

SÃO PAULO FLEET 147

Brazil District

Sailing on Lake Guarapiranga

São Paulo, Brazil

Fleet CaptainPeter Zacher

* Dietmar Heydenreich	Irema	11710
* Juan Jose Ramos De La Fuente	Abuelo	12513
* Fred Paim Vieira	Goyabada	12526
* Manfred Kaufmann Jr	Perereca	12657
* Cid Vieira Franco De Godoy	E.T.C.	12686
* Thomas Buckup	Viking II	13008
* Leandro Hosback Serejo		13406
* Juan Jose Ramos De La Fuente		14170
* Claudio Biekarek	Phreskura	14203
* Mario Buckup	Meia Noite 8	14378
* Ricardo Perego Costa	Diners Club International	14596
* Claudio Kunze		
* Antonio L. Figueirero		

No report.

MANSFIELD SAILING CLUB FLEET 150

Ohio District

Sailing on Clearfork Reservoir

at Lexington (Mansfield), Ohio

Fleet CaptainTom Varley
 Fleet SecretaryWilliam Woodrow
 Fleet ChampionTom Varley
 Runner-UpSean Dillon

* Chandler Stevens		6944
* Mark Shaw		8235
* William Woodrow	Wiki-Wiki	9581
* Charles Shaw	Merimar	10047
* William Woodrow	Windsong	10444
* Augustus Bales	Close To The Edge	13485
* Mark Shaw		13907
* Rick Fox		14643
* William E. Schamadan		14808

1997 blessed Fleet 150 with good winds and a very active agenda. We gained three great new members: Bruce Cummins, Hank Geary and Dr. Bill Schamadan.



Part of the Fleet 150 Family at Clearfork Reservoir.
 Photo Rose Mary Woodrow

Several of our skippers competed in various Ohio District regattas, plus the District Regatta at Leatherlips Yacht Club. This season our fleet sailed a total of 63 club races, equating to 260 boat-starts.

Our Fleet Captain, Tom Varley, successfully defended his Ohio Governor's Cup Championship, winning it once more by clinching at the Cowan Lake Fall-In Regatta in October. Tom has been a great help to our fleet by sharing his expertise in race tactics and sailing in general.

We were fortunate to have had two clinics presented by the ILCA Traveling Coach, Jon Singen: one on races starts and one on spinnaker technique. Between the Jon Singen clinics and Tom Varley's ongoing tutelage, our fleet continues to show marked improvement in the competition and an increase in participation.

Our various series championships are as follows:

Memorial Day Weekend Series	William Woodrow
Fourth of July Weekend Series	Rick Fox
Labor Day Weekend Series	Tom Varley
Sunday Morning Series	Rick Fox
Wednesday Evening Series	Rick Fox
Fall Series	Tom Varley
Principal Series	Tom Varley
Mansfield Sailing Club Champion	Tom Varley

The Mansfield Sailing Club 1997 Championship Regatta sailed on September 26-27 between the top skippers in our Lightning and Flying Scot Fleets, saw Tom Varley and Rick Fox finish first and second respectively in the six race series. This is the second consecutive year that the Lightnings have been the dominant teams in this championship competition. On that Saturday, Club Commodore Rick Fox and wife Kym put on a superb party at their home for all the sail-off competitors, wives and crew.

Other Lightning Fleet awards for 1997 presented at our Mansfield Sailing Club Trophy Dinner were:

"Best Lightning Crew" awarded to Kay Varley;

"Butts-on-the-Line" Award (for sailing the most club races) went to Bill Woodrow with 51 races sailed;

"Tom McDermott Most Improved Skipper" awarded to Bill Woodrow.

Our club Social Committee sponsored excellent "feeds" for the Memorial Day and Labor Day Holiday weekends, and a great Fourth of July Champagne breakfast.

In August, we enjoyed our Annual Sunset Sail, followed up by some adult beverages, hors d'oeuvres, and fellowship on shore.

We elected to name our second annual regatta The Clearfork "Bare Bones" Regatta. You may ask why? Well, we determined that since we do not have a really fancy facility to go with our really nice lake, "Bare Bones" seemed to be humorously descriptive, ergo, we dubbed this event as such.

However, while "Bare Bones" may be the name of our regatta, there was nothing "Bare Bones" about the hospitality, wind, weather, food, and fun provided at our regatta, this according to a number of testimonials we received from the sailors who participated.

15 boats from five different Ohio District Lightning Fleets (Pymatuning Fleet #36, Leatherlips Fleet #27, Mansfield Fleet #150, Arwood Lake Fleet #212, and Cowan Lake Fleet #303) competed on September 20-21. We enjoyed good wind on both days and some interesting changes in the lead took place during the five races, but John Werley (PYC #36) sailed the most consistently to win out over Tom Varley (MSC #150), Kurt Andrews (LYC #270) and David Gall (AYC #212) in that order. John, sailing with his wife Bertie and young son Tim, were presented with the "Bare Bones" Regatta rotating Championship plaque, with the stipulation that he bring it back next year to defend his championship!

Tom and Kay Varley hosted a "Bonfire Party" at their home in "Varley Valley" on Friday night complete with hot dogs, marshmallows, and a keg of suds. A number of the skippers/crews camped at "Varley Valley" for the weekend.

Fine lunches at the lake were provided during the regatta by our staff of chefs and on Saturday evening following "Happy Hour", a "done to a turn" steamship round of beef with all the trimmings was consumed by a delighted crowd.

We're proud that our regatta is now included as a part of the Ohio District Governor's Cup Regatta circuit. Our intention is to continue to make improvements to our regatta program, with the goal that the Third Annual Clearfork "Bare Bones" Regatta in 1998 will be even more successful than in '96 and '97.

We look forward to more growth within our fleet next year. At this time we have several good new prospective skippers for our fleet which will hopefully materialize in 1998. The good publicity we've enjoyed in recent years is creating renewed interest in sailing in our area. Our club is considering embarking on a Junior Sailing Program, as well as an Adult Sailing Instructional Program. If successful, we can expect to expand the membership even more so in the coming years.

In the meantime, we will endure the Ohio winter, contemplate the makeup of the fleet in 1998 and look forward to another season of association with this unique fraternity . . . the Lightning Class sailors.

William W. Woodrow

ANNISQUAM YACHT CLUB FLEET 151

New England District

Sailing on Ipswich Bay

Annisquam, Massachusetts

Fleet Secretary Allison Peter

* Georges Peter, M.D. Mouette 14688

No report.

WAWASEE YACHT CLUB FLEET 154

Indiana District

Sailing on Lake Wawasee

Syracuse, Indiana

Fleet Captain Craig Cobbum

Fleet Secretary Bill Allen

Fleet Champion John Nixon/Craig Cobbum

Runner-Up Bill Allen

T.J. Curfman	Big Red	9954
* Stephen C. Miller		10134
* Dale E. Fulkerson		11181
* Ray J. Gans	Yellow Bellied Sap Sucker	12276
* William Stucky		12316
Gordon Medlock	Deacon Blues	12586
* John R. Nixon (Life)		13001
* William Stucky	Joe Bfslpk	13721
Kevin Scheid		13851
* David Tranter	Late Edition	13860
* Douglas A. Schmahl	Brandywine II	13895
* Bill J. Allen	Golden Harvest	13910
* Virgil Snyder	On the Verge	13975
* Stephen C. Miller	Millers Merry Manor	14125
* John R. Nixon (Life)		
* & Craig Cobbum	Why Not	14475
* Edward Bradley Wagnon	Wolf Cookies	14600
Ed Weber		
& Tom Galliher	Three Bald Men	14647
& Marty Kaplan	The Fox	14835
* Alan Fox		

The season series started with Alan Fox leading through the first third of the season. But, by July 1st the John Nixon/Craig Cobbum boat had moved to within one point followed closely by Doug Schmahl, who was just a couple of points behind Fox. Brad Wagnon and Bill Allen were battling each other to stay out of fifth. Nixon/Cobbum then reeled off three firsts and three seconds to establish a fourteen point lead over Schmahl who was just one and one-half points ahead of Fox. Wagnon and Allen were still exchanging places for fourth and fifth. John and Craig rode their cushion through the remainder of the season to take the Club Championship. After being humiliated at the Masters, Bill Allen put together four firsts and three seconds to move from fifth to second for the runner-

up spot. Alan Fox was third. Virgil Snyder won the Commodore Cup.

Alan Fox edged John Nixon/Craig Cobbum by one and one-quarter points for the Memorial Day Regatta winner. Doug Schmahl was third by one-quarter point behind Nixon/Cobbum. The Independence Day Regatta was won by the duo, Nixon/Cobbum, followed by Schmahl and Brad Wagnon. Bill Allen ran away with the Labor Day Regatta with three firsts. The duo was second with Fox third.

Bill Allen took *Golden Harvest* to the Master's this year. Brad Wagnon, skipper of *Wolf Cookies*, and Bill's regular crew, Dave Wisler, respectively did forward and center position. Bill now knows why they call it the Masters. It doesn't have anything to do with age — it's the outstanding skill of the skippers.

We understand that Alan Fox will be on a weight reduction program before the next season starts. He was seen stepping off his boat onto the pier with his foot continuing on through the pier. Alan claims it's all muscle and a weight reduction program would effect his hiking abilities??? With all kidding aside, we wish Alan a speedy recovery from his surgery. In the truest racing tradition, Alan postponed his surgery until the racing season was over.

It was WYC's turn this year to hold the Indiana Districts. Only six boats participated and they were all locals. Craig Cobbum with crew Jim Wellington Jr. and Ben Rieff took first. Bill Allen and crew Dave Wisler and Christie Cobbum finished second.

Alan Fox purchased a new boat from Uncle David. Virgil Snyder traded up by selling his 13851 to our newest member Kevin Scheid and bought Alan's old *Divine Wind*, 13975. We welcome Kevin to the fleet. With two young sons Kevin should have crew for several years.

The Hoosier was a weekend earlier this year due to Gull Lake not scheduling. It was outstanding weather with great steady breezes, which provided for five excellent races. John McCree had a four and one-quarter point lead over Sean Fidler at end of the first day. They were closely followed by Colin Park and Jim Allen. The traditional hot rum cider and lasagna dinner was enjoyed by all Saturday evening. Colin came back with a second and first on Sunday to edge out Sean Fidler by a half of a point for first place. Jim Allen moved up to third with McCree slipping to fourth. The "Bruce" held on to his Saturday's fifth. Jeff Schmahl, who did an outstanding job as the regatta chairman for two years in a row, won the tie breaker for seventh. This was the best finish for the locals. See you next year.

WILLOW BANK YACHT CLUB FLEET 164

Central New York District

Sailing on Cazenovia Lake

Cazenovia, New York

Fleet Captain 1998 Federico Meira

Fleet Secretary/Treasurer 1998 Dave Bull

Fleet Champion Federico Meira

Runner-Up Dick Tuttle

* Kathleen King		9109
* Joe Homola		11010
Sam Woods		12004
* Jonathan Carter	Notacal	12776
Mark Jenner		12929
Steve Burrell	Full Deck	13052
Steve & Wendy Richards		13083
* Federico Meira	Manotele	13675
* Richard H. Ryzek	Trivial Pursuit	13933
* David K. Bull		
* & Federico Meira	No More Bullship!	14369
* Clay Murphy		14418
* Richard P. Tuttle	Motion	14465
Jonathan Fellows	Wild Goose	??

Fleet 164 sails out of Willow Bank YC on beautiful Cazenovia Lake (near Syracuse, NY). Our fleet racing last year was concentrated on Sunday afternoons when there was not a competing

District regatta. Our champion, Federico Meira, was not crowned until the last day of racing when he edged out runner-up Dick Tuttle and third place Clay Murphy.

We were pleased to welcome back to active status three boats that had new owners. Dick Ryzek bought Tad Helmer's boat; Sam Woods showed up with 12004; and Joe Homola bought the very fast 11010 from Ray Cudney. All competed in '97 with Joe doing some winning and all should be factors in '98.

Dave Bull snuck back from RC and semi-retirement to win the annual Charter Member's Cup from Dick Tuttle. Our "crewette's" race was not sailed in '97.

Seventeen Lightnings competed at our "CAZ-FLASH-BASH" in mid-June and the winner was - surprise, surprise - Dick Hallagan. A complete report was in *Flashes*.

Fourteen boats competed at our "CAZ-ONE-DAY" in late September. A cold front stormed through after the first race and we ate chili and watched whitecaps until the regatta was canceled - right before the wind subsided. Winner was Federico Meira with Chad Atkins second and Jack Jones third.

We look forward to a fresh sailing season in '98 and hope to see all of you at nearby, beautiful, Lake Skaneateles for the 60th over the Fourth of July weekend.

Dave Bull

HELSINKI FLEET 166 Finland District Sailing on the Gulf of Finland Helsinki, Finland

Fleet Captain Kimmo Aromaa
Fleet Secretary Jari Aromaa

* Panu Jalas	Kvarkki	14430
* Kimmo Aromaa		
* & Terho Aromaa (Life)	Masi V	14534
* Erkki Lempiäinen		
* & Olli Muroke	Gamma	14638
* Raimo Aromaa (Life)	Kesaheila	0

Kaudella 1997 Helsingin laivueella ei juurikaan ollut toimintaa. Helsingin laivueen veneet kilpailivat lähinnä match-race kisoissa Suomen Mestaruuksien lisäksi. Laivueen venekanta pieneni taas keran Olli Murokkeen ja kumppaneiden myydessä Gammansa Kemiin. Helsingin laivueen paras menestys tuli Suomen Mestaruuskilpailuista Kimmo Aromaan saadessa hopeaa ja laivueen voittaessa joukkuemestaruuden.

Kuluneen kauden päätahtuma oli Suomen Mestaruuskilpailut Valkeakosken Purjehtijoiden järjestämänä. Ajankohta oli varsin myöhäinen, elokuun puolivälissä, mikä saattoi pudottaa osallistujien määrää. Tänä vuonna Mallasvesi tarjosi kilpailijoille kaikkea mahdollista säätä. Kahden voimakkaan säärintaman ylittäessä Suomea, toisen kisaipaikan pohjois- ja toisen eteläpuolelta, tuulta oli ensin liikaa, sitten riittävästi, ja lopulta ei ollenkaan. Perjantaina vesillelähtöä lykättiin aina iltaan saakka ja päivän ainoa lähtö oli kello 19.00. Lauantaina otettiin aikataulua kiinni ja ajettiin kolme lähtöä keskituulissa. Sunnuntaina taas odoteltiin vesillä tuulen viriämistä, joka sitten alkoi vähän ennen viimeistä mahdollista ajankohtaa. Viideskin lähtö saatiin siten ajettua.

Olli Muroke oli myynyt viime vuoden mestariveneensä Gamman Kemiin, ja uuden kipparinsa Kari Huuskon ajamana vene aloitti SM-kilpailut taas hyvin voittaen kaksi ensimmäistä lähtöä. Olli Muroke oli lainannut uudehkon Lightboats-veneen ja aloitti varsin vahvasti kuten myös paikkakunnan värien puolustaja Järvisen Red Snapper. Masi V kärsi selvästi harjoituksen puutteesta ajaen pari huonoa lähtöä ennen kuin pääsi vauhtiin mukaan. Tuusulan Olli Lähteinen Shark-venecellään ajoi hyvin, mutta sortui ensimmäisessä lähdössä kulkuoikeusrikkomukseen maalilinjalla, eikä huomannut korjata virhettään. Tuloksena oli siten hylkäys. Lauantaina iltapäivän lähdöissä Gamma alkoi hieman hiipua, kun taas Masi ja Shark alkoivat vertyä. Red Snapper jatkoi tasaista sarjaansa. Sunnuntaiamuna mitaleita ei vielä oltu jaettu, Gammakin saattoi vielä hävitä lähes varman mestaruutensa. Sunnuntaina tuuli olikin

sitten olematon ja oli selvää, että vain yksi lähtö, jos sitäkään saataisiin ajettua. Tuloksiin laskettaisiin siten kaikkien lähtöjen pisteet, joissa Masilla painoi 8. sija ja Sharkilla diskkaus. Lopulta yksi lähtö saatiinkin ajettua, ja sinä Masi voitti, Gamma oli toinen ja Red Snapper kolmas. Suomen Mestari tuli pitkästä aikaa Tuusulan tai Helsingin ulkopuolelta. Kari Huusko ajoi ensimmäistä vuottaan Lightningia ja korjasi porin viemällä myös ranking- mestaruuden. Viime vuoden kakkonen Masi V oli taas toinen ja Valkeakosken Red Snappersai ensimmäiset mitailinsa kotikisoissaan.

Historiallisista syistä laivue 166 jatkaa vielä aktiivisten joukossa, mutta yleisesti ottaen Helsingin laivueen toiminta on hiipumassa. ILCA:n jäsenmaksukorotus saattaa pienentää jäsenmäärää entistään, eikä yhdelle tai kahdelle veneelle kannattane enää laivue-toimintaa ylläpitää.

The Year 1997 showed very little activity for the Helsinki Fleet. Our boats raced mainly in match races besides the District Championships. The number of boats decreased again, when Olli Muroke sold his *Gamma* to Kemi. The best results of our Fleet were second place in District Championships by Kimmo Aromaa and first place in District team race.

The main event of this year were the District Championships. The event took place quite late in the season, in the middle of August, which could have caused the unusually low number of participants. This year the Lake Mallasvesi offered almost every kind of weather. Two strong weather front were crossing Finland, one north and one south to the race area. This resulted first in too heavy weather, on the next day in medium air and on the final day in almost dead calm. On Friday the races were postponed until 19.00 hours waiting for winds to drop. On Saturday three races were sailed to get back to the time schedule and on Sunday the sailors waited almost until the last minute, before some wind appeared and the fifth race could be sailed.

Olli Muroke had sold his previous year champion boat *Gamma* to Kemi and with the new owner Kari Huusko the boat began with overwhelming speed and won first two races. Olli had borrowed a quite new Lightboats boat and together with the host club boat *Red Snapper* sailed well. Kimmo Aromaa with *Masi V* sailed first two poor races before getting back the routine. Olli Lähteinen from Tuusula sailed also well with the boat *Shark*, but in the first race he made a right-of-way mistake on the finishing line and did not correct it. He was thus disqualified. On Saturday afternoon races *Gamma* did not sail as well, whereas *Masi* and *Shark* were getting better. *Red Snapper* continued with a even series. On Sunday morning, with two races left, the winners were not yet certain. Even *Gamma* could lose its almost certain first place. The wind was almost non-existent and so only one or no races would be sailed that day. The results of all races would be calculated in the final score, *Masi* having an eight place and *Shark* a DSQ. Finally one race was sailed, and in that one *Masi* won, *Gamma* was second and *Red Snapper* third. The District Champion was after many years found from outside Helsinki and Tuusula area. Kari Huusko sailed his first year in Lightning and besides the District Championship he won also the District ranking series. The previous year runner-up *Masi* was second also this year and host club *Red Snapper* got their first Championship medals by placing third.

Due to historical reasons the Fleet 166 continues to be on the active list, but generally the activity in the fleet is decreasing. The increase of dues will probably decrease the number of members further. It is doubtful that organizing events for one or two boats will have any sense or effect on Lightning class activity.

LAKE DAVENPORT FLEET 167 Midwest District Sailing on the Mississippi River Davenport, Iowa

Fleet Captain Rick Kuebler
Fleet Secretary Jean Steffenson
Fleet Treasurer Mike Higgins

* Wesley L. Johnson	Kasara	6033
* Charles E. White		10232
* Brandon Holton	Off Like A Prom Dress	11456
* Henry L. Strieder	Moxie	13202
* Mike Higgins	Southern Cross	13611
* Rick Kuebler	Mr. Wonderful	13941
* Donald L. Johnson	Stinger	14720
* Michael Steffenson		14857

No report.

LAKE OF NEUCHÂTEL FLEET 169

Switzerland District

Sailing on Lac de Neuchâtel

Neuchâtel, Switzerland

Fleet Captain Jean-Pierre Monnier
Fleet Secretary Claude Lambelet

* Claude Lambelet	Garoupa	12860
* Gilbert Despland	Chiloe	13840

1997 was not an especially good year concerning the regatta participation of our Fleet 169.

Garoupa, with oldtimers Claude Lambelet, Jean-Claude DuPasquier and Jean-Pierre Monnier, traveled to Rimini on the Adriatic coast of Italy to participate in the Italo-Swiss Championship, where they finished in the middle of the fleet. They were there at the end of May and the beginning of June and the weather was perfect.

In October, as we have done from time immemorial, we raced the Regata Fondue; this year, however, the weather was foggy and we finished only 2 races. The results were:

1	13790	Meltemi	2	1	3
				Wylar, Durr, Durr	
2	14530	Santa Maria	1	2	3
				Perret, Perret, Monnier	
3	14664	Karhu	4	3	7
				Graf, Graf, Brugger	
4	13161		3	4	7
				Sigrist, Merz, Briker	
5	12860	Garoupa	5	5	10
				Lambelet, Monnier, Inversin, Comtesse	

After the first race Saturday night, we had the annual meeting followed by the traditional cheese fondue with good Neuchâtel white wine.

Claude Lambelet

BRANT BEACH YACHT CLUB FLEET 173

Central Atlantic District

Sailing on Little Egg Harbor

Brant Beach, New Jersey

Fleet Captain Peter Pierce
Fleet Secretary Jeffrey Carson
Fleet Champions The Reitingers
Fleet Runner-Up Bob Seybold

* James W. Titus		11575
* Jeffrey L. Carson		13809
* Jeff Herrick	Num E Nuf	14120
* Carl Reiting		
* & Glenn Reiting	Verbal Abuse	14325
* J. Edward Serrill	Quakers	14660
* Bob Seybold	911	14660
* Peter D. Pierce		0



Bob Seybold, Ed Serrill and Barb Serrill (14660) slightly ahead of Glenn, Carl, and Beth Reiting (14325) at first weather mark.

Sailors in the Lightning class at Brant Beach Yacht Club, Brant Beach, New Jersey had another great summer season of sailing. Reiting3 (14325) Glenn (skipper), Carl, Beth dominated the racing, winning all but two races all summer. Bob Seybold, Ed Serrill, Barb Serrill (14660) sailed efficiently and came in a strong second for the season. Skipper Jeff Herrick (14120) along with crew Joanne Herrick and John Cogan edged out Franz Schnieder (14348) and crew Sheila Schneider and Eric Reiting on a tie-breaker. Pete Pierce (13809) worked hard to break-in new crew this season, Jeff and Josh Carson. Carson2 had so much fun sailing and swimming, that they bought the boat from Pierce! Lightning skipper Glenn Reiting is serving as Commodore of Brant Beach Yacht Club for the 1997-1998 season.

Respectfully submitted by, Jeff Carson, Fleet Secretary #173

SHREVEPORT FLEET 175

Southern District

Sailing on Cross Lake

Shreveport, Louisiana

Fleet Captain David Wasner
Fleet Secretary Gay Griffith Means
Fleet Champion Will Bittick
Runner Up David Wasner

* Gay Griffith Means		6116
* Jim Wasner	White Lightnin'	9281
* Gay Griffith Means		10987
* Will Bittick		12699
* David Wasner	Power Surge	13220
* Will Bittick		14629

Shreveport Fleet 175 celebrates its fiftieth anniversary this year. Our fleet sails on Cross Lake which is partially the city limits of Shreveport. The bed of the lake was dammed up as a joint project by the city of Shreveport waterworks department and the Kansas City Southern Railroad in 1920 to form the present lake which extends about twelve miles in the direction of the Texas line. Sailing began immediately as those in the vicinity now had a place to float their craft and the sport became organized shortly thereafter with the chartering of the Shreveport Boat Club (now Shreveport Yacht Club) in 1926. In 1947 Fleet 175 was chartered and our Lightning family has been a close one since that time. I say "our" because my parents joined very shortly thereafter with the purchase of 3477. After having been introduced to the Lightning at Pass Christian, Mississippi, they were captivated both by sailing and the Lightning as a pleasure boat and racing craft, not to mention the fact that they had a few friends in the fleet. The camaraderie is something that has continued throughout these years, and throughout my lifetime I have maintained close ties with former Lightning sailors.

Fleet 175 and Shreveport Yacht Club lost one of our most ardent sailors with the sudden death of Charles O. Hardey. Chuck and his wife Ray had taken up sailing in the early 1940's when he was in law school at Tulane. When they moved to Shreveport in 1947 they began sailing a Lightning. With the help of local boatbuilder Cecil Plants they built Melody and Solo and sailed Lightnings off and on throughout their sailing career. Chuck had in recent years purchased a local Lightning just for the purpose of building up our fleet. My son Nathaniel used to say that when he was home for holidays from school that when he would visit the yacht club (he was raised in Dallas and a newcomer to Shreveport) and really not know many people, he had a friend in Chuck Hardey with whom he could talk sailing. We extend our condolences to Ray, Jim, Lynn, and Robin.

Our first event for the year was the annual Holiday In Dixie Regatta. Sailing conditions were perfect with winds about 10-12 with an overcast sky so the sun was not too hot and temperature around 75 degrees. There was a lot of changing of position which made for a really fun regatta. It was a pleasure for me to have as overnight guests in my home old friends from Dallas Ralph Bilnoski and his son Bryan Bilnoski who is a freshman at SMU (I can remember going out with him in an Optimist Pram when he was about 3) and Ardis Good and another Lightning sailor of longevity and also second generation Lightning sailor also John Waskom. We appreciated all of our out-of-town sailors as well as the locals who helped make this regatta a great success. Robert Bernhardt won this regatta with crew of Scott Kirchhar and Colin Godfrey. Second place went to Scott Anderson and Jay Martin. We had a total of eight boats.

Wednesday evening races were held in the Summer and these proved to be a really fun and relaxing time for all. I especially enjoyed them because my son Nathaniel was home for the summer and this was our time to be together and to invite along friends who know nothing about sailing but try and want to learn and it is a good time to introduce prospective sailors to our fleet.

Super Derby Regatta was sailed on September 20-21. It is a memorial to Karen Askew and a benefit to AAKP. It is also a major attraction to tourists and locals. Weather varied to the extremes. On Saturday there was very little wind but Sunday's winds were very gusty. Three Lightning sailors participated and the results were as follows: 1. Christine and David Wasner; 2. Mike Wasner; 3. Gay Means, Jim Wasner, and Paul Qualey.

A fleet championship was sailed in October and the results were as follows: 1. Will Bittick; 2. David Wasner; 3. Mike Wasner.

Again the Wasner family is to be commended for their support of the fleet. Actually they now have their own fleet within our fleet since Mike has now acquired a Lightning. Jim is always willing to lend a helping hand in whatever way that he can. David and Christine were not able to sail so much this year due to the arrival of their baby son in May. We are happy to have him as a new soon to be sailor in our fleet.

Thanksgiving Day was a beautiful one weatherwise here on Cross Lake and since I was fortunate to have a few family members around it seemed logical for us to celebrate this day with a sail in Lightning 10987 with whom we have had so many happy days and journeys. Several other friends were out enjoying this beautiful weather on Cross Lake, celebrating the day and appreciating the wildlife on the lake. This year there has been a population of least terns as well as the usual white pelicans, egrets, and blue herons. One Thistle sailor who might be a prospective Lightning sailor fell out of his boat trying to get a better view of a least tern.

Fleet 175 ends the year with fifty years of celebration and devotion to the Lightning as a versatile boat - one which is easily trailered, easily launched, can be sailed in moderately shallow coastal waters just as easily as a Lido 14 for example. The class is worldwide and wherever one goes one can fit in with the Lightning "family" (maybe even Charleston?) and strike up an immediate camaraderie. These recent years the class is to be commended for the emphasis on the wooden boat fleet thus keeping its heritage as well as its forward looking approach. Fleet 175 celebrates 50 years of fun and friendship and memories with a very optimistic outlook for the coming year on beautiful Cross Lake.

Please try to visit us for the 1998 Holiday In Dixie Regatta.

Gay Griffith Means

GREAT SOUTH BAY FLEET 178

Long Island District

Sailing on Great South Bay

Amityville, New York

Fleet Captain Bill Weiss

* C. Thomas Powell	Dolphin III	9697
* Elizabeth Brewer		
* & William P. Weiss	BullsHir	10260
* Teresa Bouchard	Partners Choice	11219
* Alan Pearlman	Alevai	11774
* Malcolm B. Hendry	Partners Choice	12480

No report.

CONNEAUT LAKE YACHT CLUB FLEET 180

Lake Erie District

Sailing on Conneaut Lake

Conneaut, Pennsylvania

Commodore Skip Ragghianti

Fleet Captain Mike Mercatoris

Fleet Secretary/Treasurer Linda Ragghianti

* Chad Waldschmidt		11563
* Charles S. Good	Hied Aweigh II	11747
* Lawrence Levine		13506
* Charles S. Good		13711
* Robert C. Asmus		13899
* Mike Mercatoris		14041
* Ronald Ragghianti	Cool Breeze	14146
* Kenneth Pote	Bud Lightning	14444
* Duane Good		14711
* Edward J. Benevent		14750

The wind gods smiled on Fleet 180 at Conneaut Lake in 1997. Out of 26 possible races, 22 were sailed, with three boats stating all but two races. The Championship Series race results showed that in the ongoing Battle of the Titans, Skip Ragghianti again edged out Chad Waldschmidt for first place. Proving the value of the "winged" boat design, the Potes raced up the fleet to third. Skip also won the Holiday Series followed by "Doc" Good's boat skippered most of the season by Chuck Andrews. Chad came in third proving Carol's point about "Old Yeller." A Sportsmanship Trophy



Fleet 180 skippers and crews and Birdie

went to the "Crew" who ran most of the races, cheered us greatly and quietly "reminded" us of our errors. A second Sportsmanship Trophy went to Duane "Doc" Good who, after neurosurgery at 82 years old, was at the tiller for the last race of the year. At the end of the season picnic at Pote's special awards were also given. A Wrong Way Corrigan Award was given to Merc, who, after setting the course, explaining in great detail to the crew running the race the nature of the course with buoys to starboard, nonetheless managed to round the first buoy to port. "Ramming Speed" Waldschmidt was observed T-boning Chuck Andrews with Julie taking his boat into "Harm's Way." Ed got the "Creative Spinnaker Set" Award and Skip got the "Barbara J. Skulling" Award. Special thanks is given by our entire fleet to Jon Singens who gave excellent on and off the water teaching, improved the quality of our boatsmanship and had fun watching us have fun. All in all a great summer was enjoyed and we look forward to fleets in our local area joining us next summer as we celebrate Fleet 180's 50th Birthday.

Mike Mercatoris

SHEBOYGAN FLEET 187

Midwest District

Sailing on Lake Michigan Sheboygan, Wisconsin

Fleet Captain: Dan Reichelsdorfer
Fleet Treasurer: Dr. Bruce Vandommelen
Fleet Secretary: Michou Braun
Fleet Champion: Ric Larson
Fleet Runner up: Dan Reichelsdorfer

* Robert T. Melzer	Puff	7879
* James Hanson	White Caps	10363
* Steven Bannow	Totally Berzerk	12942
* Lindsay Vogel	Second Chance	13224
* Eric R. Larson	Virtual Reality	13862
* Jay Hogfeldt		
* & Bruce Vandommelen	Think Twice	13872
* Michou J. Braun	Zorch	13930
* Daniel Reichelsdorfer	Silent Movie	13994
* Paul Reak		14005
* Christopher Graf		
* & Hans C. Graf	I Saw Elvis	14007
* Jason Bemis		14142
* Erik C. Simonsen		14234

As Fleet 187 prepares for 2k, we continue to see strong participation at the local level. We averaged 10 boats on the line for our Tuesday Night Race series. Additionally, we saw more boats getting better results overall. While Ric Larson and Dan Reichelsdorfer continued to be the boats to beat, Erik Simonsen, Lindsay Vogel and Lightning newcomer Rich Reichelsdorfer pushed the perennial champs consistently throughout the season. We had a few Tryg Jacobson sightings, with Tryg showing his usual excellent form. We also saw his daughters participating, allowing for yet another Lightning dynasty to start. We also had the Grafts (Chris, Jan, and Hans) come out to play. They even brought their Portuguese friends out for an exciting race in light air.

The overall results for 1997 are as follows:

Cap Griesholdt (June)	Roger Piper (July)	Last Chance (Aug/Sept)
1st Dan Reichelsdorfer	1st Ric Larson	1st Eric Simonsen
2nd Ric Larson	2nd Tryg Jacobson	2nd Dan Reichelsdorfer
3rd Lindsay Vogel	3rd Erik Simonsen	3rd Rich Reichelsdorfer

This years Brotz Regatta was a well attended event. Unfortunately, Mother Nature didn't exactly cooperate. Saturday saw serious fog and no breeze. We didn't get any races in on Saturday. Very odd for Sheboygan in August! Sunday came in finally with light air. The first race saw Dan Reichelsdorfer, winning the first race narrowly beating Green Bay's Terry Phelan and Dave Stix of Chicago in third. While the boats milled around for the 2nd start, the breeze looked like it was settling in nicely. During the race, however, there was a shift not to be missed. Taking advantage of it

was Erik Simonsen, who went on to win race 2, followed by Mike Fauquz of Green Bay and Adrian Irving of Chicago. After that, the breeze decided it was Leinie time and left us for the rest of the regatta. Coming through with the overall win was Dan Reichelsdorfer, with Erik Simonsen 2nd and Terry Phelan 3rd.

Still working on getting our local crews to travel, Sheboygan sailors did venture out to Fond Du Lac, Green Bay for their 50th, Districts in Milwaukee and the Flannels in Chicago. We also were able represented at the North Americans at Crescent by Ric Larson, with crew son Eric and Amy Lundeen. Ric did quite well in the Championship Fleet, finishing 11th.

With our bid in for the 2000 North Americans, Fleet 187 is working hard on our local fleet growth and starting on fundraising. We look forward to hosting this event and seeing you all in Sheboygan!!

MARBLEHEAD FLEET 189

New England District

Sailing on the Atlantic Ocean Marblehead, Massachusetts

Fleet Captain Rick Humphrey, Jr.

* Ed Wolfe	Wolf Pac	9779
* Donald R. Humphrey, Jr.	Fog Horn Leg Horn	12706

No report.

MISSION BAY YACHT CLUB FLEET 194

California District

Sailing on Mission Bay and the Pacific Ocean San Diego, California

Fleet Captain Anne Land
Fleet Secretary Irene Milstead
Fleet Champion Kirk Johnson
Fleet Runner-Up Mike Brewer

* Michael & Dick Brewer	Excalibur	8966
* Scott Finkboner		11138
* Anne Land	Code Bleu	11404
* Joel E. Vann	Direct Access	11603
* Dan Newton	Afternoon Delight	13187
* Warren Gross	Santorini	13467
* Eric Swayze	Flipper	13819
* Mark Zimmer		13842
* Kirk Johnson	Puddleglum	14095
* Carl M. Eichenlaub (Life)	Algonquin J Calhoun	14473
* Scott Finkboner	Play It By Ear	14681
* Michael Brewer		14846
* Jim Milstead		0



Incoming and Outgoing Fleet 194 Officers at the Installation.



Steve Ross with the Thursday Night Thing Trophy.

1997 was a very successful year for Fleet 194. We had some growth within the fleet with the additions of Melinda Poltorak and Matthew Lyon. Scott Finkboner also added to the Fleet by adding a wife, Marlene. And Al Poindexter started sailing again - welcome back! And last, but not least, the Brewers returned from the NAs with a new boat which is sure to add some competition to the fleet. As a matter of fact, they've already proved their new speed by winning the Pacific Coast Championship!

The Fleet hosted a very spirited Circuit this year. The overall winners were Scott Finkboner 1st, Mike Poltorak 2nd, Miller/Lyon 3rd, Scott McBurney 4th, and John DeBenedetti 5th. Scott Finkboner is our District Champion and Steve Ross won the TNT (Thursday Night Thing) Trophy.

The 1998 Fleet Officers are: Steve Ross, Fleet Captain; Al Poindexter, Fleet Secretary; and Derek Bateman, Fleet Treasurer. On behalf of the Lady Officers of 1997, we wish good luck to next year's officers. See you on the water! Irene Milstead

SURF CITY FLEET 196 **Central Atlantic District** **Sailing on Manahawkin Bay** **Surf City, New Jersey**

Fleet Secretary Rich Warren

* Donald A. Green		10420
* Charles N. Howe (Life)	Streak In	12454
* George Schmidt	Punch Too	14068
* Timothy G. Robinson		
* & Andrew Temme		
* & Frank Temme	Triple Threat	14131
* Jack Elfman	Rip City Express II	14139
* Richard M. Warren		14300
* John Williams	Kids' Stuff Too	14431
* Peter M. Bonanni		0

No report.

MACATAWA BAY FLEET 204 **Michigan District** **Sailing on Lake Michigan and Lake Macatawa** **Holland, Michigan**

Fleet Secretary Marv Hoekstra

* Brian Huckabee		12939
* Craig R. Anderson	Walt	13958
* Marvin Hoekstra	It's Not Easy Bein' Green	14531

Fleet 204 continues to exist as a small, three boat organization. We did a bit of match racing on Thursday nights in the summer months. We also held our annual Macatawa Bay Invitational Regatta on June 13 and 14, which was won this year by Diana Fernando and her crew. We usually get a good turnout because Lightning sailors like to race on the open water of Lake Michigan, avoiding weedy center-board, lakebottom plowing, fluky blasts and other features of small lake racing. We also have a very excellent race committee.

Fleet sailors are active around Michigan, hitching up the trailer quite often to enjoy great times on the Michigan district circuit. If your future brings you to Holland, Michigan, come see us. Marv Hoekstra

CLUB NAUTICO OLIVOS FLEET 206 **Argentina District** **Sailing on Lake Olivos** **Buenos Aires, Argentina**

Fleet Captain Osvaldo Bordino

* Luis Miguel Bordino		
* & Osvaldo Bordino	Flamingo V	11043
Pablo Bordino		11649
Pablo Bordino		12622

No report.

NEW ORLEANS YACHT CLUB FLEET 209 **Southern District** **Sailing on Lake Pontchartrain** **New Orleans, Louisiana**

Fleet Captain Buck Ballatin

* John A. (Buck) Ballatin	SB	9696
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No report.

ATWOOD YACHT CLUB FLEET 212 **Ohio District** **Sailing on Atwood Lake** **Dellroy, Ohio**

Fleet Secretary Stephen Jolly

* Carl W. Hummer, Jr.		6886
* James L. Cooper	Four Winds IV	10900
* David M. Gall		11368
* Stephen Jolly	Yellow Jacket	11508
* Carl W. Hummer, Jr.	The Gray Fox	12845
* James L. Stone	Shifty Characters	14424
* David M. Gall	Blue Thunder	14445

No report.

ROYAL ST. LAWRENCE YACHT CLUB FLEET 215

St. Lawrence Valley District
Sailing on Lake St. Louis
Montreal, Quebec, Canada

Fleet SecretaryPeter Hall

* Jean-Francois Simard	13927
* Anthony Staples	14176
* Jacques Trottier	14354
* Alain Boucher	14591
* Peter Hall	14768
* Russel C. Scrim (Life)	0

No report.

SAGINAW BAY FLEET 216

Michigan District
Sailing on Saginaw Bay
Bay City, Michigan

Fleet CaptainTerry Hart
Fleet SecretaryChris Jacobson
Fleet ChampionJohn McCree
Runner-UpChris Jacobson

Hanns Heil	Wind Swept	4090
* Terry Hart		5437
* George F. Ascherl, Jr.	Megs	7153
* Matthew D. Princing	TNG	9705
* Terry Hart		13236
* James Peters	Halcyon	13385
* Rick Allen	Flicky Wick	13758
* Terry Hart	Hart Beat	14009
* John E. Johnson	Teko	14022
* Blair Moulthrop		14048
* John Waechter	Score One!	14087
* Clark Howell, Jr.	Zipper	14103
* John McCree	Sleeper	14323
* George Peet	Hot Dog Man	14503
* Chris Jacobson	Fastidiots	14577
* Matthew D. Princing	Scars & Scrapes TNG	14603
* C.A. Pinkerton		14616
* Colin Park	Rudy's Barmaid	14700
* Joseph C. Dissette	Carousel XXXIII	14703
* James Schofield	Shuss Boomer	14775
* Colin Park		14780
* Tom Niles		14819
* Robert K. Hafford		0

Fleet 216's season gets underway every year with our annual spring meeting held in April at Joe Dissette's house. Joe and his wife Ann have been kind enough to host these proceedings year after year providing refreshments and exceptional hospitality.

The first regatta of the year was a Indianapolis with Colin Park, Chris Jacobson and Matt Princing participating. Saturday's racing began with cold and blustery conditions resulting in a spectacular crash and burn by the Jacobson boat. After floating around for a while one of the crew was overheard commenting that "she can't feel her legs anymore." Sunday's conditions were much better and when the racing concluded George Sipel took the first place honors.

Fleet racing was extremely competitive this year with very few points separating the top five finishers. Weather conditions were anything from light and flat to windy with five-foot waves but for the most part good winds were experienced all season long. John McCree finished as Fleet Champion with Chris Jacobson, Terry Hart, Jim Schofield and Joe Dissette rounding out the top five and Most Improved Award going to Jacobson.



Joe Dissette, Ye Olde Salt, with crew Jim Schofield and John McCree, after finishing 2nd in Race 2 at the Masters North American Championships at North Cape Yacht Club.
Photo courtesy Ann Dissette.

The battle for this year's Clamso Capsize Award came down to two boats. During one particularly breezy evening both of these boats went over, one while jibing and the other while rounding the leeward mark. This latter boat couldn't seem to get their spinnaker down but apparently the skipper decided that he was going to round the mark anyway. Needless to say this did not work, so based on this criteria, Terry Hart received the Clamso. Not wanting to leave the other boat out, Matt Princing was presented with a 45 rpm recording of Wipe Out by The Fat Boys. On a historical note, Terry's boat has been involved in numerous Clamso awards, this year being the first time with Terry as skipper. Other awards included emergency sea rations for John Waechter for disappearing behind a freighter and a Speedo swimsuit to Dave Corcoran for his involvement in a capsizes.

On July 19th-20th, the 43rd annual Bay City Yacht Club Lightning Regatta was held with 16 boats participating. After the four race series Dan Norton from Devil's Lake prevailed with John McCree second and Jim Davis third.

One of the visiting boat experienced a very unusual phenomenon. It appears that a mysterious brick sized chunk of mud flew out of the sky and landed in their boat. One crew's theory was that this substance was ejected from a nearby smokestack and traveled a mile and a half against the wind and landed in their boat. The other crew thought it was a meteor fragment. The skipper finally concluded that it was bay mud from the top of the mast since they had just capsized four times.

The 1997 Michigan Districts were held at Higgins Lake Boat Club. Fleet 216 sent 9 boats with our own Colin Park taking first place and two other finishing in the top ten.

Five boats participated in the 2nd Annual Family Regatta. This year a complex handicap formula was utilized allowing for a 1-point deduction for each family member (including pets), a half-point deduction for each child 7 and under and a half point deduction for each crew member wearing a costume. The results were John McCree winning with Joe Disette, Terry Hart, Tom Niles and John Johnson finishing 2nd through 5th respectively. Unfortunately, this year's 4th Annual Hooter's Cup never took place because of scheduling and weather conflicts.

We look forward to another successful year in 1998 with increased competition and participation. *Chris Jacobson*

HENDERSON HARBOR FLEET 225

Central New York District

Sailing on Lake Ontario, Henderson Bay

Henderson Harbor, New York

Fleet Captain Jack Jones
 Fleet Secretary John Treadwell
 Fleet Champion Jack Jones
 Fleet Runner-Up John Treadwell

* Leonard A. Montague	May Day May Day	10712
* Richard A. Matarese M.D.	Fata Bella	13232
* John Boxberger	The Pit	13834
* Bradford A. White	White Lightnin	13894
* Irwin K. Stone M.D.	Anasazi	14094
* John H. Treadwell, II	Hendershore	14192
* Richard C. Grissinger	Footloose II	14254
* Jack Jones	You Bet I'm Chicken	14321

Another active sailing year at Henderson Harbor - with a twist - as 4 boats sailed out of Harbor View and the rest out of HHYC. But, as always, what really counts was the weekly rendezvous on the Bay for some great sailing. We had 10 boats race during the course of the season, which ran from 6/8 through 9/21. And our largest fleet was 7 boats, and that happened 7 times! Our results:

Appleblossom	Jack Jones
	John Treadwell
Spring Series	John Boxberger
	John Boxberger
	Jack Jones
Barnes Memorial	John Treadwell
	Jack Jones
	John Boxberger
Picksly	John Treadwell
	Jack Jones
	C. Leonard
Commodores Cup	Jack Jones
	John Treadwell
	John Boxberger
Thursday Series	G. Leonard
	C. Leonard
	Zach Skinner
	R. Grissinger
Sunday Series	Jack Jones
	Jack Jones
	John Treadwell
	John Boxberger
	C. Leonard
	R. Grissinger
Stoney	John Boxberger
	Zach Skinner
	R. Grissinger
Fall Series	C. Leonard
	R. Grissinger
	Jack Jones
Frostbite	John Treadwell
	Jack Jones
	R. Grissinger

May Robinson Memorial Jack Jones
 John Treadwell
 C. Leonard
 John Boxberger
 R. Grissinger

Our Fleet and HHYC hosted the '97 District Women's, Juniors' and Masters' and had some fine performances from amongst our fleet, as Jones and Treadwell placed 2nd and 3rd respectively in the Masters' division; and John Boxberger and Zach Skinner were 2nd and 3rd in the Juniors'. Also we sent two boats to the North Americans, with Jack Jones in the Masters, and John Boxberger, Allison Stevens and Scottie Matarese in the Juniors. Congratulations to all.

Next year we hope to have 2 additions to the fleet, plus the return of May Day. But on the minus side, we missed Irwin Stone very much this past season. Hope to see everyone on the water, as much as possible, in 1998. *John Treadwell*

BISCAYNE BAY FLEET 226

Florida District

Sailing on Biscayne Bay

Coconut Grove, Miami, Florida

Fleet Captain John Rouse
 Fleet Secretary Alix Shaw

* Frank Atkinson Jr		8330
* Sam Septembre	Sam I Am	10700
* Dean R. Gosselin	Folie A Trois	11171
* George F. Siegle	A1A	11205
* Walter H. Beckwith, Jr.	Flashback	11425
* Winfield L. Cooper		11643
* Larry J. Ames		
* & Stuart Anderson (Life)	Glockenspiel	11702
* Jack Hamm		12050
* Michael Broderick	Honeycomb	12064
* David Holland	Lizzie	13592
* Ted Kapustka		13748
* Randy Clee	Hi-Voltage	13861
* Onofre Torres	Rumrunner	13983
* Bill Mauk	Silent Runner	14066
* John Rouse	Turbo Dog	14084
* Eamonn De Lisser	Main Squeeze	14098
* Winfield L. Cooper	South	14178
* Jeff Shaw	Steam Driven	14212
* Jon W. Ewing	Free Beer Yesterday	14374
* Fay Regan	Booby Trap	14708
* John Gochberg		14809
* Ben Lieberman		0

No report.

BOMOSEEN YACHT CLUB FLEET 227

New England District

Sailing on Lake Bomoseen

Bomoseen, Vermont

Fleet Commodore Fred Bagley
 Fleet Secretary Jennifer Bagley

* Bruce M. Atkinson		8330
* Bruce M. Atkinson		
* & Stefan Sargeant	Live Animals	11137
Trip Westcott		11493
Charlie Freeman		11504
Jim Leamy		12077
* Fred Bagley		13497



* Anthony F. Abatiell	
* & Ethan Abatiell	13732
Bill Cohen	13859
* Raymond P. Harrington, Jr.	
* & Raymond Harrington	14056

Lake Bomoseen's Lightning Fleet 227 celebrated its 46th year with great winds, successful regattas and no millfoil. Though only eight boats raced locally, we boasted a competitive batch of skippers, a new crop of youngsters as crew (Sydney Harrington and Heather Fjeld), and a great new yellow committee boat with a voluptuous mermaid on her bow. Thanks, Jamie. Fleet 227 raced 24 times over the summer, including three two-day series over the Memorial Day, Labor Day and 4th of July weekends.

We also hosted the 12th annual Maple Leaf Regatta in June, where 21 boats vied for top honors, prizes being jugs of Vermont Maple Syrup and Karl Fjeld's famous hand-crafted wooden trophies. Burlington's Bill Fastiggi took top honors, followed by Charlotte's Don Brush. George Deyett of Chelmsford, MA was third, and 227's own Ray Harrington took 4th, followed by Eric Cutting from Merrimac, NH. All skippers received photos of their boats in action, thanks to Fleet photographer Tony Abatiell.

Top winners in the Memorial Day Stagg-Potter Series were the Cohen boat, first, with the Atkinson and Harrington boats tied for second. The 4th of July Stowell Series top three finishers were Atkinson, Harrington and Abatiell. Labor Day's Belrose Series saw the Harrington, Atkinson and Bagley boats finish 1-2-3.

We ended the season with a banquet at The Lakehouse Restaurant, watching one more sunset shimmer over the October waters of Lake Bomoseen. Fleet Champion was Ray Harrington (again), followed by Atkinson, Bagley, Cohen and Abatiell, with Freeman and Leamy tied for last place. All skippers receive engraved needle-nosed vice grips with a 3/8 inch wrench attached. No more excuses for a badly tuned mast!

We invite you all to our 13th Annual Maple Leaf Classic next summer. Jennifer Bagley

RIVERTON YACHT CLUB FLEET 228

Central Atlantic District

Sailing on the Delaware River

Riverton, New Jersey

Fleet Captain	John Haiges
Fleet Secretary	Caroline Schneider
Fleet Treasurer	Hugh Hutchinson
Fleet Champion	Mark Schneider

* Hugh J. Hutchison	Enterprise	8616
* Mark L. Keene		8690
* Paul L. Alberti	Discovery	9628
Gary Swangler		10956
* Maury Benbow	Smidge	11519
* Caroline Schneider	White Rabbit	11753
* Josh McCaully	Daisy	12140
* Gary Birnhak	Yell-O!	13624
* Richard Moyer		13792

* Robert C. Bush	Ambush	14025
* Peter R. Denton	Ultimate Pressure	14028
* Hugh J. Hutchison		14214
* Paul J. Hecht	Kestrel	14360
* Stuart Feldman	Ultimate Answer	14408
* Allan M. Crew	Toodle-00	14699
John Haiges		14771
* Mark C. Schneider		14840

Another good year on the river. As usual, the best fleet racing is on Wednesday nights when we have good wind throughout the Summer. This year was no exception with John Haiges showing good speed and easily taking the series. The series was highlighted by an early May race that showed that the fleet had a few wrinkles to iron out. We had 11 boats expected to start the race. One boat had a breakdown on the pier. Two boats hit each other before the start so hard they had to stop. One boat put up the spinnaker sideways. Two boats capsized. And one boat went aground in a falling tide (we have an eight foot tidal drop) and then broke his center-board pennant and had to retire.

As usual, the Sunday series is not much to write about as the wind is normally in short supply until about 3 PM and many of our boats are traveling to away regattas. Maury Benbow sailed well to take this series. Our Fall regatta was won by Dick Hallagan (as usual) with John Haiges just a point behind. We welcomed Gary Swangler back into the fleet after a two year hiatus. Gary bought an old Lippincott and had a 5-1-1 the first day of the Fall regatta in his first three races in the boat - not a bad start. We also welcomed Gary Birnhak as a crew turned skipper.

One of the best things about our fleet is that we travel. We had multiple fleet boats at 15 different regattas this year, with 6 boats at the PA Governor's Cup, 6 boats at the Districts, 6 boats at the ACC's and 2 boats at the NA's. Maury Benbow sailed well at the Master's in Michigan coming in 9th. Stuart Feldman sailed to a midfleet finish in the Green Fleet in his first NA's. Bob Bush was happy to make the blue fleet and put a few boats behind them. We also enjoyed a little side wager with Nyack Boat Club this year with the scores of the best five boats added together in two different regattas. We ended the year at 1-1.

We had a wedding in the fleet this year. Caroline Schneider married Bob Hoedemaker. Congratulations Bob and Caroline. If you are in the Philadelphia area on a Wednesday night next Summer, stop in and enjoy the romantic river.

CHINOOK FLEET 229

Pacific Northwest District

Sailing on Fern Ridge Reservoir

Eugene, Oregon

Fleet Captain John Mahoney

* Wally Jones	Caledonia	6061
* Chuck Gottfried		7525
* A. Morrie Craig	Green Eggs And Ham	13942

No report.

FLOTTA DEL GARDA 249

Italy District

Sailing on Garda Bay

Northern Italy

* G. Ferdinando De Amicis (Life)	Sindbad	8763
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No report.

**SEMPACHER / HALLWILER /
VIERWALDSTÄTTER / GREIFENSEE FLEET 250**
Switzerland District
**Sailing on the Lakes of Sempach, Hallwil,
Luzern and Greifen**
Zürich, Switzerland

Fleet Secretary Silvio Merz
Fleet Champion Urs Wyler

* Hubert K. Stocker	You Never Know	10463
* Heinrich Leimgrubler	Csardas	10467
* Jacob Blickensdorfer	White Star	12306
* Rudolf Herzog	Joy III	12571
* William Lingg		13072
* Christof Luthy	Domi-Nike	13099
* Silvio Merz		13161
* Ernst Beyer	Cezanne	13705

In Sempach at our traditional Fleet Championship we had 5 boats. The wind was not as we like it. Anyway we had two races in changing conditions. Once again our Fleet Champion is a crew from Lake Murten: *Meltemi*, with the fabulous Urs Wyler, Gilbert and Walter Dürr.

We are now looking forward to the next sailing season and especially to the 1999 season when the European Championship will be here at our very nice Lake of Sempach. I hope that we will have many many people here. See you there. *Silvio Merz*

SALAMIS FLEET 251
Greece District
Sailing on the Bay of Phaleron
Athens, Greece

Fleet Captain Nickolas Dimou

* Christos Bonas	Clockwork Orange	10966
* Nickolas Dimou		
* & Alexandros Dimou	Renata	13968
* Theodore Tsoulfas		

No report.

KEUKA LAKE FLEET 252
Central New York District
Sailing on Keuka Lake
Hammondsport, New York

Fleet Captain Peter Cunningham
Fleet Secretary Eileen Loh-Fontier
Fleet Treasurer Bob Cole
Fleet Champion Peter Cunningham
Fleet Runner-Up James Staunton

* Leon A. Fontier	Purple Haze	9249
Barry Brogan	Acres Aweigh	10490
Don Tylor	Tippecanoe	12702
* Rowland Stebbins, III	7-11	12711
Ron Anderson		13514
Vasco Raposo	Cherry Bomb	13541
Paul Schnipelsky & Bob Burkhardt	The Other Woman	13816

* Brent Gillette		14119
* Peter M. Cunningham	Ballyhoo	14221
* James E. Staunton	Mangy Moose	14256
* Michael N. Kalinich		14368
* Robert Cole	Thumper	14416
* Clyde L. Rathmann	Grumpy Old Men	14426

1997 was an active season for our fleet, with increased participation in club races. Barry Brogan, long a member, participated in most of this season's races. Brent Gillette, former crew member for past Fleet Champion, Tom Buechner, returned to the fleet as skipper of his own boat and took third place for the season. Peter Cunningham, with his father David Cunningham as crew, moved from Runner-Up to Fleet Champion this year, and Jim Staunton took the spot of Runner-Up. We missed Bob Cole's participation in this year's races. His "other life" commitments kept him away from the club all season.

Peter Cunningham also took *Ballyhoo* to the Districts and to Cazenovia for their regatta. He was joined at the latter by Jim Staunton with *Mangy Moose*. Brent Gillette went over to Silver Lake for variety in competition. Here at Keuka Lake, we had a good turnout for the Champagne Regatta. Once again, the winners got to take home pewter trophies made by fleet member Leon Fontier.

The 1998 Champagne Regatta is planned for June 27 & 28, the weekend just prior to the 60th Anniversary celebration at the Skaneateles Country Club, also in the Central New York District. Plan on an extended holiday, and stop at Keuka for the Champagne Regatta on your way over to Skaneateles! *Eileen Loh-Fontier*

SUSQUEHANNA YACHT CLUB FLEET 253
Dixie District
Sailing on the Susquehanna River
Long Level, Pennsylvania

Fleet Secretary Kenneth Kuzdro

* Carol Park	Conversations	?
* Keith Dietel		9474
* Stephen D. Tiley		9897
William McGuin	Fort Knox	9904
Bud Moyer	Jack Tar	10391
* Courtland Dunn		11329
Holly Miller		
& Walt Poyck		11582
Richard Willey		
& Roy Wells		12137
* Starling H. Mikell, III	Deb Star	12941
* Kenneth C. Kuzdro	Sneak Attack	13218
* Frederick S. Bush	Double Whammy	13813
* Charles F. Noble	Starthrower	14156
Larry Stets		?

1997 was a year of continued slow growth for Fleet 253. Our Wednesday night races usually found 5 to 7 Lightning on the starting line, up a bit from past years. And we even had a couple of Saturday in-club regattas and a few Sunday afternoon races, despite the annoyance of jet-ski noise and waves on the river.

We welcomed Walt Poyck and Holly Miller, who after several years of crewing bought Charlie Noble's *Crescendo* and started the task of learning what it's like to skipper.

And we enjoyed seeing Noble in his new (to him) *Starthrower*, going very fast when he got all the boat's many strings pulled just right.

Ken Kuzdro (with Noble and Kevin Smith as crew) represented the fleet at the Pennsylvania Governor's Cup Regatta at Lake Wallenpaupack, won by Riverton's Bob Bush, who learned to sail on the Susquehanna way back in the 70's. Time marches on, but Fleet 253 is still going strong.