

## AFRICA DISTRICT

District Contact . . . . . Helmut Braun

Fleet: Lagos 510

No Report.

## ARGENTINA DISTRICT

Argentina Vice President  
& District Commodore . . . . . Osvaldo Bordino

Fleets: Club Nautico Olivos 206; Buenos Aires 446

No Report.

## BRAZIL DISTRICT

Brazil Vice President . . . . . Michael Anthony Norris  
District Commodore . . . . . Claudio Biekarck  
District Secretary . . . . . Michael Anthony Norris  
District Treasurer . . . . . John Julio Jansen  
District Measurer . . . . . Claus Bromberg

Fleets: Sao Paulo 147; Guanabara 401;  
Guarapiranga 462

No Report.

## CALIFORNIA DISTRICT

District Commodore . . . . . Open  
District Secretary . . . . . Mike Boswell  
District Measurer . . . . . Bruce Arnold  
District Champion . . . . . Scott Finkboner  
District Runner-Up . . . . . Mike Molina

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

During the week preceding Easter, the Mission Bay Fleet again hosted the California Circuit which consisted of 14 races held over four different San Diego area venues (Coronado Series, the Marathon, Ocean Series and the Mission Bay Series). The Ocean Series was actually sailed in Mission Bay due to a freak Pacific storm; otherwise, the weather was perfect for Lightnings for the entire week. Fourteen boats raced the entire circuit. There were eight from California, five from the Pacific Northwest and one from the East (John Faus). Jerry Newburger, from Vancouver Lake Fleet, won the overall Circuit.

Consistency was the key to Jerry's victory; he won the Ocean Series and placed third at Coronado, the Marathon, and the Mission Bay Series. Scott Finkboner, Mission Bay Fleet, placed

second by winning the Coronado Series, placing fourth in the Marathon, third in the Ocean Series, and second in the Mission Bay Series. Third overall was the Parsley family from Vancouver lake Fleet who were second in both the Marathon and Ocean Series. Fourth and fifth overall respectively were Mike Molina and Scott McBumey both from the San Francisco Bay Fleet. Mike won the Marathon which is a 26 mile race in both San Diego Bay and the Ocean starting at the Coronado Bridge and ending in Mission Bay. Scott won the Mission Bay Series.

In June the Santa Monica Bay Fleet hosted the Districts at King Harbor Yacht Club in Redondo Beach. Medium winds and Pacific Ocean swells prevailed. Scott Finkboner took the District Championship with victories in races 1 and 4. Second overall was Mike Molina who won race 5. He was closely followed in third place by Al Poindexter, Mission Bay Fleet, who won race 3. Scott McBumey came in fourth; he won race 2. Fifth place went to Wendell Harter of the host Santa Monica Bay Fleet.

Scott McBumey was elected District Commodore at the California Circuit; however, in August he changed jobs and moved to the Boston area. On his way back East he stopped at Carlyle to sail in the NA's. Good luck Scott; we will miss you!

The San Francisco Bay Fleet hosted the Pacific Coast Championships at Richmond Yacht Club in September. Eight Lightnings from California were joined by three from the Northwest. Winds gusted to over 18 knots on Saturday which caused three boats to break masts and two others to capsize. On Sunday calmer weather prevailed allowing three races to be completed. Roger Hicks, Vancouver Lake Fleet, is the new Pacific Coast Champion followed by Ashley Tobin, San Francisco Bay Fleet. Third place was won by Dave Weber, Vancouver Lake Fleet.

In November, Scott Finkboner and his crew, Tom Davies and Paul Kreitler, traveled all the way from San Diego to Nashville to sail in the Bluenose Regatta. They placed 11th out of 40 boats.

### CALIFORNIA DISTRICT SCHEDULE

June 10-11 . . . . . DISTRICTS

September 9-10 . . . . . Pacific Coast  
Championship  
Eugene, OR

For the year 2000, there will be a slight change in the California Circuit. The two day Coronado Series venue will be replaced by a two day series at King Harbor starting on April 9th. Then the fleet will travel to Coronado for the Marathon.

The Districts will take place at Richmond Yacht Club on San Francisco Bay on June 10th and 11th.

The Pacific Coast Championship will be hosted by the Northwest District at Eugene, OR in September.

*Mike Boswell*

## CENTRAL ATLANTIC DISTRICT

District Commodore . . . . . Bob Bush  
 District Secretary . . . . . Bill Bogardus  
 District Measurer . . . . . Jim Carson  
 District Treasurer . . . . . Jack Elfman  
 District Champion . . . . . Jack Elfman  
 District Runner-Up . . . . . Mitch Hnatt

Fleets: Bay Head 3; Metedeconk 34; Lavallette 104;  
 Little Egg Harbor 26; Brant Beach 173; Surf  
 City 196; Riverton 228; Barnegat Light 335;  
 Ocean City 430; Tohickon Creek 491

Jack Elfman led the way in 1999, scoring major victories in the inaugural Master's International Championship, St. Petersburg Master's and also the Central Atlantic Districts in a season that was marked by achievement and a high level of participation by Central Atlantic District competitors.

The Southern Circuit kicked off the 1999 season, with four boats from our District travelling to Savannah. Jack Elfman wound up 7th, Paul Gelenitis 17th, Mitch Hnatt 23rd and Caroline Hoedemaker 26th. In Miami, six of our boats made it to the starting line with Jack Elfman finishing 12th, Matt Reiser 25th, Mitch Hnatt 33rd, Greg Kinzel 34th, Caroline Hoedemaker 35th, and Dave Kunz 48th. In St. Pete, 8 boats competed (notice the steady increase, we need a longer circuit) with Jack Elfman 12th, Brian Taboada finishing 28th, Jim Carson 32nd, Mitch Hnatt 34th, Bob Bush 37th, Matt Reiser 39th, Caroline Hoedemaker 44th and Alfred Morton 71st. Elfman, Carson and Morton qualified for the Master's as well. Their finals were 1st, 6th and 13th respectively.

Overall for the circuit, Jack Elfman was 9th, Mitch Hnatt 22nd, Team Fuzzy Carson 23rd, and Caroline Hoedemaker 27th. If you can sail the Circuit in 2000 (2001), I strongly recommend it. Not only is it the most fun you can have in one week (I speak from 7 circuits experience), as you will see below in the District results, the boats that went to the circuit did better in the summer. John Faus continued to take the road less traveled by sailing the California Circuit once again, ending up 6th overall.

In the spring, the regional regattas were dominated by CAD boats (I sound like a cheesy sail ad!). In Red Bank, Brian Taboada mastered the difficult light air on Sunday and scored a come from behind victory, with 9 CAD boats making the short trip. In Nyack, Jack Elfman proved the best, with CAD taking 4 of the top 5 positions- thanks to Jack and Team Riverton.

All of these regattas were just a tune-up for the Districts, held on July 17th and 18th in Surf City. Saturday brought a buuilding westerly which provided shifty conditions for the 20 competitors. Race 1 was won by Jack Elfman playing the left hand shore. As the wind continued to build, Mitch Hnatt, in his boat "M squared", showed his usual heavy air speed, going away with the second race. At the end of the day, Mark Schneider was the most consistent, as he was home with 5 points total. We tapped the keg early (1:30 to be exact) and started a truly legendary party. Surf City put on a great show, and I think everyone who went to the party would agree!

## CENTRAL ATLANTIC DISTRICT SCHEDULE

June 10-11 . . . . . DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIP  
 Riverton  
 June 17-18 . . . . . Governor's Cup Regatta  
 Riverton  
 July 16 . . . . . Junior States  
 Metedeconk  
 July 22 . . . . . New Jersey State  
 Championship  
 Barnagat Light  
 July 29-30 . . . . . ATLANTIC COAST  
 CHAMPIONSHIP  
 Cedar Point YC  
 September 9-10 . . . . . Surf City Regatta  
 September 23 . . . . . Manahawkin Bay Cup  
 Surf City

In addition, Saturday before the races, Bob Bush was elected District Commodore and Bill Bogardus District Secretary. Bob has done a great job as District Secretary over the last two years, and his selfless service to the Class and to the District is greatly appreciated.

Sunday brought slight hangovers and a cooler northeasterly breeze. Mitch Hnatt won the pin end of the start and led race 3 wire to wire, taking the regatta lead in the process. Jack Elfman finished 3rd, and was now tied in points but behind after tie-breaker with one race to go. The final race was quite a battle with Hnatt and Elfman 1,2 at the weather mark, but Elfman showed superior downwind speed to take the lead for good. The final results were:

Jack Elfman/Surf City with Cindy Lister and Mike Holly  
 Mitch Hnatt/Metedeconk with Mike Maroney and  
 Ginger Cutaio  
 Bob Bush/Riverton with Sterling Bush and  
 Allister Thompson  
 Glenn Reitinger/Brant Beach with Beth Reitinger and  
 Carl Reitinger  
 Caroline Hoedemaker/Riverton with Bob Hoedemaker  
 and Parry Barkley

I'm sure I speak for all the district members in extending our thanks and gratitude to Surf City Yacht Club, their race committee, their social committee and especially Jack Elfman and Cindy Lister for putting together a geat event. The windward/leeward courses were square, the party was fun, and for a lot of us, the housing was free. Thank you.

At the end of July, 9 boats went to the ACCs in Annapolis, no doubt tuning up for next years NAs. Bob Bush led the way, finishing 7th. With next year's NAs only three hours away for some of us, despite the meager wind predictions, our district championship should be an all out war for our 8-10 slots the CAD is allowed. You should get out early since the Districts are scheduled for the second week in June in Riverton.

At the North Americans in Lake Carlyle, Ryan Bradley took 5th in the Junior Championship and Sterling Bush took 3rd in the Women's Championship. Three boats from the District made the 16 hour trip to St. Louis. All three made the blue fleet, with Jim Carson finishing 24th, Bob Bush 30th, and Gary Swangler 34th. Whoever qualifies for the last spot for the NAs next year at the districts has those three competitors to thank. Their good sailing earned CAD an extra qualifying spot for the 2000 NAs.

In October, 8 boats went back to Annapolis for the Frigid Digit, with Bob Bush proving again he has a handle on the light air and strong current of the Chesapeake, coming home in 5th.

This year was capped off by the World Championship in Salinas Ecuador. The first week was the inaugural Master International Championship. Jack Elfman took top honors with his crew Cindy Lister and Mike Holly. Congratulations Jack! (I think you get a flash with a golden tombstone on it!). In addition, Jim Carson crewed for Sandy Huntsman with new Class President Mary Huntsman, in what I believe may have been the oldest Lightning crew ever assembled (combined age over 200?).

In the Worlds, 3 of the 15 USA representatives were from the CAD, quite an accomplishment. Paul Gelenitis sailed a strong regatta to come away 8th. Jack Elfman had another fine series to finish 13th and Jim Carson was 35th. The real winner was Cindy Lister, as she is now the proud new owner of Lightning #15000! Could we be seeing her on the water sailing against Jack? Team Elfman had quite a trip.

1999 was a great season, but 2000 should be even better. Longtime CAD sailor Joe Buczkowski is getting married in January, the circuit still rocks, the CADs are a month early, and the NAs are only three hours away. In addition, there are usually 10 to 13 different regattas throughout NJ and PA from April to October. You can check the March and April Flashes, or the Lightning website for more details on scheduling. So even if your bottom is not faired, your sails were made by Murpy Nye, or your boat is older than mine (29 years and counting), come out to one of the regattas and join the racing fun.

## CENTRAL CANADA DISTRICT

District Commodore . . . . . Ross Bailey  
District Secretary . . . . . Malcolm Crooks  
District Measurer . . . . . Innes Martin

Fleets: ZigZag Zeroes at Clearwater Bay 277;  
Temple Reef Sailing Club 279

No Report.

## CENTRAL NEW YORK DISTRICT

District Commodore . . . . . Jean Palm  
District Secretary . . . . . Daniel Koretz  
District Measurer . . . . . Ed Seyerlein  
Assistant Measurer . . . . . Chad Atkins

## CENTRAL NEW YORK DISTRICT SCHEDULE

June 3-4 . . . . . Celebration of Spring  
Newport  
June 10-11 . . . . . DISTRICT  
CHAMPIONSHIP  
Cazenovia  
June 24-25 . . . . . Champaign, Keuka  
July 15-16 . . . . . Centrals  
Skaneateles  
July 22 . . . . . Women's/Juniors/Master's  
Henderson  
August 4-6 . . . . . LYRA Regatta  
Sodus Bay YC  
August 5-6 . . . . . Ithaca  
August 26 . . . . . Onondaga One-Day  
September 9 . . . . . Skaneateles One-Day  
September 23 . . . . . Caz One-Day  
October 15 . . . . . Ithaca Frostbite

Fleets: Skaneateles 1; Lake Delta 4; Onondaga 10;  
Newport Yacht Club 77; Great Sodus  
Bay 108; Willow Bank 164; Henderson  
Harbor 225; Keuka Lake 252;  
Galway Lake 338; Ithaca 484

No Report.

## CHILE DISTRICT

Chile Vice President . . . . . Tito Gonzalez Mas  
District Commodore . . . . . Eric Velasquez Beltran  
District Secretary . . . . . Ignacio Bazaure  
District Class Secretary . . . . . Guillermo Arriagada

Fleets: Antofagasta 318; Aculeo Lake 490

No Report.

## COLUMBIA DISTRICT

Columbia Vice President . . . . . Roberto Laignelet  
District Commodore . . . . . Richard Deeb

Fleets: Club Nautico El Muno 73; Club Nautico  
El Portillo 501

During 1999 the Colombian District put a big effort in trying to increase the class, but the year was not the best because of the economic problems that affect our country have also involved our sailors.

## COLOMBIA DISTRICT SCHEDULE

Julio 8-9 . . . . . Clasificatorio  
Camp. Norteamericano  
Agosto 12-13 . . . . . Copas Jose Carulla  
S. Y Copa Comodoro  
Septiembre 23-24,30  
Octubre 1 . . CAMPEONATO NACIONAL 2000  
Octubre 14-16 . . . . . Clasificatorio  
Sudamericano 2000  
Diciembre 3 . . . . . Regata Rafael Obregon

The Colombian District season started with the South American Championship. Out of 19 competitors of 4 Countries, Sebastian Higuera of Colombia took first place honors.

During the weekends of September 11th -12th, and 18th- 19th The Club Nautico El Muno and Club Nautico El Portillo hosted the Colombian District Championship. This event was also held to select the six Crews which were going to represent our county in the World Championship in Salinas, Ecuador.

The weather was quite good with winds between eight and ten knots. At the end the results were: (Top 10)

- 1.- Juan Carlos Uscategui, Jochen Raute, Paula Douat (19) Muno
- 2.- Loreana Jacob, Phillipe Jacob, Jessica Jacob (26) Muno
- 3.- Mauricio Valenzuela, Alberto Valenzuela, Tomas Valenzuela (28) Muno
- 4.- Sebastian Higuera, Camilo Salcedo, Nicolas Deeb (29) Muno
- 5.- Felipe Castillo, Juan Pablo Castillo, A. Montes (30) Muno
- 6.- Roberto Laignelet, Rodrigo Mora, Maritza Vargas (39) Portillo
- 7.- Gustavo Tamayo, Rafael Tamayo, Antonio Tamayo (39) Portillo
- 8.- Alvaro Bustos, Ana Maria Bustos, Susana Salcedo (41) Portillo
- 9.- Solmar Bermudez, Danny delGado, Nevardo Guerrero (43) Portillo
- 10.- Hernando Ramirez, Orlando Lopez, Nestor Parra (60) Hansa

The Colombian National Championship was hosted by Club Nautico Muno, during October 16th-18th. We managed to sail 8 races in a very light wind especially in the last day of racing.

Our winners were Juan Carlos Uscategui and his crew Jochen Raute and Paula Douat from Club Nautico Muno. Second Place from Club Nautico El Portillo was Rafael Tamayo with Gustavo and Antonio Tamayo. Third place also from El Portillo, Solmar Bermudez with Pedro Londono and Michele Vidulich. See Results .

Congratulations to our new District and National Champions.

I look forward to see everybody in the next years events, starting with the Colombian Districts in April , 2000.

*Mauricio Valenzuela*

## CONNECTICUT/RHODE ISLAND DISTRICT

District Commodore . . . . . Gianni Cuccio  
District Champion . . . . . Bill Healy  
District Runner-Up . . . . . Brian Hayes

Fleets: Housatonic 6; Niantic Bay Yacht Club 85;  
Cedar Point 126; Madison Beach Club 129

The CT-RI District had another active year. Participation was good at all our district regattas and, like always, the competition was very high. The first stop was Cedar Point Yacht Club's Early Bird Invitational. This has consistently been a great regatta that always has attracted a large number of boats and a lot of top sailors. This year was no exception as Bill Healy won, followed by Jed Dodge and Brian Hayes for third.

Next was the CT Governors Cup which is hosted annually by Niantic Bay Yacht Club. Another popular regatta, this one was won by Gianni Cuccio, with Bill Healy in second and Don Barrett third. In July, Madison Beach Club hosted the CT-RI District Championships and did a great job getting off 5 good races. Bill Healy took the top spot in a deep, good sized fleet. Andy Horton, Brian Hayes, Ned Roseberry and Gianni Cuccio rounded out the top five.

Many boats from our district did some traveling, placing well at various regattas. At the Southern Circuit, Tim Healy won the Miami Midwinters and was third overall. Brian Hayes was fifth overall and Ched Proctor was sixth. Ned Roseberry won the Atlantic Coast Championships (60 boats!) at the SSA in Annapolis, Brian Hayes was second, Bill Healy was fifth. The SSA continued to be hot, as many are anticipating an exciting N.A.'s there in August, 2000. Their October "Frigid Digit" regatta attracted 44 boats and Gianni Cuccio was the top CT-RI finisher with a third overall. Also, congratulations go out to Tim Healy, Bill Healy and Anthony Kotoun for a fine third overall at the Worlds in Salinas!

Thanks, *Gianni*

## CT/RI DISTRICT SCHEDULE

June 17-18 . . . . . CT Governor's Cup  
Niantic Bay YC  
July 8-9 . . . . . DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIP  
Niantic Bay YC  
July 29-30 . . . . . ATLANTIC COAST  
CHAMPIONSHIP  
Cedar Point YC  
September 30-  
October 1 . . . . . Fall Classic  
Cedar Point YC

## DIXIE DISTRICT SCHEDULE

June 17-18	DIXIE DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIP Solomon's Island
June 24-25	Delaware Governor's Cup Rehoboth Bay
June 24-25	Spring Fling SSA
July 22-23	Summer Regatta SSA
July 29-30	ATLANTIC COAST CHAMPIONSHIP Cedar Point YC
August 5-6	Sweetcorn Susquehanna
September 9-10	Leukemia Cup
September 16-17	Fall Regatta SSA
September 23-24	One-Design Fall Invitational Solomon's Island
October 21-22	Frigid Digit, SSA

## DIXIE DISTRICT

Fleets: Washington DC 50; Susquehanna 253;  
Sassafras River 314; Rehoboth 325; Severn  
River 329; Swift Creek 496; Fishing Bay 509

The ILCA Dixie District had an excellent year in 1999. The growth trend of recent years continued and the district was privileged to host the 1999 Atlantic Coast Championships and be selected to host the 2000 North American Championships.

Most of our constituent fleets are holding steady or growing. Fleet 50 continues to be a strong fleet, if not the strongest fleet, in the Potomac River Sailing Association. Fleet 508 of Solomon's Island, at the mouth of the Patuxent River Chesapeake continues to grow and enjoys one of the prettier places to sail on the Bay. Fleet 509 at Fishing Bay, also on the Chesapeake, enjoys the smaller town atmosphere of Deltaville, and hosted the 1999 Dixie Districts. Fishing Bay and Fleet 509 will be the host site for the 2000 North American Master's, Junior's and Women's Championships.

Fleet 253 on the Susquehanna River initiated the "Sweet Corn" regatta this summer with a good draw of boats. Fleet 329 located in Annapolis continues remarkable growth and is quickly becoming the larger multi-crew boat fleet at Severn Sailing Association. Fleet 329 hosted this year's ACC's and will provide an excellent sailing venue, race management and sight-seeing opportunities for the 2000 North American Championships. Fleets 314 on the Sassafras River, Fleet 496 at Swift Creek outside Richmond, and Fleet 325 on Rehoboth Bay had a quiet year.

The racing schedule in Dixie District was full and well distributed over the area. The results were somewhat less distributed. This was Phil's year. Phil Grotheer of fleet 329, at Severn Sailing Association in Annapolis, collected some serious silver this year. In addition, he submitted the elegant design for the Phil-lever, or Grotheer-lever as an alternative for aft mast blocks. *(However, don't change your boat yet. The class has not approved the design, elegance notwithstanding, at this time).*

The Southern Circuit provided early opportunity to go up against the best. Bob Wardwell and Phil Grotheer superbly represented Dixie District. Bob finished in the top 10 in both Miami and St. Pete and also for the overall circuit. Phil joined an elite group of three skippers, each of whom won multiple races during the circuit.

The local Spring season started with the Doc Gilbert Memorial Potomac Cup. Phil unseated last year's winner by total domination (4 bullets), Dick Hallagan, to take the win over 21 other boats with Dick close behind in second. SSA's opener drew a light turnout of 6 boats where Phil claimed first place, with Mike Beaver and Joe Freible in second and third, respectively. The Dixie Districts followed with Bob Wardwell of Fishing Bay winning over 15 other boats with Phil coming in second.

The Maryland Governor's Cup was special this year as the women's Adams Cup qualifiers were sailed concurrently. Cap Pin won the qualifier and went onto New Jersey for the area "C's". Phil Grotheer won the Governor's Cup with Peter Lauria/Jon Guth in second and Jamie Brickell in third; 11 boats competed. The Maryland Governor's Cup was followed by the Delaware version of the same championship. Conditions on Rehoboth Bay were incredible, with Phil Grotheer winning and Mike Beaver second. Did I mention Phil was having a good year?

Fleet 329 at SSA hosted the 1999 ACC's on July 24 -25. This year's ACC featured an incredible array of talent, 60 boats, a terrific party on Saturday night, warm nights and the sights, drinks and eats of Annapolis a short walk or water taxi away. Ned Roseberry prevailed for first place with crew Ched Proctor and Dorsey Roseberry, followed by Brian Hayes sailing with Carter Utzig and Lesley Frymier, with third place going to Phil Grotheer sailing with Sean Carroll and Nat Coughlin.

SSA's Summer Series was held on August 28-29, drawing 9 boats. Joe Freible won the 8 race series, followed by Jon Guth and Harry Keith. The Leukemia Cup hosted by the Potomac River Sailing Association and Lightning Fleet 50 followed the SSA series. Fourteen Lightnings participated and partied and partied some more. Phil Grotheer came in first on his original "home turf". Fleet 508 hosted their Invitational, drawing 11 Lightnings from the Bay area. Bob Wardwell won the 4 race event followed by Jack Jones (one of our frequent and favorite guests) and Stuart White of fleet 50.

Dixie District closes out its season with the Frigid Digit, sailed out of SSA. As you read in an issue of Flashes, the turnout was terrific with 44 Lightnings and 24 Snipes participating in the 48th edition of this classic. Phil wrote the splendid article for Flashes that described the racing. We were privileged to host sailors from all over the East Coast and from as far west as Illinois

and Canada to the North. We were also thrilled to have a Dixie District sailor, Phil Grotheer, win the event. Phil has sailed in this regatta for years and put a lot of effort into making the regatta a success. As Cully pointed out after winning this year's Bluenose, it is special when one of the home team wins a major regatta at home. Have a great 2000 and see you at the NA's.

## ECUADOR DISTRICT

Class Secretary . . . . . Francisco Sola Tanca  
Ecuador Vice President . . . . . Carlos LeCaro  
District Champion . . . . . Jaime SantaCruz  
Runner-Up . . . . . Juan Santos

Fleets: Salinas Yacht Club 405; San Pablo 447

In May we made the trip to Lago San Pablo (Fleet 447) for the District Championships. District Champions: Jaime Santacruz con Enrique Granja y Gabriela Vela; Runner-ups: Juan Santos con Rafael Lecaro y Ernesto Escobar.

In July Ecuador went to Winnipeg for the PANAM Games. Our Lightning team was Gastón Vedani skippering, Juan Santos and Rafael Lecaro, they finished 7 after a very tough and competitive series.

The intensive training program finished with the National Championships which saw a fleet of 19 boats, a record showing since at least 15 years. After a very tough series of 10 races Miguel Plaza Jr. with Jose Manuel Gonzales and Juan Baquerizo became the new champions. Runner-ups: Juan Santos, Rafael Lecaro, Arturo Iturralde. Third place: Juan Carlos Plaza, Eduardo Arosemena, Chalo Vargas.

And finally what we had all been waiting for arrived: Salinas was the host of the First International Masters Regatta and the Twentieth World Championships. The masters saw great competition and a strong local fleet led by Paco Sola Sr. who came back to sailing Lightnings after a five year break. The winner had to come out ahead in the last race of the series, and after a nerve racking showdown, it was Jack Elfman who got the gun, Tom Allen Sr. came in second and Paco Sola third.

The Worlds was next. We had teams from Argentina, Canada, Colombia, Chile, United States, Switzerland and Ecuador for a total of 45 teams. Results and comments about the regatta can be found elsewhere in this book. Suffice it to say that Tito

Gonzales, Claus Engels and Pablo Barahona came up with the well deserved first place after a tight series in which they sailed almost flawlessly. The other winner was the Salinas Yacht Club which was on top of the event and ran like clockwork to bring us a regatta that will be hard to forget. Thanks to the Board of Directors and to all the personnel of the club for their hard work. A special mention to Diners Club and American Airlines who were our official sponsors and who have been supporting the Lightning Class for quite some time.

## FINLAND DISTRICT

District Vice President . . . . . Pentti Laitinen  
District Commodore . . . . . Martti Lahtinen  
District Secretary . . . . . Maija Karhusaari  
District Measurer . . . . . Jari Aromaa  
District Champion . . . . . Kari Huusko  
District Runner-up . . . . . Kimmo Aromaa

Fleets: Helsinki 166; Oulu 307; Kemi 310;  
Jyvaskyla 328; Tuusulanjarvi 456;  
Valkeakoski 468

Sailing season 1999 was quite good for the Finnish District. The trend of getting more people involved in the class is still continuing, as we once again saw a slight increase in the membership numbers. I must here recognize Matti Leppanen, who has recruited most of the new members. Good job, Matti! Of course we did other recruiting as well: we took part in the Helsinki International Boat Show and the Turku Boat Show, where we got new contacts.

One important contact from the Helsinki show was Jan Forsbom from Santer Yachts, a boat builder from the west coast of Finland. After the show he has taken on the building of Lightnings in Finland. Having a local boat builder is very important for the future of the class here in Europe.

Our ranking series consisted of five ranking series regattas and our District Championship regatta, which was held in Kemi this year. Kemi is way up north, which unfortunately limited the number of participating boats. I'm sorry for all those who could not attend, as this was a great regatta. We had competitive races combined with lots of "extracurricular activities", such as a reception held by the City of Kemi, ad-hoc parties by Mamma Tuusula's camper, dancing under the midnight sun. We even had an accordion player backing our sing-along. The local police checking whether we had a "huvilupa", kind of a party permit for holding parties at a public place, describes the event perfectly. All fellow sailors and race organizers from Kemi; thank you for a fun regatta!

The Finnish championship was won by a local crew: Kari Huusko, Mika Viide, and Tommi Ahonen. Kimmo Aromaa's crew placed second and Olli Lahtinen's crew placed third.

The entire ranking series was won by Kimmo Aromaa, Niko Lappalainen was second and Samppa Salminen third. We were happy to see a new skipper - Sakari Pesola - on a brand new Finnish boat taking active part in the series.

## FINLAND DISTRICT SCHEDULE

June 10-11 . . . . . Helsinki Regatta  
July 22-23 . . . . . Oulu Lightning Ranking  
August 5-6 . . . . . Nasijarvi Regatta  
August 24-27 . . . . . DISTRICT  
CHAMPIONSHIP  
Jyvaskyla  
September 23-24 . . . . . Autumn Regatta  
Tuusula

We had crews taking part in international events as well. A total of seven boats made the trip to Switzerland for the Europeans. The championship was won by Urs Wyler from Switzerland. The best Finnish crew was Kari Huusko's crew, who finished fifth. Judging by the photos and good stories, it was once again a great lightning event and definitely an excellent way to spend the summer holidays. We are sorry that none of the crews could make it to Ecuador, as the most of the crews spent all their travel budgets on the Europeans.

It is dark and cold in Finland at the time I'm writing this. Still, we gathered together a few weeks ago to plan the coming season. The question, as always, was how to keep the class active and alive in Finland. One of the ideas presented was "taking Lightnings to work", i.e. organizing sailing courses for our fellow employees for a nominal cost. The target is to hold two or three crash courses next summer. In the next report we'll tell you how that turns out.

*Maija Karhusaari*

*District Secretary*

### Finland District Championships

**Kemi, July 9-11, 14 Boats, 6 Races, 1 Throwout**

1	Kari Huusko, Mika Viide, Tommi Ahonen						
	1	1	1	1	1	2	5
2	Kimmo Aromaa, Jari Aromaa, Mike Aromaa						
	5	7	3	3	3	3	17
3	Olli Lahtinen, Martti Lahtinen, Erkki Punttila						
	2	5	5	5	7	1	18
4	Pentti Jarvinen, Lassi Jarvinen, Mikko Hellman						
	4	4	4	2	6	dnc	20
5	Samppa J. Salminen, Tero Kotimaki, Keijo Tulomaki						
	3	3	9	6	4	4	20
6	Niko Lappalainen, Pasi Hannila, Kari Kanerva						
	dnf	2	2	8	5	6	23
7	Pertti Pyy, Maija Karhusaari, Walterri Karhusaari						
	6	8	6	12	2	5	27
8	Aulis Naykki, Heikki Ulen Erkki Puupera						
	8	6	7	4	9	9	34
9	Matti Leppanen, Tarja Mastosalo, Lauri Sumanen						
	7	10	10	9	11	7	43

### FLORIDA DISTRICT SCHEDULE

July 16	Coconut Grove
August 26	KBYC
September 2-3	SSS Labor Day Regatta Sarasota
September 24	CRYC
October 14-15	Chris Young Memorial CGSC
November 5	CRYC Annual Regatta
November 25	Thanksgiving Regatta DIYC
December 2	MYC

10	Mauri Jestila, Kari Jestila, Ilkka Ketola						
	9	11	8	7	10	10	44
11	Markku Paloma, Atte Hinkka, Heidi Paloma						
	10	9	13	11	8	8	46
12	Johannes Junes, Iida Heino, Pasi Koivunen						
	dnc	13	11	10	12	12	58
13	Seppo Posti, Kari Uurtimo, Petteri Haggstrom						
	12	14	12	13	14	11	62
14	Juha Siilin, Riitta Kangas, Mika Lamminen						
	11	12	14	14	13	dsq	64

### FLORIDA DISTRICT

District Commodore . . . . . Bill Mauk

District Measurer . . . . . Steve Hayden

Fleets: Biscayne Bay 226; Cedar 478;  
North Florida 461; Suncoast 502

No Report.

### GREECE DISTRICT

Fleets: Salamis 251; Parthenon 286

No Report.

### INDIANA DISTRICT

Fleets: Wawasee Yacht Club 154; Indianapolis  
Sailing Club 270

No Report.

### INDIANA DISTRICT SCHEDULE

June 17-18	District Championship ISC on Geist Lake
October 7-8	Hoosier Regatta Lake Wawasee

### ITALY DISTRICT

Vice President . . . . . Franco De Regis  
Commodore . . . . . Antonio Marino  
District Secretary . . . . . Sergio Rustichelli  
District Champion . . . . . Mario Noto-Giuseppe  
Alagna - Mario Alagna  
Runner-Up . . . . . Antonio Marino-Pasquale  
Prinzivalli - Dario Gerardi

Fleets: Garda 249; Lega Navale Anzio 312;

## ITALY DISTRICT SCHEDULE

June 10-11 . . . . .	Qualifying Series Porto San Giorgio
August 12-14. . . . .	Capo Boeo's Cup Marsala
September 8-10 . . . . .	ITALIAN DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIP Lake Trasimeno
December 28-31 . . . . .	Sailing Criterium Marsala

Marsale 449; Trasimeno 453; Cornero 466;  
Savio 476; Roma 479

The 1999 Italian Championship was held in Bracciano, the last week of June, at the "Centro Sportivo Aereonautica Militare", which hosted the race and gave a tribute to its success. The weather was good and we had all kind of air conditions. Noto won the Italian Championship due his consistency, Marino was 2nd and Reina was 3rd.

We had two crews, Noto-Alagna-Alagna and Marino-Prinzivalli-Rallo, at the European Championship in Murten (Switzerland) where, without wind, Noto was 2nd and Marino was 11th .

At the class meeting, held in October 1999, it was discussed how to organize the 2000 Italian District Championship and about the bid from Circolo Velico Marsala for the 2001 World Championship. All Italian members hope that Italy will organize this championship because it could be an opportunity to increase boats and members.

The Regatta Site for the 2000 Italian Championship will be the Trasimeno Lake, near Perugia, the first week of September 2000, where we could have a lot of participants.

*Antonio Marino*

## LAKE ERIE DISTRICT SCHEDULE

June 17-18. . . . .	Niagara Frontier Invitational BCC
July 20-21 . . . . .	LED Junior Clinic/Districts BCC
July 22-23 . . . . .	District Championship BCC
August 30 . . . . .	Old Salts' Regatta BCC
September 9-10 . . . . .	Fall Regatta BCC
September 16-17 . . . . .	Harvest Regatta SLYC

## LAKE ERIE DISTRICT

Fleets: Buffalo Canoe Club 12; Chautauqua 19;  
Silver Lake Yacht Club 47; Niagara Sailing  
Club 59; Cuba Lake 115; Flying Beaver  
Club 118; Toronto Bay 146; Conneaut  
Bay 180; Chautauqua 198

No Report.

## LONG ISLAND DISTRICT

Fleets: Great South Bay 178; Southampton 431  
Orient Yacht Club 506

No Report.

## LONG ISLAND DISTRICT SCHEDULE

July 8 . . . . .	DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIP Orient Yacht Club
July 29-30 . . . . .	Atlantic Coast Championship Cedar Point YC

## METROPOLITAN DISTRICT

District Commodore . . . . . Gary Hurban  
District Secretary / Treasurer . . . . . J. P. Mann  
District Champion . . . . . Judy Hanlon  
District Runner - Up . . . . . Robert Sengstacken

Fleets: North Shrewsbury River 11, Paupack 16, Lake  
Mohawk Yacht Club 25, Chelsea Yacht  
Club 39; Monmouth Boat Club 70, Nyack 75,  
Awosting Yacht Squadron 95

1999 was a very successful year for the Metropolitan District. Nyack Boat Club, Fleet 75, hosted the Districts on the Hudson River. The competitors arrived for a great weekend of competition but the wind did not cooperate. An unusually slow moving high controlled the weather and forced the race committee and the competitors to be very patient. The weekend had many attempts at close racing but ended with only one completed race, Judy Hanlon sailed a very tactful race to lead the fleet home followed closely by Robert Sengstacken and Jack Huntsman.

The Metropolitan District is a hot bed of lightning activity. Things began early with an appearance at the Atlantic City Boat Show. Members of the district assisted the Huntsman's in discussing *Lightnings* with many show goers and handed out material provided by the ILCA.





*Metropolitan District Championship Trophy winners at Nyack Boat Club.*

With the coming of spring, our boats were competing in the popular Long John Regatta hosted by Fleet 70 on the Shrewsbury River. This event attracted a large competitive crowd. After a full weekend of racing Brian Taboada held top honors. Dave Watts and Dick Hallagan were first and second runners - up respectively. The event signaled to all that a close season of racing was at hand.

Early June brought many skippers and crews together on the Hudson River for the annual Magnus Pederson regatta hosted by the Nyack Boat Club in honor of a former active Lightning skipper. The event attracted a sizable fleet comprised of boats from our district and the surrounding districts. Jack Elfman claimed the top prize followed by Bob Bush and Gianni Cuccio.

September found many sailing on Lake Wallenpaupack in the Governor's Cup Regatta, This majestic setting in the Pocono Mountains of Pennsylvania provided some terrific racing. Caroline Hoedemaker moved through the fleet to claim first place. Mark Schnieder finished second followed by Jack Huntsman in third.

As the season began to wind down, we again headed back to the Nyack Boat Club for the Last Blast Regatta. This one day event saw light air and river current that tested both skippers and crews. In the end Bob Bush took home the hardware followed by Dick Hallagan and Mark Schnieder.

METROPOLITAN DISTRICT SCHEDULE	
June 24-25 . . . . .	Metropolitan District Championship Nyack
September 16-17 . . . . .	Pennsylvania Governor's Cup Lake Wallenpaupack
October 14 . . . . .	Last Blast Nyack

The Metropolitan District would like to extend congratulations to our own Joan Hurban and her crew Judy Hanlon and Cindy Cox on winning the Adams Cup. Also to Kathy Connell for winning the Women's North American Championship, and to Jack Huntsman for his fifth place finish at the World Championship. The District would also like to thank George McDonnell for his service as secretary treasurer of the district over the past several years.

## MICHIGAN DISTRICT

District Commodore . . . . .Chris Jacobson  
 District Secretary . . . . .Bill Thomas  
 District Treasurer . . . . .Kevin Nickels  
 District Measurer . . . . .Sean Fidler  
 District Champion . . . . .Colin Park  
 District Runner-Up . . . . .John McCree  
 Traveling Champion . . . . .Colin Park  
 Fall Series Champion . . . . .Diana Fernando

Fleets: Devils Lake 31; Western Lake Erie 42;  
 Crescent Sail Yacht Club 51; Lake Fenton  
 Sailing Club 53; Pontiac Yacht Club 54;  
 Higgins Lake 110; Gull Lake Yacht Club 137;  
 Macatawa Bay Yacht Club 204, Saginaw  
 Bay 216; Burt Lake 254; Grand Traverse  
 Yacht Club 326; Douglas Lake 374; Lansing  
 Sailing Club 387

The Michigan District starts the year at North Cape Yacht Club sailing the Great Lakes Championship in Monroe, MI. Out of 27 competitors, Bill Faude with crew Ernie Dieball and Jared Drake took home first place honors. This coming year North Cape is hoping to host one of the "Road Show" regattas and one of the newly created Lightning Labs.

In early June the Lansing Sailing Club hosts it's annual regatta. This year's regatta featured good breeze and the infamous chicken dinner. Mike Thomas and crew Matt Selan and Bill Thomas ran the table with 6 bullets to claim the victory.

The Michigan District Championship was held at Macatawa Bay Yacht Club in Holland, MI. Macatawa is usually one of the best Michigan regattas because of the beautiful rolling sand dunes background and the consistent breeze from the westerly thermal. Unfortunately the wind gods let us down! After waiting for the breeze all day Friday and half of Saturday, we completed one race on Saturday and three on Sunday in 0-4 knots. Colin Park with crew Karen Park and Bill Thomas sailed a consistent series to win over John McCree with crew Dave Corcoran and Dave Decker. Jim Allen with crew Jane Allen and John Morley was third. The Macatawa members promised better racing next year.

The Team Races were held at the Lake Fenton Sailing Club in Fenton, MI. Again this year, the teams were seeded to perpetuate tighter competition. The team of Dave Nickels, Mike Thomas and Bob Ruffli played the tactical games right and took home first place.

This year was the return of the Tawas Bay Yacht Club to the Michigan summer circuit. Tawas Bay Yacht Club, a four-time host of the Lightning North Americans, made a spectacular comeback with 6 races on the crystal blue water of Tawas Bay. All of us in Michigan owe great thanks to the Princing Brothers and crew for reviving one of Michigan's great sailing areas for Michigan sailors. Colin Park with Karen Park and Bill Thomas took home first honors.

The next regatta on the schedule was the 45th annual regatta at Bay City Yacht Club. A wicked squall with 60 mph winds and golf ball sized hail blew through the course after the last race on Saturday capsizing twelve boats and breaking three masts. After the storm passed, crews from all boats helped recover the wreckage. Luckily the only injuries were a few people with welts from the hail. Jim Allen showed everyone the correct way around the course (and out of the way of the storm) to claim first prize.

Higgins Lake hosted their annual regatta the first weekend in August. Higgins has a very unique setting with the Yacht Club on an island in the middle of the lake. The boats are left in the water overnight at the yacht club and a water taxi run by club members delivers participants to and from the club. Colin Park with crew Karen Park and Kyle Militzer took home the gold.

After North Americans, the fall series starts the week after Labor Day at the Whitecap Regatta at Pontiac Yacht Club in Pontiac, MI. Saturday proved to be a "whitecap" type of day as the wind built to full on hiking. Sunday proved to be a crazy Pontiac type of day with the wind filling from all directions. Sean Fidler, with crew Shelly Rothenbueller and Eric Westin proved good through all conditions and won first prize.

Devils Lake's "This One's For Fun" was the next regatta on the schedule and this year was on of the prized Lightning Class Intersectional regattas. Again crazy breeze plagued another Michigan regatta. The breeze filled from both sides of the course and never settled in from one direction on Saturday. Sunday, light but consistent breeze filled the course. Jim Allen with crew Jane Allen and Craig Koschaulk took home top honors.

The Icebreaker at Crescent Sail Yacht Club held true to form with chilly temperatures but solid breeze on Lake St. Clair. David Decker and his crew, Faye Decker and Jerry Decker stayed warm enough to win.

The year ends where we started, at North Cape Yacht Club's Fall Blowout. The one-day event allows us to finish the regatta season in Michigan plus leave us time to travel over to Frosty's at Put-In-Bay for one more, frosty challis. This year Peter Wenzler won the final regatta of the season.

As for Michigan District special trophies, the Traveling Trophy goes to Colin Park for sailing a consistent season and the Fall Series Trophy goes to Diana Fernando for finishing the best in the fall regatta circuit.

Finally, congratulation to Colin Park and crew Karen Park and Bill Thomas for representing the Michigan District at the Worlds in Ecuador.

*Bill Thomas*

## MICHIGAN DISTRICT SCHEDULE

June 17-18	Team Races
	Lake Fenton
June 22-25	Michigan Districts
	Bay City
July 8-9	Macatawa
July 22-23	Tawas
August 5-6	Higgins Lake
September 9-10	White Cap
	Pontiac
September 16-17	Devils Lake
September 30-October 1	Crescent
October 14	Fall Blowout
	North Cape

## MIDWEST DISTRICT

District Commodore	Bob Franke
District Secretary	Amy Simonsen
District Treasurer	Michou Reichelsdorfer
District Champion	Ed Coleman
District Runne-Up	Bill Faude
Lake Michigan Championship	Dave Stix

Fleets: Chicago Corinthian 5; Milwaukee Yacht Club 69; Green Bay Sailing Club 112; Lake Davenport 167; Sheboygan 187; Fond du Lac 442

This year's District events again started out with the annual winter meeting held at Milwaukee Yacht Club. Plenty of pizza and good time was had by all. Skip Dieball concluded the meeting with a presentation on Lightning sail trim.

The first regatta of the season was the annual Light House Regatta held in Fond Du Lac, WI on Lake Winnebago and hosted by Fleet 442. The winds were strong and puffy and temperatures were in the low 90's for this spring opener. This year's regatta included an additional start for the I-20 class; these boats carry an asymmetrical spinnaker. This new class of scows proved to be a bit tippy in the puffy conditions. Kudo's again to Elmo & the Fond Du Lac Yacht Club who provided a great regatta along with a delicious dinner at the club. First place went to Skip Dieball, followed by Bill Faude in second, and Ric Larson in third. Dave Stix was fourth, followed by Pauly Wurtzbach in fifth. Thanks also to Greg Fischer of North sails for providing the on water coaching and video commentary.

Chicago Corinthian Yacht Club's Lightning Fleet 5 hosted the Midwest District Regatta in Chicago, IL with 15 boats in attendance. The winds & weather cooperated to provide for some fine sailing. New comer Ed Coleman sailing with crew Paul Coleman & Gerald Coleman prevailed to win the regatta. Bill

Faude with crew Jared Drake and John Strassman were second along with David Stix with his familiar crew of Karl Erickson and Robert Alexander finishing third. Ric Larson with his son Eric & Amy Lundeen arrived late (what's new) to the regatta and discovered during measurement that their mast had just cracked in two. They were able to borrow Bill's Faude's extra mast & switch stays to finish fourth. Bob Franke with Bonnie Hawkins & Barb McBairty rounded out the top five. Thanks again David Stix, Doug Steffenson and the entire Fleet 5 for a well run regatta.

The Evans regatta hosted by fleet 112, which is normally sailed at the University of Wisconsin Green Bay, WI, was not only rescheduled but relocated as well. It appears that someone forgot to leave the hose running and Green Bay's water level had dropped some 30" since last year. Due to the Great Lake's fall, this year's regatta was sailed at the Windjammers Yacht Club on the other side of Green Bay. The winds were light & shift. The annual party at Bill Dean's home right on the bay went on as planned. Jim Gagnon finished first. Terry Phelan was second and Ric Larson finished third. Green Bay locals Mike Faugust & Kip Hart rounded out the top five.

Lightning sailors Danny and Michou along with the gang on Cynosure figured if the Milwaukee Brewers could bring down the house so could they. On Wednesday July 7th, 1999, "Big Blue", the 525' tall, 1.5 million ton Lambson crane at the new Miller Park - Milwaukee with it's 410 ton roof section came crashing down on the new baseball stadium. On Saturday July 17th, shortly after a tack, the carbon fiber rig on Cynosure, a Santa Cruz70, came crashing down. Experts say that "wind" played a part in both situations.

The Brotz regatta was hosted by Sheboygan Yacht Club, Sheboygan, WI. Both race days were dominated by the Westerly winds battling the Southeaster on Lake Michigan. Rich Reicheldorfer did an outstanding job of Race Committee work while chasing the ever-changing winds. David Stix won the regatta. Jason Bemis, Martha Cushman, Ric Larson and Bob Franke rounded out the top five. Other news in Fleet 187 includes; Michou & Danny Reicheldorfer getting married in

May and as of this writing have skipped town to New Zealand to sail in "BIG" boats.

This year's P&T Regatta hosted by Fleet 69 of Milwaukee, WI, was scheduled in conjunction with the Milwaukee Yacht Club Grand Prix weekend. This allowed the Lightning sailors to participate in the social activities of the offshore fleet. The winds of the Brotz regatta on Lake Michigan followed the fleet on Saturday. Sunday's winds went Northeast and continued to shift and lighten as the day went on. MYC native Bill Faude won the regatta with Pauly Wurtzbach and Martha Cushman taking second & third respectively. David Stix & Milwaukee Yacht Club's Dennis Bersch finished fourth and fifth respectively. The Hobelman regatta hosted by Chicago Corinthian Yacht Club was sailed in great weather below the City of Chicago skyline. Winners were Doug Steffenson, David Stix, Martha Cushman, Bill Gibson & Dennis Burke.

This year's North American Championship was so close to home it is no wonder the Midwest District had the most participants. Congratulations to Pauly Wurtzbach and crew Doug Nickel & Paul Hinze for their fourth place finish in Blue Fleet. Other boats making into the blue fleet were David Stix and Ric Larson. Thanks also to district sailors Irving, Cushman, Ehrenberg, Adamski and Franke for attending the North American's. Arising each morning to view Carlyle Lake from the cabin windows was quite the splendor.

Congratulations are in order to Michou Reicheldorfer and crew who finished second at Adams Cup Finals. Also to Bill Faude and crew who finished third at Mallory Cup both of which were sailed at the Milwaukee Yacht Club. Thanks to all the Lightning boat owners who generously donated boats for the Adams Cup event.

The annual Red Flannels regatta hosted by Fleet 5 out of Chicago, IL was sailed in perfect conditions on Saturday with four races completed. Sunday's racing started out normal; however, by the second race, the winds had increased to what normally is expected at this regatta, 25-30mph. Matt Fischer of Westerville, Ohio won the regatta, Bill Faude of Chicago was second. David Stix and Pauly Wurtzbach both from Chicago

*Sailors at this  
years  
Midwest  
District  
Championship*



## MIDWEST DISTRICT SCHEDULE

June 23-25. . . . . DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIP  
Green Bay  
July 29-30 . . . . . Brotz Regatta  
Sheboygan  
August 5-6 . . . . . P & T Regatta  
Milwaukee  
August 5-6 . . . . . Hobelman Regatta  
Chicago  
September 23-24 . . . . . Red Flannels  
Chicago  
TBA . . . . . Polar Bear Regatta  
Davenport

finished third and fourth respectively. Sean Filder of Troy, Michigan rounded out the top five. Thanks to other participating boats from Michigan, St Louis, Thunder Bay, and Toronto who traveled from outside the District to this event

Our thoughts now turn to raking leaves, changing screens to storms and the polishing of skis and ice boat runners. By the time you read this article, Y2K will be a faint memory and you will be able to purchase a generator at every corner rummage sale for half price.

*Bob Franke*

## MISSISSIPPI VALLEY DISTRICT

Fleets: Decatur 74; Harbor Island Yacht Club 262;  
Carlyle Sailing Association 266; Delta  
Sailing Association 274; Valley 486

No Report.

## MISSISSIPPI VALLEY DISTRICT SCHEDULE

June 10-11 . . . . . DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIP  
HIYC  
November 4-5 . . . . . Bluenose  
HIYC  
Nashville, TN

## NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT

District Champion . . . . . Andy Horton

Fleets: Centerboard Yacht Club 14; Merrimac  
River 121; Spofford Lake 145; Annisquam

Yacht Club 151; Marblehead 189; Lake  
Massabesic 273; Chequesset 280; Lake  
Champlain 301; Squam Lake 332; Bow  
Lake 493

The season opener for New England was a clinic directed at some of our newer lightning sailors held at Lake Massabesic in mid May. Sessions included boat tuning, sail trim and crew work plus on the water starting practice. Some of the more experienced sailors in the district graciously shared their knowledge and experience. Ken Deyett gets kudos for organizing the event and a big thanks goes to Bill Fastiggi who conducted most of the sessions. Reaction from participants was very positive.

The Districts were sailed at Mallets Bay in Burlington, VT, always a favorite spot. The Women's, Juniors and Masters were held on Friday, July 9th. The Women's has had spotty participation in the last few years but, was a hotly contested event with 5 competitors. The women spent several weeks prior to the regatta practicing, contributing to the excitement. Congratulations to Joan Shannon, Kika Bonger and Marci Milton for their win. Masters Champion is Fritz Horton with Stu Nickerson and Lisa Brauer as crew besting a 6 boat fleet. Fritz was a last minute stand-in for John Hughes who had to cancel at the last minute. Dave Adams with Pike Serverance and N. Kotsatos captured the Junior title.

The District Championship was to be sailed on Saturday and Sunday but after several squalls forced the cancellation of Saturday's races the event was contested on Sunday in the inner harbor. The mid-year meeting was held in lieu of Saturday's races as well as a seminar on boat handling conducted by John Singsen utilizing the class video featuring Matt and Greg Fisher and Joyce Ferguson. John Singsen was able to video Sunday's races and the tape is being circulated around the District by Pat Zachary. District Champions are Andy Horton, Bill Fastiggi and Heather Rowe. Congratulations to all!

New England is particularly proud of Andy Horton and his many accomplishments in 1999. In addition to District Champion he was first in both the Pan Americans and the North Americans. We wish him luck with his Soling Olympic campaign and will hold him to his promise to return to Lightnings in the future. Congratulations to Andy, Heather Rowe and Bill Fastiggi on their Pan American win.

A report by the New England fleets at the winter meeting demonstrated that some fleets are strong and growing while others are struggling to maintain membership. I would like to extend a hearty welcome to some of our new members: Art Cunningham, Mark Dieselman, Scott McBurney and Ben, Karen and Triss Wallace. There are rumors afloat that Heather Rowe and Tim Ambrose, long time lightning crew from Mallets Bay are purchasing a boat. We look forward to competing with them and all the new and old sailors in the coming year.

*Lisa Brauer*

## NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT SCHEDULE

June 17-18 . . . . .	Maple Leaf Classic Bomoseen
July 14-16 . . . . .	DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIP Wellfleet
July 29-30 . . . . .	Atlantic Coast Championship Cedar Point
August 26-27 . . . . .	Squam Lake Regatta
September 9-10 . . . . .	Massabesic Regatta
September 16-17 . . . . .	Brian Hughes Memorial Newburyport
September 23 . . . . .	Bow Lake One Day
Sept. 30-Oct 1 . . . . .	Spofford Lake
October 14-15 . . . . .	Leaf Peeper MBBC

## NORTHERN IRELAND DISTRICT

District Contact . . . . . Raymond Killops

Fleet: Killyleagh 427

No Report.

## OHIO DISTRICT

District Commodore . . . . . Kay Varley  
District Secretary/Treasurer . . . . . Don Schregardus  
District Champion . . . . . George Fisher  
Ohio Governors Cup . . . . . Kurt Andrews

Fleets: Indian Lake 23; Leatherlips 27;  
Turkeyfoot 33; Pymatuning 36; Rocky  
River 71; Mansfield Sailing Club 150;  
Atwood Yacht Club 212; Cowan Lake 303;  
Hoover 353; St. Mary's 400

The Ohio District kicked off its activities with its planning meeting in February at the "Elephant Bar" in Columbus Ohio. The meeting was well attended with Matt Fisher talking about the North Americans and providing tips for making the Lightning go fast.

The racing season started off great with the PYC Spring Classic. This regatta is always one of the best with many out of District boats showing up to do battle with the Ohio fleet. This year 38 boats participated in the regatta. The winds started out light but by the end of the first day gusts were over 20 mph and crew work was critical. On Sunday the winds were a more

steady 10 to 15 mph. The races were very close with different boats at the top of the fleet each race. The winner of the 99 Spring Classic was Bill Faude, with George Fisher in second, and Jody Swanson in third. A special thanks goes to Anheuser Busch for sponsoring the regatta this year, their donations helped fuel the Party Friday night and kept spirits high throughout the weekend.

The enthusiasm from the Spring Classic carried over to our next regatta the Windshift Regatta at Leatherlips Yacht Club in Columbus Ohio. With 16 boats, this was the largest turnout for this regatta in recent memory. As the name indicates, winds were light and shifty with success dependent on finding the best wind. On Saturday two races were held but racing ended somewhat prematurely when a lightning storm moved through the area in the late afternoon. The party and dinner on the deck Saturday evening was unaffected by the weather with everyone having a good time. On Sunday, the race committee was able to get in three more races in the light conditions. Tom Varley, Dave Gall and Kurt Andrews took the top three places.

The Independence Day Regatta at Pymatuning Yacht Club was the next District event this year. Saturday morning brought light and shifty breezes for the 18 boats that participated. Matt Frymier got out to an early lead and was able to maintain it throughout the race. Two more races followed with thunderstorms moving into the area in the afternoon. Saturday night brought the famous cocktail party and dance, spiced up with thunderstorms and fireworks. Sunday brought similar shifty conditions. In the end Matt Frymier won the regatta with Dave Werley in second and John Werley 1 point behind in third.

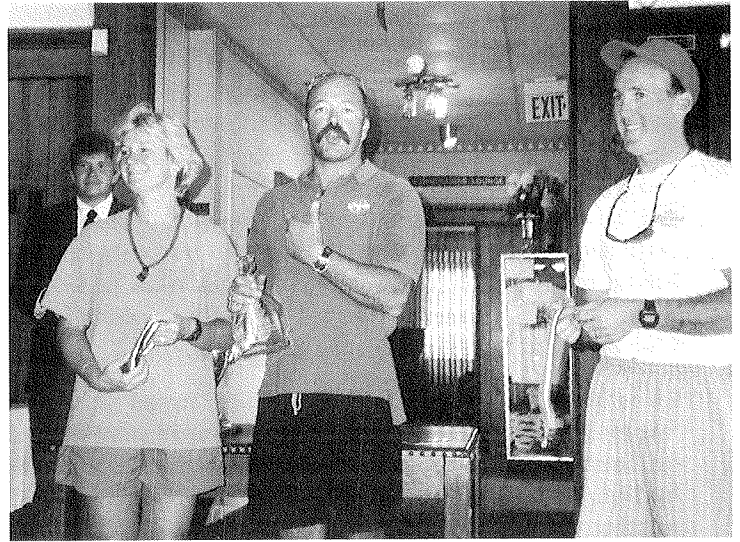
The Ohio District Championship was hosted by Cowan Lake Sailing Association this year. Tom Varley received his new Allen hull and new sails less than a week before the regatta so he was still adding gear the morning of the regatta. With 24 boats participating, racing was very close with many boats grouped closely together. The starts were especially competitive, with several general recalls on Saturday as several boats were over the starting line early. The Saturday races were videotaped by Matt Fisher and there was a very helpful discussion of boat trim and tactics after the days racing by Matt. Of particular note was the extraordinary gymnastics of Tom Varley to avoid capsizing at the crowded gybe mark when a strong puff came across the course. This clip was of course replayed many times for the benefit of the crowd. A total of five races were sailed for the regatta with George Fisher beating James Taylor on a tie breaker. Dave Gall finished third. A short district meeting was held before awards were presented. Kay Varley was elected Commodore and Don Schregardus elected Secretary/Treasurer.

Indian Lake held their Stumpbuster regatta August 7 and 8. Twelve boats enjoyed the nearly ideal conditions with winds 5 to 18 knots on both Saturday and Sunday. Jim Taylor sailed this regatta liked he owned it, winning all 4 races. Kurt Andrews took second and Tom Glaven and Dave Gall tied for third. The winner was given the customary dunking for new champs. It was a beautiful weekend with good food, good weather and good friends.

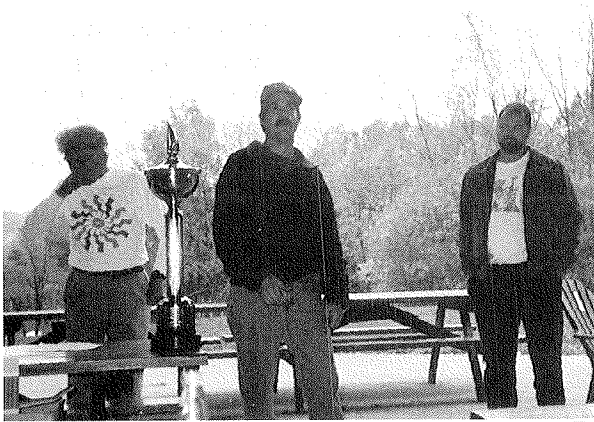




*Jim Taylor with Alicia and Mike Kemp at Carlyle*



*1st Place Snowball Regatta  
Abby & Rob Ruhlman and Dave Werley*



*Governor's Cup Winner Kurt Andrews (center) with crew Zach Austin (right) and Mike Mirarchi (not pictured)*

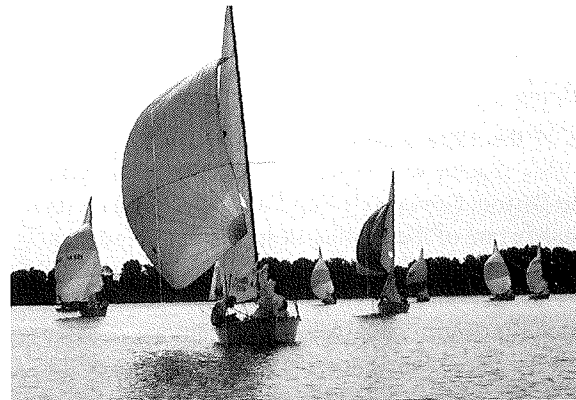


*2nd Place  
Cowan Lake*

*Dan Hertzner  
with crew  
Kathy and  
Karla*



*Jim Taylor with Mike and Alicia Kemp wet after the traditional dunking for first Ohio District regatta win.*



*chutes at the  
Mansfield  
Bare Bones  
Regatta*



*left- packing up  
after the Snowball  
Regatta*

*right- a very  
pensive  
Tom Varley*

*photo credits to  
Kay Varley*



Atwood Yacht Club hosted the Harvest Moon Regatta for multiple fleets in it's customary fine style. The wind was light and shifty (as usual) but the competition was excellent and the party was great. The top three boats Kurt Andrews, David Gall, and Tom Varley, battled back and forth throughout each race and the regatta. In the end Kurt Andrews won by a tie breaker, Dave Gall was second, and Tom Varley was only one point behind in third. Sailing in light conditions takes patience and focus and these three teams did a great job. Atwood Yacht Club again did a great job hosting the regatta.

Mansfield Sailing Club hosted its forth annual Bare Bones Regatta at Clearfork Reservoir on September 18 and 19. Twelve sailboats participated in the two-day regatta which was won by Tom Varley and crew from the Mansfield Sailing Club. The weather was beautiful, but the very light winds delayed some of the races while the Race Committee waited for the wind velocity to increase. Kurt Andrews took second place while Jim Stone was third. For those that arrived on Friday, a pre-race party was hosted in Varley Valley, in Beliville, Ohio complete with bonfire, hot dogs, roasted marshmallows and lots of sailing stories. Many of the skippers camped out in the valley, so the party made them feel right at home. Saturday's dinner was cook-it yourself steak and chicken, with side dishes and desserts provided by the members of the host club. The Bare Bones Regatta is held on a beautiful lake, but is aptly named because of the Spartan nature of the physical comforts on shore. This year the Club put in a new driveway and extended the launching ramp, which greatly facilitated getting the boats in and out of the water.

The Buckeye Lake Snowball Regatta was held the following weekend. Fifteen sailboats participated on this gray but windy weekend. The racing was close with Rob Ruhlman taking first, George Fisher second and Jim Taylor third. Buckeye Yacht Club did an excellent job hosting the regatta. It was great to see many of the fine sailors from Pymatuning Yacht Club make the trip for this enjoyable event.

The last regatta of the 1999 season was the Fall-In Regatta at Cowan Lake. This regatta was especially important this year because the Ohio District Governor's Cup Trophy was still up for grabs. Unfortunately one of the leading skippers, Kurt Andrews, was unable to sail because of a broken foot suffered just two weeks earlier. Thirteen boats participated in this years event which was sailed in warm and pleasant conditions. Mike Thomas from North Cape dominated the regatta, however the final standings were uncertain until the final race. Mike Thomas took first followed by Dan Hertzner and Bill Young.

The Ohio District Governor's Cup was won by Kurt Andrews sailing with Zac Austin and Mike Mirachi. Tom Varley was second by one point and Jim Taylor was third.

The Ohio District was well represented at Lake Carlyle in the 1999 North Americans. Two of the ten juniors boats were from Ohio. Ryan Ruhlman from Pymatuning Yacht Club skippered one boat while Jon Varley from Mansfield Sailing Club skippered the other. We should give these young skippers and their crews a pat on the back as they sailed in more wind, with rougher water than those in the Championship the following week. In the North American Championship Series the Ohio

## OHIO DISTRICT SCHEDULE

July 1-2 . . . . .	Firecracker Pymatuning
July 8-9 . . . . .	DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIP Hoover YC
September 9-10 . . . . .	Harvest Moon Atwood
September 23-24 . . . . .	Bare Bones Mansfield
October 7-8 . . . . .	Snow Ball Buckeye Lake
October 21-22 . . . . .	Fall-In Cowan Lake

District was represented in the Blue Fleet (Championship) by 4 boats, Matt Fisher, George Fisher, James Taylor, and Tom Varley. In the Green Fleet were Mike Brock and Kurt Andrews. James Taylor, Alicia Kemp, and Mike Kemp won the Thermos Trophy for the best finish of a boat sailing for the first time in the series. Congratulations to all of these fine sailors!

With the sailing season now over, we are already looking forward to sailing in the new "millennium".  
*Don Schregardus*

## PACIFIC NORTHWEST DISTRICT

Fleets: Kitsilano Yacht Club 90; Lake  
Washington 132; Columbia 283; Prairie 507

No Report.

## PACIFIC NORTHWEST DISTRICT SCHEDULE

July 1-2 . . . . .	Firecracker Regatta Klamath Falls, OR
July 8-9 . . . . .	Kitsilano Regatta Vancouver, BC
August 5-6. . . . .	DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIP Eugene, OR
September 9-10 . . . . .	PACIFIC COAST CHAMPIONSHIP and Harvest Regatta Eugene, OR
October 7-8 . . . . .	Seattle Regatta
October 28-29 . . . . .	District Team Races VLSC

## PERU DISTRICT

Peru Vice President . . . . . Francisco Ayulo

Fleets: Yacht Club LaPunta 265; La Pinta 424

No Report.

## ST. LAWRENCE VALLEY DISTRICT

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

No Report.

### ST. LAWRENCE VALLEY DISTRICT SCHEDULE

June 17-18 . . . . .	The Eager Beaver Valois
June 24-25 . . . . .	DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIP RStLYC
July 1-2 . . . . .	CANADIAN OPEN RStLYC
July 8-9 . . . . .	BYC Annual
July 15-16 . . . . .	PCYC Annual
July 22-23 . . . . .	RStLYC Annual

## SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT

District Commodore . . . . . Jim Harris  
District Secretary/Treasurer . . . . . Cindy Booke  
District Measurer . . . . . John Pelosi  
District Champion . . . . . Bob Harkrider  
District Runner-Up . . . . . Jim Harris

Fleets: Savannah 127; Clarks Hill 257; Lake  
Lanier 348; Catawba 365; High Rock 415;  
Greater Charleston 429; Palmetto 440; Lake  
Waccamaw 463; Wake 481; Tennessee  
Valley 500

This year we had eight district regattas throughout North and South Carolina and Georgia. Overall series results were tabulated by Bill Sloger using the Cox-Sprague scoring system. The overall champion receives the coveted traveling trophy. Then after the last regatta of the season, a drawing for all those who qualify for the overall series (must sail at least half of the regattas) is held and the lucky winner receives a new North jib. The "Spinnaker Sheet" is our district newsletter and Cindy Booke is our editor/treasurer.



*Jim Harris screaming at Catawba*

The first regatta was at Catawba Yacht Club, sailing on Lake Wylie, just south of Charlotte. This is an active fleet with enthusiasts Ron Wright, Richard Johnson and Bill Wiggins to name a few. Jim Harris repeated as champion, with Sam Booke a close second. Next was the High Rock Regatta, north of Charlotte. Always a fun regatta with Cindy and Sam hosting Saturday night's barbeque. Bob Harkrider won the regatta as Jim Harris sailed out of bounds the last race and finished second.

The District Championship was sailed in Augusta, GA this year with six great races over three days. It came down to the last leg of the last race when Harkrider picked right and Harris left. Harkrider finished first, Harris second, Pearce Barden third, Sam Booke fourth with junior sailor Josh Putnam fifth.

The Low Country Regatta in Beaufort, SC was sailed in late June. Harkrider repeated as champion and Richard Waldkirch was second. The Wilmington regatta is sailed in the ocean off the coast of North Carolina. CYC Commodore John Sawyer hosted the welcoming party on Friday night and Saturday night was spent relaxing on the porches of the yacht club overlooking the ocean and the sunset. Windy conditions both days created plenty of wipe outs as Carter Utzig tasted the salty water. Lenny Krawcheck is top notch in heavy air and sailed easily to first, Barden was second and local sailor Steve Johnson third.

Five SELD boats attended the North American Championships in Lake Carlyle, IL. Lenny and Bob qualified for the Championship fleet and finished 19th and 31st. The Presidents Cup was sailed by Harris (6th), Sloger (10th) and Barden (11th).



## SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT SCHEDULE

June 2-4 . . . . .	DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIP Wilmington
June 24-25 . . . . .	Low Country Regatta Beaufort, SC
July 8-9 . . . . .	Oriental Sailing Social
July 29-30 . . . . .	CYC Open Charleston, SC
September 9-10 . . . . .	Augusta Invitational
September 23-24 . . . . .	Lake Waccamaw
October 7-8 . . . . .	Atlanta Cup Lake Lanier
October 28-29 . . . . .	Borderline Kerr Lake, NC

Next came Waccamaw, an inland lake just west of Wilmington. Jim Harris finally got the best of Harkrider and was first, with Bob second.

The Atlanta Cup is sailed at Lake Lanier, just north of the city. Some close racing brought Lenny to first, Harris in second and Bill Hofmeister in third. The last regatta was the popular Borderline, sailed on Kerr Lake on the border of North Carolina and Virginia, just north of Raleigh. John Pelosi, Ed Michels, Michael Rees and Ned Nutt are a few sailors from the Kerr Lake Fleet and they do a great job of hosting this regatta. Cold and windy, but fantastic racing and stiff competition. Tom Allen, Jr finished on top with George Sipel and Brian Hayes second and third. Harkrider was the first SELD sailor in sixth followed by Harris in seventh, Barden (8th), John Pelosi (9th), Waldkirch (10th) and promising junior sailor Stan Hashinger (15th).

The race for overall district series champion came down to the last race of the last regatta, but as it seemed all season, Bob Harkrider pulled it out in the end. Overall results using the C-S scoring were as follows: 1. Harkrider (0.935), 2. Harris (0.929), 3. Barden (0.869), 4. Pelosi (0.807), 5. Waldkirch (0.788), 6. John Sawyer, 7. Tom Wynn, 8. Bill Sloger, and 9. Avis Bridgers. John Pelosi won the drawing for the new North jib. All in all it was a great season here in the Southeast! We look forward to seeing everyone in 2000!

Visit the Southeast Lightning District (SELD) Website at <http://members.aol.com/jahcsh/index.htm> for the district schedule, results, newsletters and more. This year was the first for our website, created and maintained by our webmaster Connie Harris.

*Jim Harris*

## SOUTHERN DISTRICT

Fleets: Southern Yacht Club 62; Mobile Bay 135;  
Shreveport Yacht Club 175

No Report.

## SWITZERLAND DISTRICT

District Commodore . . . . . Jacques Perret  
District Secretary . . . . . Kathy Cairns-Herzog  
District Treasurer . . . . . Margrit Graf  
District Measurer . . . . . Urs Wyler  
District Champion . . . . . Urs Wyler  
District Runner-Up . . . . . Jacques Perret

Fleets: Lac de Neuchâtel 169; Sempacher/Hallwiler/  
Vierwaldstätter/Greifensee 250;  
Murtensee 358

1999: End of the Millennium.

The Swiss District's turn for the European Championship.

This year, the Europeans have been organized by the Sailing Club of Murten. The first preparations began under the snow and all was perfectly done. Many thanks to the organizers who did a really great job. Good participation with 11 Swiss boats! The attraction of the Europeans in Switzerland has drawn five new crews to join the class for this event, welcome to the Lightning Class and we hope to see you again next year!

The old bastion of the Swiss Lightning sailors did accept the challenge to organize and participate at the second European Masters Championship. A masterpiece of efficiency organized in one month and managed on the water with a reduced staff of 5 people !!

Bravo et merci à Claude, Jean-Pierre, Philippe, Gilles, Jean-Claude, Renaud and Pierre-André.

### National activity:

As last year, our spring regatta was held in Sempach. A good participation of 7 boats to race on the 8 of May. This year, the wind was a little better and we could sail two races. Maybe three or four next year ?!

Two crews have participated in Neuchâtel at the "Semaine du Joran"-Regatta to train crews for the international regattas.

Neuchâtel 16/17 October

Six boats at our District Championship in Neuchâtel held by our traditional "Fondue" regatta with an appreciated come-back of the Milan crew.

We have regretted the absence of our Vice-President Gilbert Despland during all the season because of a long illness. Our best wishes of recovery and hope to rendezvous next year on the water again.

A very good season 00, welcome in the next millennium !

*Jacques Perret*

## SWITZERLAND DISTRICT SCHEDULE

October 14-15 . . . . . Regate-Fondue  
Neuchatel

## TEXAS DISTRICT

Fleets: Dallas Corinthian 35; Rush Creek 435; Lake  
Conroe 505

No Report.

## U.S. @ LARGE DISTRICT

Fleets: Rocky Mountain 488

No Report.

## URUGUAY DISTRICT

District Secretary . . . . Guillermo Rondini Meneses

No Report.

### U.S. @ LARGE DISTRICT SCHEDULE

June 17-18 . . . . .	Wyoming Governor's Cup Alcova Reservoir, Casper
June 17-18 . . . . .	Midsummer Regatta Longmont, CO
July 2 . . . . .	DSA Firecracker Union Reservoir
July 15-16 . . . . .	Aspen Open Reudi Resvoir
August 5-6 . . . . .	Dillon Open Dillon Reservoir
August 27 . . . . .	CORC Union Reservoir Longmont, CO
September 2-3 . . . .	Nebraska Governor's Cup Lake McConaughty Ogallalla, NE
September 17 . . . . .	DSA Commodore's Cup Cherry Creek Lake
September 23 . . . . .	Summer's End Union Reservoir
Sept. 30- Oct. 1 . . . . .	DSA Frostbite & Colorado Governor's Cup Cherry Creek Lake
October 14 . . . . .	Pumpkin Bash Invitational Union Reservoir