their winning style on the water.

It was a treat (and a nice change) to head down to St. Pete for the Winter Championship and sail a full series in perfect racing conditions. Over the past several years, Mother Nature hasn't acted kindly toward the Lightning sailors on this stop of the Southern Circuit, It was a thrill to win this one.

With an official total of 57 entries, the attendance this year was up from last year - a good sign for our class! And, a super showing of 17 Masters were represented. The stage was set for a fun-filled, competitive regatta. My team for this event consisted of the notorious Maria White and the 1991 Winter Championship crew Kevin Robinson.

The racing itself was exciting and lots of fun. The RC ran Olympic courses for each of the five races. With a mid-line mark and square starting lines, general recalls were non-existent. The race management did a good job in this respect, as well as running quality races. Each day of racing was sailed in 13-20 knots of breeze, generally NE'ly. Although wind shifts and wind pressure were prevalent, current across seemed to be a key element in the game plan strategy. Fortunately, we had a pretty good handle on what the current was doing out there.

As always is the case at St. Pete, the onshore activities were lots of fun. Football in the parking lot, exhibition baseball (the attendance figures were a joke), Kevie's "Gitch" checks wiWh the babes, rum drinks out on the Pier, and last but not least, the infamous St. Pete Yacht Club bar. Who doesn't like having cocktails there?

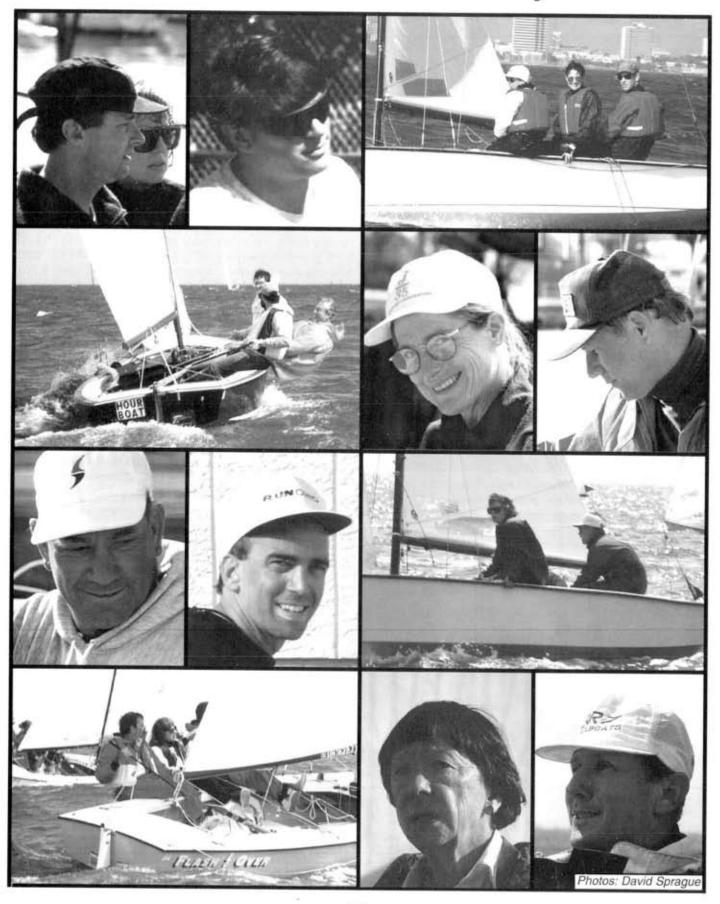
Thank you to the St. Pete Yacht Club, Bruce Watters, the RC team, Kevin and Maria, Brian Hayes, and John Schimert -who let me borrow his boat for the regatta. Also, congratulations to Ched Proctor/Larry MacDonald and all the crew (Rick Hayden/Jody Swanson/Kathryn Josenhans/Ned Roseberry/Jeff Eiber) associated with winning the 1995 Southern Circuit.

I hope to see you next year in St. Pete!!









The 37th MIAMI MIDWINTER CHAMPIONSHIP

Coral Reef Yacht Club, March 14-16, 1995 24 Boats, 5 Races, No Throwout

24	Boats	, 5 Haces, No Throwout	1	2	3	4	5	Total
1	14441	Ched Proctor, Kathryn Josenhans, Ned Roseberry, Southport, CT	11	1	1	2	1	16
2	14552	Josh Adams, Randy Shore, Phil Kinder, Newport, RI	5	9	2	1	2	19
3	14678	Thomas Allen, Jr., Curt Felix, April Richards, Kenmore, NY	1	8	3	8	6	26
4	14139	Jack Elfman, Cindy Lister, Laura Milne, Surf City, NJ	3	2	4	16	5	30
5	14698	Bill Fastiggi, Joann Jones, Ray Harrington, Burlington, VT	10	7	6	6	3	32
6	13970	Steve Hayden, Barr Batzer, Rob Zerban, Orlando, FL	2	11	8	4	14	39
7	14611	Thomas Allen, Sr., Bud Culbertson, Tammi Jamison, Buffalo, NY	6	6	12	5	11	40
8	11153	Bruce Atkinson, Brian Hughes, Allison Peter, Rutland, VT	4	5	5	15	15	44
9	14579	Jim Davis, Christine Davis, Derek Gauger, Toledo, OH	13	19	9	7	4	52
10	14255	Dick Hallagan, Craig Thayer, Erkki Lempiäinen, Rochester, NY	dsq	14	10	3	7	60
11	12876	Reid Hutchinson, Pat Cash, Eric Stibitz, Miami, FL.	8	13	13	13	18	65
12	14322	Frank Atkinson, Jr., ?, West Palm Beach, FL	1	18	13	12	8	66
13	14705	Peter Allen, Bill Shore, John Muir, Toronto, ON	dns	4	17	9	13	68
14	14073	Gary S. Hurban, Joan Hurban, Jason Hastings, Palisades, NY	12	12	18	10	16	68
15	14519	Josh Kerst, Betsy Altman, Peter Sherman, Ann Arbor, MI	9	3	7	pms	dsq	71
16	14220	Mark Whatley, Leslie Whatley, Allan Whatley, Northville, MI	dns	10	16	17	10	78
17	14595	Jim Carson, Bill Bogardus, Todd Pearce, Brick, NJ	dns	20	15	14	9	83
18	14511	Adrian Irving, Cheree Dillon, Ben Wallace, Chicago, IL	7	21	11	pms	19	84
19	14241	Alexandre Jacob, Alfonso Fidalgo, Felipe Lisaski, Bogota, Columbia	16	17	14	18	20	85
20	14374	Jon Ewing, Mike Sullivan, Carol Stout, Miami,FL	14	15	19	19	22	89
21	14066	Bill Mauk, Alice Warren, Stuart deLisser, Miami, FL	dsq	16	dnf	11	12	90
22	12640	John Schiefer, Hardy Woodall, Carla Zimmer, Miami, FL.	17	22	20	20	17	96
23	12876	Robert Shapiro, Werner Daigneault, Brad Winslow, N. Andover, MA	dns	23	21	21	23	113
24	13010	Ben Liebermann, Carlos Alvarez, Tim Banks, Miami, FL	dnf	dns	22	22	21	115

The 35th SOUTHERN CIRCUIT CHAMPIONSHIP

1995 - 17 Boats, 3 Series, 13 Races, I Throwout

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1	Larry MacDonald, Jr./Ched Proctor	31	10	Bruce Atkinson	203		
2	Jack Elfman	82	11	Tom Allen, Sr.	217		
3	Josh Adams	85	12	Jim Davis	229		
4	Tom Allen, Jr.	86	13	Bill Mauk	239		
5	Steve Hayden	115	14	Jim Carson	244		
6	Bill Shore/Peter Allen	116	15	Frank Atkinson, Jr.	276		
7	Bill Fastiggi	139	16	Gary S. Hurban	294		
8	Josh Kerst/Geoff Moore	149	17	Bob Shapiro	370		
q	Dick Hallagan	153		The winning boat photo below by Dave Spragu			
9	Didit i minghi			the many started and a grant a			



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MIAMI MIDWINTER REGATTA

By Ched Proctor Fleet 126 Cedar Point Yacht Club Connecticut-Rhode Island District

1993, 1994 North American Champion 1987, 1989 Southern Circuit Champion

Photos by David Sprague



Ned Roseberry flew down Monday night to sail with Kathryn and me in Miami. We had sailed against Ned as Matt Fisher's teammate in past regattas, but this was our first time sailing together. The first day things did not go well. We were rolled coming off the starting line, then pushed to the left side of the course. The right side was on the inside of the last shift at the weather mark. We rounded in the middle of the pack, got in a bit of a luffing match, then things started to look better as we got to the inside of a mess at the jibe mark. However, there was some disagreement about the overlap situation. We managed to avoid a collision and the protest room, but succeeded in hitting the jibe mark on the wrong side. The funny part was that Kathryn, on the deck jibing the pole, didn't realize anything was wrong. We had to tell her the spinnaker needed to come down and the jib go up, so we could go back and round properly. She asked, "I did my job; what the heck were you guys doing back there?" The redeeming factor was that the weather and breeze were beautiful. It was a perfect day for yacht racing as it often is in Biscayne Bay. Oh well, tomorrow is another day!

The next day was fantastic also and things went better as we won both races. In the first race we started in the middle of the line. Jack Elfman was a couple of lengths to leeward and going well as he did for the entire circuit. The battle for second place got really interesting. For a time it looked as if we could be first at the mark, but a late right hand shift, played perfectly by Bruce Atkinson, put him around in the lead. On the run the wind filled from the left and brought several boats up close behind Bruce. I think four rounded nearly overlapped. Jack Elfman got into a tight situation, which led to some rather vocal exhortations with two other boats. Since he is a soft spoken conservative fellow, Jack elected to do a 720 which made everyone happy. Then he went to work and passed the whole bunch to finish second.

The wind got lighter for the start of race three and was a bit shifty. We started at mid-line. Geoff Moore port tacked the fleet at the start. I made the snap decision to tack below him with the idea of crossing all the boats farther up the line. This was about 30 seconds after the start. We couldn't cross and had to duck a few boats. The boats from the weather end were all crossing us, making the decision to tack look like a bad one. Tom Jr. was the weather-most boat. He tacked and the two of us sailed out to the right. The majority of the fleet tacked to port above us, but when the wind went back to the right, we were able to tack and cross. Josh Adams had us worried as he came out of the left side, but the right won. Tom was first at the weather mark;



we were second and Josh third. The reaches were the usual parade and on the second beat, we and Josh got past Tom. On the last beat, we covered Josh to protect our lead. We had a few uneasy moments as we were obliged to split tacks, but we held on to win the race.

Historically, we have gone into the last day of Miami in good position and proceed to mess up and lose the regatta. This time, carrying an 11th in the first race, we were not in great shape. We were fourth, Elfman was leading with nine points. Tom Jr. had 12 and we were tied at 13 with Bruce Atkinson, Josh Adams was two behind.

In race four we got what appeared to be a good start, but proceeded to sail the first beat 100% out of phase. Jack Elfman sailed perfectly in phase, tacking onto port right off the line, then coming back to the left shift at the right time. Jack rounded first, we were about 7-8th and lost more when the spinnaker twisted on the set. The rest of the race was a bit of a project. Ned commented that it was the most satisfying of all the races because we had to work hard for our position. We finished third, but it turned out to be second because the second boat across the line was PMSed.

We thought we were tied with Josh Adams because we didn't know that the second place boat from the previous race was PMSed. Also, the protest from race one had yet to be decided, so we really had a two point lead. I think it was fortunate to believe we were tied because it made us concentrate more.

The wind went light just before the start. The first start was a general recall. This was fortunate because Josh popped up on our lee bow and we weren't tuned for the light air. At the real start, we started mid-line and Josh started up to weather. We set up a little too near the line, so didn't get enough momentum out of the blocks. The wind shifted to the left and everyone tacked to port. The early part of the race became a drag race out to the right. We were right in the middle. Josh was leading the pack which had tacked first. Periodically, a puff would make them look good, but then the boats farthest left would look to be miles ahead. It was just a matter of who got the puff.

When Josh eventually tacked, he was looking good, but our puff was a little better than his so we came out ahead. That was essentially the race, as we covered him the rest of the way.

Kathryn Josenhans and Ned Roseberry and I enjoyed the sailing at Miami and it felt good to win this regatta after numerous near misses in past years. We are looking forward to more good sailing in '95. I feel that I was fortunate to have great people to sail with me. Not only do Kathryn, Jeff and Ned work really hard to do well, but I think we had a great time in the process.

Southern Circuit - the mark roundings went something like this - "close" competition



MASTERS MIDWINTER CHAMPIONSHIP

St. Petersburg Yacht Club, March 9-12, 1995 17 Boats. 3 Races. No Throwout

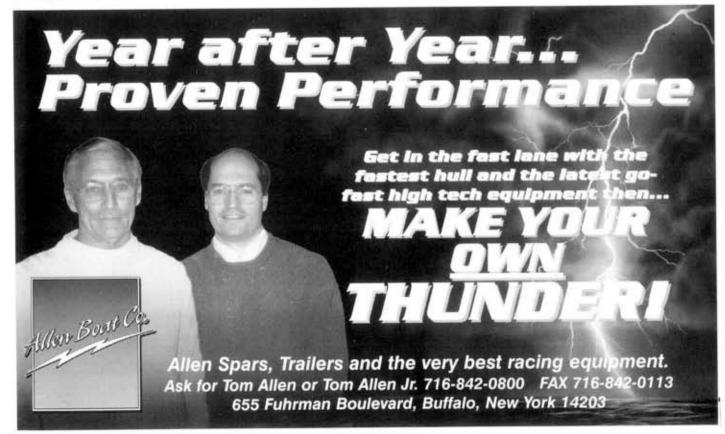
			3	2	3	lotal
1	14139	Jack Elfman, Cindy Lister, Will Jeffers, Surf City, NJ	2	1	1	4.00
2	14345	George Fisher, Joe Starck, Tom Emch, Hilliard, OH	1	3	3	7.00
3	14700	Colin Park, Karen Park, Kyle Militzer, Midfand, MI	3	4	4	11.00
4	14255	Dick Hallagan, Bob Cole, Tammi Jamison, Rochester, NY	8	2	2	12.00
5	13886	Georges Peter, Allison Peter, Chris Vann, Barrington, RI	4	6	6	14.00
6	13911	John McIntosh, Todd Ripley, Eric Oetgen, Hilton Head, SC	-7	5	5	17.00
7	14579	Jim Davis, Christine Davis, Derek Gauger, Toledo, OH	5	8	7	20.00
8	14073	Gary Hurban, Joan Hurban, Mark Taylor, Palisades, NY	6	9	8	23.00
9	14611	Thomas Allen Sr, Meredith Allen. Buffalo, NY	10	7	9	26.00
10	14369	David Bull, Erkki Lempiäinen, Audrey Matteson, Cazenovia, NY	9	11	DNF	38.00
11	14006	Bill Meyer, Dabe Mickelson, Keith Donaldson, Tampa, FL.	12	10	DNF	40.00
12	13711	Duane Good, John Andrews, Phil Andrews, Conneaut Lake, PA	DNC	14	10	42.00
13	14631	Allan Crew, Henry Weinfeld, John Haiges, Palmyra, NY	13	12	DNF	43.00
14	14619	H. Carey Long, Sue Fox, Bill Fox, Dyer, IN	11	DNF	DNC	47.00
15	378	Mike Yates, Schyler Barnes, Dave Penfield, Skaneateles, NY	DNF	13	DNC	49.00
16	14648	F. Thomas Hopkins, Scott Ingram, Brian Moriarty, Radnor, PA	14	DNF	DNC	50.00
17	14539	Alfred Morton, John "Curt" Morton, David Kuykendall, Sea Girt, NJ	15	DNC	DNC	51.00











WINTER MASTER'S CHAMPIONSHIP

By- The Fat Old Guy Jack Elfman) Fleet 196 Surf City Yach Club Central Atlantic District

1995 North American President's Cup Champion

Photos by Hal Lyness and Dave Sprague





Thirty percent of this year's overall fleet at St. Pete was entered in the Master's Championship. Shore, Carson and one or two others are old enough but can't, or don't, find crew who are old enough to make the qualifying age. I, of course, am old enough and had enough total crew years. This led to ruining Will Jeffers' week when he had to come forward with Cindy and me to receive our first place Master's trophies. I don't know what's wrong with young, hot-shot crew like Will. Last year he only received one trophy at St. Pete (first overall sailing with Brad Read). Wouldn't you think that he would be very excited about a fourth overall and first in the Master's? His teammates were very excited.

In the first race, George Fisher's team and our team sailed the entire race almost locked together, with George pulling ahead at the end for the win (7th overall); we were 2nd (8th overall) and Colin Park third. In the next two races the wind was really up and I couldn't distinguish the Masters from the Youngsters. We were able to win both races with Dick Hallagan getting a 2nd in race 2 and Colin a third in race 3, while George was third and second. With the breeze we had, my teammates ("crew" to us old guys) were happy that I held off on my diet (until the next century) and that I rode my bicycle in January (2) and February (3) so that I could hold up (or down) my end of the boat. As usual, St. Pete is a great place to go in early March and for a Lightning regatta. The wind was up, finally, for a major Class event and my teammates and I had a ball. Will and Cindy did a fantastic job all week and without their help and hard work we would not have had the great finishes that we did. (Thank you both!)

In reflecting back on the 1995 trip to St. Pete and to the entire Circuit I couldn't help thinking about Arnold Schwartz (everyone in our boat in St. Pete had sailed with Arnold; he brought Will into sailing and taught me how to get from the back of the fleet to the front). I crewed for Arnold on my first trip to St. Pete in 1962, double-decked the Circuit with the Schwartz family for years, and in 1975, Arnold and "Shrub" Peters sailed the Circuit and the Worlds in Ecuador with me. Jack Elfman and the ILCA owe a lot to "Arnie." He was a good friend to all. I looked at the St. Pete fleet and found names of fathers, whom I have raced against for years, of daughters and sons who are Lightning sailors racing and crewing now; I talked to the oldtimers who sailed for years and stopped by to say hello (and tell us how much they miss the Lightning Class) and to the many good newcomers to the Class. I thought of all the good times I have had in a Lightning in the almost 54 years since my father

put me in 787, an 1100 lb. Lightning that he and his father had built from scratch. Over the past several years I have been racing J24s, J27s, Snipes and some other classes where the people are nice, the boats are OK and the racing is good (even if some of their Class rules are slightly off the wall). But, as Stu Nickerson keeps telling us as he picks up his yearly trophy at the NAs, I "just want to keep coming back to compete with my friends in the Lightning Class." I think Lightning people are the nicest, the competition is the deepest, and the boat is much more interesting and fun to sail (and harder - that's a big chute). We are a third-generation Class (T.A.,Jr, Randy Shore, young McIntoshs in Savannah) and it won't be long before there are fourth generation sailors out there working us over and becoming part of this great Lightning family.

In closing this (short) article, I would like to add that the Winter Master's Championship at St. Pete is a good idea and a good format as it is now in place. It brings all generations of Lightning sailors together, in one place, at one time, and makes us a big family. It brings long-time Class members like Tom Hopkins back, it brings Dr. Good and Al Morton out to race and to mix it up with the new young turks like Dave Starck, Josh Adams, Dan Norton, Jeff Linton, Steve Hayden, et al. This mix of the generations can only help the Class grow and remain strong.

I think what I am trying to say with all this is that if you like sailing the Lightning, like people, like warm, sunny weather, and like to have a good time, then hit the road to regattas and make sure St. Pete is at the top of your list. And if you don't want to steer or you can't think of a crew, get your hands on an old Yearbook and ask someone who sailed the Circuit or the NAs in that year, and give them a call; maybe that way we could get a Jim Dressel, a Bob Seidleman, a John Collins, a Jack Mueller or

Lightning Pin

some other old-timers to come out to play with us again.

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