

GREATER CHARLESTON FLEET 429
Southeastern District
Sailing on Charleston Harbor
Charleston, South Carolina

Fleet Contact Leonard Krawcheck

* Milt Rhodes		10039
* William R. Sloger, Sr.	Wasabi	11771
* Leonard Krawcheck	Got It	14519
* Ross Griffith		
* Kenneth C. Krawcheck		

No report.

OCEAN CITY YACHT CLUB FLEET 430
Central Atlantic District
Sailing on Great Egg Harbor Bay
Ocean City, New Jersey

Fleet Secretary John Parker

* John J. Parker	Flower Child	13380
* Erik T. Hostvedt	Blue Streak	14014

No report.

SOUTHAMPTON YACHT CLUB FLEET 431
Long Island District
Sailing on Shinnecock Bay
Southampton, Long Island, New York

Fleet Captain Richard Warren

Fleet Secretary Peter Robinson

* John V.H. Halsey	Windy Too	11071
* Robert G. Shewan		14074
* Tim Rumph		14157
* Tim Rumph	Seahorse	14339
* John Lewandowski	Outrageous	14551
* Richard E. Warren		14560
* Bruce Hendry		14679

No report.

RUSH CREEK YACHT CLUB FLEET 435
Texas District
Sailing on Lake Ray Hubbard
Dallas, Texas

Fleet Captain Scott Anderson

Fleet Secretary Jennifer Eldredge

* Sylvan Newman		10397
* Vernon R. Goldberg	Andros 3	13228
* Vernon R. Goldberg		13266
* Robert Thomas	Pandora	13311
* Sylvan Newman		13622
* Patrick Moseley		
* & Jeff Herron		13806
* Jennifer Gandy Eldredge	Some Girls	13870
* Scott Anderson		13953
* James Alman	Vertical Smile	14428

- * Scott Anderson
- * Richard C. Guinan, Jr. (Life)
- * George R. Hatfield (Life)
- * John S. Schneider (Life)

14817

The Rush Creek fleet started the year off with a party at Jenny/Jeff and Pumpkin Eldredge's house. Awards were given for the prior year - the usual suspects won their usual trophies. After a few revelers crashed the party, we danced and enjoyed liquid beverages until the wee hours.

The Lightning Rush Creek fleet once again hosted the Spring Dinghyfest Regatta at Rush Creek Yacht Club on Mother's Day weekend. It usually howls for this regatta but we had a drifter this year. Steve and Patty Harris came from Houston to sail in the regatta.

Scott Anderson won the regatta with Jay Martin on the boat. Tom Lamson was using Jenny's boat and John Skiles and Melissa Kaufman were sailing with him. If they weren't 5 minutes late to the start on Sunday, they might have beaten Scotty for the overall trophy. Third was the Harris team from Houston. Some of the other participants were Doc Newman and fast and sexy daughter Deanna Newman, Vern Goldberg and Chris Murphy, Patrick Moseley and Jeff Herron.

The Rush Creek Lightning fleet once again hosted the Texas District Championships. Maybe we had an El Nino effect on Lake Ray Hubbard this year because the Texas Districts held in June were quite windy. We didn't have any capsizes but a lot of planing was going on. Jim Alman and Jeff Kerr won the regatta with Jenny Eldredge, Tom Lamson and Shaun Williamson second, the Harris clan with the infamous (what a sailor and what a partier) Chris Shipman also on board got 3rd. Perhaps too many skippers on that boat. Scott Anderson, Jay Martin and Chris Breland fourth.

Fall Dinghyfest at Rush Creek was not in the fall but in late summer.

Tom Lamson and Craig Bandy got Jenny around the course for a first, second was Scott Anderson, his darling girlfriend Jenny Goodacre and Jay Martin. It was very nice for the Harris team to make it up to the regatta too.

The fleet hasn't done a lot of traveling this year. Scott Anderson has done both of the fall Lake Conroe regattas. The Commodore's Cup was extremely windy and cold and Deanna Newman (the fast and sexy theme song needs to be played) was sailing with Scotty along with Scotty's girlfriend Jenny Goodacre. Scott and Jay Martin just got back from the Toys for Tots regatta - only nice toys were given this year. Scotty reported that it was a light air regatta but a lot of fun and Scotty won! *Jenny Eldredge*

FOND DU LAC FLEET 442
Midwest District
Sailing on Lake Winnebago
Fond du Lac, Wisconsin

Fleet Captain/Secretary Mike Elmergreen

Fleet Champion Jeannane Vanderloop

- * Sue Dorscheid
- * & Michael Elmergreen Escape 13617

This year started as usual with the Lighthouse Regatta. It was a special year with twenty boats participating, two from Canada. Malcomb Crooks and Ross Bailey made the long drive with their crews for an exciting five race series. Five different people won races but the overall winner was David Stix from Chicago with crew of Robert Alexander and Karl Erikson. Three points behind David was Bill Faude with crew Jared Drake and Sue Dorscheid. Three points behind them was Paul Wurtzebach with crew Bonnie Hawkins and Jeanne Vanderloop.

Fox 11 news did their Friday night news broadcast live from the lighthouse. They had live interviews with Regatta Chairman Mike Elmergreen and class president Bill Faude. Ross Bailey sailed around in the background and received lots of air time. Greg Fisher was our on-the-water coach who also provided trim, tactic, and boathandling critiques from videotape after the races on Saturday and Sunday.

The club racing was again our mongrel fleet racing under Portsmouth Handicap every Tuesday night from Memorial Day to Labor Day. This year Jeananne Vanderloop skippered Mike Elmergreen's boat *Escape* and won every race except one. Al McReynolds from Rochester was visiting during a week with Jeananne out of town. As guest skipper, Al managed a fourth place on a course that turned into a reach-reach instead of the usual windward-leeward. Needless to say, the scows ate up the pointy boats.

The boats are now in the barn, and the ice boaters are now waiting for their turn.

Elmo

CLUB UNIVERSITARIO DE BUENOS AIRES 446

Argentina District

Sailing on the Waters of Rio De La Plata

Buenos Aires, Argentina

Fleet SecretaryRoberto Ricoveri

* Roberto Ricoveri	11037
* Hector Longarela	11649
* Diego Perroto	

No report.

SAN PABLO FLEET 447

Ecuador District

Sailing on Lago San Pablo

Quito, Ecuador

Fleet CaptainJaime Martinez

* Lars Dyck		
* & Olaf Dyck	Samuel	11365
* Jose M. Perez		12221
* Jose M. Perez	Speedy	12338
* Jaime Martinez	Nirvana	14389
* Ernesto Martinez F.	Buscapleitos	14558

No report.

MARSALA FLEET 449

Italy District

Sailing on the Mediterranean Sea

Marsala, Sicily, Italy

Fleet CaptainGiovanni Pellegrino

Fleet SecretaryGiuseppe Valenti

Fleet ChampionMario Noto

Fleet Runner-UpStefano Reina

* Giovanni Pellegrino (Life)	Wanted I	12027
* Marsala Societa' Canottieri		12537
* Giuseppe Valenti	Trepepe	13345
* Vito Pernice	Ho Hell	13349
* Antonio Marino	Rainbow	13402
* Giuseppe Giacalone	Dove Vai?	13478
* Marcello Attina	Wanted III	13481
* Pietro Zerilli	Lily Bay Tan	13706
* Roberto Giacalone		13878
* Roberto Crucitti		14102
* Giovanni Pellegrino (Life)		14179
* Stefano Reina	Maranna	14197
* Gaspare Buffa		14361
* Mario Noto		14731

There was intense activity within our fleet during the season. The most important success was the Italian Championship in Marsala, organized by Club Velico Rimini. Our Societa' Canottieri Marsala Fleet Champion, Mario Noto and crew Giuseppe Alagna and Mario Alagna, and 3 other teams were right at the top of the results of this Championship.

Our fleet also participated in the European Championship in Athens: Antonio Marino and his team finished fifth.

Our season will end with the Winter Criterium organized by the Circolo Velico Marsala on December 28-31.

The clubs that help us carry out this intense activity are: Circolo Velico Marsala and Societa' Canottieri Marsala. It is important to remember the help of our builders Pellegrino Giovanni e Antonio De Vita, who allow our fleet to win everywhere with their wonderful wooden boats.

Giuseppe Valenti

FLOTTE DEL TRASIMENO 453

Italy District

Sailing on Trasimeno Lake

Perugia, Italy

Fleet SecretarySergio Rustichelli

* Sauro Scarpocchi	Wind III	13348
* Sauro Scarpocchi		13455
* Giovanni Rosi		13462
* Matteo Balestrero		13462
* Sergio Rustichelli		14228
* Sauro Scarpocchi		14239
* Franco De Regis		14316

No report.

TUUSULVANJÄRVI FLEET 456

Finland District

Sailing on Lake Tuusulanjärvi

Tuusula, Finland

Fleet CaptainWalteri Karhusaari

Fleet SecretaryMaija Pyy

Fleet ChampionOlli Lähteinen

Fleet Runner-upAntero Punttila

* Juha Siilin		12482
* Lauri Hamalainen	Vipunen	13098
* Matti Leppänen		13348
* Pertti Pyy		13413
* Niko Lappalainen	Poiju	14018
* Rainer Korhonen	Porkkana	14179
* Leo Korhonen		14274
* Hartti Nisonen		14274
* Olli Lähteinen	Shark	14331
* Juha Siilin	Sini	14352
* Pertti Pyy	Amarillo	14406
* Heikki Hamalainen		14491
* Juha Hamalainen		14494
* Antero Punttila	Snow White	14535
* Juha Savela		??
* Timo Ahomaki		0
* Pentti Laitinen		0

Greetings from Lake Tuusula Fleet to all Lightning sailors! Our 1997 sailing season started with Lake Tuusula's traditional On The Rocks Regatta in early May. The regatta was sailed on almost "on the rocks" as the last ice patches on the lake had melted only a couple of weeks before the regatta. Needless to say, we all lacked practise but still managed to have highly competitive races. I must confess that I cannot remember who won the regatta and I seem to have



Fleet 456's Antero Punttila and crew Erkki Punttila and Maija Pyy at the World Championship in Montreal.
Photo courtesy Maija Pyy.

misplaced the results also. Anyways, it was a good, though a little chilly, start for the 1997 sailing season.

Only one boat from fleet 456 took part in the first ranking series regatta in Tampere on 17-18th of May. Olli Lähteinen and crew placed second in the regatta won by Kari Huusko and crew from Kemi.

Three boats from our fleet took part in the second Ranking series regatta, the Helsinki Regatta in mid-June. Olli Lähteinen and crew placed second, with Rainer Korhonen coming in fifth. The undersigned came sixth - out of the six boat fleet - in my first ranking series regatta as a skipper. Thank you Risto and Riitta for having the courage to get in a boat with me! Kari Huusko from Kemi, not only won the farthest traveller award, but also won the entire regatta in impressive form. Pentti Laitinen and crew from Valkeakoski placed third.

The activities slowed down a little for the summer holidays in July, with Fleet 456 hosting Finland District's on the water training session on Lake Tuusula. Fleet 456's Antero Punttila and crew Erkki Punttila and Maija Pyy, however, kept themselves busy at the Worlds in Montreal. Antero and Erkki even took time to take part in a warm-up regatta in Rochester before the main event in Montreal. The only "fully Finnish" team ended-up placing in 53rd place. Overall a good finish, considering that it was their first regatta together this season.

Two active Fleet 456 crews travelled to northern Finland for the third ranking series regatta in Kemi at the end of July. Olli Lähteinen and crew actually arrived in Kemi straight from the European Championships in Athens, Greece. Pertti Pyy and crew placed third in this very well organized regatta, with Olli placing fourth. Kari Huusko showed that the victories in the two first ranking regattas were not just luck by completing an impressive three-in-a-row victory streak on their home waters. The regatta organizers and local Lightning sailors deserve a special mention for a very well run regatta, both on and off the water. Thank you Kemi!

This season the District Championships were held in Valkeakoski in mid-August. Fleet 456 had three participants in the 13 boat fleet. Olli Lähteinen and crew continued their fine form by placing fourth, with Niko Lappalainen and crew placing sixth. Pertti Pyy and crew were ninth. The Districts were won by, wait for it! Yes, Kari Huusko and crew from Kemi. Be it on a lake or on the ocean, the "Boys from Kemi" seem to be unstoppable.

The fourth ranking series regatta was sailed in Lahti at the end of August, with four boats from our fleet taking part. Juha Siilin and Matti Leppänen skippered their first ranking series regattas. Juha joined our fleet in 1996 with Matti joining this summer. Both have been taking part in our Tuesday night practise races and it was great to see them battling it out in ranking regatta. Olli Lähteinen pressed Kari Huusko, but had to settle for a second place finish in the eight boat fleet. Pentti Järvinen was third with yours truly placing fourth, and Juha Siilin and Matti Leppänen coming in sixth and seventh.

Our sailing season came to an end with the Fall Regatta sailed on our very own Lake Tuusula on 20-21 September. The Fall Regatta was also our last ranking series regatta. Even though Kari Huusko

had already secured the victory of the ranking series, they drove the 670 kilometers to take part in the season finisher. Kimmo Aromaa from the Helsinki Fleet won the regatta with Olli Lähteinen placing second. After having toured the Helsinki nightlife on Saturday Kari and his crew took part in only the first race on Sunday and then headed back on the long drive to the north. Antero Punttila and crew were third, with Niko Lappalainen and crew coming in fourth.

Fleet 456's 1997 season ended with the traditional Little Christmas party on November 29th, yesterday. The boats are all stored for the winter, our home lake has already frozen over and the sailing gear stowed away in wait for next summer which promises to be a busy one for Fleet 456 and the Tuusulanjärven Purjehtijat Sailing Club. Not only will we be hosting the Finland District Championships, but also the Open European Championships, and the first-ever Open European Masters Championships. The planning for these events, to be held in July, has already started and we're planning on holding a sailing week that will be long remembered. A wooden Lightning event is also being planned as a part of these activities to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of Lightnings in Finland. On behalf of the Fleet 456, I would like to extend a warm invitation to all Lightning sailors to come and join us for a week in July to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Finland District. Welcome!

Yours, Waltteri Karhusaari, Fleet 456 Captain

NORTH FLORIDA FLEET 461

Florida District

Sailing on Lake Eustis

North of Orlando, Florida

Fleet SecretarySteve Hayden

* Christopher (Kip) Hamblet	FOB	11346
* Christopher (Kip) Hamblet	FNB	14446
* Hans Birkholz	Like A Monkey	14698
* Steve Hayden		
* & Fisk Hayden (Life)	Calvin	14752

Fleet 461 was at all the major regattas, in and out of the state of Florida, this year. Fisk Hayden, Southern Circuit Chairman, had another record attendance year for the "new" Southern Circuit. Steve Hayden's team attended the World's in Montreal and finished 6th overall. Kip Hamblet sailed on Bob Wardwell's team, finishing in the middle of the 60 boat fleet. The Florida Districts were held at Coconut Grove SC and won by Steve and Angie Hayden and Barr Batzer. Hans Birkholz finished fifth overall, giving Fleet 461 two boats in the top five.

The Lake Eustis Sailing Club has purchased land to begin developing a new Sailing Club site. Hopefully, we will be hosting some regatta during the '98-'99 season. Good Sailing!

GUARAPIRANGA LAKE FLEET 462

Brazil District

Sailing on Lake Guarapiranga

São Paulo, Brazil

Fleet SecretaryPer Olov Hornell

* George Lewis Rider	Easy Rider	11693
* Claus Bromberg	Waikiki	13405
* Nelson Small Schmitt		14071
* Jens Cristiano Ruschmann	Flying Cloud	14168
* James Sumner	Macumba	14329
* Nelson Small Schmitt		14353
* Nelson Small Schmitt		14504
* Michael Anthony Norris	Flash Rider	14602
* Nelson Small Schmitt	Xamego V	14633
* Michael Anthony Norris		14845

No report.

LAKE WACCAMAW FLEET 463

Southeastern District

Sailing on Lake Waccamaw

Waccamaw, North Carolina

Fleet Captain	Vivian Hollinshed
Fleet Secretary	J.M. "Dick" Coburn
Fleet Champion	J.M. "Dick" Coburn
Runner-Up	Paul Jueschke

Neal Turner		11898
* Paul R. Jueschke	Celebrate!	12125
* Vivian E. Hollinshed		14247
* J.M. "Dick" Coburn	Strings Attached	14252
* James Taylor	Blitzkreig	14390
* Allen Smith	Maggie II	14521
* H.B. Toby Wells, Jr.		0

The 1997 season was a complete turnaround from last year weather wise. You might say it was a tame year, no hurricanes or intimidating storms. There was only one none-race day for lack of wind; though there were several "blasters" out of the Northeast early in the season which begins in April and goes through October. We hosted several Lightning regattas and several open regattas.

In June we held the Coburn-Bradley Cup, which is the match race qualifier in Lightnings for the national match race championships. Pierce Barden of the Carolina Yacht Club, Wrightsville Beach, walked away with the honors and on to the next round.

Our September district regatta was won by James Harris while *Driving Blind, Deaf & Dumb*, of Clark's Hill Fleet 257, Augusta, Ga.

James Taylor was a traveling man this year making all the district races and finishing 7th at the Borderline Regatta which always has a good turnout. This year the conditions were a little brutal, though warmer than North of the Mason - Dixon Line.

Dick Coburn finished strong in the season fleet championship with Paul Jueschke keeping it close in a number of races. We are all looking towards next year with an early April start of racing activities and the great camaraderie of Lightning sailors.

Ya'll come on down for some good 'ol Southern Hospitality!!

See Ya next year!! Paul R Jueschke

FLOTTA DEL CONERO 466

Italy District

Sailing on the Adriatic Sea

Ancona, Falconara and Senigallia, Italy

Fleet Secretary	Renao Bozzi
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* Ivano Brolli		13037
* Bruno Roccheggiani	Bibir	13346
* Giovanni Sorci		13445
* Giorgio Curzi		14239
* Paolo Poletti		14243
* Fabio Giuliani		
* & Carlo Jommi		14245

No report.

VALKEAKOSKI FLEET 468

Finland District

Sailing on Lake Mallevesi and Vanajavesi

Valkeakoski, Finland

Fleet Secretary	Perti Jalonen
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* Aimo Jokiniemi	12992
* Aimo Jokiniemi	14403
* Pentti Jarvinen	14352
* Pentti Jarvinen	14761

No report.

CEDAR FLEET 478

Florida District

Sailing on the Caloosahatchee River

Fort Myers, Florida

Fleet Secretary	Liz Lombardo
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* Ralph Suhm	Mysti Blue	8822
* Elizabeth Lombardo	Ab Fab	14705

No report.

FLOTTA ROMA 479

Italy District

Sailing on Bracciano Lake

Rome, Italy

Fleet Secretary	Gianni Battisti
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* Sergio Masserotti	14554
* Marco Nicolai	14782

No report.

WAKE FLEET 481

Southeastern District

Sailing on Kerr Lake

Raleigh, North Carolina

Fleet Captain	Ed Michels
Fleet Secretary	James Nutt

* Douglas King	Plummer	11900
* Worth A. Lutz, III		12773
* Ed Michels	Banana Boat	13620
* Michael S. Rees, M.D.	Adrenalin	13877
* Pierce P. Barden		14190
* David L. Francis	Too Fast	14332
* James E. Nutt, M.D.	Hallucination	14376
* John W. Pelosi	Anubis Leisure Society	14396

No report.

ITHACA FLEET 484

Central New York District

Sailing on Cayuga Lake

Ithaca, New York

Fleet Captain	Steve Little
Fleet Secretary	Jesse Miller

* Bryne O'Brien	Whisper	10113
* John Rudd	Allegro	10705
* Terrill Moore	Anna T.	11347
* Glenn S. Wilcox		11960
* Aage Larsen		13124

* Stephen Little		13372
* Carlo Montemagno	Photon	13787
* Jesse W. Miller	Hot Flash	13934
* Edward Seyerlein		14002
* Bill Anderson		14628
* Edward Seyerlein		14002

1997 was a year of phenomenal growth for Fleet 484. New boats were purchased by the Andersons, Littles and the Montemagnos and were added to our fleet. Aage Larsen purchased 13124 from Rick Eckstrom. We also instituted Thursday night fleet racing for the first time. This was very successful, with 13 evenings sailed out of a possible 16, and with 6 of the 10 boats participating a good part of the time. Bill and Maggie Anderson and sons won the season trophy by 3/4 of a point. Jesse and Ginny Miller with Aage Larsen as crew won the summer series by a similar slim margin.

Six of the 10 boats traveled to at least 2 away regattas. The Andersons and Ed Seyerlein sailed in all the District regattas. Ed sailed at the North Americans with Bill Anderson as crew. They also each did several out-of-District events.

Maggie Anderson coined the phrase "Deck Party" which consisted of snacks and suitable libations on the back deck of a Lightning after we raced. They were eagerly anticipated each Thursday evening.

We all had a wonderful summer. We agreed that our sailing had improved generally during the summer. We learned from each other, and we were inspired by each other's boat improvements.

We are all looking forward to 1998. There are rumors of 1 or 2 new boats. Lots of new sails have been ordered and we are getting ready.

Jesse Miller



Fleet 484 at home: back row (l to r) Ed Seyerlein, John and Kirsten Rudd, Bill Anderson, Steve Little, Enos Travis; front row (l to r) Aage Larsen, Beverly Chin, Jeanette Little, Anca Trandafirescu, Glenn Wilcox, Maggie Anderson, Jess Miller

VALLEY FLEET 486

Mississippi Valley District

Sailing on Alton Lake

Machens, Missouri

Fleet CaptainGerald Wnorowski
Fleet SecretaryMary Ann Dellerman

* C. Graeme Wilson	Chaos	8664
* Mark Nash	Black Bart	11125
* Jerry Chapman		11637
* Stephen Wyers	Top Secret	13379
* Richard Conaway	Fascination	14088
* Gerald L. Wnorowski		14233

Sailing the Valley 1997

Let's see....no 500 year flood, no gale force winds, no famine or pestilence, gee it was just an abnormal year. Abnormal in the fact that there were no calamities as in the previous years. Just nothing happened. And not really much on the sailing scene either. It seems as if we all had a lot to do this year that kept us away from sailing. When we did sail, we enjoyed it, and we all hope that next year we'll get to sail more, and enjoy it more.

We still held the two regattas we normally host, the Muddy Rudder Regatta in September and the Governor's Cup Regatta in October. Winds were light and fluky for the Muddy Rudder, and I did not do too well. The Governor's Cup weekend provided some of the best sailing in many years. The temperature was warmer than normal, and the winds were strong, but not overpowering. I particularly relished the Governor's Cup since I was able to win it, in the Lightning Class, for the second year in a row. I still can hardly believe it.

The following are excerpts from the accounts of our regattas as written by Steve Wyers.

Valley Sailing Fleet 486 Muddy Rudder Regatta

St. Louis, MO Sept. 6-7, 1997

We had nine boats for the Muddy Rudder. We were disappointed that the only guest competitor was Linus Portman, sailing #13892 from Carlyle Sailing Association. Winds were light and fluky Saturday, with temperatures in the low 80's. We ran one-lap triangles, two in the morning and two in the afternoon. Rick Conaway dominated the morning races.

Winds were still light in the afternoon. In race three, Rick got buried at the start and took a 5th to Linus Portman's 1st. In race 4 Jerry Chapman had a commanding lead. We (Steve Wyers) were in second, but were hit by a shift just before the lee mark, causing us to miss it. Jerry Wnorowski passed us as we fought to round, as did Linus. When we (Steve) finally made it around the mark, there were the first three just below us, sitting in a massive hole and floating down river! Rick, who had had his problems, came by in 5th place, chute full and shot off into the lead, followed closely by Graeme Wilson! I don't know how he could fly a chute so close to the wind! We (Steve) caught a puff and followed, with Linus a bit behind. I couldn't catch the leaders, and made the mistake of not covering Linus, who caught a shift to place 3rd. (Jerry) Chapman, who had sailed so well, finished 5th. Followed by a very dejected Jerry Wnorowski in 6th.

Sunday we started a two-lap triangle in light air, at about 9:45 am. The wind died just after the start, and Jerry Wnorowski anchored as we drifted. When nobody cleared the first mark within the 45 min. limit, the race was canceled. After a conference additional racing was called, thankfully as it didn't improve any later. I was happy for the four races Saturday, and no protests to settle!

Boat No Skipper/Crew

	Races: 1	2	3	4	Score
14088 Rick Conaway, Greg Poloniak, Dave Bailey	1	1	5	1	7.25
13892 Linus Portman, Joe Rattini, Lloyd Roberts	2	5	1	2	9.75
13379 Steve Wyers, Diana Kinder, Becky Williams	3	3	2	4	12
11637 Jerry Chapman, Eric Waldschmidt, Brian Roberts	4	2	4	5	15
14233 Jerry Wnorowski, Norma Wnorowski, Jim Harpel	5	4	3	6	18
8664 Graeme Wilson, Jim Schwartzkopf	6	7	7	3	23
12891 Phil Cotton, John Voelker, Rich Neiman	7	6	6	DNF	29
10865 Tony Brescia, Mark McFayden, Kevin O'Leary	8	8	8	7	31
13627 Linda Coleman, Bob Waterhout, Lori O'Bannon	9	9	9	DNF	37

1997 Governor's Cup Regatta Oct. 4-5, 1997

The 1997 Governor's Cup lived up to its history. Although the winds were forecasted to be 10 mph both days, we got 15 gusting to 25. At least it didn't rain as it has in past years! What this amounts to is one of the best Governors Cups ever! This year's races combined a Governor's Cup regatta for catamarans with the Hobie

Blews sponsored by Alton Lake Sailing Association (ALSA) starting first, with the Governor's Cup miscellaneous catamarans starting second. Lightnings had third start, Comets fourth, and miscellaneous monohulls fifth. In all there were 36 boats. The course both days was a port triangle two laps for monohulls and the official Hobie course chart for cats. Five races were sailed, three on Saturday and two on Sunday.

Jerry Wnorowski won the Lightning Class for the second year, placing him in position to retire it in '98. Graeme Wilson sailed to a well-deserved second and Rick Conaway placed third out of six boats. In Comets a visitor from Indianapolis won followed by Jerry Chapman and Eric Waldschmidt in a good seven-boat fleet. There were nineteen catamarans, plus three Lasers from ALSA and a Flying Dutchman sailing in miscellaneous. The Dutchman would have really been flying but its crew wasn't wearing a trapeze harness and was using the trap gear as a hiking line making it difficult to trim the jib and impossible to launch the chute. In that wind it should have been a jet!

Boat No	Skipper	1	2	3	4	5	Score
14233	G. Wnorowski	.75	.75	.75	.75	3	6.00
8664	G. Wilson	3	2	2	2	.75	9.75
14088	R. Conaway	2	3	4	3	2	14.00
13379	S. Wyers	4	4	3	4	5	20.00
10895	M. Ely	5	5	5	5	4	24.00
11598	J. Voelker	7	7	7	6	7	34.00

Submitted by Jerry Wnorowski, Fleet Captain

ROCKY MOUNTAIN FLEET 488

US @ Large District

Sailing in Colorado and Nebraska

Fleet CaptainBob Stoller

* William F. Cabrall	Blue Moon	11457
* Fred Denny	Heron	13478
* Martin R. Mulhern		13857
* Bob Stoller	North Star	14769

Fleet 488, the Rocky Mountain Lightning Fleet, started out its season this year in California at the California Circuit. I trailed my boat out (a 19 hour drive) and Marty Mulhern flew out to crew with my daughter and me. Some of the lakes were still frozen in Colorado, but the weather was just about perfect in San Diego. We found we were quite rusty compared to those California sailors who can sail all year around. We had a good time and worked on our boat handling and experienced one of the most thrilling planing reaches to date coming out of Coronado Bay into the ocean as we approached Point Loma.

Back in Colorado we had to wait until May to start the sailing season. Lightnings were at the head of the fleet in most of the open classes regattas that we sailed; Bill Cabrall with his *Blue Moon* (seems like the name complements *North Star*) was active this summer and proved once again that a 26 year old boat can be just as competitive as a 3 year old one.

We sailed on lakes in the mountains, on the plains, in Wyoming and Nebraska. We executed a magnificent capsized with the spinaker up at the Wyoming Governors Cup but still managed to get a second in our fleet. At the Nebraska Governors Cup *Blue Moon* was second in her fleet. We sent a representative to NAs this year at Crescent Sail Yacht Club and were reminded of the reason that they are called the North American Lightning Championship. It certainly is great to sail among the best sailors in the world.

The fleet looks forward to dry sailing several boats at Cherry Creek Reservoir in Denver during the summer of 98 and would encourage any one who finds himself in Denver and would like to sail on a Lightning to get in touch. Better yet, bring a boat. The competition is great and the venues available are varied and challenging.

Bob Stoller

ACULEO LAKE FLEET 490

Chile District

Sailing on Aculeo Lake

Champa, Paine, Chile

Fleet SecretaryManuel Gonzalez Mas

* Alberto Gonzalez Mas	Ojo De Lince	11011
* Luis Herman		11023
* Angel Fantuzzi	Kings Brooks	11450
* Pablo Amunategui E.	Pocas Lucas	13650
* Rodrigo Zuazola		14255
* Francisco Perez Spencer		14294
* Rodrigo Zuazola	Cabello Del Algal	14307
* Alberto Gonzalez Mas		14454
* Manuel Gonzalez Mas	Coballo Del Alguacil	14709
* Angel Fantuzzi		14791
* Francisco Perez Spencer		14794
* Alberto Gonzalez Mas		14838
* Alberto Gonzalez Mas		14843

No report.

TOHICKON CREEK FLEET 491

Central Atlantic District

Sailing on Lake Nockamixon

Quakertown, Pennsylvania

Fleet CaptainGary Bonner
Fleet SecretaryBarbara Benson
Fleet ChampionBrent Benson

* Clifford H. Matson, Jr.		96
Steve Lathrop		1792
* James Perkins	The Bolt	6378
* Charles S. Shoemaker	Esprit	9928
* Clifford H. Matson, Jr.		10420
* Brent W. Benson		11444
Alan Schragger		12077
* Clifford H. Matson, Jr.		13399
* Gary Bonner		13720

Four Lightnings competed in two series of five Saturday race days (Benson, 11444, first and Bonner, 13720, second, both series). Visiting Lightnings are welcome to sail with us in any Series or Regatta race. The Buccaneers we used to race level with weren't in the picture this year. The Benson's 11444 traveled to the Pennsylvania Governor's Cup and finished fifth. We finally had excellent weather for our Cap-it-off Regatta (Cad-Met) on October 18 when eight boats competed. (Last year's regatta brought 30-40 kt winds, driving rain and no racing.) Bob and Sterling Bush, 14025 from Riverton, won the regatta with local Sunfish sailor, Bill Schantz as third crew. Locals Brent and Barbara Benson, 11444, were second with Warren Mangan (Impulse, 505, etc.) as third crew.

BOW LAKE FLEET 493

New England District

Sailing on Bow Lake

New Hampshire

Fleet SecretaryNed Hinds

* Edward E. Hinds, III		11440
* Michael Lindh	Bad News Bees	12124
* Robert D. Shapiro		14111
* Edward E. Hinds, III	Naut!	14296

The Bob Evans Regatta was held on eight consecutive weekends, July 5 through August 23, 1997. It was a beautiful summer in the fantasy land of the beautiful New Hampshire hills.

Ned Hinds won a spirited competition with Bob Shapiro and Mike Lindh fighting for second and third place respectively.

We were washed out one weekend both Saturday and Sunday with heavy winds. The make up race was held the following weekend doubling up with extra races.

The most exciting event of the season was on the 16th of August when we were visited by the State Marine Patrol. With 20 seconds to go before the start all boats were maneuvering for position to begin the race. The State Marine Patrol boat came charging down the starting line signaling frantically that one of the boats was not registered properly and would have to withdraw from the race. With 5 seconds left before the start the committee boat advised the patrol vessel to "Clear the Start Line". The patrol boat was now exactly in the middle of the start line shouting incoherently that the race must be stopped because of the illegal, unregistered boat.

The look on the policeman's face as a fleet of Lightnings bore down on him and the start horn sounded was a sight to behold! After some discussion the Marine Patrolman conceded that the committee had no control nor jurisdiction over boat registration. The fleet finished its race and no one got a ticket.

We had an excellent regatta, our 23rd.

Bob Shapiro attended the Cedar Point Regatta. Bob and Ned Hinds were at Massabesic and three of our fleet, Mike Aversa, Ned Hinds and Bob Shapiro, went to the Spofford Lake Regatta. Ned came away with a first at Spofford.

Great year, lots of fun and great competition in 97, and with new boats in our fleet, 1998 will be even better.

SWIFT CREEK FLEET 496

Dixie District

Sailing on Swift Creek Reservoir Chesterfield County, Virginia

Fleet Secretary James Richards

* James E. Richards	Macerator	14292
* Robert C. Wardwell (Life)		14485

No report.

POINTE CLAIRE YACHT CLUB FLEET 499

St. Lawrence Valley District

Sailing on Lac St. Louis Montreal, Quebec, Canada

Fleet Captain David Browne

* Susan Rhodes		
* & Andrew Rhodes		11331
* David G.C. Browne		14240
* Rod Hayes		
* & John Sauter	Flip	14443
* R.A. (Tony) McBride (Life)		0

No report.

CLUB NAUTICO EL PORTILLO FLEET 501

Colombia District

Sailing on Tomine Lake Bogota, Columbia

Fleet Captain	Roberto Laignelet
Fleet Secretary	Juan Carlos Recaman

Gonzalo Reyes		1366
* Alvaro Acosta		6097
* Alvaro Sanjines	Cingara	7452
* Fernando Venegas		8911
* Roberto Laignelet		8957
* Alvaro Acosta		11660
Fernando Diaz		11677
Emilio Borrero		12570
* Carlos Alvarado		13044
Carlos Bernal		13201
* Leopoldo Gonzalez	Acarius	13216
* Alfonso Fidalgo		13338
Jaime Loboguerrero		13427
* Fernando Plazas Uscategui		13428
* Rafael Gutierrez	Camel	13429
* Alberto Prada		13446
* Andres Iriarte		13447
* Jose Leopoldo Gonzalez		14011
* Hernan Salcedo		14057
* Luis Pardo		14111
* Marcela Recaman		14132
* Solmar Bermudez Cortez		14132
* Miguel Ribon		14135
* Jorge Umana		14155
* Mauricio Mutis		14181
* Manuel Acosta		14538
* Hernando Ramirez		14552
Mauricio Venegas		14733
* Mauricio Mutis	Norfalia	14801
* Gustavo Tamayo		14802
* Richard Deeb		14803
Ricardo Seidner		14862
Alvaro Bustos		14863
* Roberto Londoño		14864
Jorge Recaman		14873
Carlos Leal		?

1997 was a great year for our fleet. In January we ran a wonderful clinic with TIM HEALY, BILL HEALY AND MATT REYNOLDS. They helped a lot to improve the sailing level of the participants, to the point that now we consider our sailing with the terms BT and AT (Before Tim and After Tim).

With seven brand new boats this year (out of eight that arrived this year), plus other new members, our fleet is very healthy and strong, with a lot of activities, both in our lake and abroad. We had one crew sailing at the Worlds, one at the Junior NAs, a partial crew at the Masters, and two at the North Americans. For the first time in twenty six years, the age of our club, we took 1st place at the Nationals and 1st and 2nd at the Colombia District Championship.

Nationals:

1st Place: Fernando Venegas, William Kemenes, Pedro Latiff.

Juniors:

1st Place: Juan C. Bustos, Camilo Salcedo, Nicolas Deeb

Districts:

1st Place: Solmar Bermudez, Pedro Londoño, Roberto Londoño

2nd Place: Roberto Laignelet, Renee Taylor, Maritza Vargas

Roberto Laignelet

SUNCOAST FLEET 502

Florida District

Based at Davis Island Yacht Club Tampa, Florida

Fleet Captain	Jeff Linton
Fleet Secretary	Dave Marsciano
Fleet Champion	Jeff Linton
Fleet Runnerup	Bill Meyer

* Kenneth See	Dream On	2924
* Andrew Hayward		10338

* Diana Demby		11222
* David E. White, III	Bamboozle	12396
* David Clement		12606
* James P. Taylor	Liz II	13063
* Clark T. Higgs		13285
* Doug Thomas		13636
* William H. Meyer, III	Fired-Up	14006
* Andrew Hayward	High Voltage	14062
* Michael S. Maher	Emeline	14414
* Donald W. Sherburne	Encore	14588
* Jeff Linton		14730

Suncoast Fleet 502 is happy to report significant net growth this year. New Skippers include Dave Marsciano, Rod Koch, and Dr. Michael Mayer. The Fleet lost Andy Hayward who opted for a cruising boat, but Andy is restoring a Lightning in his driveway, and with his skills with fiberglass, we expect to see him again.

We now have five competitive Lightnings at DIYC in Tampa, FL, and Don Sherburne of St. Pete (Winter home) just joined our fleet. We expect to grow by a few more boats in 1998.

In the 27 race Thursday night series at DIYC, Jeff Linton won each of the 3 series, Andy was 2nd in the middle series, and Bill Meyer was 2nd, 3rd, and 2nd in the series to secure the runner up position.

Jeff was runner up in the District Championship at Coconut Grove, winner at Sarasota, runner up at Coral Reef, and sharing the Triple Crown helm with Mark Taylor, the Linton/Taylor team won the Florida Triple Crown. Jeff has won the Sunfish NA's 4 out of the last 5 years, and he is a welcome addition to our Fleet and the class. Jeff bought a new boat about a month ago, and he and his crews, wife Amy and Mark Taylor are looking forward to the Southern Circuit.

We welcome Dave Marsciano to the Fleet. Dave's first outing was the Lightning Midwinters last March wherein he lost his mast because the spreader collars fractured. We knew Dave was serious when he purchased a new mast on the spot, and we know Dave is on a tight budget.

We are proud to welcome Dr. Michael Mayer who built his Lightning out of wood one board at a time. It is a work of art, and much to our surprise, he rounded the windward mark ahead of several boats in the Thanksgiving regatta sailing with his two sons who are just learning how to sail.

Good sailing, and Our Bests from Suncoast Fleet 502

Bill Meyer

LAKE CONROE ASSOCIATION FLEET 505

Texas District
Sailing on Lake Conroe
Conroe, Texas

Fleet SecretaryPatty Harris

* Gene More	9999
* Bryce Mowbray	12239
* Billy S. Bennett	13384
* Steven Harris	Kwitchersniveln 13717

With just a few more races to finish up the '97 sailing year, it's hard to believe it went so fast. The local Lightnings participated in races from Houston, to Dallas, to Shreveport, to New Orleans, and as far away as Detroit. We enjoyed everyone's hospitality and will continue to make as many regattas as possible. The Houston Yacht Club honored the Lightning at their Centennial Year Regatta: the Lightnings were the only boats participating which were over 50 years old. The fleet had one participant go to the NAs: congratulations to Steve Harris on making the Blue Fleet. In closing, we encourage all our neighboring boats into active participation at all local regattas.

Patty Harris



Ginger and Gilligan at the Annual Castaway Party at Rush Creek Yacht Club in Dallas. Photo courtesy Patty Harris.

ORIENT YACHT CLUB FLEET 506

Long Island District
Sailing on Orient Harbor
Orient, New York

Fleet CaptainGeorge Koch
Fleet SecretaryJohn Holzapfel
Saturday Fleet ChampionRachael Sorenson
Thursday Night Fleet ChampionGeorge Koch

* Keith Cummings	6921
* Keith Cummings	Thunderstruck 8666
* George W. Koch	10545
* Orient Yacht Club	Janice Mount 10601
* John Holzapfel	Tursiops 13050
* George W. Koch	Missy 14122
* David Loddengaard	14138
* Rachel Sorenson	Spirit 14455

Along with the traditional Saturday races, the fleet added to its schedule by joining the club's Thursday evening races of Lasers and Optimists and thus doubled the racing schedule. Rachel Sorenson and her crew dueled with George Koch and his crew for first place and the championship in both the Saturday and Thursday series. The championship in each category was not decided until the very last day of competition with Rachel Sorenson winning the Saturday series and George Koch winning the Thursday series.

The Orient Yacht Club's Lightning, the *Janice Mount*, was completely redone and was ship shape by the end of the season.

Our local season ended when three of our boats went over to compete at the Southampton Yacht Club in the Fall and enjoyed a great two days of sailing with over twenty Lightnings in good winds.

The emphasis for this winter is to find a few more Lightning sailors and to put together a program to hopefully host the District Championships next summer.

THE PRAIRIE FLEET 507

Pacific Northwest District

Sailing on Chestermere Lake and Lake Newell in Alberta Canada and on Canyon Lake and Flathead Lake in Montana

Fleet CaptainKarsten Dalberg

* Reggie Good		10891
* Ian R. Taylor	Rhythm & Blues	13509
* Karsten Dalberg		13713
* Ismo Palm		0

No report.