



## Fleet 216 Saginaw Bay Lightning Fleet Sailing on Saginaw Bay of Lake Huron at Bay City Yacht Club Michigan District

BOAT#	BOAT NAME	OWNER
7153	MEGS	GEORGE F. ASCHERL, JR.
9705	GOT A MATCH?	MATTHEW PRINCING
12588		SAGINAW BAY COMMUNITY SAILING
13859		TOM HERNICK
14022	TEKO	JOHN E. JOHNSON
14048		BLAIR MOULTHROP
14076	DR. STRANGEGLOVE	MICHAEL SULFARO
14077	FULL FRONTAL LABOTIMER	TIM BOTIMER
14087	SCORE ONE!	JOHN WAECHTER
14103	ZIPPER	CLARK HOWELL, JR.
14323	SLEEPER	JOHN McCREE
14503	HOT DOG MAN	GEORGE M. PEET
14577	FASTIDIOTS	CHRIS JACOBSON
14603	HART BEAT II	TERRY HART
14616		MIKE SCOTT
14703	MOTION SENSITIVE	GUS DEY
14775	SHUSS BOOMER	JAMES SCHOFIELD
14933	CAROUSEL XXXIV	JOSEPH C. DISSETTE
14937	SCARS & SCRAPES	MATTHEW D. PRINCING
15225	FASTIDIOTS 2004	CHRIS JACOBSON
15233	CAROUSEL 35	JOSEPH C. DISSETTE

Fleet Captain.....Terry Hart  
Fleet Treasurer.....Chris Jacobson  
Fleet SWB.....Matt Princing  
Fleet Champion.....Scars & Scrapes  
Fleet Runner-Up.....Fast Idiots

The summer of 2004 could be summed up as the year the wind blew. We have not seen much wind over 12 knots on Wednesdays for the past several years with more drifters than one cares to remember. This year was different, it blew and blew hard for a good percentage of our race nights. Fleet 216 only sailed 28 races this year over 12 nights, typically this total is in the upper 30's with 16-18 nights of sailing. 6 race nights were canceled due to weather, or if you are superstitious it was because fleet captain Terry Hart was able to sail for a change (Terry works third shift, not by choice).

Other interesting happenings this year was the "shuffle". We had crews and boats and skippers "shuffling" from boat to boat this year to maximize the number of boats on the line and to boost our newer members of the fleet confidence. Three new members of our fleet this year Tom HERNICK, Mike Scott and the return of former fleet member George Ascherl were welcome additions getting both good experience sailing their own boat or crewing with others. Fleet 216 had 5 different boats win races this year up from last year. We also had our first female skipper in recent memory win a race this year, Jennifer Princing, sailing Scars & Scrapes in preparation for the Women's NA's. After 28 races here is how the fleet racing shook out:

1. Scars & Scrapes Matt Princing, Chris & Jen Princing, Adam Tompa
2. Fast Idiots Chris Jacobson, Steve, Tom
3. Shussboomer Jim Schofield, Kim, Bob
4. Carousel 34 Joe Dissette, Glenn, Mike
5. Sleeper John McCree, Dave, Rachael

Most Improved: Hart Beat Jeff Titsworth, John, Ann  
Ruben Clams Award: Hart Beat Jeff Titsworth \*first time



Scars & Scrapes - 14937 Scars & Scrapes Matt Princing  
fleet champion, 14775 Shussboomer Jim Schofield.

winner but not the first (Someone from this boat has won) Crew Award: Hart Beat Jeff, John, Ann  
Duck Tape Award: Fast Idiots Chris Jacobson, Steve, Tom  
Aquatic Excellence: Mike Sulfaro for a spectacular reverse somersault at the Tawas Regatta

I think the crew of Hart Beat are making a statement for next year, we will tune in to see which statement they make.

Fleet 216 again sponsored Districts this year. 19 boats turned up for the competition with Sean Fidler and crew capturing the District Crown.

As a Fleet we were also instrumental in running the Tawas Regatta this year. A poor turn out leaves the future of this event in the air, it is hard to believe 2 years ago 42 boats showed up. The weather and racing were typical Tawas, GREAT! Jim Allen and Crew sailed away with the regatta. If you missed this event you missed the best sailing in Michigan, our support next year will either save or sink this great event.

Fleet 216 was well represented at regatta's this year sending boats to Wawasee, Districts, Tawas, Higgins Lake, Pontiac early, Pontiac Whitecap and Women's NA's. Our boats sailed well on the road winning Higgins Lake Regatta (Scars & Scrapes), Trophies at Higgins (Sleeper & Fast Idiots), trophies at Tawas (Scars & Scrapes & Sleeper), trophies at Districts (Sleeper & Scars & Scrapes), winning the first race of the Women's NA's (Scars & Scrapes), and entertaining the other 19 boats at Wawasee '03 by winning the first race and giving swim lessons for the next three (Scars & Scrapes).

We have enjoyed our new members and look forward to more additions in 2005. Rumor has it that Blair Moulthrop is considering becoming active again in fleet racing, this comes from a reliable source seen holding up the beer cooler at the Tawas regatta. We still don't know if Mike Sulfaro's boat floats, but I heard he might be in the market for a newer one.

Speaking of newer boats, Chris Jacobson and Joe Dissette have commissioned new boats from Nickels Boat Works. Both will be ready for spring sailing and CJ's will commence being the winter drinking chair as soon as the second week of November. Nothing like sipping a cold one while "mind" sailing your new boat in the toasty





comfort of the "Man Zone".

It is that familiar time of year when "Men's Town" beckons offering a new season of tales of the sea and countless cocktails sacrificed in search of...well when I find out what we are searching for I let you all know. Pretty deep, I know, work with me on this one.

TTFN!

-Matt Prining 14937



*Tight Mark Rounding - 14323 Sleeper John McCree, 14903 Passive Aggressive Clarence Johnson, 14703 Motion Sensitive Gus Dey, 14087 Score One John Waechter. Tawas Bay Regatta.*

## Fleet 225 Henderson Harbor

Sailing on Henderson Harbor of Lake Ontario, Henderson Harbor, New York  
Central New York District

BOAT#	BOAT NAME	OWNER
9944	ZELDA	CARL MARTIN
10709	MAY DAY MAY DAY	HARRY T. McMILLAN
10712	BILLY BOAT	LEONARD A. MONTAGUE
12809	WILD RUTHY	HUBERT BECKER
13232		STEVE AHLGRIM
13353		GERALD A. BEZNER D.V.M.
13679	MARYKATE	JAMES FINN
13894	WHITE LIGHTNIN	BRADFORD A. WHITE
14192	RUNAWAY	JOHN H. TREADWELL, II
14254	FOOTLOOSE II	RICHARD C. GRISSINGER
14321	YOU BET I'M CHICKEN	JACK JONES
14321		GRAHAM LEONARD
14655		JEAN H. HALLAGAN
14808		JOHN BOXBERGER

\* See report on Junior Programs.

## Fleet 226 Biscayne Bay

Sailing on Biscayne Bay, Coconut Grove, Florida  
Florida District

BOAT#	BOAT NAME	OWNER
Life	GLOCKENSPIEL	STUART ANDERSON
2342	KITTY BOO	MONK TERRY
8330	FRENCH QUARTER	MIKE WEBER
9144		PETER NICHOLSON
9240		C. GIESENSCHLAG
9421		HUMBERTO CONTRERAS
10623	SECOND J	MICHAEL ZIDZUNAS
10700	SAM I AM	SAM SEPTEMBRE
10815	SLIPPERY WHEN WET	HEATHER MCGONAGLE
11171	FOLIE A TROIS	DEAN R. GOSSELIN
11171	FOLIE A TROIS	PAUL MESSINA
11171	FOLIE A TROIS	PAUL MASSINA
11584		ALBERTO PADILLA
11702	GLOCKENSPIEL	LARRY J. AMES
12050	CAJON DE GINEBRA CHICO	FEDERICO GALLIA
12064		STEVEN GETZOFF
12640	MUSIC	JOHN SCHIEFER
12640		CARLA ZIMMER
12971		BILL HUDSON
13010	MORE HEAT	ANDY WAKS
13351	ZING	BOB DUGGER
13466	JALAPENO	BEN SADLER
13545	SCREAMIN' BLEW	RON CRUSOE
13592	LIZZY BOARDSTIFF	DONALD Z. BAILEY
13592	LIZZIE	DAVID HOLLAND
13748		TED KAPUSTKA
13861	HI-VOLTAGE	RANDY CLEE
13983	RUMRUNNER	ONOFRE TORRES
14066	GLADIATOR	DMITRIY YAKOVENKO
14084	TURBO DOG	JOHN ROUSE
14178	SOUTH	WANDA COOPER
14178	SOUTH	WINFIELD L. COOPER
14178		CHARLES E. "BUD" PRICE
14309	BULLET	DAVID KURTZ
14374	FREE BEER YESTERDAY	JON W. EWING
14374	FREE BEER YESTERDAY	CAROL STOUT EWING
14588	TJUANA TAXI	CHARLES VIRGIN
14684	SCARE TACTICS	BILL JOHNS
14698	LIKE A MONKEY	JIM BIGHAM
14708	BOOBY TRAP	FAY REGAN
14809	MAIN SQUEEZE	EAMONN deLISSER
14809		STUART deLISSER
14866	MACH II	BILL MAUK
14930	WIDESPREAD PANIC	STEPHEN HORWITZ
15017		JOHN GOCHBERG
15143	WHO DO YOU LOVE	NATHANIEL DAVID HELMICK
15151	ANT FARM	FRANK ATKINSON JR.

Fleet Captain.....Dmitriy Yankoverko  
Fleet Secretary.....Bob Hannau

Lightning sailing in Miami, Florida, is World Class sailing!

Where else can you enjoy warm temperatures year round and wonderful breezes? A year after hosting the 2003 World Championships, things throttled back a bit, for most. With the North Americans in Buffalo, it was time to hit the road for Bill Mauk and Dave Helmick. Congrats to Dave for winning the Presidents Cup and to Bill for his Blue Fleet qualifying.

This year, the BBYRA, our bay affiliation of 5 Yacht Clubs, took a break from summer sailing. WHAT!! NO SAILING !! Yes, no sailing in the summer. It is something new that is being tried. Sailing happens all year here, and a new schedule was tried to keep from sailing in the heat of summer. A lot of people travel to the cooler climates and this seemed to work out well. This allows sailors to try out





the other territories during the summer months, June – August. The other side of this equation is that some months when racing is on, it can be busy as the full schedule is condensed a bit in 9 months.

With the new schedule set, it can be very busy in December through March. The Orange Bowl regatta starts the rush between Christmas and New Year's. By now most of everyone sailing knows the Orange Bowl. There is a rush of Junior and Senior Sailors the likes of which no one has ever seen. When boats are launched on the first day of practice, the Bay Water rises 2"! A walk around just the junior sailing venues, is a who's who of Lightning history. History indeed repeats itself and previous Junior Champions are now the parents and the cycle repeats itself. You can spend many minutes stopping and speaking with Lightning sailors who are now 'Opti Parents'.

This year's regatta was a windy one. Some swimming and some carnage were the norm as 20 Lightnings gathered at the Coconut Grove Sailing Club, for a windy 6 race series. Bill Mauk from fleet 226, won the event with Bill Fastiggi and Suzy Coburn in the front seats. Look for this combo to do some of the BIG ones this year! It is wonderful to see the people that travel so long to be here for this event every year. It is a regatta that you do not want to miss and if you bring down your boat, we can find a place for it till the Circuit.

Following the Orange Bowl, add in Key West race Week, several one design mid-winter championships, an SORC, and the BBYRA schedule and you might want to rent for the season in the Grove.

Our Fall sailing highlight is the Florida Triple Crown. It is a three regatta circuit sailing in Miami, Tampa, and Fort Meyers. The series starts in October in Miami with the Chris Young, and ends Thanksgiving weekend at Davis Island, in Tampa. Bill Mauk, Steve Horwitz, Bill Johns, made all the venues with Bill Mauk finishing second to Tampa's Jeff Linton (who?). It is a great series and gives everyone an opportunity to socialize with friends we do not get to see and sail with often enough!

The fleet racing during the year saw a few members missing from all of the races. The hard core, never say die, I am racing with a fever crowd were still on the line. This year Dave Kurtz in Bullet made every one! Steve Horwitz missed just one and Bill Johns was right there too. The numbers game was won by Bill Johns. Nice job Bill! Steve came up second and Dave Kurtz third. Bill Johns also made all of the venues on the Triple Crown. With all that time in the boat, he is going to be fast in 2005!

Please, Please, Please, try to come to Miami and sail in 2005. It is truly one of the best places in the whole world to sail and spend some time. If you have any difficulties, just get on the web site for Fleet 226 or call someone and a fleet member will help you out. You really have to come to Miami for some World Class Sailing this year!

## Fleet 227 Bomoseen Yacht Club Sailing on Lake Bomoseen, Bomoseen, Vermont New England District

BOAT#	BOAT NAME	OWNER
15056 15056		RAYMOND P. HARRINGTON RAYMOND P. HARRINGTON, JR.

Fleet Commodore.....Raymond Harrington Jr.  
Fleet Secretary.....Toni Harrington

The Maple Leaf Classic returned to Lake Bomoseen this year with 9 boats competing, at least 5 of which came down from Burlington VT not only to compete, but also to help with the logistics of running the regatta. Thank you all Fleet 301 members for supporting us and helping with the regatta.

Mark Gardner graciously volunteered to come to Bomoseen to run the races, along with the help of wife Lynn. Mark was able to get 8 races in over 2 days in some challenging conditions. Thank you Mark and Lynn.

On the race course Bill Fastiggi dominated the races winning all but 2 of the 8 races to take home the "gold" (1 gallon of Vermont Maple Syrup). Second place went to Heather Ambrose, third place to Bretton Gardner. A notable mention goes to Ray and Toni Harrington, for persuading their now 15 year old daughter, Sydney, to crew for them in this year's regatta (soccer, horseback riding, etc usually take precedence over sailing with mom and dad).

The party Saturday night was also a success with everyone enjoying a barbeque on the lawn.

Perhaps the Maple Leaf will return again next year, until then, see you on the race course.

## Fleet 228 Riverton Yacht Club Fleet Sailing on the Delaware River at Riverton, New Jersey Central Atlantic District

BOAT#	BOAT NAME	OWNER
7660 11519 12140 12480 13740 14214 14659 14699 14699 14739 14771 14890 14942 15055 15154	AIR BALL SMIDGE    CHEES WHIZ  TOODLE-OO   ULTIMATE PRESSURE II PRIMAL SCREAM	GARY BIRNHAK MAURY BENBOW RON BAERWITZ READ HOWARTH MICHAEL McCOURT BRUCE NICHOLSON BRUCE FALLS ALLAN M. CREW HENRY M. WEINFELD PAUL M. VAN CLEVE JOHN G. HAIGES PETER R. DENTON RICHARD MOYER HUGH J. HUTCHISON MARK C. SCHNEIDER

Fleet Captain.....Mark Schneider  
Fleet Champion.....Denton/Townsend

It has been another good year on the Delaware River. After dodging the thunderstorms we still managed to sail more than 20 races on Wednesday evenings after a hard day's work. What a release. Two races and a keg of beer waiting. It can't get much better.

This year brought forth another Fleet Champion, one





who has always been trouble, the team of Peter Denton and John Townsend. Beating post Champions - John Haiges, Hugh Hutchison, Allan Crew, and Mark Schneider. They started the season of a little earlier than most of us by sailing the Mid-Winters, hitting all the major regattas and held off the best of us. Congratulations.

That is what makes our fleet so much fun, you never know who will be the champion until the very end. We have a great mix of people who enjoy racing Lightnings and who make you work to win. Great depth.

This year was a good year for we welcomed a new boat, Read Howarth. Come join us.



## Fleet 229 Chinook

Sailing on Fern Ridge Reservoir at Eugene, Oregon  
Pacific Northwest District

BOAT#	BOAT NAME	OWNER
6061	CALEDONIA	WALLY JONES
6725	RIP VAN WINKLE	KENNETH R. EMMES
7525		CHUCK GOTTFRIED
9495	WANDERING ABOUT	CAROL MULLEN SLEIGERS
9819	ASTRAY	DAVID MCCOY
13707		BILL AUTY
13811	ROYAL ROVER	VERNON E. PANDIAN
13942	GREEN EGGS AND HAM	A. MORRIECRAIG
13956	THUMP	JOHN J. MAHONEY
14993	PATRICIA ANN	HANS RUSSELL

## Fleet 250 Vierwaldstatter/Greifensee

Sailing on Luzern and Greifen at Zrich, Switzerland  
Switzerland District

BOAT#	BOAT NAME	OWNER
3790	FRAM	LUKAS GERIG
8189	BENJAMIN	HANSJORG HUTTER
8190	FORTUNA	ANTON FUCHS
9034	FAIR LADY	PETER TASCHLER
9130		MARCO RUEGG
9361		HANSPETER BRANDLE
10463	YOU NEVER KNOW	HUBERT K. STOCKER
10467	CSARDAS	HEINRICH LEIMGRUBLER
10904	MARTIN	MARTIN JAGER
10999	BARATO	BRUNO KUNZLE
11104	SPEEDY	MARTIN BIRCHLER
12306	WHITE STAR	JAKOB BLICKENSDORFER
12571	JOY III	RUDOLF HERZOG
12953	IRENE 2	SILVIO MERZ
13070		P. WETTERWALD
13072		SEGELKLUB MEGGEN SEGELKLUB MEGGEN
13091		SAILING CLUB OF GREIFENSEE
13099	DOMI-NIKE	CHRISTOPH LUTHY
13161	TARTARUGA	CLAUDE GRAWEHR
13705	CEZANNE	FRANCOIS WITH

\* See report for Switzerland District.

## Fleet 251 Yacht Club of Athens

Sailing on the Mediterranean at Athens Greece  
Greek District

BOAT#	BOAT NAME	OWNER
10966	CLOCKWORK	CHRISTOS BONAS
13402	ORANGE	PERIKLES CHARBILAS
13402		COSTAS E. KAFETZIDAKIS
13402		SOTIRIS STOUROS
13474		SP. MILEOU
13968		NICKOLAS DIMOU
13968	RENATA	DIMITRIS STATHOPOULOS
13968		ARISTIDES MICHAEL
14197		SOTIRIS DIMOPOULOS
14197	MARANNA	GEORGE LEONIDAS
14361		D. TAGAROPULOS
14361		ANGELOS VASSILAS
14685		SOTIRIS TSORANOGLIOU
14686		M. MILEOS





## Fleet 252 Keuka Lake Sailing on Keuka Lake at Hammondsport, New York Central New York District

BOAT#	BOAT NAME	OWNER
0	THE OTHER WOMAN	PAUL SCHNIPESKY
10490	TEAM WAWBEEK	BARRY BROGAN
12702	GRUMP	DONALD A. TYLOR
12885		BOB COSTIGAN
13514		RON ANDERSON
13816		KEUKA YACHT CLUB
14368	MICHAEL N.	MICHAEL N. KALINICH
14426	GRUMPY OLD MEN	CLYDE L. RATHMANN
15205		ROBERT C. WARDWELL

## Fleet 253 Susquehanna Yacht Club Sailing on the Susquehanna River at Long Level, Pennsylvania Dixie District

BOAT#	BOAT NAME	OWNER
0		CAROL PARK
9897	JONSELLA	STEPHEN D. TILLEY
9904		CRAIG & BECKY CASSEL
11329		JOE & TINA LAUVER
11582		WALT POYCK
12081	SWILL DOG	BRIAN SCHOOLING
13218	SNEAK ATTACK	KENNETH C. KUZDRO
13813	DOUBLE WHAMMY	FREDERICK S. BUSH
14074		RICHARD M. DOHERTY
14156	STARTRHOWER	CHARLES F. NOBLE
14204	MA JOLIE	NEIL CLARK
14365	STRIKES TWICE	THOMAS E. DEXTER
14365	STRIKES TWICE	ANITA BLACKBAY
14525	SPIRIFIRE	JOHN BATES
14777		JOSEPH DEERIN
14902	MISS CONDUCT	BILL REMORENKO
14927	SHARK BITE	MICHAEL WERTZ
15118	YELLOW BOAT	STARLING H. MIKELL, III
15132	TEMERITY	PETER PUNDT
15159		FRANK HANSON
15210		KEVIN MacNEIL

Fleet Captain.....Pete PunDT  
Fleet Secretary.....Michael Wertz  
Fleet Champion.....Starling Mikell

The Susquehanna Yacht Club and Fleet 253 continued its successful growth as it sailed forward into the 2004 sailing season. Many thanks to the members, crew and their families for a fantastic season and their support.

One of the highlights of the summer was hosting the club's first Junior Sailing Day on June 19th. Organized by Carol Park and other Fleet members, there were 23 participants, ranging in ages from 9 to 18. Carol was assisted by 15 instructors, all Lightning sailors. The children were divided into groups and rotated through four segments of learning: a chalk talk on the basics, a land-based simulator, knot tying and rigging a boat, and a capsized drill and safety. All of this activity was followed by a 2 hour sail in pleasant winds of 6 knots.

Our Junior Sailing Day goals were to promote teamwork,

self-confidence and to master some basic sailing skills. The post-lesson smiles confirmed that we accomplished these goals. All of this excitement was followed by a barbecue and an award certificate ceremony. Everyone is looking forward to next year's sailing day with great anticipation.



Photos from  
our Junior  
Sailing Day



We have a new winner of the Frey Cup Trophy this year, Star Mikell and his crew, Gene Shue and Gary Hoffer! Star finished first in both the Summer and Fall series to complete the sweep. Last year's champion, Carol Park, finished second. John Bates moved up from a sixth place finish last year to finish third this year.

The summer series started well with an average of 10-11 boats competing in each race. The weather was favorable for sailing, with only two evenings cancelled because of a lack of wind. Additionally, and new this year, we held an intra-club Regatta on Memorial Day to help kick off the season. The races were won by Kevin MacNeil and his crew, and were followed by a pot-luck dinner with families and friends.







The fall series was a repeat of last year's challenges: from light winds to excessive winds, flooding and torrential currents complete with another hurricane, Ivan! Fortunately, because of the quick action of the Lightning members, all of the fleet boats were moved to higher ground and no one suffered any losses as the remnants of the hurricane passed through our boat yard. After the storm and flooding subsided, the fleet spent the next two Wednesday evening races leaning

on their boats watching the shrubbery and debris fly by the docks with the Susquehanna River current.

Fleet 253 hosted two Regattas this year: our annual Sweet Corn Regatta with 19 participants, and the annual King of the River team racing challenge against the Havre de Grace, Maryland team. The River challenge was a close event this year, tied 7-7 until the final heat, which the mighty ducks of Havre de Grace won. Next year the event travels back to the Upper Chesapeake. Watch out guys, the third time's a charm - for us!

Our club continues to send representatives to the eastern regattas: Dixie District Championships (5), Duck Regatta (3), Pennsylvania Governor's Cup (2), Solomons Island Regatta (3), Potomac Cup (1), Southern Circuit (2) and the Annapolis Frigid Digit (2). This participation away from home certainly enhances the quality and level of competition within our own fleet. And it's always nice to see old friends and make new ones.

Two new skippers joined the Fleet this year: Frank Hanson and Joe Lauver. Welcome to the club. Our Fleet now numbers nineteen boats. Other members continue to upgrade to newer boats and the competition and camaraderie continues.

Until next year, see you down at the river.

## Frey Trophy Standings

1. Star Mikell
2. Carol Park
3. John Bates
4. Rick Doherty
5. Steve Tiley
6. Pete Pundt

## Fleet 254 Burt Lake Sailing on Burt Lake in Cheboygan County, Michigan Michigan District

BOAT#	BOAT NAME	OWNER
11551 12980 14505 14770	SPIRIT	BILL KELLER JAMES W. FRASIER STUART F. CHENEY CLARK E. SWAYZE

## Fleet 257 Clarks Hill Sailing on Strom Thurmond Lake at Augusta, Georgia Southeastern District

BOAT#	BOAT NAME	OWNER
9468 10810 13190 14127 14532	HOT FLASH RODE HARD INTROPID NO EXCUSES BOONOOOONOOS	NANCY KLEMMANN SPROUL SHARON HARKRIDER GILBERT L. KLEMMANN, M.D. RICHARD MAYNE ROBERT E. HARKRIDER, JR.

Fleet Captain.....Robert E. Harkrider Jr.  
Fleet Secretary.....Richard F. Mayne

The Clark's Hill Fleet had minimum of Fleet activity this year only hosting the ASC Annual Lightning Invitational on September 11, 12. This is a Southeastern District circuit regatta but, drew only ten steady crews. It was a beautiful fall day with light wind. All who attended had a great time Friday night at the traditional Harkrider cook out at the club house. The weekend was a good one with 6 races over two days in 8-10 mph winds) with plenty of close sailing!

Lenny Krawcheck of Charleston took first, followed by Peter Marriott of the Lake Norman Fleet, ASC fleet member Bob Harkrider. was third, Richard Waldkirch fourth, and John Pelosi of NC, fifth. First time Lightning sailor Jim Holder was in the hunt.

Bob Harkrider, our annual delegation to the NA's, went to the Buffalo Canoe Club for this year's North Americans. Carter Utzig and his daughter Megan crewed for Bob. Between a capsize, another DNF due to lack of wind, and a torn spinnaker, the final results were not something to be proud of. Not to fret, there is always next year.

Our fleet will continue to look for prospective sailors that want to own and sail a class boat. We can't seem to find that right combination of making the choice between sailing locally or traveling on the district circuit. When you are out of town racing Lightnings no one knows what a great boat it is. Staying at home trying to build a fleet doesn't help the traveling series. Decisions, decisions, what is the right answer? Maybe one day we will figure it out.





# REPORTS

## Fleet 262 Harbor Island Yacht Club Sailing on Old Hickory Lake at Nashville, Tennessee Mississippi Valley District

BOAT#	BOAT NAME	OWNER
9211		CHANDLER OWEN
9948		CHANDLER OWEN
10621		CHANDLER OWEN
11333	THE CIRCLE OF LIFE	GARY MARKHAM
11480		BILL KILLEBREW
11600		CHANDLER OWEN
11737	DOC GILBERT EXPRESS	CHANDLER OWEN
12511	THE 7TH HABIT	TODD ANDERSON
13370		LEIF ASGERSON
14116	KAT'S KRADLE	CULLY WARD
14226	MOON CHILDREN	SCOTT HOWARD
14533	REPRISE	ROBERT & JAN MATTIX
14571	WILDEBEEST IV	ROBERT G. & CRIS HEMPEL
14645	AIRBORNE	DR. ROBERT COTTON
14680	TAYLOR	BILL KILLEBREW
14969		CHANDLER OWEN
15010		DAVID YOUNG
15011		JOHN W. HESS
15078	PANDAMONIUM	BRUCE RICHARDS
15100	CHANCE	BRADFORD CURRIE
15206		WILLIAM & MANDY HOFMEISTER
15216	KAT'S KRADLE	CULLY WARD

Fleet Captain.....David Young  
Fleet Treasurer.....Rob Hempel

Lightning Fleet 262 recently concluded a very successful sailing season. Great participation and results in local, district and national events brought a lot of new energy to the fleet.

The local racing scene has two club regattas to bookend the sailing season. William Hofmeister won the spring Tennesseean regatta with Bill Killebrew taking the fall McDougall. A season long Sunday racing series was also scheduled and Dave Young had the low score over the course of the year. At the North American Championships, William Hofmeister rode a second place finish at the Districts to a strong Blue Fleet finish at the NAs. Cully Ward & family continued to sail very well with a fourth place finish in the Green Fleet (President's Cup). Congrats to Hof and Cully on these results with an assist from their new boats!

Harbor Island hosts the fall tradition known as the Bluenose Regatta the first full weekend of November. A very deep fleet of 38 boats showed up for this year's event and was treated to a spectacular weekend of warm weather, lots of sun and enough breeze to finish six great races! The co-skippers of Tom Allen Jr. and Todd Wake prevailed in the event with three bullets paving the way. Ward, Young and Killebrew took places 9-11 as the top local finishers. Come out to Nashville in 2005 for top-notch competition and a great time!

Fleet 262 web site: <http://hiyc.org/lightning.html>

## Fleet 266 Carlyle Sailing Association Sailing on Carlyle Lake at Carlyle, Illinois Mississippi Valley District

BOAT#	BOAT NAME	OWNER
2143		RICHARD BERG
2555	OLIVIA	RAYMOND MYERS
3376		DON RICHARDS
5345		JOHN R. BARRETT
8144	CHAOS	JERRY VALLI
8500	WOODY	CHRIS MARSHALL
9242		DAN JAY
10105		JOHN NORRIS
10711		RANDY HARR
11502	SHA.ZAM	DON HENRY
11580		FRANK HRUBY
12029	FRANCES	STEVEN G. BAILEY
13273	GUMBY	ROB ZERBAN
13308	D.F.	GREG FLORIAN
13892	MISTY LEE	LINUS J. PORTMAN
14009	BLUE TORNADO	PAUL M. ALLEN
14089	WARLOCK	ARTHUR MERDINIAN
14260		JOHN D. FOLWELL
14324	CLAIRBOUYANT	BENJAMIN D. WILLIAMS
14636		DANIEL MORIARTY
		TOBI MORIARTY
14766	TOP FLASH	TERRY BURKE
14798		RICK BERNSTEIN
14834	YETI	MATT G.S. BURRIDGE
14901	PAMPERITO	MARC SCHILLEBEECKX
14920		JAMES CHAPIN

Fleet Captain.....Marc Schillebeeckx  
Fleet Champion.....Dan Moriarty  
Runner-Up.....John Folwell

The 2004 sailing season started off with our annual Lightning fleet party. This year Carolynne and Terry Burke were very kind to host the party. Terry took care of all types of desired fluids, whereas Carolynne made sure the ham was cooked to perfection. Party was attended by about 30 Lightning sailors and this would be my second year (out of three) as fleet captain .... James get ready for your 3 year term.

Talking about new member ... for several years the family Schillebeeckx was the newest Lightning member of fleet 266 ... all this is now history. Fleet 266 is very proud to announce that we got a new, very active, member James Chapin. The rumor has it that he found a brand new lightning (14920) somewhere in a Wisconsin garage.

For those who do not know James' background ... I know he grew up sailing Prams, Sunfish, Lasers, Y Flyers, Thistles and mainly Highlanders at Lake Norman Yacht Club in North Carolina. He crawled off the back of a Highlander into the water when he was 6 months old; brought back on board by a rope that his dad had just tied around my waist (as told over the years by his mom)! Skipped the Area D Sears finals in 1977 and sailed in the Youth Championships in Milwaukee the same year. He lived in Chicago from 1985 to 1998 sailing T-10's, winning the club Championship 9 years in a row and the NA's twice with Rick Strilky on us. Sailed 5 Mackinac races in T-10's and finally purchased a Lightning. Like James would say: "He is now associated with the best group of people that anyone can imagine!"





When I talked with James about any experience in the Lightning class, he was lightning quick to tell me that when he was about 8, he had already participated at a regatta. During this regatta his dad caught their boom end at the backstay of another Lightning ... resulting in de-masting their Lightning! Wow....

One of our biggest goals for 2004 was the promotion of Junior Lightning sailing. Three families decided to promote intensively this program; these were the Burke's, Moriarty's and the Schillebeeckx's. Promotion of Junior sailing is "not a simple task" as one has to make time for them (these damn juniors as someone amongst us would say when something did go wrong with Juniors). We knew we had juniors who almost were born in Lightning boats and we all had to capitalize on this! Terry Burke started to race fleet races with both of his sons, Bryan and Eddie Burke, Ian Moriarty crewed and skippered during fleet races with Dan and Tobi Moriarty, Nicolas Beckham started crewing/skippering with James Chapin, whereas myself ... I was officially promoted to a middle crew position by my son Ian Schillebeeckx.

Two official teams were formed ... these were team N.K.D.A (No Known Drug Allergies) with skipper Nicolas Beckham, middle crew Eddie Burke and front crew Ian Moriarty and team Belgacom with skipper Ian Schillebeeckx, middle crew Beth Ward and front crew Lucas Hofmeister. Beth and Lucas are members of H.I.Y.C. (as you can see we are also trying to promote inter-fleet relationships). During the past year our junior teams raced Lightnings whenever they could ... and they all sailed the junior district championship organized by fleet 266 - refer to the District report.

With this being said .... I'm very happy to report that the sailing season started of with quite some good winds and fleet participation. We had a total of 52 scheduled club races for 2004 of which only 35 were sailed (lack of wind). Results of different series were as follows:

Spring series: 16 races scheduled 10 races raced 9 boats participated 6 qualified. Result: 1st Dan Moriarty, 2nd Ian Schillebeeckx.

Summer series: 19 races scheduled 11 races raced 7 boats participated 3 qualified. Result: 1st Terry Burke, 2nd John Folwell.

Fall series: 17 races scheduled 14 races raced 8 boats participated 4 qualified. Result: 1st Dan Moriarty, 2nd John Folwell

Championship series: 48 races scheduled 34 races raced 9 boats participated and 4 qualified. Result: 1st Dan Moriarty, 2nd John Folwell

I need to indicate that this is the second year in row that Dan and John tied on points and John lost on the tie breaker in the Championship series. John told me that next year this has to change!

Our first official regatta of the year is the well known Mid-Continent regatta. The "Force" that gives us sustenance is the water park condition at Lake Carlyle, that warm steady 20 knot southwest breeze that only raises half a foot chop and makes the sailing playground of our fleet. This year the weather gods decided to show us all that the "Force" has another side - "the dark side". This dark side is characterized by an overcast northern 20 knot unstable breeze with rain and 50 degree and below temperatures.

Interestingly enough this breeze also brings curious wave conditions that resemble Lake Erie off Rocky River, Ohio in a kind of sort of a washing machine like steep, irregular chop that is impossible to anticipate and almost to sail.

Our lake is 10.15 miles long to the northeast but waves from this direction are largely unknown to us. If you are expecting the smooth swimming pool conditions with a strong NE breeze, you are in for a surprise and dead wrong!

14 boats contested this event ... coming from Decatur IL, Green Bay WI and Nashville TN, joining the local suspects as they raced for the "inaugural Augie Paoli Traveling Trophy" in this scheduled 6 race event.

While everybody had their hands full in trying to stay up in these trying 20 knot conditions, newcomer to the class, James Chapin, was racing in his boat for the "first time". He only had his brother on board and was flying the chute in this race. Later at the rum party he said: "We went fastest just before the capsize and by the way where do you buy new mast partner blocks?" James ... welcome to Lightning class and fleet 266 ... what an introduction!

The evening's entertainment was a hot, hearty, lasagna meal and surprise 50th birthday Mount Gay Rum bash for Terry Burke. Terry was truly surprised and many limes lost their lives in the ensuing slaughter!

The standings were interesting with Burridge owning a 3-1-1-1 record, Young from Nashville with a very solid 2-3-2-4, Moriarty with a jib wire damaged 1-9-3-2, Green Bay's Jim Gagnon with a solid 6-5-4-5 and Team Belgacom (Ian Schillebeeckx) with an improving 7-6-6-3. The forecast for the next day was for a frontal passage and less wind. However, the dawn brought fog, calm and many cold, wet clothes and the racing was called off.

Noteworthy is the fact that two Junior Teams participated at the Junior NA's which organized by the Buffalo Canoe Club, NY - refer to article Junior NA's by Ian Schillebeeckx. In recognition of their performance and during the CSA banquet a special award was given out to each of these juniors. The Juniors would tell everybody they will be back at the 2005 Junior NA's .... hey I'm all in favor of it .. let's do it guys!

One may not forget that later in the season Matt Burridge finally picked up his sailing gloves up again and won for the first time in his life the famous Red Flannel regatta with crew Dan and Tobi Moriarty.

In closing this article I have to mention that we had again a great year and we very much appreciate our out of town guests from Green Bay (Mid Continent regatta) bringing the warm weather with them (they didn't complain one bit)! But for next year I promise to deliver warmer weather.

One last sentence: "The rumor has it that Matt Burridge will sail all fleet races in 2005!"

Marc Schillebeeckx  
Crew 14901



## Fleet 270 Silver Fox Squadron Sailing on Geist Reservoir at Indianapolis, Indiana Indiana District

BOAT#	BOAT NAME	OWNER
1342 8679	WEIRDLY MANOR	MICHAEL NAUGHTON ANDREW C. HARMON STEVEN D. HAYES
12296	SOCHAI NT	PETER J. MCGINITY MOIRA MCGINITY
12392 12896 12963	YIKES! NAVIGO	DANIEL RAMSEY NORMAN L. CUBELLIS MARK A. CUDWORTH ANDREW C. HARMON ANDREW COOK MICHAEL R. FRANCESCHINI
13279 13657 13954 14359 14537	L'ECLAIR ROUGE SUNDANCE II WINSOME	JOHN B. LEATH JOSEPH A. LASSAUX PAUL VOS DR. WALTER B. TINSLEY, JR. KENNETH D. WOODS CARLTON SIMMONS E. ANNE FOSTER MICHELE LASSAUX KEN MCGINITY JOAN NAFFZINGER SIGRUN ROBERTS BILL ROBINSON STEVE TINSLEY ANN VAUGHN FRANK WILDER
14610 15097		

Fleet Captain.....Mike Franceschini  
Fleet Secretary.....Joan Naffziger  
Fleet Champion.....Pete McGinity

Our fleet enjoyed another active year of sailing. There are currently 24 members with thirteen boats. Eleven boats raced over the length of the season which started mid April and ended on Halloween Day.

Spring was our busiest time, hosting regattas in May and June. We kicked off the racing season with the Burl Harmon Memorial Indiana Open Regatta on May 1st and 2nd. Twelve boats participated including 5 out of town boats from Chicago and Lake Wawasee, IN. The weather was less than perfect but we were able to get in five races. Craig Cobbum of Wawasee won, with Brad Wagnon, also from Wawasee, second. On June 19th and 20th we hosted the Indiana Districts. Another twelve boats participated, with 7 boats from our fleet. The wind again was less than cooperative, but we did get a total of 6 races in over the two days. This turned out to be Craig Cobbum's year as he again took home the trophy for first place. Debbie Probst, another sailor from Wawasee, was runner up.

With the regattas behind us, we focused on the fleet racing series. We use a high point system that rewards

those who beat more boats in each race. This rewards the truly best skippers. We require participation in 50% of the races of the season, yet the worst finishes beyond this are thrown out. This rewards those who participate the most, since they can throw out more bad finishes. At the same time, those who join the fleet well after the season starts can qualify and be competitive in the season competition.

The competition was extremely tough this year and lead to a new champion for the first time in many years. Pete McGinity, who has been setting his sights on Joe Lassaux, fleet champion since 1990, finally was able to overcome him. Early in the season Pete took a sizable lead of close to 50 points but Joe made a great comeback to only 3 points down for the final weekend of racing our Club Long John regatta.

Joe needed a full series of races but the weather chose not to help him. Saturday was the most beautiful fall day one could imagine with the exception of sustained winds close to 30 mph and gusts nearing 50. No boats went out that day. Sunday proved to be a good sailing day but Club Regatta rules dictate no starts after 12:00 noon for morning racing and we only got two races in. Pete's first and second maintained him over Joe's third and first. Pete finished the season in First, Joe in second and Mike Franceschini, third.

As in years past we had boats traveling to other regattas. Mike Franceschini and Pete McGinity both traveled to Lake Wawasee for the Hoosier Regatta and to Chicago for the Red Flannels. Mike and Pete also represented the Lightning Fleet in the Club Championships, sailed under the Portsmouth Handicap. Mike finished second on a day with winds in the upper 20's, and requiring warm layers and raingear. He and crew Mike Connelly were the only boat not to capsize during the series.



Our fleet participated in Club events, hosting the Independence Day Club regatta and several of our own fleet parties. We celebrated the 50th wedding anniversary of Walt and Jean Tinsley at a fleet cookout following a Sunday afternoon's racing. (Photo enclosed.) Next year we will be celebrating the 50th sailing anniversary of Walt and Co-Boat Owner Paul Vos along with the 50th Anniversary of the Indianapolis Sailing

Club. Mike Franceschini will be presiding over the events as Club Commodore. As usual, our Indiana Open will be the first weekend in May. We invite all Lightning sailors to join us on Geist Lake next year for the Open.

Joan Naffziger  
Fleet Secretary





## Fleet 273 Massabesic Yacht Club Sailing on Massabesic Lake, Auburn, New Hampshire New England District

BOAT#	BOAT NAME	OWNER
9390	MONGOOSE II	GORDON GEICK
11401	SUNDAY PUNCH	MICHAEL ADAMS
11740	RIVER BLUES	WALTER COLANTUONO
11327		WALTER BUCHWALD
11885	ANNIE OAKLEY	MARCEL MERCIER
12455	BANANA SPLIT	JOHN K. WEBB
13798		JOHN MESSLER
13828	QUICK SILVER	MAURICE L'HEUREUX, JR.
14180		TOBY FRANK
14273		NORMAN G. DEYETT
14396		KENNETH DEYETT
14442	AMARCORD	WILLIAM BERRY
14895	BLOODY	JOE RAY

In 2004, Fleet 273 was alive and well, but due to poor weather conditions and damaged boats Sunday racing seldom brought more than 4 or 5 boats to the starting line for what most often would be three hotly contested races. New fleet members Toby Frank and John Messler enjoyed the Sunday competition, very often enlisting some of the old timers as crew.

Joe Ray, after finishing seventh in the NE Districts, returned to Massabesic to win the Fall Regatta beating 13 other boats by a wide margin.

While most of the hot Lightning sailors now race white hull boats, there is still plenty of color on the lake with the aqua Mike Adams boat, the green Norm Deyett and Gordon Geick boats, the silver Mo L'Heureux boat, the yellow Webb and Mercier boats, and Walt Colantuono's blue boat. Ken Deyett with his white boat and two young daughters crewing usually managed to lead the fleet most Sundays. Skip Buchwald almost got lured away to a big ocean vessel, but thankfully will continue to sail his Lightning at the lake with his daughter. We are encouraging participation by young sailors in our families, including our grandchildren.

As we pack up our Lightnings for the winter I envy the folks down south where this competition continues for 12 months rather than only 6. We have to do it the "hard" way in the winter, and the ice boat is ready.

**Fleet 274 Delta Sailing Association**  
Sailing on Beautiful Arkabutla  
Reservoir at Hernando, Mississippi  
(near Memphis, Tennessee)  
Mississippi Valley District



BOAT#	BOAT NAME	OWNER
9791	GARFIELD	KEN DAVIS
9876		JEFF HELM
11386		RALPH L. LEON
11496		TIM RYAN
11999	VOODOO CHILD	WILLIAM N. BAXTER, III
12082	METROGNOME	RICHARD R. RANTA
12397		H.C. DUNATHAN
12715	MOONSHINE	JOHN HOWE
13040		KEN WEILAND
13258	WET PAINT	HERBERT COCHRANE
13258	WET PAINT	POSEY HEDGES
13483		WILLIAM D. THURMOND
13483		JERE FONES
13700	COYOTE	MICHAEL D. PORTER
13966	DUTCH TOUCH	FRANK BERMEL
14000	HOGWARTS	RICHARD POWELL
14047		McNEILL AYERS
14171	JILL E.	JOSEPH A. KELLY
14230		MIKE ARNDT
14270	SHO BOAT	ROY W. ROBBINS
14338	LEAP FROG	LYNN A. JONES
14357		W.N. BAXTER
14375		JAMES E. McDONNELL
14666		CRIT CURRIE, JR.
14913		EUGENE BULLARD
15128		MAX SHELTON
15169	DIRTY BLONDE	CARL "BATTON" KENNON, JR.

Fleet Captain.....Tim Ryan

Our fleet this year has maintained our number of members. Nickels 14230 has a new owner Mike Arndt.

The annual Hernando DeSoto Regatta is held in May. This year participation was less than usual. We only had one out of town guest, John Waskom-14736, from the Jackson Yacht Club. It was a six race series and Bill Baxter took first place honors, Crit Currie Jr. finished second and Batton Kennon placed third. Next year we host the Mississippi Valley Districts which we hope will bring more sailors to the Hernando DeSoto Regatta as a warm up for the districts.

This year the districts were held at Carlyle Sailing Association on the grey waters of Lake Carlyle and despite some thunderstorms four races were run. Special thanks to Marc and Roselyne Schillebeeckx for a great job of running the districts. Congratulations to our district champion Matt Burridge.

As is our practice we get on the road to help other fleet's build participation in the Lightning class. Jackson Yacht Club is a first class facility. The JYC Spring Fling Regatta attracts Memphis sailors for the good competition and fellowship with our friends there. The JYC Hospitality Regatta true to its name makes sure guests are welcome. Batton Kennon and Revonda Ryan joined with me to travel to Pass Christian Yacht Club's 155th Birthday Regatta, second oldest yacht club in the country. Once again it seems like where ever you go to sail with a lightning you are welcome with open arms. PCYC is an outstanding venue for our class and hope the fleet there grows. No season would be complete without the pilgrimage to Harbor Island Yacht Club for the Bluenose Regatta.





Bill Hofmeister did an outstanding job as race committee. The weather was perfect and the wind was good best anybody can remember in years. We will be back. Unfortunately the districts in Dallas at the Corinthian Sailing Club were the same weekend as ours. Hopefully we can get back to big D next year.

In August on the weekend that falls closest to the day Elvis died, 8/17/1977, it is time for the DEAD ELVIS REGATTA. This year was my turn to organize our faux homage to the King. So venturing to Graceland to obtain some memorabilia for trophies during dead Elvis week I arrived and the Elvis impersonator contest was under way. Black hair, sunglasses and snarling lips were every where. Be afraid, very afraid! I managed to escape with out getting the obligatory Elvis tattoo. I ran a three race series and also invited our other two fleets, Hobie Fleet#134 and Thistle Fleet#72. Good fun and the wind cooperated although a 180 degree shift did require a down wind finish for the first race. Bill Baxter Jr. was first, Batton was second and Crit Jr. was third. This race is not a serious class event but the trophies are serious Elvis relics, refrigerator magnets. If ya'll are in the neighborhood next year come join us.

In September the Cotton Pickin' Regatta drew twelve boats with our good friends from Nashville showing up to take home the lion's share of the trophies. We thank them all for coming and making our event a success. Cully Ward was unstoppable with five bullets to sail away with first place. Pat and David Dickson once again graciously opened their home to us for barbeque, beer, basset hounds and humming birds.

Come join our fleet in 2005 for sailing and racing on the windiest lake in North Mississippi, the most beautiful inland sailing venue in the Lightning class.

May the Kudzu be with you.

Tim Ryan  
DSA Sergeant-at-Arms, Fleet Captain & Member of the North Mississippi All Star Sailing Team's White Belly Posse



Two photos of the 2004 Hernando Desoto Regatta

## Fleet 277 Clearwater Bay Sailing on Lake of the Woods, Clearwater Bay, Ontario Central Canada District

BOAT#	BOAT NAME	OWNER
8628	ROOTIN' TOOTIN' U-BET	GARY MacNEIL
10917		BRENT BOTTOMLEY
11711		GUS CAMPBELL
13048		BILL GALLINGER
14451	BLUENOSE IV FLYING TOASTER	MALCOLM CROOKS
14516		STEVE WELLS
14612		CHARLIE BURNS
14878		MIKE COUTURE

## Fleet 279 Temple Reef Sailing Club Sailing on Thunder Bay, Lake Superior, Thunder Bay, Ontario Central Canada District

BOAT#	BOAT NAME	OWNER
6324	DAD'S BOAT	DON ELLARD
7270		JAMES W. COLQUHOUN
9235		WALTER GRISCHUK
9871		JIM MIKULINSKI
10321	SPECULATOR	DON WILLSON
10322		JERRY CARPENTER
11009		CHRIS BAILEY
11387		MARK SANDBERG
11678	OLISH ZAMBOANA TOO	CHARLES SPENCE
12597		VIC MILLER
12755		RICHARD WALSH
12826		RUSSELL GORDON
12863	HONK ON BOBO PUFF DADDY	TIM MAENPAA
13115		BOB MAKI
13180		KURT BROLL
13267		WILLIAM EVANS
13515	BLUE MAX WILD BLUE	W. PORTERBAILEY
13585		W. PORTERBAILEY
13587		W. PORTERBAILEY
13590		W. PORTERBAILEY
13591	MOULIN ROUGE THE BONBO	W. PORTERBAILEY
14013		W. PORTERBAILEY
14013		W. PORTERBAILEY
14612		W. PORTERBAILEY
14612	TBA PLAY PEN	W. PORTERBAILEY
14612		W. PORTERBAILEY
14612		W. PORTERBAILEY
14612		W. PORTERBAILEY

Fleet Captain.....Ross Bailey  
Fleet Secretary.....Brian Cox  
Fleet Treasurer.....Chris Bailey  
Fleet Champion.....Richard Walsh





The icebreaker arrived in Thunder Bay during the latter part of March cutting zigzagging lines in the Bay. More definite corridors letting early freighters in to shipping docks and grain elevators started the ice moving, until a solid west wind helped large flows of ice out to the lake proper and stretches of open water began to appear. By mid-April most of the ice was out of the harbour itself and the lake was clear except for stretches of shore and protected bays. At that point Lightnings began to spring up on the Temple Reef pier, a few more days had melted the ice at the hoist and we could go sailing. One had to keep an eye open for lagging chunks of ice, but it was good to be on the water once more.

The first Thursday of May started our summer long Evening Series and this year we went immediately to our "Forked Lightning" race format. This is a great method to mix up the fleet, add exciting boat for boat encounters, and in general, help the learners get close enough to the experts to see how they go so fast, so mysteriously.

The first weekend event was the Kam River Slush Cup, named after the Kaministiquia River, which flows into Thunder Bay harbour. The last few years we have been refining a poker derby for the Slush Cup and this year placed the cards on inflatable bouys instead of docks or other hard objects. It was a good thing, as the wind absolutely howled. The junior crew of Alex Cox, Stephanie Broll and Julia Bailey, out for the first time of the year and maybe the third time ever, broke their vang and had no downwind control. Anxious parents looked on from other boats, and Ross Bailey, now with jib down, escorted them back to shore. The kids made it fine and thought it was great fun. Bob Maki with Glen Strey and Bob Walsh was the only boat to collect all of their cards and were pretty darned excited too! They had never ever gone so fast in any boat as on the run back from the Kam River, and that was only with the jib! Every one else including a few keelboats had called it quits because of the wind. Congratulations Bob.

Loon Lake is about 3 miles long and 1-1/2 miles wide with cottages dotting the shoreline and large forested hills surrounding the lake. It is about 10 miles inland from the bottom of Thunder Bay of Lake Superior, so on warm days, a great thermal flows in during the afternoon. Mix this up with whatever the wind is doing that day and you can go from first to last in a tack, especially considering how well everyone in the fleet is now sailing. Brian Cox in his nice new boat looked very fast throughout the regatta, but Steve Wells from Dryden had an ace in the hole with his excellent crew and won the regatta. Steve has been nibbling at first for a few years and was very pleased to finally win at Loon where the sailing is wonderful, the party at the Walsh's fabulous cottage is great, and the Maki's deck feels just like home.

The 20 mile race from the city of Thunder Bay to Amethyst Harbour along the shores of Thunder Bay itself, has been as short as a 2 hour sleigh ride and as long as, well, as long as this year. The course weaves inside several islands so the crews can enjoy the passing scenery, but it would have been nice to put it in fast forward at least once or twice this year. The start was at 11 am and Richard Walsh caught a heaven-sent, freshening wind to

finish at 6:23 pm winning the Temple Reef Trophy. Everyone else rode in on the same wind or else we'd still be out there. Ross and Nancy Bailey hosted a much needed bar-b-que to fuel everyone up, then Sunday at noon, we started in South Bay, Amethyst Harbour for the 13 mile race around Caribou Island and the Crystal Trophy. Ross Bailey with crew Nancy and Peter Ayer held Richard and his team of experts off until the finish line was in sight. Then Richard stood on the gas, road over Ross and took the hardware, including the Van Bailey Memorial Trophy for the weekend.

The whole fleet traveled to Dryden for the 2nd half of the Districts and we sure enjoyed ourselves. Steve and Tracy Wells with all of their helpers know how to put on a great event and it was fun. Richard Walsh pulled out all the stops to win 6 of the 7 races, the regatta and the Districts. Richard is real incentive for the rest of us to sail a little smarter and a little faster. Maybe next year, but in the meantime it's great to have such a fast boat to sail against.

We are all quite sad that Lou Walsh passed away this year. Lou with his wife Audrey have been a strength in the



*The Bailey regatta caravan all set to go: Lightning, Byte and Optimist.*

area Lightning fleet since the early '50's and we will all miss Lou's keen wit, great good humour, and huge sailing ability. Lou always seemed to have the most relaxed Lightning on the lake, but usually it was also the fastest. It must have been that wonderful pipe smoke telling them which puffs to take and which to leave for those behind. Our heartfelt condolences go out to Audrey.

We are glad to announce some new Lightnings in the fleet this year. Jerry Carpenter has brought a boat in from Lake-of-the-Woods and is now fixing it up. Marcus Walser a new Lightning sailor has bought Brian Cox's boat and is quite happy with Lightning sailing. Brian has bought Richard Walsh's Lightning, and Richard has bought Larry McDonald's latest boat. Lots of activity and great expectations are in hand for 2005.