

International Lightning Class Association Districts



Lightning Districts

BRAZIL DISTRICT

District Commodore Michael A. Norris
District Secretary Christina Norris
District Measurer Oscar Weckerle
District Champion Claudio Biekarc
Runner-Up Mario Buckup

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

To celebrate our 50 years we concentrated efforts to increase our participation in the South American Championship, had one representative at the 'North Americans' and organized two Nationwide Championships. For the South American Championship in Chile, Brazil sent a record number of five teams, four of which sailed with their own boats. Claudio Biekarc won the Championship.

The District Championship was held in Niteroi-Rio de Janeiro, organized by Fleet 401 and was sailed with light winds but great enthusiasm.

In November we sailed the "Campeonato Centro Sul-Taca Sonnevig", a Championship with the three "G's", Good Show-up, Great Regattas, Grand Party.

Claudio Biekarc sailed in the 'North Americans' with a tough start but good recovery at the end with a first in the last race.

The great expectation now is the next South American Championship which will be held in Ilhabela, a sea resort close to the city of Sao Paulo. Ilhabela is considered one of the best sailing areas in Brazil.

Our boat building is well developed, having already achieved an international standard of quality and demonstrating outstanding speed.

CALIFORNIA DISTRICT

District Commodore Mark Patty
District Secretary Mark Patty
District Measurers ... Bruce Arnold/Myron Lyon
District Champion Scott Finkboner
District Runner-Up Kirk Johnson

Fleets: Santa Monica Bay (102); Mission Bay (194); San Francisco Bay (372).

The Lightning 50th Anniversary year was a very good one in the California District. As always, we start off the district schedule with the California Circuit in San Diego. Our three regatta, week long circuit always includes some out of state folks to keep the competition hot. Buffalo, New York is about as out of state as one can get, but it was close enough for Tom Allen, Jr. to swing by on his way home from Florida to sweep all the circuit top honors.

The weekend after the circuit came the three day Alamitos Bay YC Olympic Classes Regatta. This was the second year Pan Am Games boats have been invited, and it is a really high powered regatta. This year it was especially so since this event was a qualifier for the U.S. Olympic team heading for Seoul. They give medals at this regatta, and Larry Swearingen from Mission Bay took the Gold one.

Because the Olympic Classes Regatta is scheduled so close to our traditional California Circuits schedule, we are considering the possibility of combining the two for a long week of super fun, sun and sailing for those who tend to like that sort of thing.

Our District Championships were held at Mission Bay Y.C. as much of our attention was focused towards San Diego this year. We had a record high number of boats for the 'Districts', which is encouraging to think participation is generally improving on a district basis. Scott Finkboner won the Championships rather convincingly.

There are several other regattas every year that keep our trailer wheel bearings screaming for mercy. The interfleet bash Spring and Fall at Lake

Cachuma provides a neutral turf venue to do something different than triangles. The Bowen at Mission Bay, Hurricane Gulch at Santa Monica, and the Hard Chine at San Francisco allow each fleet a home field advantage. The Pacific Coast Championships were held in Klamath Falls, Oregon. All of these regattas had their great stories, but the big enchilada was the North American Championships in San Diego.

The Fleet 194 members and Mission Bay Y.C., should be proud of the 50th Anniversary year North American Championships. What a truly great time, every day and every night. The racing was organized and professionally efficient. And every night something different was planned and attended by virtually everyone at the regatta.

One night was a Mexican fiesta with mariachi's strolling the hoist area during haul out, and flamenco dancers during dinner. Another night was a "California Beach Party" complete with all-you-can-eat-hamburgers and jam packed dancing to a rock and roll band which the partyers wouldn't let go home. Every night there were fireworks from Sea World across Mission Bay. All of the participants, well over 100 boats worth of Juniors, Women, Masters, blue and green and yellow fleeters, surely agree this North Americans was truly special.

Thanks, Fleet 194. We all think you are pretty special too!

CENTRAL CANADIAN DISTRICT

District Commodore Jim Mikulinski
District Measurer Jack Arnold
District Secretary Geoff Hall
District Champion Jim Cameron
District Runner-Up Willy Evans

Fleet: Temple Reef Sailing Club (279).

It is interesting, when you are the person who is selected to write an article about your district's activities, so you look back at old year books to see what has been written about the district in years gone by. I say interesting because there have only been two articles in the last seven years, so that must mean nothing has been happening (which is not true), or no one has bothered to write about it.

I guess I'll have to bring you up to date. Now we have had a 'Districts' every year up to and including this year. In the past the District Champ was determined by the best total points from two out of three regattas. In the last couple of years it is now the best total from two regattas. Participation has been from three to nine boats, with the championship going to either Jim Cameron or Ross Bailey. The 1988 Districts were won by Jim Cameron and crew Janice Cameron, and John MacLeod, second place went to William (Willy) Evans and crew Mark Sandburg and Chris Warren, and third place was taken by Jay Booth and crew Blair Sandburg and Don Ellard.

The District races were held at Loon Lake where winds have been described as light, shifty, fluky, dead calm, frustrating and then when you least expect it Force 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and wow!!! where'd that wind come from!!! You can be half a leg in front on the last windward and finish last. I know, it happened to me. This is still a great place to race!!! And thanks to the Loon Lake Race Committees for all the years of giving up valuable time to run those races, and to the Lou and Audrey Walsh family for hosting all those great parties. The other half of the Districts was held in late July, in conjunction with the Thunder Bay Wind Jamboree, which also hosted the District "3", Laser and Laser 2 Championships. There were nine Lightnings competing with well over 100 participants in other classes.

The two and a half day event started on Friday night with a semi-race event, the "Treasure Hunt", and event in which elapsed times are taken as you sail around collecting clues and answering questions to find the treasure. This event has become extremely popular and fun. Saturday found

our race committee chairman Bill Kruze on the water patiently waiting for the customary sail-past to be completed so he could start the races. They were underway by noon with light to moderate S.E. winds, slowly shifting to S, SW by about 2 o'clock with wind picking up to about 20. At the end of the day's racing Jim Cameron was holding first with eleven points, Willy Evans in second with fifteen points, Porter Bailey third with sixteen points, and Jay Booth fourth with seventeen points. At this point things were still pretty open. After a great barbeque that evening, Sunday seemed to come a tad too early for some. The R.C. was back out there ready to roll for some exciting racing, but the wind didn't co-operate and she was light all day. By the end of the frustrating afternoon Jim Cameron scored two bullets putting him in strong first place with seven points for the regatta. But as you know some are better in light air than others, Jay Booth (female) squeezed in for two third place finishes to capture second spot overall with fifteen points. Willy Evans slipped into third spot with eighteen points and Porter into fourth overall with 24 points.

All in all the event was a great time, thanks to the sponsors of the regatta, Bailey's Sea and Ski, Labbat's Breweries and Bic Sailboards.

The past few years has been a real change, new boat owners, boats changing hands, more interest in racing, it looks like we're building up. We had two boats travel the 1500 miles to the 50th Anniversary, but unfortunately no one could make it to the 'North Americans.'

Our Lightning cruising sailors are still logging up those miles, Don Ellard, Jack Arnold, Frank Hodder and Charlie Bryan sailed over 150 miles up the north shore of Lake Superior in a seven day period, having loads of fun and excitement. A worthy note, both Don and Jack single handed their boats.

There has been little to no communication from the other fleets in our district. I know there are still boats out there, but I can only assume that there is no action happening. There are grumblings from our fleet to host the 'Canadian Opens' here in 1990 so our efforts will be toward that project in the next year. It will be offered the third weekend in July during the Annual Thunder Bay Wind Jamboree. I promise it will be "wild". We do have excellent open water sailing here. So I wish to all those who read this a great winter, Southern Circuit, and Summer '89. Now don't forget to say hello if we meet at some regatta, and I would like to say Hi! (from me, Jim Mikulinski) to all those I have met and miss seeing.



50th celebration at the end of the Amethyst (Temple Reef Trophy) Race.

CENTRAL NEW YORK DISTRICT

District Commodore	Tom Doran
District Secretary	Dan J. Koretz
District Measurer	John Barnes
District Champion	Jed Dodge
District Runner-Up	George Sereno

Fleets: Skaneateles Country Club (1); Lake Delta (4); Crescent Yacht Club (9); Newport Yacht Club (77); Willow Bank Yacht Club (164); Henderson Harbor Yacht Club (225); Keuka Yacht Club (252); Galway Lake Yacht Club (338); Ithaca Yacht Club (484); Port Oswego Fleet (485); Selkirk Fleet (498).

Lightning sailing in Central New York received a big boost this past

summer when our class membership put on what has to have been the largest crewed one-design regatta ever held — right here in our backyard. The 50th was more than a regatta. It was an outpouring of loyalty, a chance to give back to the class, a proof of strength, and an emphatic statement to the sailing world; the Lightning is number one among one-designs.

One result was District membership continued its growth trend of recent seasons, increasing by more than 10% to a high of 122 skippers. Our district is now second only to Michigan in overall membership within the class.

The season traditionally begins the first weekend in June with the "Newport Invitational" at Rochester's Newport Yacht Club. The "N.I." offers a double challenge; tricky bay sailing, and open water racing on Lake Ontario all in one weekend. This unique format produced some interesting swings in the standings. For example, Tom Allen Jr. won all three open water races Saturday but finished fourth with 23.25 points after two races in suicide - er, Irondequoit Bay Sunday.

Larry MacDonald Jr. won this regatta, followed by Mark Bryant, Ched Proctor, TA Jr., and Peter Hallagan.

The Cazenovia Invitational was next on the circuit June 18-19. Sailors from our district love the fickle "Caz" winds, which often seem to originate from boats behind you at any given moment during a race. For Saturday's racing the wind reached its zenith of variability, appearing from above, behind, and I swear, underneath.

Caz also puts on a great steak dinner and party on Saturday night. This year was no exception. Sunday's breeze came in fresh and steady from the South, giving the 24 boat fleet two superior races. Kirk Reynolds won the regatta followed by Dick Hallagan, George Sereno, Dick Doherty and Dave Bull.

Next up was the big one we were all waiting for. CNY supplied 55 entries for the 50th regatta. In the Gold fleet, Jed Dodge was fifth, Mark Sertl was sixth, Dick Hallagan 10th, Jean Hallagan 19th and Jim Gocker 22nd.

Don Barter of Cazenovia led the 30 boat CNY Red fleet, winning the regatta overall. He was followed by Leslie Tuttle 15th, Tammy Jamison 17th, Fred Marty 27th and Jerry Bezner 35th.

In the Green fleet, Craig Thayer sailed his restored 736 to second place on the water. Craig also received a trophy for the highest finish by a Skaneateles built boat.

After three weeks to recover from the 50th, the circuit continued July 23-24 with the Districts at Keuka YC. This year 33 boats showed up to help Walter Taylor of Bully Hill vineyards distribute several dozen bottles of Champagne during Saturday's cocktail party.

This weekend's sailing consisted of long periods of ghosting punctuated by three minute blasts as localized weather fronts swept Keuka Lake. The fleet waited five hours for air Saturday, and then the lone race was thrown out when the last beat turned into a run during a squall and the wild finishing melee was too much for the stressed RC. Sunday the fleet did manage two races. Jed Dodge became District Champion. George Sereno was second, Tammi Jamison second, Tom Doran fourth and Byron White fifth. The Commodore's trophy went to Dan Koretz and the rookie trophy was won by Tammi Jamison.

Oswego's Michelob Lightning Classic was held August 6-7 at Oswego Yacht Club. Organizers and sponsors were amazed when registration topped out at 52 boats, making the Oswego Classic one of the best attended Lightning regattas of 1988. Lake Ontario provided great sailing both days. In the midst of a summer with generally light winds elsewhere, winds were in the 15-20k range and the waves were rolling. Needless to say, with this many crews in town the party was a success as well. This year the entry fee of \$25 included; steak dinner Saturday, breakfast Sunday, Sunday cookout, skipper and crew T-shirts, and plenty of free Michelob on and off the water. Mark Sertl won this regatta for the third time followed by Bill Wilson, Peter Hallagan, Tom Doran and Dick Hallagan.

The final event on the schedule was the Dulles Cup, a new regatta hosted by reactivated Fleet 9 at Chaumont Bay. Mark Sertl topped the fleet again, this time in his new, new boat. He was followed by Bill Wilson, Clay Murphy, Tom Doran and Tad Helmer.

During the summer, Tom Doran of Oswego took over from Dick Hallagan as District Commodore. Tom also became a Class Vice President during the San Diego North Americans. Thanks to Dick for the years of service and congratulations to Tom.

This year eleven skippers made all three triple crown regattas. Dick Hallagan was first, Tom Doran second and Joe McCloskey third. Around the district, George Sereno had a good season, winning some races and finishing regattas well. Bill Wilson, a well known Thistler, sailed Kirk Reynolds' boat in several regattas. Star skipper Myron White got on a Lightning and did well quickly. Mark Purcell of TI Park made every regatta and is on an up curve, and Tad Helmer is back after two years ashore. Former District Commodore Rick Klug returned to the circuit after a couple of seasons away to complete his education. C'mon summer!

Central New York's Celebration of Spring

Newport Yacht Club, Rochester, New York
Fleet #77



The Newport Invitational Regatta June 3, 4, 1989

One of the Largest Regattas in the Northeast

Top Competition — 5 Race Series — Racing on Lake Ontario

For Information Call: Chairman Dick Hallagan (315) 331-5664
or Landy Atkinson (716) 436-9315

Don't miss any of the 1989 Central New York Regattas

June 3,4	Newport Invitational	*#Newport YC
June 17,18	Cazenovia Invitational	# Willow Bank YC
July 8,9	CNY Districts	Ithaca YC
July 22, 23	Henderson Harbor Invitational	Henderson Harbor YC
July 29,30	CNY YRA -Centrals	Keuka YC
August 5,6	Michelob Classic Regatta	% Port Oswego YC
August 26,27	Dulles Cup	# Crescent YC
Sept. 9,10	Harvest Regatta	* Silver Lake YC

- * Central New York — Lake Erie District Challenge
- # Central New York — Triple Crown
- % LSLS

CHILE DISTRICT

District Commodore Carlos Ramirez Angeli
 District Secretary Juan Francisco Novion V.
 District Treasurer Julio Tejero B.
 District Measurer Up Rodrigo Zuazola B.
 District Champion Manuel Gonzalez M.
 District Runner-Up Juan Fco. Novion V.
 Junior Champion Arturo Oxley
 Junior Runner-Up Juan Carlos Ramirez M.

Fleet: Yacht Club de Chile (317); Algarrobo (318); Capricornia (319); Higuierillas (342); Pichidangui (346); Club de Yates Pucon (482); Aculeo (490).

The activity of the district during the 87-88 season took place intensely on the national and international scenes.

The official regattas of the National Calendar are made up of the Angamos Cup Regatta (winner A. Gonzalez); the South American Championship Regatta (won by M. Gonzalez); Month of the Sea Regatta (won by A. Oxley); Higuierillas Regatta (won by R. Melero) and the Lightning Cup Regatta (won by A. Gonzalez).

These regattas determined the official ranking of the 87-88 season of the Chile District, which is as follows: 1. M. Gonzalez M., R. Zuazola, G. Novion (11040) (Flota 490); 2. J. F. Novion, L. Herman, A. Novion (13282) (Flota 318); 3. R. Melero, P. Middleton (13650) (Flota 318); 4. P. Amunategui, M. Fuentes, G. Arriagada (11099) (Flota 490); 5. F. Perez, A. Valdes, A. Benvenuto (11023) (Flota 318); 6. A. Fantuzzi, P. Larrain, G. Amunategui (11450) (Flota 342); 7. A. Gonzalez, G. Schacht, C. Herman (11011) (Flota 490); 8. C. Corsen, R. Hill, F. Guarello (13045) (Flota 342); 9. A. Oxley, F. Lavanter, R. Achondo (14281) (Flota 317); 10. J.C. Ramirez, H. Holch (12679) (Flota 342); 11. J. Opazo, A. Segura, G. Palma (14285) (Flota 317); 12. A. Natho, R. Segura, R. Kompatzki (14287) (Flota 317); 13. G. Tejero, M. Mediavilla, J.C. Marquez (12767) (Flota 342); 14. P. Balarisque, R. Grez, A. Couyoumdjan (14231) (Flota 317); 15. F. del Barrio, A. Achondo, F. Fuentes (14213) (Flota 317); and 16. J. Ruiz, F. Sarabia, P. Sepulveda (13165) (Flota 317).

In international activities, the organization of the South American Championship in April 1988 was undertaken by the District, in which 22 crews participated and which was won by Claudio Bickart of Brazil, followed by Alberto Gonzalez (Chile); Manuel Gonzalez (Chile); Rufino Melero (Chile); Francisco Sola (Ecuador) and Juan Fco. Novion (Chile). Fleet 342 of Higuierillas, Vina del Mar, organized the regatta.

Furthermore, the District was represented in the World Championship of Cartagena, Colombia, by the crew of Manuel Gonzalez M. (Timonel), Rodrigo Zuazola and Alberto Gonzalez, winning first place, and conquering the prized world title for our District.

Finally, the District participated in the World Youth Championship at Tampere, Finland in August 1988, represented by the crew of Juan Carlos Ramirez (Timonel), Pablo Ramirez and Hernan Holch, finishing in ninth place.



I.L.C.A. Official Pocket Patch

Red Lightning Flash on white circle embossed on navy wool background. I.L.C.A. and laurel leaves hand embroidered in bullion. Size approximately 4" x 4 1/4". Cost \$13.50. Send check with order to I.L.C.A. Office, 808 High Street, Worthington, Ohio 43085.



Carlos Lecaro and crew at 1988 North American Championship.

Photo by Mary Huntsman

ECUADOR DISTRICT

District Commodore Santiago Romero Barst
 District Secretary Carlos Luis Lecaro
 District Measurer Felipe Eljuri
 District Champion Juan Santos G.
 District Runner-Up Francisco Sola M.

Fleets: Guayaquil Yacht Club (272); Salinas Yacht Club (405); Club Nautico San Pablo (447).

We have been racing during the year in local regattas at Salinas Yacht Club.

February 13-15 the National Championship of the National Yachting Federation was raced in Salinas. It was also the qualifying trials for the 34th South American Championship. With 15 Lightnings, the top five were: first Juan Santos - S. Romero - C. de Santos; second, Francisco Sola - M. Santos - J. Pazmino; third, Miguel Plaza - F. Lapentti - C. Saman; fourth, Juan C. Plaza - E. Arosemena - G. Vargas; and fifth, Carlos L. Lecaro - O. Viteri - E. Ledesma.

In late April, two crews went to the 34th 'South Americans' and one to the second Navy School South American Championship. Both at Higuierillas, Chile.

Francisco Sola, 1987 Champ, with Juan M. Meira and Jimmy Pazmino were racing first till the fourth race; but strong wind and a broken jib halyard in the fifth and sixth race moved him to final position. Juan Santos was seventh and Vladimir Vargas was third at the 'Navy Schools'.

The District Championship was raced May 21-23 with 20 Lightnings from Quito, Guayaquil and Salinas: first, Juan Santos - S. Romero - C. de Santos; second, Francisco Sola - J. Pazmino - C. Arosemena; third, Miguel Plaza - C. Saman - F. Lapentti; fourth, Juan C. Plaza - E. Arosemena - G. Vargas; fifth, Carlos L. Lecaro - O. Viteri - R. Ledesma; sixth, Cesar Baquerizo - C. Baquerizo - Perik Rodriguez; seventh, Juan M. Meira - A. Mariscal - X. Kronfle; eighth, Lars Dick - Klaus and Wolfgang Dick; ninth, Eduardo Vedani - M. de Vedani - R. Grazzi; and tenth, Francisco Sola Jr. - E. Estrada - F. Manrique.

In August, Carlos L. Lecaro with Oscar Vitery and Gonzalo Vargas, went to the North American Championship in San Diego, qualifying for the President's Cup.

We will keep racing and tuning up for the next 'South Americans' in Brazil.

FINLAND DISTRICT

District Commodore Pentti Laitinen
 District Secretary Sirkka-Liisa Laitinen
 District Measurer Marjatta Ollila
 District Champion Kari Maenpaa
 District Runner-Up Hannu Hurskainen

Fleets: Helsinki (166), Kotka (298), Oulu (307), Kemi (310), Jyväskylä (328), Tuusulanjärvi (456), Valkeakoski (468).

Summer '88 has been a remarkable year for Finnish Lightning Class. It was 40 years ago when the Lightning made its first appearance in Finland. During the anniversary year many national and international Lightning Class events have taken place here. We may well say that this summer was as busy a sailing season as expected.

The Finnish Championships took place on Lake Nasijärvi in Tampere in the middle of June under very pleasant circumstances. The Champion was, for the fifth time in a row, Kari Maenpaa, the second was Hannu Hurskainen and the third place was taken by Timo Patosuo.

The European Championships were sailed on the same area in the end of July. The wind conditions changed a lot during the competition. Despite a good start, George Andreadis from Greece was not able to remain in the lead. Ferrari from Italy managed to win with a smooth and faultless effort. Urs Wyler from Switzerland was second and Tsantilis from Greece third. Andreadis finally made fourth place, Kari Maenpaa placed sixth, being the best Finn in the race.

Right after the European Championships the juniors took the Nasijärvi scene. The Junior World Championships were sailed there as well. Among the participants were representatives of such countries as Finland, Canada, the USA, Greece, Italy and Chile. It was indeed a wonderful group of participants. The racing itself was both challenging and exciting. Duncan from Canada conquered the number one spot, Dimon from Greece placing second and Lahtinen from Finland finishing up third. This summer is gone and we are looking forward to the next. See you all in Athens.

FLORIDA DISTRICT

District Commodore Eamonn DeLisser
 District Secretary Clark Higgs
 District Champion Fisk Hayden
 District Runner-Up Steve Hayden

Fleets: Biscayne Bay (226); Lake Eustis/North Florida (461); Cedar/Ft. Meyers (478); Suncoast (502).

As you read this report, Florida District Lightning sailors will probably be closing out a long "winter" season of racing at the District Championship. This year they will be hosted by the newest fleet in the world, The Suncoast Fleet, at Davis Island Yacht Club in Tampa.

One-Design racing is regaining its popularity in this area in spite of the number of boat builders in Florida. Many sailors are tired of playing the ratings game and have decided to get back into boats in which the skipper and crew determine the order of finish. Both the Lightning and the Snipe have benefitted from these changing attitudes in 1988. It is appropriate that the timelessness of the Olin Stephens design is proven again, in its 50th year, by continued growth and enjoyment throughout the world.

The 1988 racing season started with The Edison Pageant of Light Regatta in Ft. Myers with Fisk Hayden winning the Governor's Cup, a district perpetual trophy. This was followed by the Washington's Day Regatta in Eustis in which Steve Hayden edged out "Old Man" Fisk Hayden for the victory. They were closely followed by Heather McGonagle of Miami.

March in Florida means Southern Circuit, since the details are found elsewhere in the yearbook we'll move right along to the District Championship.

The "Districts" were hosted by the Cedar Fleet and the Platinum Yacht Club in Punta Gorda. The racing proved to be very close. The race committee ordered up a nice sea breeze on Sunday to complete the regatta which was ultimately won by Fisk Hayden. He was followed by his son, Steve, who was also awarded the Competition Trophy, awarded to the highest placing first time skipper. Jim Kinsey of Punta Gorda took third on a tiebreaker with Eamonn DeLisser. Bill Meyer, sailing with wife Gail and son Jason, won our newest perpetual trophy, the Corinthian Trophy, for finishing in the middle of the fleet.

The district was represented by a number of people at the 50th Anniversary in Skaneateles, including Fisk and Steve Hayden, Fay Regan, Stu

Anderson, Jim and Mary Ann Nolan and Clark and Leslie Higgs. We'd all like to thank and congratulate the Skaneateles Country Club for the superb job they did, organizing and running the premier event of the Lightning Class. You'll never know what you missed if you were not there.

Fisk Hayden made the long drive to San Diego and was rewarded with a victory in the Masters Fleet and a fifth place in the President's Fleet.

We are now in the midst of the fall season and that means Triple Crown. Freddy Hutchinson and Eamon DeLisser have taken the lead with a first and second, respectively, the the Fleet 226 Invitational. This three regatta series will be completed with racing at Tampa on Thanksgiving weekend and the Red Lobster Cup in scenic Sanford.

We are proud to report that the Lightning Class is growing and prospering in Florida, with various class members working to convince the Clearwater Yacht Club to start a fleet. We continue to receive inquiries from individuals and pick up members like Jim and Janet Hoffman of Naples and Dave White and Chris Myers of Tampa from "Big Boats". We are always glad to have transplants like Gary and Brooks Marshall, who moved from the Great Lakes by way of Denver. If you're interested in moving South we have plenty of Lightning activities and are always working on more.

In closing, we'd like to thank and congratulate Anne Allen for the great job as Class President in the 50th Anniversary of the class. We also congratulate Bob Wardwell and wish him continued success as the President. Last, but not least, thanks to Donna Foote and her crew at ILCA headquarters. We could not have all this fun without the "Class Organization" that they provide. Good sailing to all!

INDIANA DISTRICT

District Commodore Doug Schmahl
 District Vice Commodore Karl Suter
 District Secretary Judy Schmahl
 District Champion Doug Schmahl
 District Runner-Up Karl Suter

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

Drought induced low water at Geist Reservoir, home of the Indianapolis Sailing Club's Fleet 270, and lack of wind in July and August at both Geist Reservoir and Lake Wawasee, Syracuse, Indiana, home of Wawasee Yacht Club's Fleet 154, hampered racing in Indiana in the ILCA's 50th Anniversary summer. By late August, Geist Reservoir was down by over six feet, and mud, not water, was under the hoist hook.

Better conditions prevailed in the spring, and Fleet 270 and the Indianapolis Sailing Club hosted the 25th annual Indiana Open on April 30 and May 1. About 30 boats were registered, and the results after five races were Mark Kastel - first, John McCree second and George Sipel - third.

The District Championship was hosted by the Wawasee Yacht Club and the results were Doug Schmahl - first, Karl Suter - second and Alan Fox - third. A few weeks later, three Indiana boats were at Skaneateles for the 50th Anniversary Regatta.

Wawasee Yacht Club and Fleet 154 hosted the 29th annual Hoosier Regatta on October 8-9. All the racing was three on Saturday, as Sunday brought rain and very little wind. Results were Colin Park - first, David Nickels - second, Bill Faude - third, Bruce Goldsmith - fourth and Doug Schmahl - fifth.

A new 2,000 lb. hoist was installed at the Wawasee Yacht Club last September, and dedicated during this 50th Anniversary year to honor Paul O. Penn. A plaque affixed to the hoist pedestal states:

Paul O. Penn Memorial Hoist

dedicated on Labor Day Weekend 1988 by Commodore Doug Schmahl as a gift to the Wawasee yacht Club to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Lightning Class and named in honor of Paul O. Penn for his many years of dedication to yacht racing on Lake Wawasee.

Please join us at Indianapolis for the "Open" on May 6-7, 1989, and also at Wawasee for the Hoosier on October 7-8, 1989. Hoosier hospitality can't be beat!

ITALIAN DISTRICT

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

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

The year 1988 was very active for the Italian District. The Italian District Championship was sailed on Trasimeno Lake at Passignano and it was won by *Wanted III* (Attina, Ralo, Di Girolamo) in front of *Lily Bay Tan* (Alagna, Messina, Pulizi) and then *Tika* (Pellizzaro, Falcini, Bacchi.) Twenty-two crews took part in the Italian District Championship. They all were very well prepared and in particular the crews of Marsala, Garda, Falconara, Savio and Trasimeno.

This year three Italian crews sailed in the European Championship in Finland and the boat *White Cloud II* (Ferrari, Giulari, Bombana) finished in first place. Good placings for *Lily Bay Tan* (Alagna), fifth, and for *Wanted III* (Tripoli), eighth.

One Italian team took part in the World Youth Championship in Finland and we are happy to announce the beautiful fifth place of the young Sicilians Tripoli, Parrinello, Spano.

Next year the Italian District Championship will be in Lido del Savio (476). The 1989 District Officers will be Gianferdinando De Amicis, Vice President, Luigi Merola, Commodore, Sergio Rustichelli, Secretary. So we say to our friends: Good Bye.

LAKE ERIE DISTRICT

District Commodore	Tom Ward
District Executive Secretary	Ron Hughes
District Corresponding Secretary	Judy Walker
District Treasurer	Anne Allen
District Measurer	David Sprague
District Assistant Measurers	Todd Jones/ Norman Clegg
District Junior Commodore	Ned Roseberry
District Champion	Susan MacDonald Rogers
District Runner-Up	Mark Grinder
Womens Champion	Judy Walker
Runner-Up	Susan McDonald Rogers
Junior Champion	Ned Roseberry
Runner-Up	Tom Starck

Fleets: Buffalo Canoe Club (12); Chautauqua Lake Club (19); Silver Lake Yacht Club (47); Niagara Sailing Club (59); Cuba Lake Yacht Club (115); Hamilton Boating Club (118); Toronto Bay (146); Conneaut Bay (180); Chautauqua (198).

The LED suffered a great loss this year with the passing of I.L.C.A. Past President Karl Smither, who died just after the 50th Anniversary Regatta. All the District sailors respected our own "Mr. Lightning" and looked to him for guidance in the running of the District. His opinion and ideas were greatly valued for the great Corinthian he was and he will be missed by us, one and all. Karl leaves behind a sailing legacy for both the Lightning Class and the Lake Erie District.

Again, with each passing year, the sailing in the Lake Erie District gets harder, tougher and more competitive. Our sailors travel throughout North America, always finishing with the best. The juniors especially have made their mark in international competition. Most notably, Tom Allen, IV is carrying the torch to many of the top regattas over North America and is winning within the Lake Erie District. For 1988, Tom finished first in the LED Harvest Regatta, Niagara River Championships, Fall Circuit, LED-CNY Challenge, and the Hurrell-Shaker Regatta. Nationally, he was first in the California Circuit and Combined Annapolis-Borderline Regattas, second in the Early Bird Regatta at Cedar Point, Annapolis Frigid Digit, and Borderline Regattas.

Sue MacDonald Rogers started the season right by first winning the Niagara Frontier Invitational Regatta and then the Lake Erie District Championships. Jody Swanson traveled to Annapolis to take a fifth and then crewed with Brad Read to win the Borderline Regatta. Jody did spend a lot of time campaigning her J-24 so gave other District sailors a chance at some of the top finishes in our local regattas.

Larry MacDonald Jr., 1987 North American Champion, won the Canadian Open held in Montreal, Quebec. He, too, gave the District sailors a chance at the finishes.

Naturally, the LED was well represented at the 50th Anniversary Regatta at Skaneateles with over 25 of our members registered. We didn't win anything but we did do more than our share of the partying to help celebrate the 50th.

Traveling to San Diego for the North Americans was a big trip for District sailors. We were pleased to see Anne Allen crewing for John

MacIntosh in the Masters, Judy Walker finishing fourth in the Women's and Ned Roseberry taking the North American Junior Championship honors. Also sailing the Juniors were two other crews, Kate Ward from the BCC and Amy Beisel from CLYC.

Ned followed the pattern set by the LED juniors in winning the Junior North American Championships. A LED junior has won this for the past four years. It is not surprising that Ned and crew did such a tremendous job following in the footsteps of our other young sailors. Another of our juniors, Geoffrey Jarvis of Toronto traveled to Finland to crew with Duncan Stewart to capture the World Youth Championships. This again says it for the LED juniors.

Of our senior sailors at the North Americans, Tom Allen, IV (7th), Tom Allen, III (25th), Jimmy Allen (27th), Larry MacDonald (13th), Jody Swanson (22nd) and Mark Bryant (5th) sailed in the Blue Fleet whereas Judy Walker sailed in the Governor's Cup (5th). Of the 33 boats in the Blue Fleet, six belonged to the LED. That's good sailing! It was a long way to travel to San Diego but the new friends and experiences made it all worthwhile.

We were able to regain the LED-CNY District Challenge Cup back from the Central New York District due to the efforts of Tom Allen, IV and the other LED participants. It takes more than one Lightning to win the Challenge, but first place sure helps.

Our Fall Circuit consisting of three Regattas, Harvest, Haul-out and Hurrell-Shaker was taken by Tom IV overall with Graham Jones second, Judy Walker third and John Aitchison fourth. To help celebrate the 50th, we awarded framed 50th Anniversary Posters to skipper and crew in places one through four.

The LED is very proud of Anne Allen who served the ILCA as president for its 50th Anniversary Year.

Our 1989 regatta schedule has been formulated and appears in our ad along with some of our District Champions. Colin Park and hopefully Bob Wardwell will be present as guest speakers at our District Spring Meeting, April 8th. We invite all Lightning sailors to join us at sometime during the 1989 season to see just how tough it is to sail in the Lake Erie District.

LONG ISLAND DISTRICT

District Commodore	Joe McCann
District Secretary	Thom Hering
District Measurer	Bruce Atkinson
District Champion	McCann Brothers
District Runner-up	Bruce Atkinson

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

1988 was successful for us in that it was the first year of a structured Long Island District Series. The Long Island Circuit, during the course of the summer attracted over 25 boats total from around the northeast, for four official regattas. The overall championship which was won by Tim Rumph, came down to the last race of the last regatta, with names like Atkinson, Harrington, Hering & Weiss all in close contention.

The first year of the L.I. Circuit ran smoothly and was a success in every way, however we would like to see more participation, particularly from outside districts.

With that in mind, we remind sailors that the south-shore of Long Island features some of the best sailing conditions in the country. If you enjoy sailing in a steady southwesterly of 15 knots, please join us. Accommodations are plentiful and inexpensive, and our hospitality cannot be beat. Watch for our regatta schedule in *Flashes*.

METROPOLITAN DISTRICT

District Commodore	Mike Pike
District Secretary	Mark Schneider
District Measurer	Franz Schneider
District Champion	Jack Huntsman
District Runner-Up	Sandy Mergenthaler

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



International Lightning Class Association

Lake Erie District

1989 DISTRICT REGATTA SCHEDULE

EVENT	HOST CLUB	DATE
SPRING DISTRICT MEETING	NIAGARA SAILING CLUB	April 8
EBY SERIES	BUFFALO CANOE CLUB	May 13,14
#REUNION REGATTA	NEWPORT YACHT CLUB	June 3,4
CORNBALL REGATTA	CHAUTAUQUA LAKE YACHT CLUB	June 10,11
NIAGARA FRONT. INVITATIONAL	BUFFALO CANOE CLUB	June 17,18
CANADIAN OPEN	PT. CLAIR YACHT CLUB	June 23-25
	MONTREAL, QUEBEC	
ONTARIO-CANADIAN YOUTHS	TORONTO, ONTARIO, CANADA	July 1,2
ONTARIO OPEN CHAMPS	HAMILTON YACHT CLUB	July 8,9
NIAGARA RIVER CHAMPS	NIAGARA SAILNG CLUB	July 15,16
DISTRICT WOMEN AND JUNIOR CHAMPS		
DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIPS	BUFFALO CANOE CLUB	July 20,21
ONTARIO CLASSIC (MICHELOB)	SILVER LAKE YACHT CLUB	July 22,23
WOMEN, JUNIOR & MASTERS	OSWEGO YACHT CLUB	August 5,6
NORTH AMERICANS	NORTH CAPE YACHT CLUB	August 7-11
OLD SALTS REGATTA	NORTH CAPE YACHT CLUB	August 11-18
CUBA LAKE REGATTA	BUFFALO CANOE CLUB	August 23
#*HARVEST REGATTA	CUBA LAKE YACHT CLUB	Aug. TBA
*HURRELL SHAKER REGATTA	SILVER LAKE YACHT CLUB	September 9,10
*HAUL-OUT REGATTA	BOULEVARD CLUB	September 16,17
TURKEY REGATTA	SANDY BEACH YACHT CLUB	September 23,24
	HAMILTON YACHT CLUB	September 30

= LED—CNY DISTRICT CHALLENGE

* = LED FALL CIRCUIT

THE LAKE ERIE DISTRICT IS VERY PROUD OF OUR NEW CHAMPIONS



DISTRICT JUNIOR CHAMPIONS
(L-R) Frank Ernst, Skipper Ned Roseberry, Matt Saunders.



WOMEN'S DISTRICT CHAMPIONS
(L-R) Jackie Humphrey, Rachel Wilkinson, Skipper Judy Walker.

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

The Metropolitan District had an active year both in the individual fleet races and on the regatta circuit. It is nice to see Nyack, Chelsea, and Lake Wallenpaupack Yacht Clubs all averaging eight to ten boat fleet races through the entire season with more wind than some could handle. Congratulations to Mike Pike, Chelsea Yacht Club; Bill Cook, Nyack Yacht Club; and Franz Schneider, Lake Wallenpaupack Yacht Club for winning their fleet championships.

To amplify fleet participation, the regatta circuit within the district laid the final touches on a great year. We began with the Red Bank Spring Series and the Long John. If you have not heard about the Long John, well, "WHERE WERE YOU?!", forty plus boats attended with the silver going to Brad Read, Greg Fisher, and Jack Huntsman (first, second, and third). At least, you should have heard of those three, if not, look at the top finishes at the 50th Anniversary Regatta, Read, Fisher, and Huntsman. To top the Long John off, Red Bank continued with the Spring Series for a month and a half of fun racing open to everyone.

Next came the "Districts" at Lake Wallenpaupack Yacht Club with winds of eighteen to twenty-five. Whoever said lake sailing was light air surely never sailed at Lake Wallenpaupack...this year. It was still fun for all who sailed even with two locals swimming and Elissa Hall breaking a jib halyard, running aground (and this lake is deep) and breaking a mast. The racing was great, ending with Jack Huntsman first, Frank Mergenthaler second, and Mark Schneider third.

I want to interrupt the sequence of events to congratulate *Top Gun* sailed by Jack Huntsman, Henry O'Hern, and Kevin Corr for sailing such a great season, winning the Districts, Atlantic Coast Championships, and third in both the North American Championships and the 50th Anniversary Regatta.

Now that we are finished tipping our hats, back to the Metropolitan District season. The Hudson River had three regattas drawing boats from the Connecticut District and the Long Island District. Wind, current, and parties, beginning with Nyack's Magnus Pedersen Regatta (fifteen to twenty-five mph wind) won by Tom Naser, Cedar Point; second Joe McCann, Great South Bay; and third Gary Hurban of Nyack. Then, the Chelsea Open with Mike Pike (Chelsea) second and Gary Hurban (Nyack) third. The Last Blast closed the season for those on the Hudson River (twenty to thirty mph winds) with Joe McCann winning the silver followed by Tom Ingram and Gary Hurban.

The New Jersey State Championships were also in our district this year at Awosting Yacht Club on Greenwood Lake. What a challenge it was, with Rich Miner coming out on top.

The game plan in the Metropolitan District regatta circuit is to begin the season with a bang at the Long John (Red Bank on the Shrewsbury) and end it with a bang at the Lake Wallenpaupack Fall Regatta. That is another place you have got to get to know. Why, this year, Coor's Beer sponsored the regatta along with the Pocono Vacation Bureau and the Lake Region

Chamber of Commerce. Talk about five great races, and what a party, just ask Dick Hallagan (Newport Yacht Club), first place; Jack Elfman (Surf City Yacht Club), second place; and Mark Schneider (Lake Wallenpaupack Yacht Club), third place — what a good time it was.

So, to know what this district is all about, remember the fleet racing, the regattas, and the fun we all have sailing on the lakes and rivers that make up our district.



Mike and the Dowettes (Eric Peterson and Rick Northrup) providing the entertainment at the Districts.

MICHIGAN

District Commodore	William Seaman
District Secretary	Colin Park
District Measurer	Tom Vickers
District Champion	Colin Park
District Runner-Up	John McCree

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

Another great year of Lightning sailing in Michigan! Except for a hardy few, the season started at the Devil's Lake "nonregatta" in the middle of May. John McCree had won Indianapolis Open the first week of May. Bruce Goldsmith and Colin Park were 1,2 at Pymatuning the second week of May. The nonregatta is the inspiration of Bruce and the Devil's Lake group. It features no entry fee, no scoring, no prizes, lots of races and lots of fun. This year notables at the regatta included Tom Allen, Sr., Greg and Matt Fisher, Brad Read, and the usual Michigan group. Brad brought a slide show on sail trim and then conducted a "hand's on" tuning of many of the boats. Whenever you have someone the caliber of Brad with his enthusiasm to go with it, this is a great way to get some of the middle of the fleet people fired up. This year, as with others, we had lots of short races with people trading boats and a race committee (Hank Hodgson) who kept the racing close and interesting by last minute mark changes.

The "spring season" in Michigan consists of racing every weekend in June culminating in the team races at Fenton and followed by the Districts at the end of June. Mike Dow and the Dowettes (Eric Peterson and Rick Northrup) were the big winners early with victories at Lansing and Detroit. These wins along with a victory at Higgins Lake in August led this trio to win the traveling trophy for the best years performance in the District. Hank Hodgson teamed up with Dan Norton and George Sipel, all of Devils Lake, to beat the home town favorites of Nickels/Miltzer at the Lake Fenton team races. This is a fun regatta to try some time, either come to Michigan or try your own — you'll like it!

The "Districts" were sailed at Pontiac with a complete spectrum of winds. Colin and Karen Park with Glenn Hallett won the light air races on Friday. A VERY heavy weather race on Saturday was won by John McCree and

LONG JOHN
april 29 & 30
MET DISTRICTS
june 24 & 25
ATLANTIC COASTS
july 29 & 30

1989 Regattas hosted by
 Fleets 11 & 70, Red Bank, N.J.
 info: Huntsman, 201-842-5292

Michigan District 1989 Regatta Schedule

MAY
20-21 Devils Lake Spring Regatta
JUNE
3-4 Lake Lansing
17-18 Crescent Sail Club
24-25 Lake Fenton Team Races
JULY
8-9 Tawas Yacht Club
14-15-16 Districts Bay City
22 Junior and Womens Championships
(one day regatta at Devils Lake)
29-30 Traverse City
AUGUST
5-6 Higgins Lake
8-10 N.A.s at North Cape
SEPTEMBER
9-10 Pontiac Yacht Club, Class Lake
16-17 Devils Lake 46th Annual Regatta
30-Oct.1 Gull Lake

Champions for 1988 Season

District: Colin Park
Runner Up: John McCree
Womens: Bonnie Nickels
Junior: Sean Fidler
Joe Stueland
Traveling Trophy: Mike Dow

*The Michigan District congratulates Colin Park
and crew Karen Park and Glenn Hallett
The 1988 Lightning Class
North American Champions*



SAIL

! MICHIGAN!

was notable for the number of people who opted for combining sailing and swimming in the 100 degree temperature (a dozen boats). They went over upwind, downwind, with spinnakers up and spinnakers down! Sunday morning the temperature was down in the low fifties, and fortunately the wind had abated somewhat. The wind by now was a puffy northerly which added a new dimension to small lake sailing. The regatta ended up with Park first followed by McCree, Dow, Goldsmith and last years District Champion, Garry Demarest.

In July and August, the three "northern" regattas consist of Bay City, Traverse City and Higgins Lake. With the exception of one race at Bay City, which featured the capsizing of a local boatbuilder in a green and white boat, and a breezy Saturday at Higgins, these were predominantly light air regattas. Parks and The Dowettes split the hardware, with honorable mentions going to Joe Dissette, Bill Seaman, Tom Vickers and Mike/Patty Olgaard.

There were thirteen boats from Michigan that made the trek to Skaneateles for the big bash. Joe Dissette placed fourth in his flight. Dave Nickels also finished quite high in his flight.

Eight boats represented the district at the North Americans in San Diego. Of the eight, six ended up in the blue fleet with the other two near the top of the President's flight, a good record for a single district! At the end of the week, Colin Park, Karen and Glenn came away with all the marbles, while Hank Hodgson, his wife, Karen and daughter Lisa came second in the green fleet. Dave Laidlaw sailed with the other two Hodgsons, Wendy and Lisa, and were seventh.

The toughest sailing in the fall is over five consecutive weekends starting after Labor Day at Pontiac and ending up in Wawasee in northern Indiana. John McCree won the overall Fall series with individual regattas won by McCree (Pontiac and Gull Lake) and Parks (Devils Lake and Wawasee). Others in the hardware were Bruce Goldsmith, Dave Nickels with a pair of thirds, Carl Engels, Dave Decker and Doug Schmahl. The highlight of the fall was the Devil's Lake Regatta with 46 entrants, a tribute to the motivation provided by Bruce and the work of many others including Chris Tibbs the Race Committee Chairperson. Other trophy winners at "Devils," were Bruce, Hank Hodgson, Hermie Nickels and John McCree.

All in all it was a good season with continued strong interest and activity. One of the strong points of the class in the area is the interest shown in welcoming new sailors and helping them get up to speed. We're looking forward to many more years of growth and high participation. See you all next year!

MIDWEST DISTRICT

District Commodore	Bill Faude
District Secretary	Vernal Equinox
District Measurer	Robert Smither
District Champion	Brian Phelan
District Runner-Up	Paul Wurtzebach

Fleets: Chicago Corinthian (5); Milwaukee Yacht Club (69); Green Bay (112); Lake Davenport (167); Sheboygan (187); Lake Geneva (345); Manitowoc (393); Fond Du Lac (442).

As we close the books on the 1988 sailing season, it has been a year of growth and renewal for the Midwest District. Several significant newcomers showed great enthusiasm on the race course and helped support our district nationally. Our district is strong and ready to support the ILCA in its second 50 years!

The '88 season got off to a rousing start June 4 and 5 at the newly reinstituted "new and improved" Lighthouse Regatta held in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin. Mike Elmergreen, Sue Dorscheld and Jeff Johnson deserve credit for helping deliver some of the best sailing of the season. Five Olympic triangles were sailed (yes, Olympics! Sailing Lightnings downwind is the tactical wave of the future. Catch it!) Three mark boats, one stake boat and another boat to fetch more beer insured the races came off without a hitch. Close racing resulted as follows: First, Ric Larson (Sheboygan), Second, Tryg Jacobson (Sheboygan), Third, Kevin Blair (Milwaukee), and Fourth, Mike Huffman (Chicago).

The next stop was the annual Evans Memorial held in Green Bay. For the second year in a row there was "tons of breeze." This year it blew so hard it was impossible to race after noon on either Saturday or Sunday. It was, however, possible to thoroughly enjoy ourselves ashore in the general proximity of the beer trough. Results: first, Paul Wurtzebach (Chicago), more about Paul later, second, Bill Faude (Milwaukee), third, Brian Phelan (Green Bay).

The 1988 P&T regatta introduced a revisionist race format this year. Three races on Saturday rather than the traditional two, saved this year's event. Saturday featured a "backwards macro windshift" which saw the normally dependable sea breeze wait until well in the afternoon before developing. Races one and two were sailed in the void between the sea breeze and a howling shore breeze at the weather mark. Sunday the wind was a no show altogether. Results: first, Huffman, second, Wurtzebach, and third, Hans Graf (Sheboygan).

The Midwest districts were held in Chicago. Good close racing was enjoyed in all parts of the fleet but the highlight of the regatta was Brian Phelan who was just plain blazing. Brian won the regatta and the final race was typical of the whole event. There was nothing tactical about this race. Phelan just punched out in front and covered the fleet — he often sailed right out of his own cover and had to tack back to maintain position. We are not talking slow. Brian was **fast**.

The rest of us were the rest of us. Results: first, Phelan, second, Wurtzebach, third, Andy and John Dillon (Milwaukee), fourth, Huffman, fifth, Faude, and sixth, Jacobson/Larson (tie). Of note were two great parties held during the event orchestrated by two legends in Midwest district party giving. Thanks go to Mike Huffman's roommates, Donald Shannon and Peter Anderson who are also beer pong champions.

About all that can be printed in a family yearbook is that the 1988 Sheboygan Brats Regatta was held. Never have so many suffered so long for so little. 'Nuff said. Results: first, Larson, second, Wurtzebach, and third, Jacobson.

The Chicago Hobelman Regatta, a regatta in need of some out-of-town participation was won by Ed Willse. Let's make this event a priority in 1989.

The Red Flannels failed to live up to their cold weather and big breeze reputation for the second year in a row. This year's event was remarkable on four accounts. 1. We had 31 registered competitors — a recent high water mark. 2. The weather would have done a July weekend proud. 3. Competitors from the Lake Erie, Mississippi Valley and Michigan districts took the top three positions. 4. Steve Thomas jumped into Hank Hodgson's "pre-sailed" boat (which he now owns) and took 3rd place. Results: first, Mark Bryant, second, Jerry Paoli, and third, Steve Thomas.

The Final event of 1988 was the annual Polar Bear, sailed on the Mississippi River in Davenport, Iowa. Good breeze, barges, current and a beer tap recessed in the clubhouse wall...what more could anyone ask? Results: first, Doug Steffenson (Davenport), second, Mr. Wonderful (Lake Geneva), and third, Jeff Johnson (Fond du Lac).

Notable achievement awards outside the district this year go to:

- Paul Wurtzebach — Paul got into an 11,000 series boat and proceeded to take silver in virtually every event in this, his first year in the class! Paul represented the district well at the North Americans, winning the Thermis trophy for the highest finisher in his first North American's. Welcome to the fleet Paul, **now slow down!**
- Ric Larson — Ric had an interesting season. After finishing a disappointing 7th at the "Districts," Ric finished 6th at the North American's, where he won two races and was probably the fastest boat at the regatta. Not bad for a self-described "plough driver from Sheboygan, WI". A cherished moment came in San Diego when Ched Procter and Jim Crane were checking Ric's rig set-up after the first day of the championship. After applying Loos gauge and measuring tape, Procter and Crane were surprised to find Ric's side stay turnbuckles corroded in place. They've not been adjusted in 2½ years! Typical Ric. Congratulations, you made us proud.
- Kevin Blair — For getting married.
- Karen Cady — For getting engaged.

NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT

District Commodore	Patrick MacQueen
District Secretary	Curtis Felix
District Measurer	Don Brush
District Champion	Stuart Nickerson
District Runner-Up	Brad Read
Junior Champion	Michelle Deyette
Junior Runner-Up	Chris Island

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

The New England Lightning District celebrated the '50th' in fine style with New England ace Brad Read taking all the marbles at Skaneateles. Congratulations Brad, and congratulations International Lightning Class!

The season started off with the early June Champlain Mallet's Bay Regatta. This was won also by Brad Read who bested a fleet of fifteen boats in light to medium air. The State of Massachusetts Championship came next won by Robert Cutting of Wellfleet. The Millfoil, I mean the Maple Leaf Classic at Bomoseen rounded out the June sailing with the jug of pure Vermont Maple syrup going to young Kenny Deyette. As will be seen throughout this narrative the Deyette clan has rapidly become a major force to be contended with in New England Lightning sailing. This family sports three very competitive Lightnings and at least four top notch skippers not to mention uncounted numbers of crew. When this family pulls up to a regatta in the Deyette van with Shirley and 'Pappy Goose' at the wheel, you have at least just broken even on your regatta finances and fully rounded out your fleet whether any one else shows up or not. The support of this family to the New England District is phenomenal and we certainly thank them for it.

Speaking of family affairs, next came the good old family affair at Androscoggin. Ray Harrington claimed victory here in two light to medium air races on Saturday. Sunday looked like a drifter and very 'iffy' for racing. However, Mr. Harrington, something of an insecure fellow, couldn't stand the pressure of Kenny Deyette breathing down his neck. So as we were all sitting motionless at the starting line waiting for a breath of air to come up so we could race, Mr. Harrington, in spite of wife Toni's protests, deftly slinked overboard and sabotaged the innocent Deyette boat by grabbing the end of the boom and swamping it. The innocent Deyettes frantically bailed and were pulled around behind one of those classic Androscoggin Chris Crafts to try to de-swamp. All to no avail. The day's races were cancelled for lack of wind.

This year's 'Districts' were hosted by Chequesset Yacht Club at Wellfleet. New District Secretary Curt Felix led a fine group from that club in a first rate job for the championship and a very entertaining weekend. Those people have to have muscles to move all the boats around on the beach. They also serve mussels that are exquisite. The first day of racing was medium while the second two days were quite heavy. Local heavy Stuart

Nickerson demonstrated superiority in every condition by winning every single race. Brad Read came in second.

Bomoseen hosted both the District Juniors' and Masters' events this year. The winds did not cooperate and one race was held for each but everyone had a great time anyway. Michelle Deyette took the Junior trophy back to Massabesic. Brother George next took the honors at Squam Lake.

Race Week at Champlain went from no wind on Saturday to a major blowout on Sunday. Bill Fastiggi of Mallet's Bay bested a 17 boat fleet in conditions where Lightnings were planing rapidly past J-24's. Next came the NH/Vermont Championship at Massabesic. This was a great weekend of sailing held by the Massabesic folk. Saturday was light to medium and Sunday was shifty and puffy and quite heavy in the chute at one end of the Lake. The Deyettes had sweet revenge on Mr. Harrington by walking away with all three races and coming back up the weather leg in the last race to find Ray turtles. Ray says he was trying to play the centerboard while gybing the spinnaker?

A fine season was rounded out at the traditional 'end of season' Spofford Regatta. Stuart Nickerson decided to show off again winning both Saturday races and the regatta over a 23 boat field. We are now girded for winter with fond memories of this year's season and great expectations for next.

OHIO DISTRICT

District Commodore Phillip Cornett
District Secretary Bertie Werley
District Champion Matt Fisher
District Runner-Up Rob Ruhlman

Fleets: Indiana Lake (23); Leatherlips (27); Turkeyfoot (33); Pymatuning (36); Buckeye Lake (43); Rocky River (71); Mansfield (150); Atwood Lake (212); Cowan Lake (303); Hoover (353); St. Marys (400).

The Ohio District scored another successful season in 1988, and is looking forward to one of their most exciting seasons ever in 1989!

NEW ENGLAND LIGHTNING DISTRICT

1989 Schedule

June 3-4	Lake Champlain, Mallet's Bay	Burlington, VT
June 10-11	NH/VT Championship- Maple Leaf Classic	Bomoseen, VT
June 17-18	PROVINCETOWN*	Provincetown, MA
June 24-25	Open	
July 1-2	Open	
July 8-9	ANDROSCOGGIN*	Wayne, ME
July 14-16	DISTRICTS	Annisquam, MA
July 22-23	JUNIORS/MASTERS- Massabesic	Manchester, NH
July 29-30	Marblehead Race Week (100th Anniversary)	Marblehead, MA
August 5-6	Wellfleet	Wellfleet, MA
August 11-18	NORTH AMERICANS	North Cape, OH
August 12-13	Falmouth Invitational	Falmouth, MA
August 19-20	Champlain Mallet's Bay Race Week	Burlington, VT
August 26-27	SQUAM*	Squam Lake, NH
September 2-3	Open	
September 9-10	Massabesic Lake	Manchester, NH
September 16-17	Bow Lake	Bow Lake, NH
September 23-24	Spofford Lake	Spofford, NH
*NEW ENGLAND LIGHTNING CIRCUIT CHAMPIONSHIP		

The 1988 season began with a spring seminar, once again graciously given by George Fisher. The Fisher family has given generously of their time and knowledge year after year, and our district has been greatly enriched and improved by their instructions. Our sincere thanks once again!

The Governor's Cup series began at Pymatuning Yacht Club with the Spring Classic. The competitors once again enjoyed both the antics and super race committee work of Curly, Moe and Larry (otherwise known as John, Joel and Dave). Their fame spreads — come see them for yourselves! PYC also once again enjoyed fine weather and good competition, as travelers included Bruce Goldsmith, George Fisher and Colin Park. Each year PYC tries to concentrate on sharpening our skills which have lain dormant all winter by running as many races as possible, but with shortened courses. This year the results ended with a very familiar champion, Bruce Goldsmith, in first place, followed by Colin Park (Bay City, MI) Rob Ruhlman (PYC), George Fisher (Buckeye Lake), and John Werley (PYC).

St. Mary's is the next leg of the Governor's Cup, and is situated on one of the larger lakes in Ohio, affording really lovely sailing. This year was no exception, as they had beautiful weather and winds varying from 8 to 20 mph over the course of the weekend. The Thunderbug Regatta was attended not only by sailors from the Ohio District, but from Michigan and Indiana as well. John McCree (Bay City, MI) placed first, with Tom Varley (Leatherlips), Ken Irwin (Cowan Lake) and Phil Cornett (St. Mary's) following.

Leatherlips Yacht Club hosts the Windshift Regatta, which for several years running has kept a vigil for the return of Terry Ottenweller. Terry proclaims LYC to be his favorite place to sail, yet each year some mysterious force keeps him away. Despite his absence, the regatta was held in what can be described as good (yet typically shifty!) air. However, what LYC lacks in consistency it works hard to make up for in hospitality, so that we always leave knowing we will return yet another year. This year left Tom Varley first, John Werley second and Carl Clipp (LYC) third. And, Terry — we'll keep the watchlight burning!

Many sailors from our District made the trip to Skaneateles, and proclaimed it a regatta they will never forget. In addition to the sheer splendor of it all, Bill Young (longtime crazy from Cowan Lake with a newly acquired boat) finished second overall in the Red Fleet! Congratulations, Bill and crew!

Cowan Lake was the site of the 1988 Districts. Although it is a relatively small and shifty lake, the Cowan fleet was anxious to host the event, and their enthusiasm was greatly appreciated by the rest of the District. Then came the drought and record high temperatures! But, even though the temperature was hot (104-105 degrees), the local fleet had plenty of fluids to keep the sailors cool! After a very light air series, Matt Fisher (Hoover/BLYC) was first, with Rob Ruhlman second, George Fisher third, Greg Fisher (Hoover/BLYC) fourth and Tom Varley fifth.

The annual Put-In-Bay extravaganza attracted several of our sailors again this year, although unexpectedly high winds left a few of them a little worse for the wear. Regardless, the Put-In-Bay regatta personnel are very accommodating, and will start a fleet with as few as three class boats. Talk with John Mueller or Jake Rider, and they will tell you it's really worth the trip! Mark your calendar for the first full weekend in August, and experience a truly unique event.

Next on the Governor's Cup circuit was Atwood's Harvest Moon Regatta. This is a multi-class event which takes place on Atwood's curiously shaped lake. Intermingling fleets often make it an exciting regatta (especially around marks), and the legendary cocktail party lives on as well. This year was a particularly light air affair, with Tom Varley first, George Auer (Cleveland) second, Jack Mueller (Cleveland), third, Tim McCain (Atwood) fourth and Dean Caley (Atwood) fifth.

The Buckeye Lake Snowball regatta was for years synonymous with cold, windy weather, but has of late been very "un-Snowball-like" in its mild temperatures and fair winds. This year was no exception, which is particularly welcome to the participants who particularly enjoy the party! Winners this year were Matt Fisher, George Fisher, Tom Allen, Jr. (Buffalo Canoe Club), Karl Erickson (Buckeye Lake), and Tom Varley.

The final event on the Ohio District calendar is the Cowan Lake Fall-In, which continues to grow in participation. Sailors returned to this hospitable club for cooler weather and soothing scenery, and enjoyed moderate breezes with not-too-many shifts for the season finale. Dick Pugh finished first, followed by Carl Suter (Indianapolis), Brad Wagon (Wauwausee), Tom Varley and Steve Thomas (Devil's Lake).

The District would like to extend a few welcomes: Welcome back to Greg Fisher, gone for a while but never forgotten. It's great to have you back in the Lightning, Greg! Also welcome to familiar crew and new boat owner Karl Erickson. Karl's got a good boat and (so far) a good attitude — watch out for him next season! Jim Martuccio from PYC is back also, and almost

won Cowan Lake but for one unfortunate race. PYC is glad to have him sailing actively again, and so is the District. Last but not least, we're really pleased to see Bill Young from Cowan Lake with his own boat. He's already tearing 'em up, and will surely continue the Young winning way!

We were also proud to have three sailors in the North American fleet as San Diego — Matt Fisher, Greg Fisher and Rob Ruhlman — with Matt finishing second and Greg fourth. Congratulations to all!

Usually this is the time to say goodbye for the winter, and look forward to seeing each other again in the spring. But this is an important winter for our District, as we are shifting into third gear in preparation for our hosting of the 1989 North American Championships at Northcape Yacht Club! We have gathered the troops already, and will continue to do so throughout the winter. For those of you who might not yet have signed up for a specific task, either in the preparation stage or actual execution, please contact Carl Clipp or Bertie Werley for possible assignments.

We must say that we heard some rave reviews of the job San Diego did for the '88 North American's, and hope to continue the same high standard of competition and fun! We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible next year at Northcape!

PACIFIC NORTHWEST DISTRICT

District Commodore Bruce Deitz
District Measurer Dave Hickman
District Champion Alan Hunt
District Runner-Up The Parshleys

Fleets: Maple Bay (64); Lake Washington (132); Chinook (229); Columbia (283); Okanagan (368).

Well, we tried to drum up some enthusiasm for attending the 50th Anniversary Regatta at Skaneateles, but the best we could do is put together a 50th Anniversary cake for dessert at the 'Districts'. A special report from Ken Sissions told the story of a 50th Anniversary party at Maple Bay. Fleet 64 is the oldest fleet in the Northwest, but has been ailing in recent years after Ken moved to Vancouver. The party was attended by many old time Lightning sailors from the Maple Bay area.

Speaking of cake, Alan Hunt made winning the 'Districts' look like a piece of it. Talk about dogged determination: he started at the pin in every race, including the race where the boat was favored by at least 20 degrees more than 2 minutes before the start. Alan's theory: clear air, boat speed, and the left beach (and we do mean BEACH) win out every time.

The Northwest District provides a special "Circuit" Trophy for the skipper (or is it the boat?) that does the best over-all in the seven circuit regattas. Competition was very close this year (as usual) with the top four boats within three points of each other: Parshley boat, six; Bruce Deitz, seven; Eric Lindahl, seven; and Gerry Neuberger, eight.

About three years ago a capsized Lightning mysteriously (?) washed up on the shores of Puget Sound with its mast in seven pieces and some fiberglass that was almost recognizable as a deck. The hulk was destined for the scrap heap until spoken for by some zealots from Oregon. Well, to the previous owners chagrin, the hulk was resurrected, outfitted, and extremely well sailed by Gerry Neuberger this past season. If Gerry had started the season as hot as he finished it, the circuit results could well have been different.

Dave Hickman was "Mr. Inconsistent" this past year, very unlike Dave's performances in past years. He won two circuit regattas and in so doing also won the Pacific Coast Championships for the second time. If our memory serves us correctly, Dave was DFL in the first race at the PCCs, then won four out of the last five races to win the regatta handily.

Just as Dave was "Mr. Inconsistent", Eric Lindahl was "Mr. Consistent" taking a second in Eugene, a third at VLSC, and a fourth at Seattle. Eric sailed each regatta with different crew and still sailed very well.

Ken Dunkelberg did his best sailing at Vancouver Lake this year, taking a fourth at the VLSC regatta and a third a week later in the 'Districts'.

Bruce Deitz fought hard to win the Kitsilano Regatta, wresting the trophy out of the hands of Alan Hunt who had won this regatta the past two years. Bruce was ably assisted by not one, but TWO, other Lightning skippers, Pam Hsu and Tom Anderson. This just goes to show that skippers can really sail on one boat with occasional success.

Maury Craig was hot out of the blocks, taking a third in Eugene (our second circuit regatta, after Kelowna), then experienced some gear problems at the Districts and couldn't quite get it together after that.

John Mahoney, Eugene's fleet captain, and Jim McAlister of Portland, sailed with Verson Pandian in the 'North Americans'. John reports that the Eugene fleet is making a comeback. This is good news for us all — Eugene is a perennial favorite regatta.

John DeBenedetti, our resident historian and District Vice President, finished a little out of character this year. He missed a few regattas and ended up in the middle of the pack for the Circuit Trophy, but finished second at Klamath Falls, which translates to a second at the Pacific Coast Championship also.

ST. LAWRENCE VALLEY DISTRICT

District Commodore.....Russ Scrim
District Secretary Tony McBride
District Champion Eddy Martin
District Runner-Up.....Peter Hall
District Measurer Adrian Niderost

Fleets: The Royal St. Lawrence Yacht Club (215); Pointe Claire Yacht Club (499).

The big event in our district this year was the Canadian Open Championship held at the Royal Saint Lawrence Yacht Club (Fleet 215), June 24-26. A mixture of conditions from light and variable to a steady 25 mph proved an excellent challenge and a true test of champions. Twenty-five boats competed and Larry McDonald bested them all. Second place went to Jody Lutz, while Peter Hall captured third.

The District Championship was also hosted by Fleet 215. It was held the weekend of July 16th with fair winds and under blue skies. The racing was close. After the first day Peter Hall led while Eddy Martin was second. That evening everyone gathered at Cathy and Tony McBride's home for a *bring-your-own-beef* barbecue. There the talk centered around what most of us would have to do to catch the leaders. Sunday was another perfect day for sailing. The leaders continued their battle for top spot. In the end Eddy Martin captured the championship. Second place went to Peter Hall and third went to Tony McBride.

1988 was an exciting year for our district. Participation was up at major events. We're looking forward to an even better year in 1989. Our district will again host the Canadian Open Championship. This time it will be Pointe Claire Yacht Club's turn (Fleet 499). It's expected that this major event will generate additional interest in our class at that club and encourage more sailors to buy a Lightning.

SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT

District Commodore David Sears
District Secretary Clay Rumble
District Measurer Bill Sloger, Sr.
District Champion Lenny Krawcheck
District Runner-Up Bob Harkrider

Fleets: Savannah (127); Clark Hill (257); Lake Lanier (348); Catawba (365); Lake Hartwell (391); Triad (415); Greater Charleston (429); Palmetto (440); Waccamaw (463); Wake (481); Tennessee Valley (500).

As usual, the 1988 Southeastern District circuit kicked off in late April (all you Yankees eat your heart out!) with the Augusta, GA Lightning Invitational Regatta. 15 boats assembled at Clark Hill (Strom Thurmond?) Lake for what we hoped would be a five race regatta. After a light to moderate air race Saturday, an electrical storm sent us scurrying for the clubhouse. However, a gorgeous Sunday bloomed with light to moderate air and allowed us to complete two more races. Lenny Krawcheck's consistent sailing prevailed and he took top honors.

Two weeks later 18 boats convened at High Rock Lake for what usually is our lightest air regatta. The gods smiled down on us that weekend, though, and produced beautiful weather with moderate air. Aside from the Wildlife Commission rangers writing several of us \$50 tickets for not displaying hull numbers, it was a fun weekend. Andrew Addie, a Georgia Tech college student and former crew of Bob Harkrider, showed us that his mentor had taught him well and ran away with the first place silver.

A week later, a dozen boats appeared at Lake Hartwell in Anderson, SC for the Western Carolina Open Regatta. Bob Harkrider demonstrated his usual light air skill by winning the regatta; however, his protege, Andrew Addie, was not far behind in second place.

The District Championship Regatta was held in Charleston, SC. The regatta was hosted by the Charleston Yacht Club whose Southern hospitality really shined. Friday's two moderate air races were followed by, what else would you expect in Charleston, a shrimp dinner. Saturday's sea breeze filled in with moderate air, which held through the first two races, but after building steadily over the afternoon, the wind was quite strong for the third race of the day. In addition to the heavy air, Saturday's last race was complicated by an

1989 OHIO DISTRICT REGATTA SCHEDULE

Spring Classic*	Pymatuning Y.C.	May 13-14
Thundermug Regatta*	St. Mary's Y.C.	June 3-4
Windshift Regatta*	Leatherlips Y.C.	June 10-11
District Championship	Pymatuning Y.C.	June 24-25
Independence Day Regatta	Pymatuning Y.C.	July 1-2
C.Y.C. Regatta	Cleveland Y.C.	July 29-30
Harvest Moon*	Atwood Lake Y.C.	September 9-10
Snowball Regatta	Buckeye Lake Y.C.	October 13-14
Fall-In Regatta*	Cowan Lake S.A.	October 21-22

*Sailing 3 of 5 qualifies for Ohio Governor's Cup Series

HOME OF THE 1989 NORTH AMERICANS

outgoing tide which caused one general recall and on the second start, most boats set up some 30 yards off of the line. A tired group of sailors welcomed the post-race hors d'oeuvres and especially the cocktails. Sunday provided a light air sixth race just to round out all wind conditions for the regatta. It was great to see John McIntosh amongst the 19 competitors and he certainly demonstrated his ingrained sailing skills; but, in the end Lenny Krawcheck's local knowledge and skill prevailed.

Four out-of-town boats assembled with eight local boats in Knoxville, TN for the Concord Yacht Club's first district regatta. The Knoxville fleet joined the Southeastern District a couple of years ago and this year, due to the cancellation of another regatta, we were able to fit them into the circuit schedule. The sailing conditions could best be described as ghosting but the hospitality was top notch. "Light Air Harkrider" again filled the top spot with three bullets.

Twelve boats attended the Beaufort Regatta in Beaufort, SC. The air was generally light for the three races and this, combined with the tidal current in the river where we sail, made for some interesting situations. Lenny Krawcheck with his wife Townie and local Arthur Levin, an unbeatable team, gave all of us a lesson in handling current.

After a two and a half month layoff to attend the North Americans (to which the Southeastern District was proud to send six boats) and lick our wounds from the first part of the season, we assembled at Lake Waccamaw to renew our respective quests for the gold. However, we were only to be frustrated by an abandoned race on Saturday due to time expiration and two light air races on Sunday, one of which was sailed in such a dense fog that often you could see no other boats. Gordon Kellogg showed the other 17 skippers the virtue in having patience and captured the gold.

The following week eleven boats gathered with the Y-Flyers for what turned out to be a wet weekend. The air was wonderful for sailing but unfortunately it brought with it almost continuous rain. The rain caused poor tacking on account of skippers trying to avoid water pouring out of the shelf foot of the mainsail and chased most of us out of our tents. Lenny Krawcheck withstood the inclement conditions, though, and held on to win the regatta.

The Atlanta Cup brought out 20 boats for one final crack at a win. Again, the weather did not cooperate. We sailed three short, light air races on Saturday and then the downpour began, continuing into Sunday morning when we sailed one abandoned race in the rain. This year, an immigrant from Florida won the Atlanta Cup—Fisk Hayden. Fisk gave us all a lesson in light air perseverance.

Twelve boats qualified for the season championship: Lenny Krawcheck, Bob Harkrider, Bennie Moultrie, Gordon Kellogg, Clay Rumble, Tom Hudgens, Carl Muska, Gil Klemann, John Pelosi, the junior boat skippered by Craig Kight and Juda Rubin, Tim Hagen, and Bob Wilkins. This compares to ten qualifiers in 1987. In addition, the average number of boats attending regattas increased from 14 in 1987 to 15 in 1988, so we feel that the district made progress this past year.

This year Bob Harkrider purchased an older Lightning to be used on the circuit by district junior sailors. Several juniors rotated in and out of the boat and they, as well as the other district sailors, very much appreciate Bob's efforts in promoting Lightning sailing.

At the 1988 annual meeting Clay Rumble was elected Commodore and Tim Hagen was elected Secretary/Treasurer for the 1989 season.

We invite all to attend our 1989 regattas, the schedule of which will be published next spring in *Flashes*.

SOUTHERN DISTRICT

District Commodore Cal Herman
District Secretary Roger Evans
District Measurer John "Buck" Ballatin
District Champion Cal Herman

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

This year marked the comeback of Cal Herman as Southern District Champion. He has now won the Districts an unprecedented eight times, besting the previous record of Gene Walet who had won seven times during the 1950's. Cal's dominance of the Districts in the 1980's has only been broken by Larry Frost in 1984 and Roger Evans in 1986 and 1987. New Orleans Yacht Club was the venue for the 1988 Districts held June 10th through 12th. Defending District Champion, Roger Evans, was first and second in the first two races, and at that point he enjoyed a two point lead over his nearest rivals, Cal Herman and Buck Ballatin. On the next day of racing Buck took a first in the morning race with Cal second and Evans third. Going into the last race Buck and Evans were tied at six points while Cal had seven points. The Championship would be decided on the outcome

of the last race. At the start, Cal tacked to the right and the race was effectively over as he sailed into a shore-induced geographic shift that became more pronounced as the wind began to build. Cal had noticed this strategic feature while sailing in a J-24 regatta the week before the Districts, and this lesson did not escape him in the last race. The first five District finishers were: Cal Herman, first; Buck Ballatin, second; Roger Evans, third; Larry Frost, fourth; and Jimmy White, fifth.

This year also saw nation-wide participation in the Sugar Bowl Regatta in New Orleans on December 31, 1988 and January 1, 1989. We were honored to have both Tom Allens, Greg Fisher, and Fisk Hayden, plus a host of other national sailors including: Bill Faude, from Chicago; Hans Graf and Dan Reichelsdorfer from Wisconsin; George Sipel and Hank Hodgson from Michigan; and the Bill Baxters, Roy Robbins and Lynn Jones from Tennessee. The twenty-two boat Sugar Bowl fleet began racing under partly cloudy skies with temperature in the 60's and a moderate southerly breeze. Greg Fisher blasted out to a big lead with two firsts in Races 1 and 2 of a scheduled five race series. Tom Allen, Jr. held down second place after scoring a second and third. In the third race, the winds built to over 20 m.p.h. and the fun began. Several boats capsized including Greg, who remarkably was able to salvage a seventh place finish. Fisk Hayden took first place in this windy race with Bill Faude second and Gerry Paoli third. After Saturday's three races, Greg was in first, with Bill Faude and Tom Allen, Jr. tied for second and Dan Reichelsdorfer in third. New Year's Day on Sunday brought gentler northeast breezes that proved Greg's undoing as he and most of the fleet went right after the start and found themselves lifted by a persistent backing shift to the left. Only Buck Ballatin and Hank Hodgson headed left into the shift. When they tacked over to port, as Buck likes to say, "School was out..." Hank came in first, Tom Allen, Jr. with a great recovery was second, George Sipel was third and Buck was fourth. Greg finished a disappointed tenth. The fifth race was cancelled as the wind died. Tom Allen, Jr. had sailed consistently and well to achieve first place in the regatta, plus claim a case of champagne for traveling the greatest distance to New Orleans. Greg Fisher was second followed by Hank Hodgson in third, George Sipel in fourth and Dan Reichelsdorfer in fifth. The 1989 Sugar Bowl is scheduled for December 30th and 31st. Please try to attend. We guarantee you a good time.



Some great Swiss District sailors.

SWISS DISTRICT

District Commodore Gilbert Despland
District Vice Commodore Jacques Perret
District Secretaries Katy Herzog/Stephan Scharer
District Measurers Urs Wyler, Oscar Weber
District Champion Urs Wyler
District Runner-Up Urs Schar

Fleets: Lac de Neuchatel (169); Zurichsee (219); Sempachersee/Hallwilersee (250); Greifensee (309); Murtensee (358).

After a sunny beginning to the season with our Sicilian friends of Marsala, whose warm welcome is always very much appreciated, it was in the grey of spring that our season really began, first on Lake Hallwil, at Beinwil, then on Lake Sempach, at Nottwil, followed by the Pfauencup on Lake Morat.

After a race with our Italian friends of Brenzone on the Lake of Garda, six boats from our districts went to Tampere in Finland for the European Championship, won by the Italian, Ferrari, followed by our District Cham-

pion Urs Wyler and his crew. This autumn the traditional race in Fallenden was held on the Lake of Freifensee. On October 21-23, we were in Neuchatel on the Lake of the same name, for the District Championship, won by *Meltemi*, skippered by the Urs Wyler crew which was followed by the usual Fondue Regatta organized by our friend Claude Lambelet.

Concerning the Swiss points Championship, the winner was Christoph Luthy, our current Vice-President.

To sum up, two black marks remain: the first, the cancellation of the Gravedona Regatta on the Lake of Como, for this year only, I hope, because we had such immense pleasure in participating; the second, the ever decreasing number of participants in all our District races. Surely, it's not only a problem pertinent to our Class, but extremely important because we are still so few. I invite you all to think about this, with the outlook of a better future for our wonderful Lightning Class, I could not finish my report without thanking my immediate collaborators, as well as those of the other clubs, who devote their time to organizing races in not always easy conditions and finally for all, competitors and friends, for the spirit and the fair play which reigned during this season.

TEXAS DISTRICT

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

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

In April Warren Lewis competed in the Holiday in Dixie Regatta in Shreveport, and the winds were light for a change. Warren could handle this. In addition to the winning trophy, he brought home the Tri-States Trophy which has a large half model of a Lightning on it (Note: You sailors in Mississippi will have to get up a challenge on this and get your name back on this trophy).

In May Warren Lewis won the Memphis regatta, Hernando DeSoto, on Arkabutla Lake in what were apparently high wind conditions.

In June we held the Texas District Regatta at Rush Creek Yacht Club, and Clarke Newman and Devry Garrett pushed hard in really fluky winds, but Warren prevailed.

In October the State Fair Regatta on White Rock Lake brought cold rain in the morning and light air in the afternoon. We were pleased to see Gay Means win this one, as she had been an active Fleet 35 supporter. As we had done before, the District obtained four raffle tickets for Lightning 14300 and announced in our general mailing that if our district won, a separate drawing would be held of the 1988 ILCA members in the Texas District. Fleet 35 participated in an Open House and Boat Show, and Larry Williamson brought newly restored Lightning 10275 which was parked under the trees along with other classes. The fleet had two other boats in the water for those interested in sailing. A fleet member tended the boat in the show and had class literature, builder information and a list of used boats for sale in the area. In spite of threatening weather, the attendance was amazing, and the fleet picked up a list of prospective members, added a boat to the fleet, and planted the seeds for more.

The "good news" is that Fleet 435 has started on their junior program, and have restored a Lightning for the exclusive use of junior sailors and hope to add another shortly.

Sugar Bowl

USF&G

Regatta

1988 Winners:

1st Tom Allen, Jr.
 2nd Greg Fisher
 3rd Hank Hodgson
 4th George Sipel
 5th Dan Reichelsdorfer



December 30-31, 1989
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