



# DISTRICTS

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## ARGENTINA

District Vice President.....Hector Longarela

### Fleets:

Club Nautico Olivos 206; Buenos Aires 446.

## BRAZIL

District Vice President.....James Sumner

District Commodore.....Torsten Bojlesen

District Champion.....Cláudio Biekarc

District Runner-Up.....Mário Buckup

### Fleets:

Sao Paulo 147; Guanabara 401; Guarapiranga 462.

## CALIFORNIA

District Commodore.....Jeff Coppens

District Secretary.....Elissa Hall

District Measurer.....Bruce Arnold

District Champion.....Scott Finkboner

District Runner-up.....Mike Brewer

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

The Santa Monica Bay and Mission Bay fleets co-hosted the California Circuit again this year. The turnout was low, but the racing for all fourteen races sailed in five days on four different venues was not only challenging but a lot of fun.

We arrive at King Harbor on Saturday for setup and if all goes well, we get a practice sail in. The racing starts on Sunday. The weather was perfect, clear skies, mid 60's and 12-16 knot winds. We had three races with the places getting mixed up fairly well with Scott Finkboner winning two out of three. Sunday brought much of the same with slightly lighter breezes and the predicted rains held off until we returned to the docks, and even at that it was a very light passing shower, and the sun was back out for the road trip south. Scott was victorious at King Harbor, followed by John DeBenedetti from Portland and Kirk Johnson was third after the tie with Peter Beecher was broken.

The Marathon starts at the Coronado Bridge and finishes at the Mission Bay Yacht Club. There was several new obstacles before even getting out to the ocean for the kelp harvest; there was the "red zone" at the Naval Air Station which marked the outer passing zone for the nuclear carrier, complete with a roving gunner patrol, (not sure that is all the correct Navy lingo, but you probably get my point), and a Navy repair ship that was leaving the dock as the back end of the fleet was nearing the point. They move a lot faster than expected. Brewers were a

little too close and got a little caught up in the wash, but sailed on unscathed. Once out of the bay and in the ocean, there would be the boat swallowing kelp beds to deal with. The kelp beds weren't as large as the prior year so there was no harvesting necessary to untangle ones boat. Scott Finkboner, sailing double handed with Allison Webber, and doubled handed on the rudder, when his lower pintel came loose and rendered the rudder useless, won. Although he fought for the win, this was completely tactical on the part of the rest of us, as we had to give Scott time to prepare his Mahi-Mahi dinner. Kirk who fought hard to hold the lead, was second, with Mike Brewer in third.

Thursday three races were sailed on the ocean at Mission Bay at which point Scott was pretty secure in first, but second, third, fourth and fifth overall were still up for grabs. Scott won the ocean series, Mike was second and John and Kirk tied for third. At the lunch break on Friday after three Bay races, two points separated second to fourth. Mike won the Bay series, John was second and Scott had his worse finish in third.

When all fourteen races were completed, Scott was the overall winner, followed by John, then Kirk in third. (Complete details in June Flashes)

The Circuit has two additional trophies, the Susan Arnold trophy, which goes to the highest placing woman who sails every race on the same boat, which went to Allison Webber who crewed for Scott, and the Bowling Trophy which went to Kirk Johnson who, in the only Bay Race in which he got to the weather mark first, parked on it. Runner-up was Elissa Hall who experienced a broken halyard, broken car and broken toe, which she conveniently kept quiet until after the awards ceremony.

Our districts were held at Mission Bay Yacht Club. The winds were light on Saturday for the first three races, add the ocean swell, chop and the roaming kelp beds that were on an outing from Point Loma for the weekend, and the conditions were nothing short of challenging. After the three races it was still anybody's regatta. Sunday started with strong 10-15 knots southerly for the first two races and mellowed out to 10 knots for the sixth and deciding race. Scott won, followed by Mike in second and Kirk in third. (Complete details in August Flashes).

Our final event was the Pacific Coast Championships hosted by the San Francisco Fleet. Nine boats sailed the regatta in not so typical San Francisco conditions. Saturday started with zero wind and heavy fog, by early afternoon we had 12 - 15 knots, flat water and good planing conditions. Due to tactical errors, sailing across the restricted starting line, (oops), by several boats, the standings at the end of three races were surprising. Scott and Mike Molina were tied for first, Elissa and Peter Bellin were tied for third and Peter Beecher and Tom Kulinski were tied for fifth. Mike Brewer got into the mix in fourth, but second through fifth was up for grabs as four points separated the five boats. Sunday the breeze filled in much early, so it and the chop had plenty of time to build, and gave us the typical San





Francisco conditions. Most enjoyed the 15-18 knots of breeze with the exception of Elissa and team, who on last quarter of the last leg of the first race of the day, just didn't have the weight to hold the boat flat and dropped from her solid second during the entire race to six. After a long and trophy deciding protest from the last race, Mike Molina with John Lyons and Ron Snitsinger, won, followed by Peter Bellin, Dave Hayes and Richard Hoffman in second, with Scott Finkboner, Andy Schmickle and Joe Balderrama in third.

We sail all year round out here, come enjoy the warm and sunny California weather.

## CENTRAL ATLANTIC

District Commodore.....William Bogardus  
District Secretary  
District Measurer  
District Champion.....Allan Terhune  
District Runner-Up.....Jody Lutz

### Fleets:

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

### LAST YEAR'S GOALS

**Membership over 75:** We hovered around 70 all year, an improvement over the past two years, but we can do better;

**Fill quota for NAs:** We sent 6 boats, could have sent 8.

3 boats in Junior NAs: Mission accomplished, 3 boats went.

**Lightning lab:** Thanks again Jack, Cindy, Greg and Joann, over 10 boats despite terrible weather, great videos.

### Racing Results:

There is not a lot say, Allan Terhune and his team of his wife Katie, and rotating middle crews Jody Kohut and Kristin Terhune, had a sensational season. They won the Districts, the Downbays, the ACCs, the NAs, the NJ States and the Champion of Champions Regatta.

### Southern Circuit:

3 boats sailed the entire circuit, with Jim Carson 9th, Mitch Hnatt 14th and Hugh Hutchinson 19th.

### International Masters:

Jack Elfman placed 3rd and Jim Carson placed 15th in a 30 boat fleet in Miami.

### Worlds:

Allan Terhune finished 33rd out of an elite 60 boat fleet.

### Central Atlantic Districts:

20 boats sailed on Upper Barnegat Bay as Metedeconk hosted the Districts. Allan Terhune and Brian Taboada seemed to be

sailing by themselves in front of the fleet, unfortunately for Brian he sailed an OCS in race 1. Final results were Allan 1st, Jody Lutz 2nd, Jack Elfman 3rd, Brian Taboada 4th, John Faus 5th.

### North Americans:

We sent 3 boats to the Junior NAs; Wade Schon with crew Jimmy Roe and Matty Schon won the title and the new trophy (see below). Will Brown took 5th, Dan Gilman 7th, great job guys.

In the Masters Jack Elfman was 7th and Jim Carson was 9th.

In the NAs, besides Allan winning, Jody Lutz was 4th, and John Faus and Bill Bogardus both made the Blue fleet with John winning the most improved award. In the Green fleet, Jim Carson was 5th and Dick Moyer was 8th.

As Allan won the ACCs, our District will host next year. Mark your calendars, ACCs at Toms River on July 24-25, 2004.

I will refer you to the fleet reports for the results of other District regattas.

### Recognition:

While there are many people from our District that give a tremendous amount of time to the Class, I want to recognize three people from the CAD for their special efforts in 2003 so as to encourage more efforts like these in the future:

**-Caroline Hoedemaker:** Caroline is the new editor of the yearbook. This is an extremely difficult and usually a thankless job. Caroline has taken on the job with dedication and vigor not seen in many years. Let me be one of the first to say thank you.

**-John Faus:** John went above and beyond the call of duty to ensuring that two junior teams from Barnegat Light went to the Junior NAs. John loaned his boat and sails, arranged for crew and acted as a chaperone/big brother for the two teams. Thanks John.

**-Jody Lutz:** Jody was the driving force behind the Carson Cup, the new Junior North American Championship trophy given in honor of **Jim Carson**, possibly the most influential person the Lightning Class has ever known when it comes to promoting junior sailing. Jody with many of his friends from Fleet 34 collected donations and designed a beautiful trophy, which will bring honor and prestige to the class for years to come. The night of the trophy's dedication at the NAs was magical, if you were there you will not soon forget it. Come on Jim, admit it, you were close to crying, so was everyone else. Thanks Jody.

### Next year's goals:

-75 to 80 members, we can do it!

-30 boat Districts;

-4 Junior NAs boats, and at least one Woman NAs boat;

-ACCs are in Toms River, 60 boats sounds about right;

-More people to recognize next year.

Bill Bogardus, 14889.





## CENTRAL CANADA

District Commodore.....Jim Cameron

### Fleets:

Zig Zag Zeroes at Clearwater Bay 277;  
Temple Reef Sailing Club 279.

## CENTRAL NEW YORK

District Commodore.....Clay Murphy

District Secretary.....Eileen Loh-Fontier

District Measurer.....Ed Seyerlein

Assistant Measurer.....John Atkins

District Champion.....Jed Dodge

District Runner-Up.....Dick Hallagan

### Fleets:

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

We started this year's season a little earlier than usual, with the addition to our district schedule of a one-day regatta on the Saturday of Memorial Day weekend. The Sodus Bay fleet hosted this event. Fifteen Lightning teams participated, in spite of the light rain & cool temps. We were rewarded with good competition for 5 races. Missing was Jed Dodge- at his home fleet's event! He had a good excuse, though- he & his wife Elizabeth welcomed the birth of their first child just the day before.

We next convened in mid-June at Willowbank Yacht Club in Cazenovia for the first of our five 2-day regattas. At this event, youth won out over experience, with the first place trophy going to Bob King. Following this, we went to Keuka for the Champagne Regatta, to Rochester Yacht Club for the Centrals, and to Ithaca for the Gorges Regatta. The Henderson Harbor fleet hosted our District Championship this year. This was the first regatta held at Henderson Harbor in several years, so for more recent members to our district it was new sailing waters. On this weekend in mid July, it was clear, sunny, very breezy, and a little crisp. Winds on Saturday were blowing at 18-22 mph, and on Sunday at 12-16 mph. It was great sailing, and we all hope we'll have the opportunity to sail there again in the near future. Our District Champion this year is Jed Dodge, with

Dick Hallagan taking the place of runner-up. The Rookie Award went to Peter Kane.

At our last 2-day regatta, we award the Blue Jacket Trophy to the skipper with the best total score for all 5 regattas. Of the 33 skippers competing for the award, Dick Hallagan earned the right to keep it for yet another year.

Following the 2-day regattas, we held four one-days during the rest of the season, at Onondaga, Skaneateles, Cazenovia, and Ithaca.

Overall, it was a good racing season here in Central New York, sailing on both the Finger Lakes & on Lake Ontario, and we look forward to even more fun next year.

## CHILE

District Vice President.....Tito Gonzalez

District Commodore.....Pablo Barahona

### Fleets:

Antofagasta 318; Aculeo Lake 490.

## COLOMBIA

District Vice President.....Mauricio Valenzuela

District Commodore.....Jochen Raute

District Champion.....Sebastian Higuera

District Runner-Up.....Phillipe Jacob

### Fleets:

Club Nautico El Muno 73; Club Nautico El Portillo 501.

## CONNECTICUT /RHODE ISLAND

District Commodore.....Neil Hayes

District Champion.....Jim Crane

District Runner-Up.....Ched Proctor

### Fleets:

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



## DIXIE

District Commodore.....Jamie Brickell  
 District Secretary.....Frank Gallagher  
 District Champion.....Jo Ann Jones  
 District Runner-Up.....Jamie Brickell

### Fleets:

Potomac River 50; Lower Susquehanna River 192;  
 Upper Susquehanna River 253; Sassafras River 314;  
 Rehoboth Bay 325; Severn River and Chesapeake Bay 329;  
 Swift Creek Reservoir 496; Patuxent River Solomons 508;  
 Southern Chesapeake Deltaville 509.



*Crew Dan Raben & Greg Fisher with Jo Ann Jones accepting the Dixie District Championship Trophy.*

Highlights of the 2003 sailing season in the Dixie District Hmmmmm... Yeah, I know...we all got beat by a girl....but she's really good, and a couple guys helped her...plus she was real, real fast - Congratulations, Jo Ann, you are the Dixie District Champion !!!!.

Fleet 50 now has 312 boats and sailed 3.237 million races in 2003.

Fleet 192 reactivated the (Susquehanna) "River Cup" after 15 years of sleep and whooped-up on Fleet 253 in Team Races.

Fleet 253's Carol Park get a 2nd at the Women's N/A's and dominates fleet racing. The Sweet Corn wins again.....!!

Fleet 314 continues with lots of activity, but under a "cloaking device"....no one ever sees them, but we know they are there....

Fleet 329...Jamie retired and sailed 7.443 million races in 2003...Phil sold his lightning and bought a J-22. Jo Ann wasn't the only woman in Annapolis this year....hello Isabel !!

Fleet 325 is very tired and slept this year....Dave Racine hopes to wake them up next year.

Fleet 496 continues to be in a coma...if anyone drives through Richmond, make a lot of noise and wake them up.

Fleet 508 held the District Regatta, and continues to be one of our favorite places to sail...can you say "Tiki-Bar."

Fleet 509 was moved from the Fishing Bay Yacht Club to the Hampton Yacht Club, in hopes of raising participation....Good luck Ron...!!!.

For more "stories", go to the individual Fleet reports.

## ECUADOR

District Vice President.....Carlos Luis Lecaro  
 District Commodore.....Olaf Dyck  
 District Champion.....Olaf Dyck

### Fleets:

Salinas Yacht Club 405; and Club Náutico San Pablo 447.

Después de haber participado con nuestras flotas 405 y 447 en el campeonato Mundial en Miami, en la cual muchos esperábamos mejores posiciones de lo navegado, regresamos a nuestro territorio bastante gastados, por las pequeñas compras que para muchos eran inevitables.

En vista que no hubo viento en el Mundial, y para quitarnos las ganas, pocos de nuestros navegantes seguimos con el cronograma de campeonatos en la ciudad de Manta con vientos de 18 a 27 nudos. Este es un campeonato que se navegara todos los años por su linda cancha y por los vientos que nunca defraudan. Juan Santos fue el ganador de este campeonato seguido por Olaf Dyck y Carlos Luis Lecaro. Esperamos que para la próxima regata lleguen más botes para que sepan lo que es resistencia.

Luego se navegó el campeonato del Distrito en el lago San Pablo, en el cual se anunciaron 5 barcos de la flota 405, pero lamentablemente solo llegó Julio Vélez, el mejor ubicado en el Mundial. Aquí hubieron vientos de 1 a 26 nudos con muchos cambios de viento, lo que hizo muy difícil navegar. El Distrito lo ganó Olaf Dyck, seguido por Lars Dyck. Esta vez el clima estuvo sin sorpresas, como en la última ocasión con la erupción del volcán o lluvias. Aquí también esperamos que el próximo año participen más botes, para hacerlo mas competitivo.

Debido a la cercanía del Sudamericano, corrimos la clasificación para éste evento en el Salinas Yacht Club, esta vez con 16 botes. La clasificación fue bastante peleada con la excepción de Juan Santos que navegó fuera de serie.

Las comodidades del Salinas Yacht Club estuvieron como ya se conoce inmejorables. Tuvimos como ganador del Nacional a Juan Santos seguido por Carlos Luis Lecaro.

Y para no quedar cortos en los campeonatos, Salinas Yacht Club navega cada año alternándose las sedes en sus respectivos clubes la copa Salinas - Tomine.







## FINLAND

Llegaron tres tripulaciones de Colombia, que navegaron con altura. Aquí nuevamente Juan Santos fue imbatible y se llevó la copa sin dificultades, y ya se veía como uno de los preferidos para ganar el Sudamericano. Los vientos estuvieron de 8 a 15 nudos, que para Salinas es fuera de serie. La victoria fue para Juan Santos seguido por Sebastián Higuera de Colombia.

Al término de esta copa, tuvimos un solo día para recuperar fuerzas, para arrancar con el 49 campeonato Sudamericano. Se contó con la presencia de Chile, Colombia, Perú y Ecuador. En este evento también tuvimos la suerte de tener vientos francos de 8 a 15 nudos. Tito González nuevamente demostró sus habilidades en la cancha de Salinas, ganando el Sudamericano. Debo felicitar al actual campeón del mundo y agradecer las recomendaciones que nos dio a algunos navegantes frustrados. También felicitamos a la tripulación de Juan Santos y a su hijo Juan Rafael, así como a la tripulación de Miguel Plaza Menéndez.

Aquí nuevamente debo felicitar al Salinas Yacht Club por todas las facilidades que brindaron a los participantes. Por todas esas noches de karaoke, peña, baile y buena comida, en donde más que uno sacaron sus dotes artísticos a flote. Siempre es y será una de las mejores sedes para campeonatos.

Esperamos que este año venidero podamos correr más embarcaciones en todos los eventos programados y participen con el mismo entusiasmo de todos los años.

Olaf Dyck, Comodoro Clase Lightning.

District Vice President.....Antero Punttila  
District Commodore.....Sakari Pesola  
District Champion.....Kimmo Aromma  
District Runner-Up.....Matti Bruun

### Fleets:

Helsinki 166; Jyväskylä 238; Tuusulanjarvi 456; Kemi 310.



The especially long sailing season of Finland District started early at Easter in Miami Worlds and ended in October in Tuusula Finland. Targets we set for ourselves in winter were partly achieved, partly not. In the Worlds we had three boats from Finland which is very good. Also special thanks to the Yacht Club Tuusulanjarvi which helped us to receive an official Finnish Championship status this year as well as for the FCs in Oulu in 2004. Hope to see you all in the open Finnish Championships in Oulu in the end of July!

This year it has been a pleasure to see beautiful restorations of old Finnish Lightning boats. For example Arto Rintanen has made a brilliant work with the old Kikka 5552. Hope to see it and all the other beauties in the races next year. Also the wooden boat project is going on and we hope to be able to present the first one of the perfect wooden boats in the next Helsinki Boat Show in February. Hopefully it will be a start of a wooden Lightning boat boom.

In long distance races Päijänne and Keitele there was the best participation rate of Lightnings in recent years. We hope the traditional wooden boats will support this trend also in the future.

The only disappointment was that there were no new crews joining us this year when some of us retired. So in Ranking series there were less names than in the previous summer. We have to work hard to turn this trend positive.

Sakari Pesola, District Commodore, Finland.





## FLORIDA

District Commodore.....	Frank Atkinson
District Secretary.....	Carol Ewing
Vice Comm. Youth Dev.....	Mark Bryant
District Champion.....	Jeff Linton
District Runner-Up.....	Eamonn deLisser

### Fleets:

Biscayne Bay 226, Suncoast 502.

Another Year and Another District Report to be done, but OH BROTHER, WHAT A YEAR! And only so much space to write a district article. Outline is more like it.

If you were given a choice to be anywhere on the planet for a great year of sailing, competition, and fun, you would have had to pick the Florida District!! If you did so, you would have been able to sail in the Florida Triple Crown, The Orange Bowl Regatta, The Southern Circuit, (Miami and St. Pete portions), the International Masters Championships, the World Champs, Florida Districts, and a whole bunch of great fleet races and invitational regattas. What a venue!!!

In case you have not heard about it, The Orange Bowl regatta is at the end of December, and is sailed on Biscayne Bay in Miami. Due to Worlds and Southern Circuit Venues being in Miami in 2003, attendance was great, and so was the sailing! About 28 boats made the line for 3 days of really competitive racing. Sunny, warm, and a great breeze. If you come down in 2004, you will not be sorry. Just clean off the Christmas turkey from the table, turn off the tree, hitch up the boat, and jump in the car.

The Southern Circuit is always a lot of fun. This year, Jeff Linton, Bill Mauk, and Frank Atkinson represented Florida on the whole trip. Rob Muir, Randy Clee, Jon Ewing, Steve Horwitz, Colin Park, and Steve Hayden all showed up to participate in at least one of the regattas. Team Florida took 3 of the top 5 spots at the Winter Champs in St. Pete, while Jeff Linton toted away the big enchilada for the '03 Circuit. Nice job Florida!

In April, our District - home of the incumbent World Champions Jeff and Amy Linton and Mark Taylor - hosted 32 International Masters teams under the burgee of the Biscayne Bay YC Race Committee, and 60 World Championship teams next door at Coral Reef YC. In addition to the USA, ten nations were represented- ARG, BRA, BEL, CAN, CHI, COL, ECU, FIN, ITA, and SUL. The Masters lost a day of sailing due to high winds, but that didn't stop the talented and experienced Jim Crane, Kip Hamblet and Larry Bone from taking the title. In the Worlds we lost the stiff breeze, although all nine scheduled races were completed, and our local Florida boys Steve Hayden, Barr Batzer and Jamey Rabbit ALMOST won all the

marbles but once again, age and experience and one point made the difference. Kudos to the champs, Tito Gonzales, Klaus Engels and Jay Lutz, and how could we not mention the fantastic performance of our perennial competitor and hero George Fisher, who can still kick butt out there, finishing 6th. Check out Tito's Worlds article elsewhere in this issue.

The Florida District went the extra mile to make this regatta one of the best World Championships ever hosted, offering a full sailing schedule in addition to several "land" activities for the shore side teams including a really fun day at the Seaquarium. Thanks goes to the Ecuadorian teams for hosting a really great after-race party during the Regatta. The band played on and on and on!

There was nearly two years of planning for this event under the able leadership of the Worlds Chairman, Bill Mauk, who spent countless hours in organizing every aspect of both the Worlds and the Masters regattas. Special thanks also, to Mary Huntsman for all of her efforts; we couldn't have done it without her.

The next stop was Ft. Myers and Edison Sailing Center for some N.A.'s qualifying. Ten boats made the trip to a really great time and great racing run by Edison. One can not understate the cooking at the party Saturday after sailing. Steak and Shrimp on the grill and NINE races! What a weekend! Jeff Linton took the regatta and Eamonn deLisser, with daughter Ariel calling the shots, got the runner up for 2003. Everyone agreed that it was probably one of the best feed and speed weekends on record.

With the qualifying over, Eamonn deLisser, Colin Park, Steve Horwitz, and Dave Helmick went to 'the show' in Connecticut. Colin Park won the Masters, and Dave Helmick was runner up in the President's Cup. Robert Ramirez of Miami, attended the Junior N.A.'s, placing third. As of this writing, he will attend the Youth Worlds, and Florida District hopes go with him! Also, Fleet 226 captain Steve Horwitz presented the ILCA with a check for \$1500.00 from the Worlds in Miami. It was a pleasure for the Florida District to be in a position to do so.

Every year, the district has it's own regatta circuit over September, October, and November. It gives the district a chance to break from the International scene, to rub elbows with our fellow Lightning sailors in the South Florida area. Unfortunately, we were only able to run two regattas in the Triple Crown, due to the really, really, busy year. But, the fun and the parties were just as good as always. This year, the Chris Young regatta was run by Coconut Grove Sailing Club and was won by Jeff Linton and his 'trophy thieves', out of Tampa. To get even, we headed to Tampa for the Davis Island Thanksgiving regatta to extract their silver back to Miami.





## GREECE

District Vice President.....George Andreadis  
District Secretary.....Andrew Sinopoulos

### Fleets:

Salamis 251; Parthenon 286.

## INDIANA

District Commodore.....Ken McGinity  
District Champion.....Brad Wagnon  
District Runner-Up.....Craig Cobbum

### Fleets:

Wawasee 154; Indianapolis 270.

There are two active fleets in our District; Fleet # 154 located on Lake Wawasee in the northern part of the State and Fleet # 270 in Indianapolis. Both Fleets have been holding their own in terms of boats but active racing participants have dropped off in recent years.

We host three major regattas each season with the Indiana Open in Indianapolis on the first weekend in May, the Districts in June and the Hoosier on Lake Wawasee in late September. John McCree from Fleet # 216 in Saginaw Bay MI won the Indy Open, Brad Wagnon from Fleet # 154 won the Districts and Sean Fidler from Fleet # 54 Pontiac MI won the Hoosier.

Turnout for the Indy Open was the lowest ever with only 7 boats. This may have been partially due to a third Midwest regatta added in 2003. The Districts held this year at Lake Wawasee attracted only 10 boats compared with 15 in 2002. The Hoosier Regatta however held its own this year with 19 boats compared with 20 in 2002.

The real story in our District this year was the marvelous job done by Jeff Schmahl as Chairman for the Hoosier Regatta. He and his committee covered every detail, welcoming all upon arrival, providing for lunch and dinner on Saturday and breakfast and lunch on Sunday. They offered overnight lodging in Fleet members homes and Saturday evening bowling for every out of town boat that registered bringing all participants more closely together. The trophies presented to the top five places were silver. The total hospitality package far exceeded any I have ever seen. At the end of the trophy presentation, Jeff assured us that this was only a warm-up for the 50th Hoosier Regatta which will be held this year on October 2nd & 3rd 2004. Don't miss it!

## ITALY

District Vice President.....Francisco de Regis

### Fleets:

Garda 249; Lega Navale Anzio 312; Marsala 449;  
Trasimeno 453; Cornero 466; Savio 476;  
Roma 479.

## LAKE ERIE

District Commodore.....Bill Neal

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.

## LONG ISLAND

District Commodore.....George Koch  
District Secretary.....Theresa Hendry

### Fleets:

Great South Bay 178; Southampton 431; Orient Yacht Club 506.

## METROPOLITAN

District Commodore.....Dan Parietti  
District Treasurer.....Ted Duffy  
District Champion.....Jack Huntsman  
District Runner-Up.....Sandy Huntsman

### Fleets:

Lake Wallenpaupack 16, Monmouth Boat Club 70, Nyack Boat Club 75.

The first event of the year in our District is always the Long John Regatta, held on the last weekend in April at the Monmouth Boat Club, in Red Bank, NJ.

The Met District Regatta was held on the weekend of June 22-23 and was graciously hosted by Monmouth Boat Club Fleet 70. The regatta was held during the wettest spring the Middle Atlantic region had endured in decades. The weekend forecast was for more rain and possible severe thunderstorms throughout the weekend. Thanks to RC Chair Mary Huntsman, we completed 2 races on Saturday before lunch. The forecast of





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severe storms coming from the ocean prompted RC to cancel racing for the balance of Day 1. (It turned out to be a wise decision.) Three races were held on Day 2 in light variable winds. The regatta's top boats were a family affair - the Huntsmans! Congratulations to District Champion Jack (son) and District Runner-up Sandy (father). To boot, a Huntsman grandson was the skipper of the third place boat!

At the District meeting, the following officers were elected for the period June 2003-June 2004: Dan Parietti (Fleet 75), Commodore; and Ted Duffy (Fleet 70), Treasurer. The 2004 District Regatta will be held at the Nyack Boat Club on the third or fourth weekend in June.

The District was represented by eight boats at the North American Championship at Cedar Point YC, Westport Connecticut in August: two from Fleet 70 and five from Fleet 75. Three boats sailed in the Championship Fleet: Jack Huntsman and Ted Duffy from Fleet 70 and Bob Sengstacken (Fleet 75). The top boat from the District was Ted Duffy (Fleet 70) - 16 out of 34. In addition, the District was represented by four boats at the NA Masters Championship at Niantic YC, Niantic, Connecticut: three from Fleet 75 and one from Fleet 70. The top boat from the District was Gary Hurban (Fleet 75) - 6 out of 19.

Lake Wallenpaupack held their annual Pennsylvania



Governor's Cup regatta in September. It was again well attended, and won by Dick Hallagan. Second went to Bill Fastiggi.

Fleet 75 at Nyack had an active season under Fleet Captain Bob Sengstacken. It hosted its two annual regattas - the Magnus Pedersen May 31-June 1 (15 boats) and the LAST BLAST! October 11 (22 boats!).

Long John - April 24-25 = Monmouth BC;

Magnus Pedersen - May 29-30 = Nyack BC;

District Regatta - June 26-27 Nyack BC;

Last Blast - October 9 - Nyack BC;

Pennsylvania Governor's Cup - September 18-19 - Lake Wallenpaupack.





## MICHIGAN

District Commodore.....	Jeff Hagman
District Secretary.....	John Heagy
District Treasurer.....	Kevin Nickels
District Measurer.....	Sean Fidler
District Champion.....	Jim Allen
District Runner-Up.....	Sean Fidler
Traveling Champion.....	Jim Allen
Fall Series Trophy.....	Jim Allen
Doc Gilbert (Most Improved)	Blaine Severin

### 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.

In 2003 we enjoyed an action packed regatta circuit, both in district and out of district. It seems like the Michigan District circuit is very similar to a concert tour. You get to sail at a different place almost every week; this is great because you get to sail on so many different lakes and in a variety of conditions. This is great for those of us who want/need to hone our skill in all conditions. 2003, gave us all imaginable conditions.

Our district circuit kicked off with a regatta at Lansing Sailing Club on May 3rd.

This was again a one-day format and drew 12 boats, with one even traveling from Chicago. The RC got off five races in a shifty 2-10 knot breeze. Tom Klaban and sons brought home 1st with David Nickels finishing 2nd and Chris Jacobson finishing 3rd.

The same weekend as Lansing, Bay City's John McCree was out of district at the "Indy Open". He brought home the win with five firsts! Great job John!

May 10-11th were several Michigan boats that travel out of district to Pymatuning Yacht Club for the "Spring Classic". As always, there were the friendly smiles, and of course LOTS of free beer. The RC got an amazing 4 races in on Saturday. Sunday races were canceled due to thunderstorms. Skip Dieball with crew Matt Frymier and wife Laurie came home on top with 1st. Jim Allen with crew Jane Allen and Rob Spring came in 7th. George Sipel was 13th with Christy Synowiec and Jeff Hagman. Ryan Flack, Matt Morin, Kevin Morin came in 15th, and John Heagy with Karl Bradley and Nick Turney finished 22nd.

North Cape Yacht Club held the annual "Spring Fling" the following weekend. This year brought cool weather, plenty of breeze, and 14 boats. On Saturday there were 15-55knot winds and 2-4 foot waves, which made for some exciting racing. In the first race Eric Brandt decided to find out just how deep Lake Erie actually is. He did this while making an amazing effort to avoid a collision, and ended up swimming in the 45 degree water. The end result was a two piece mast. The first race ended with David Stark taking the bullet, followed by North Cape's Skip Dieball. The second race started with winds at around 25 knots, and Skip Dieball took the early lead and held on to win, followed by Sean Fidler 2nd, and Jim Allen 3rd. They cancelled the third race due to high winds. On Sunday we were greeted with 4 foot waves and temps in the 40's, the RC decided to cancel the racing for the day. Overall, Skip Dieball took home 1st, David Stark 2nd, and Sean Fidler 3rd.

The next regatta was in June. On the schedule was Bay City, which was a great warm up for Districts. We had 12 boats, and warm temps. The wind on the other hand was light and variable. The RC managed to get three races off on Saturday, and canceled the races on Sunday due to high winds and cool water. It seemed that this had become a theme this year for regattas in the Great Lakes area. PYC's Jim Allen finished 1st, Bay City's John McCree was 2nd, and Matt Princing from Tawas was 3rd. Bay City will host the 2004 Districts, don't miss them, it's guaranteed to be a great time.

Again, we had a boat travel out of district, this time it was Skip Dieball to Ohio. It was for the Ohio Districts where Skip conducted a Lightning Lab for them as part of the event. When the results were in Skip ended up winning the regatta with crew Laurie Dieball and Nick Turney.

June 25-26 was our Districts at Crescent Sail Yacht Club. For the past several years, we have had a two day format... register/measure Friday, sail Saturday-Sunday. The Districts tends to be our best attended event of the year, however we had a disappointing 19 boats travel to Lake St. Clair. The conditions were good the first day, but light and lumpy on the second. The RC did a great job getting in five of the scheduled six races; they thankfully abandoned the sixth due to lack of wind! In the end Jim Allen and crew was 1st, Sean Fidler was 2nd, and John McCree was 3rd.

After Districts we got a few weeks off and then off to beautiful Tawas Bay. Saturday brought sun and plenty of wind. Sunday was even more perfect; the winds were 10 knots and it was warm. After five races, Jim Allen took 1st. Ryan Flack 2nd, with one crew that had never sailed before and Matt Princing 3rd.

Higgins Lake held their annual invitational the first weekend of August. 2-3. John McCree took 1st, Sean Fidler 2nd, and Tom Klaban got 3rd.

During the "Blackout of 2003", Michigan sent everyone was off to Connecticut for the NAs. Bruce Finsilver with crew, Salo Korn and Ryan Flack finished 19th at the Masters, while Jen Armbruster finished 4th in the Women's with crew Sarah Caine



and mother Nancy. Also attending were Charlie Hess, Clarence Johnson, and Jim Allen.

Michigan's Fall Circuit is GREAT!! The first regatta in the fall circuit is the "Whitecap Regatta" at Pontiac. Held September 6-7th, this is usually a well attended event considering it's at the world's largest Lightning fleet. This year was no let down; there were 44 boats that were on the line for the not-so whitecap races. The conditions were light and shifty.

The following weekend is the annual Devils Lake Yacht Club's "This One's for Fun". This multi-fleet event (separate courses) is held with the Sunfish. There was great competition in both fleets. In the Lightning George Sipel took home top honors.

October 5-6th saw the Crescent Sail Yacht Club's "Ice Breaker" regatta. Held

In conjunction with Thistles, the air is usually comfortable, but sustained!!

This year proved to be on par... plenty of breeze. The regatta was handily won

By Past Commodore Mike Williams of Crescent.

As usual, the Michigan season closed October 11th at North Cape. See, we like to get things settled before hunting and football... (Yeah... Right!).

So comes the end of the 2003 Michigan District schedule. We'll be starting up again in early May. We always welcome visitors, and will provide housing if possible.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ryan Flack

2004 Michigan District Commodore

will be hosting the 2005 NA's with Milwaukee hosting the juniors, women and seniors. So, start planning now for a great Wisconsin week in 2005. Our district was home to few new boats and others upgrading. It is always encouraging to add new boats, which helps keep the enthusiasm.

This was a short report but was also the most difficult to write. I was unable to sail as much I would have liked which limits my insight to the regattas but I did learn a lot. Being away from the sport you realize all the enjoyment that you derive from Lightning sailing. The friendships, which began from sailing, parties, ski trips, hiking, the weekly races, regattas, and all the other activities. I look around see members of our district who have been sailing Lightnings for over 40 plus years and know you are a part of something special.

Steve Adamski, District Commodore.

## MISSISSIPPI VALLEY

District Commodore.....Bill Killebrew  
District Champion.....William Hofmeister  
District Runner-Up.....Dan Moriarty  
District Junior Champion....Maxime Schillebeeckx

### Fleets:

Decatur 74; Harbor Island Yacht Club 262;

Carlyle Sailing Association 266; Delta Sailing Association 274;

Valley 486.

## MIDWEST

District Commodore.....Steve Adamski  
District Champion.....Bill Faude  
District Runner-Up.....Ric Larson

### Fleets:

Chicago Corinthian 5; Milwaukee Yacht Club 69;

Green Bay Sailing Club 112; Lake Davenport 167;

Sheboygan 187; Fond du Lac 442.

It is hard to believe another year has gone by and the district's report is due once again. Usually it is not that hard to recap the season and bring you up to speed of what is happening in the Midwest. Exempt this was not an ordinary year, at least for guy writing this report.

As normal our district hosted six regattas through the year, starting in May and finishing in October. I am not going to recap the regattas here instead I encourage you to read the fleet reports. The big news from the Midwest District is Sheboygan

