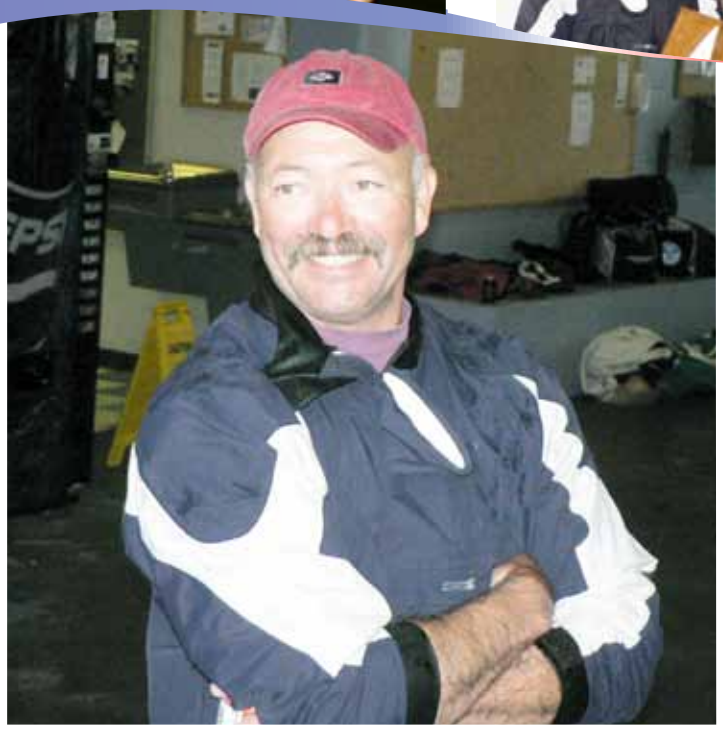
President's Message









I am not someone who can recall every click of the mainsheet in every race I've ever sailed. I admire those folks, but gosh, I can barely remember what I had for breakfast this morning. Oh, wait, that's right, I don't eat breakfast. But I digress…

Looking back through yearbooks from previous years in order to conjure up the appropriate muse for this message, I became completely immersed in years gone by. The Yearbook is so much more than a resource tool; it is a treasure trove of valuable memories. While its focus in any given year is that specific year, one picture can generate a myriad of memories. Several can eat up an entire day!

I participated in a panel discussion at the US Sailing, One-Design Sailing Symposium not long ago regarding what makes a class strong. This can be answered any number of ways: the people, timelessness of our design, dedication of our volunteers, ongoing excellence in administration by what, for our history, is a relatively short list of Executive Secretaries, our emphasis on Junior sailing, as well as our Women's and Masters' championships, and our innovative programs, such as the Boat Grant, and assistance with getting new boats shipped overseas. This last example has been helping fuel explosive growth in Chile to this point but may soon be expanded to Australia and Argentina.

What became clear to me while ignoring real world demands in favor of reliving days gone by and reflecting on just how lucky I am to have been able to spend literally my entire life with friends and family in this wonderful class is that our biggest strength as a class may just be our diversity. The Lightning Class literally offers something for everyone at virtually every age, from casual day sailor to world class racer. It is this diversity that allows us to compete through the years, sailing and / or competing both with and against family members as well as friends. That there is really no way to "age out" allows for a lifetime of generating, renewing and sharing great relationships. Welcome to the 2010 chapter in our fabulous, ongoing story.

In spite of my lifetime involvement in the ILCA, while I had an appreciation for the amount of work involved in our success, let's just say I have a much fuller appreciation of what it takes, having had the honor to serve as Class President. My thanks to Laura Jeffers for the enthusiasm and dedication she brings to her role as Executive Secretary, as well as to the Executive Committee, Governing Board, area representatives and countless volunteers around the world. It's a lot of work, but it's also a great deal of fun being a steward of this great Class. I encourage anyone with even a passing interest in becoming more involved to do so!

I love this Class!



Executive Committee









Rob was literally born into the Lightning Class as well as Fleet 36 at Pymatuning Yacht Club. Rob's dad, Jon Ruhlman, was already a member of both organizations and later went on to be ILCA Chief Measurer and President.

As a result of this fortuitous timing, Rob is a walking compendium of trivia useless to virtually everyone on the planet outside the Lightning Class and Pymatuning Yacht Club.

Having grown up in the class as well as the Ohio District, Rob has had the pleasure of sailing with and against a veritable "Who's Who" of the Class. He participated in the inaugural Lightning Junior North Americans; built Lightnings with the Mueller family; has refurbished two pre-flotation Lippincotts; participated in numerous World Championships—the first in 1975; competed in countless North Americans and has a rather large collection of antiquated Lightning fittings and hardware.

As you might imagine, Rob's family is heavily involved in the Class. Abby has been sailing with Rob for over thirty years and their children, Ryan and Maegan, have seen great success in local, national and world Lightning events. Periodically, Rob takes time away from racing Lightnings to be CEO of Preformed Line Products Company, a worldwide manufacturer of hardware for the communication and energy industry. Rob and Abby also own Sailing, Inc., a full service boat yard in their hometown of Cleveland, Ohio.

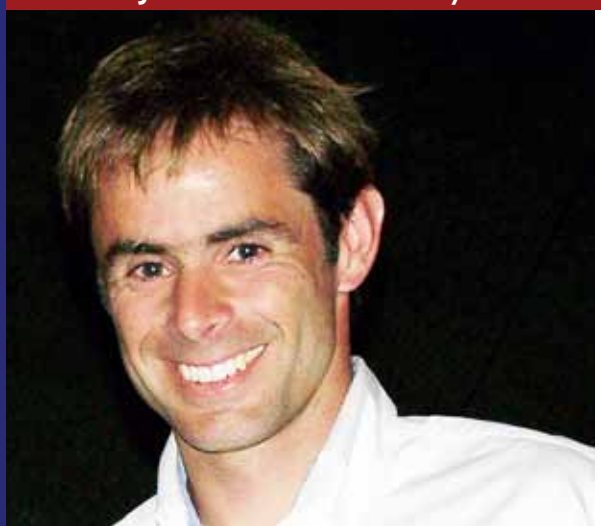
Rob Ruhlman – President



John started sailing Lightnings at age seven on his father's 10823 Helms. Growing up in the Barnegat Light Yacht Club's youth program, he later started racing Lightnings at age thirteen. His mentors, outside of his dad, have included Bill Clarke, Jack Elfman, Greg Fisher and Jim Carson. "As a junior sailor, I had no idea the gift that I was being given with learning how to sail." Unlike many other sports, sailing is a life-long sport where you can always continue to learn new things and improve.

While Lightning racing is a big part of being a member of the ILCA, meeting new people, enjoying various social events, and spending time with lifelong friends and family is equally important. Growth of the Lightning Class is important to John. Fleet Development, the Boat Grant Program, and just getting people to race or cruise is challenging, yet very rewarding. John is heavily active in recruiting and developing youth sailors and showing them how much fun sailing these boats can be. When not sailing, John likes to occasionally go fishing, work on his house and cheer for the New York Yankees and Washington Redskins. John resides in Rocky Hill, New Jersey, and spends extended summers in Harvey Cedars on Long Beach Island, New Jersey. He has worked in the sporting goods apparel business since graduating from Kenyon College. Although his yacht club is only 100 members strong, John is proud when his club is called upon to host a regatta because the membership comes together to throw a first-class regatta as well as a 'not to miss' regatta party.

John Faus – Secretary



Although Victor was born in Chile, his first encounter with Lightnings was at the age of fourteen in Arcabutla Lake in Mississippi, where he met an excellent group of people who showed him how much fun the Class is. Back in Chile there were no Lightnings in his hometown of Concepción so he continued racing on Snipes and IMS boats.

After being away from the Class for ten years, he was invited to go to the Southern Circuit with the Longarela brothers from Argentina, where he not only learned a lot about sailing but was captured by the spirit of the Class. It is this spirit that has provided him with the enthusiasm to get more people involved with Lightnings and to make the Class stronger in Chile and South America.

Even though his work as an architect keeps him quite busy, Victor is always imagining ways to escape and go sailing at a Lightning event, be it in Chile or anywhere in the world.

Victor Lobos – Treasurer

Executive Committee







Bill started racing Lightnings in 1947 on boat #134. He's owned #1495, #7195, #10895 and still has #14495.

He grew up racing in Ocean City on the New Jersey shore. Bill crewed and worked for some of the greats of the Lightning Class: Bob Seidelman, Marcy Lippincott, John Tiegland and Jim Carson. He learned a lot about Lightnings from them and continues to enjoy being involved in measurement and photographing at major events.

His son David sailed in four Junior NAs and crewed with Bill in the last Worlds Masters at Miami.

Bill has enjoyed being a part of the Executive Committee this year and hopes to continue to serve the Class as photographer and Chief Measurer in the years ahead.



Bill Clausen – Chief Measurer

Sailing for me started very young, on our family Highlander and progressing through Optis, Sunfish and Lasers at Cowan Lake in Southwestern Ohio. The fierce competition and camaraderie amongst the juniors on Sunday afternoons was always the highlight of my week. My love for this sport and the people it attracts is deeply rooted in Cowan Lake Sailing Association and the incredible volunteers there.

Junior Sailing led to four years on the University of Michigan Sailing Team and meeting fellow Wolverine Jody Swanson. What followed has been twenty-five years (and counting!) of sitting next to Jody on J-24s, J-22s, and 470s. As teammates we can list quite a few Rolex Women's Keelboat Championships, an Olympic Campaign, multiple North American and World Championships, to say nothing of thousands and thousands of miles on the highway (yet somehow, never running out of dialogue!).

In 2000 my husband gave me Lightning #14678 for my birthday to sail with our young family on nearby Lake Wawasee. Considering we had a three-year-old, a two-year-old and a nine-month-old, the number of races we participated in was limited, and yet we were able to forge strong friendships with some great Hoosier sailors—Bill Allen, Jeff Schmahl, Brad Wagnon. etc. The majority of my Lightning sailing in those years came from regattas, where I learned to truly embrace this Class. Bill Faude, Larry MacDonald, Brian Hayes, Colin Park—these people encouraged me, answered my many questions, and most importantly made me feel part of the Lightning Family.

Our family has now spent nine summers at the Buffalo Canoe Club, and we just recently moved to Buffalo year-round. I have been a part of the Lightning Boat Grant Committee for five years, a program that I feel is a reflection of the Lighting Class' dedication to our sport, youth sailing and our Class itself. As an Executive Committee Member this past year I have greatly enjoyed the shared responsibility of keeping our Class strong.



Debbie Probst – Executive Committee Member

I am from the beautiful state of New Hampshire. I was introduced to the Lightning in the fall of 1987. I had just returned from my first sail ever on a Cal 21 and thought that was the coolest thing ever—until I walked up the dock. There were four or five Lightnings that were just getting in from an evening sail. My friend Amanda and I stopped to look, and we were "invited" to join them the next Sunday to race. I remember hearing, "Come on down, someone always needs crew!" Every Sunday that fall we sailed Lightnings on Lake Massabesic with Fleet 273—we were hooked. The Deyett Family took us under their wings. The following summer we sailed every afternoon during the week, training for the Junior Districts and then the Women's Districts. On most weekends I traveled all over New England sailing in various regattas. I have so many wonderful memories from sailing Lightnings. I remember how excited I was to go to my first North Americans and first Southern Circuit. My "Lightning Story" illustrates the fleet development that our Class continues to be built upon. My sailing mentors include Ken Deyett, Brian Hughes, Jack Elfman, George Fisher and Brian Hayes.

My husband Will is life-long Lightning sailor from New Jersey and, like many other Lightning couples, we first met at a regatta—the Winter Championships at the St. Petersburg Yacht Club during a Southern Circuit. We have a Labrador Retriever named Salty who loves the water.

Our beloved square bottomed boat unites us all and keeps us coming back for more. I am very excited to be in a position to give back to an organization that has provided me with so many wonderful friends, memories and opportunities.



Laura Jeffers – Executive Secretary

Former Officers







YEAR	PRESIDENT	CHIEF MEASURER	SECRETARY	TREASURER	ASSISTANT MEASURERS
2010	Brian Hayes, Sr	Bill Clausen	Rob Ruhlman	John Faus	Buczkowski, Carson, Hayes, Ruhlman
2009	Brian Hayes, Sr	Bill Clausen	Rob Ruhlman	John Faus	Buczkowski, Carson, Hayes, Ruhlman
2008	Steven Davis	Bill Clausen	Brian Hayes	Robert Ruhlman	Buczkowski, Calderon, Carson, Ruhlman
2007	Steven Davis	Bill Clausen	Brian Hayes	Robert Ruhlman	Buczkowski, Calderon, Carson, Ruhlman
2006	Carter Utzig	Bill Clausen	Brian Hayes	Steve Davis	Buczkowski, Calderon, Carson, Terhune
2005	Carter Utzig	Bill Clausen	Brian Hayes	Steve Davis	Buczkowski, Calderon, Carson, Terhune
2004	Francisco Solá Tanca	Carter Utzig	Jim Carson	Steve Davis	Buczkowski, Burke, Calderon, Clausen, Huntsman
2003	Francisco Solá Tanca	Carter Utzig	Jim Carson	Steve Davis	Buczkowski, Burke, Calderon, Clausen, Huntsman
2002	Colin Park	Carter Utzig	Francisco Solá Tanca	Bob Harkrider	Buczkowski, Burke, Clausen, Hayden, Schmitt
2001	Mary Huntsman	Colin Park	Francisco Solá Tanca	Bill Fastiggi	Alman, Burke, Hayden, Schmitt, Utzig
2000	Mary Huntsman	Colin Park	Francisco Solá Tanca	Bill Fastiggi	Alman, Burke, Hayden, Schmitt, Utzig
1999	Calvin H Schmiege	Colin Park	Francisco Solá Tanca	Mary Huntsman	Alman, Burke, Schmitt, Utzig
1998	William Faude	Calvin H Schmiege	Matt Burridge	Frank Mergenthaler	Alman, Burke, Schmitt, Utzig
1997	William Faude	Calvin H Schmiege	Matt Burridge	Frank Mergenthaler	Atkinson, Ruhlman & Schmitt
1996	Paul Gelenitis	Calvin H Schmiege	William Faude	Frank Mergenthaler	Atkinson, Ruhlman & Schmitt
1995	Robert Harkrider, Jr	Paul Gelenitis	William Faude	Frank Mergenthaler	Atkinson, Ruhlman & Schmitt
1994	R A "Tony" McBride	Paul Gelenitis	Robert G Ruhlman	Robert Harkrider, Jr	Atkinson, Schmiege & Schmitt
1993	Michael Huffman	Christopher "Kip" Hamblet	R A "Tony" McBride	Robert Harkrider, Jr	Gelenitis & Schmiege
1992	Michael Huffman	Christopher "Kip" Hamblet	R A "Tony" McBride	Robert Harkrider, Jr	Gelenitis & Schmiege
1991	Fisk Hayden	Christopher "Kip" Hamblet	Michael Huffman	Robert Harkrider, Jr	Schmiege & McBride
1990	Jack Tibbs	Carl Clipp	Michael Huffman	Fisk Hayden	Clausen & Hamblet
1989	Robert Wardwell	Carl Clipp	Jack Tibbs	Fisk Hayden	Clausen & Huffman
1988	Anne Allen	Robert Wardwell	Fisk Hayden	Jack Tibbs, Jr	Clipp, Clausen & Huffman
1987	David Sprague	Robert Wardwell	Anne Allen	Jack Tibbs, Jr	Clipp & Clausen
1986	Richard Guinan, Jr	David Sprague	Anne Allen	Jack Tibbs, Jr	Clipp & Wardell
1985	George R Hatfield	David Sprague	Anne Allen	Richard C Guinan, Jr	Clipp & Wardell
1984	Djoerd Hoekstra	George R Hatfield	Anne Allen	Richard C Guinan, Jr	Sprague & Wardell
1983	Paul A Huntsman	George R Hatfield	Richard C Guinan, Jr	Djoerd Hoekstra	Sprague & Wardell
1982	George V Fisher	Paul A Huntsman	Richard C Guinan, Jr	Thomas R Bierman	Hatfield, Hoekstra & Norstrom
1981	Geroge V Fisher	Paul A Huntsman	Djoerd Hoekstra	David W White	Gotschalk, Hatfield & Norstrom
1980	Donald P Delorme, MD	George V Fisher	Djoerd Hoekstra	David W White	Brush, Huntsman & Schniege
1979	David O Peters	George V Fisher	Donald P Delome, MD	David W White	Buckley, Huntsman & Schmiege
1978	John S Schneider	David O Peters	Donald P Delome, MD	John R Nixon	Fisher & Schmiege
1977	Robert R Adams	David O Peters	John S Schneider	Donald P Delome, MD	Fisher & Schmiege
1976	Robert K Smither	Robert R Adams	F C Jacobson	John S Schneider	MacDonald & Peters
1975	Gary A Cameron	Robert K Smither	F C Jacobson	John S Schneider	Adams & Hamblet
1974	Charles N Howe	Robert K Smither	Gary Cameron	Robert R Adams	Hamblet & Buckley
1973	C O Jones, Jr	Robert K Smither	Charles N Howe	Charles N Howe	Hamblet & Buckley
1972	Arnold Schwartz	C O Jones, Jr	Charles N Howe	Walter B Jacobs, Jr	Smither & Hamblet
1971	James G Carson	C O Jones, Jr	Arnold Schwartz	Walter B Jacobs, Jr	Spitz & Maltbie
1970	Charles H Schreck	James G Carson	Arnold Schwartz	Walter B Jacobs, Jr	Jones & Scrim
1969	Stuart Anderson	Charles Schreck	E C Roseberry, Jr	Walter B Jacobs, Jr	Grinnell & Carson
1968	Jon Ruhlman	Stuart Anderson	Charles Schreck	David M Peterson	Llovet & Grinnell

Former Officers







YEAR	PRESIDENT	CHIEF MEASURER	SECRETARY	TREASURER	ASSISTANT MEASURERS
1967	Wilson R Scott, MD	Jon Ruhlman	Stanley Brander, Jr	David M Peterson	Anderson & Llovet
1966	John Swanson	Wilson R Scott, MD	G J Blake	Alan S Raffee	Walton & Ruhlman
1965	Hamilton G Ford	John Swanson	Alfred Coha	Floyd R Arnold, DDS	Scott & Walton
1964	Jay Limbaugh	Mulin & Swanson	Hamilton G Ford	Floyd R Arnold, DDS	Swanson & Fisher
1963	Martin O'Meara	Herman Henschen	J R G Bleasby	Hamilton G Ford	Mulin & Powless
1962	John M McIntosh	Herman Henschen	Martin O'Meara, Jr	Hamilton G Ford	Bernel & Olsen
1961	Thomas D Fallon	James G Carson	Martin O'Meara, Jr	Hamilton G Ford	Herman Henschen
1960	Burrows Marley	James G Carson	John M McIntosh	Martin O"Meara, Jr	Herman Henschen
1959	H J Cawthra	Burrows Morley	Thomas D Fallon	John M McIntosh	James G Carson
1958	Carleton J Alan	H J Cawthra	Samuel D Knox	Thomas D Fallon	Burrows Morley
1957	Robert C Mann	Carleton J Allan	T J Ross, Jr	Allen R Oberson	H J Cawthra
1956	Ross G Allen	Robert C Mann	Burrows Morley	Allen R Oberson	Carlton J Allan
1955	Clifford J Prados	Ross G Allen	Jay Donnovan	Burrows Morley	Robert Mann
1954	C B Crittenden	Clifford J Prados	Jay Donnovan	Len Ladenburger	Ross G Allen
1953	H Richard Krauss	C B Crittenden	Len Ladenburger	Charles H Dore, III	Clifford Prados
1952	Wayne L Brockett	H Richard Krauss	C B Crittenden	Charles H Dore, III	Clifford O'Kane
1951	Walter E Swindeman, Jr	H Richard Krauss	Wayne L Brockett	Ed B Overton	
1950	LeRoy Amy	Walter E Swindeman, Jr	Wayne L Brockett	Alfred V Amy	
1949	Karl Smither	Walter E Swindeman, Jr	Wayne L Brockett	W A Grimm	
1948	Edward McCain	Arthur Burtscher	LeRoy Amy	Henry Williams	
1947	John W Orelup	Arthur Burtscher	Edward McCain	Karl Smither	
1946	Len Ladenburger	John W Orellup	Edward McCain	Edward McCain	
1945	James Trenary	John W Orelup	Len Ladenburger	Len Ladenburger	
1944	Ted Siferd	A J Webb	James Trenary	James Tranary	
1943	Hon L Stauffer Oliver	A J Webb	Henry L Schimpf	Henry L Schimpf	
1942	Hon L Stauffer Oliver	E Graham	Henry L Schimpf	Henry L Schimpf	
1941	C L Nicholson	Hon L Stauffer Oliver	E Gordon Conk	E Gordon Cronk	
1940	C L Nicholson	Hon L Stauffer Oliver	E Gordon Conk	E Gordon Cronk	



Brian Hayes, Sr



Steve Davis

Bill Clausen

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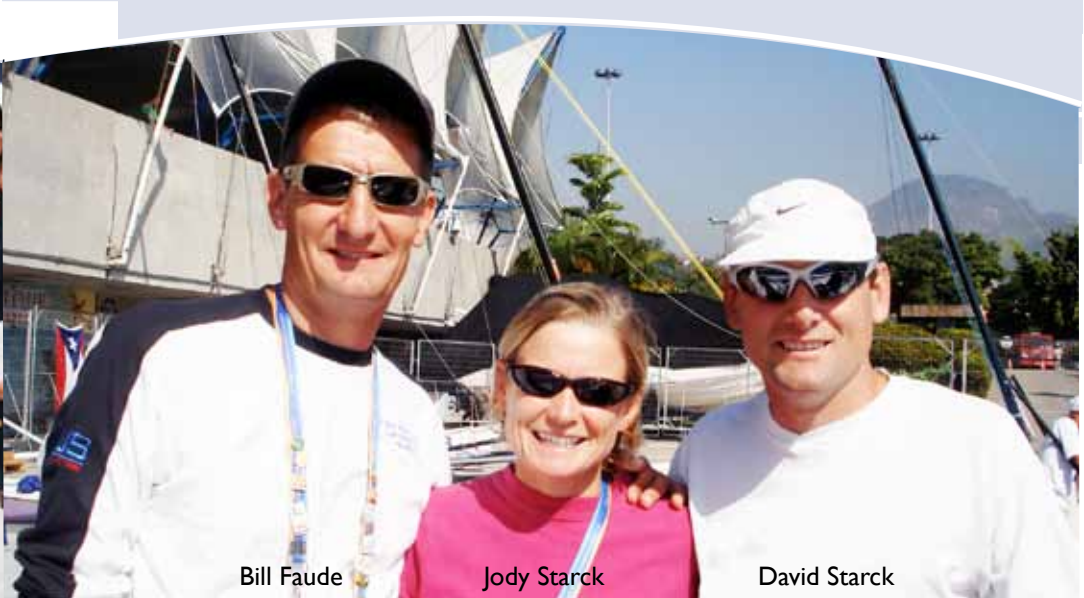
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You Can Make a Difference

How Can You Support the ILCA?

The ILCA has established many alternatives to enable members and friends to make special gifts and bequests of lasting significance—to help ensure the long-term viability, vitality and mission of the Class:

- The ILCA Fund
- The Boat Grant Program
- The Limbaugh Fund
- The Mary Huntsman History Fund

The ILCA Fund

Charter of the Fund

The ILCA Fund was established in 1981 as a way to guarantee the long-range operations of our Class. Contributions to the Fund may be used to pay for the ordinary operating expenses of the ILCA, to advertise and promote the sport of Lightning Class sailing or for any other purpose approved by its Board of Directors.

The ILCA Fund supports the US Sailing award winning Lightning Boat Grant Program and the International Fleet Development Initiative.

Fund Directors: Bill Fastiggi, Todd Wake, John Faus, John Bennett, David Starck

The Boat Grant Program

You can donate cash, boats, covers, sails, trailers, etc. to support this innovative program to attract young racers to the Lightning. Designed to help young sailors experience the high level of competition offered by the class, this revolutionary program offers a unique opportunity among one-design classes. While many one-design classes struggle to attract and retain young sailors, the Lightning Class is taking active steps to give young adults a leg up. Since its inception in 2007, the Class has provided fully rigged, insured and competitive boats for worthy teams for the sailing season. The recipients participated in Fleet, District and National regattas.

The Limbaugh Fund

Charter of the Fund

The Limbaugh Fund was established in honor of two of our most avid supporters. Helen was our Executive Director from 1965 to 1982. Jay was our Class President in 1964. Both remained strong supporters of the Class long after their tenures were completed. Because of Helen and Jay's strong interest in Junior sailing, and their belief that our Juniors are the future members and officers of our Class, the organizers of the fund have dedicated these funds toward Junior activities.

Use of the Fund

The available monies in the Limbaugh Fund are restricted to the support of education, training, and the promotion of Junior sailing. Only income generated from Limbaugh Fund investments may be used. The principal may not be spent. Uses of these funds have included support for the Youth World Championships, the Sears Cup, funding Junior racing clinics, trophies, promotion of youth regattas, etc.

Fund Directors: Michael Huffman, Kip Hamblet, Matt Fisher, Victor Lobos





Donations







The Mary Huntsman History Fund

Charter of the Fund

The Mary Huntsman History Fund's primary objective is to help recover and properly preserve the Lightning Class heritage. The Fund is named after Mrs. Mary Huntsman, Past President and Officer of the Class, and who was the first to hold the Historian VP position when it was established. Under her Presidency, Mary secured the purchase of Lightning number one and subsequently coordinated its donation to the Mystic Seaport Museum, where the boat has been restored and is displayed.

Use of the Fund

The Mary Huntsman Lightning History Fund was formed in 2004. Its primary objective is to help recover Lightning memorabilia and properly preserve Class heritage.

Fund Directors: Clayton Gray, Brian Hayes, Steve Davis

The laws of the U.S. permit its citizens to choose how to dispose of possessions at death. The ILCA has been granted status as a 501C3 charitable organization by the Internal Revenue Service. As such, your gifts to the Class can be deducted from U.S. income and estate taxes. These tax laws make giving to the Class both economical and philanthropic.

Your donation will be recognized in the ILCA Yearbook as follows:

Benefactor	$500	or more
Donor	$100	or more
Supporting	$50	or more
Contributing	$20	or more



How may Gifts be Made During Your Lifetime?

Gifts of Cash: A gift of cash during a person's lifetime is the simplest type of gift. These can be made in person or anonymously, directly or on behalf of another person. Gifts within a year are deductible from that year's income taxes. You may send a check to the ILCA at any time or include an extra amount of money in the renewal form when you pay your membership every year.

Gifts of Marketable Securities and Investment Real Estate: Gifts of appreciated securities and real estate held for investment purposes are often more beneficial to the donor than gifts of cash. When such items are donated, the donor receives a contribution deduction equal to the current market value of the security and generally, the excess of the market value over the donor's cost basis is not taxed. Often it can be advantageous to donate substantially appreciated items than to sell them and pay the capital gains tax.

Gifts through Wills: Remembering The ILCA in your will is another method of giving. Such a gift is deductible in calculating estate taxes. Provisions for the gift may be included in the body of the will or by adding a simple codicil. If you desire to establish a separate memorial gift within either the ILCA Fund or the Limbaugh Fund, or to specify the purpose of the gift, this may be done by so stating in the provisions of the will.

Gifts of Boats and Equipment: You may consider donating your boat and equipment to the ILCA, thereby helping make them available to newcomers. You can deduct the fair market value of your donation from your income or estate taxes. It may be more advantageous for you to give the boat to the Class than to sell it. The Class has the procedures in place to facilitate making this important gift.

There is no time better than the present to make gifts to our Class. Your contribution will assure that the next generation of sailors will have the same support that we all now enjoy. We hope you will consider planning an ILCA donation, always informed, by appropriate legal and financial counsel.

Donations







ILCA Fund

Donor Level

Nabeel Alsalam
Landy Atkinson
Bob Bush
Michael Carney
Bob Cotton
Aroldo de Rienzo
Ian Edwards
Bill Faude
Dwight Gertz
Dick Hallagan
Mitch Hnatt
Bill Killebrew
Rick Larson
Thomas Schuyler
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John Parker
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M. Andrew Sees
Christopher Shipman
Ryan Sprole
David Starck
Jody Starck
Dave Stix
Keith Taboada
Joseph Warren
Paul Wood
William Ziegler

Boat Grant Mentors:

David Stix, George Sipel, Steve Constants

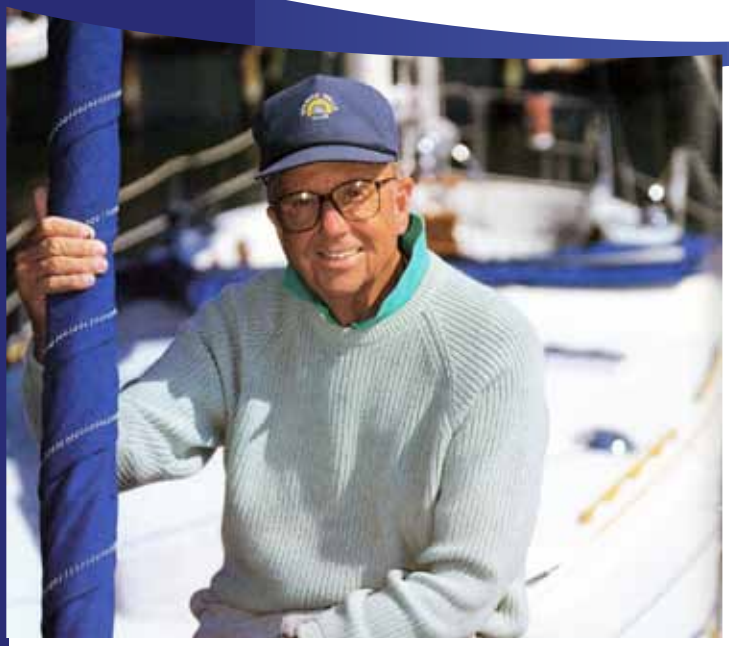
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Duane Cramer
Andres Daroch
Aroldo de Rienzo
Edward Diakow
Rob Donle
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Herb Jestel
Robert O'Brien
Michael Reed
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Ellen Starck
Keith Taboada

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Brian Blackman
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Brad Currie
Andres Daroch
Aroldo de Rienzo
Rob Donle
Richard Graham
Elissa Hall
Charles Howe
Herb Jestel
Kenneth Jones
Bruce Richards
Kevin Robinson
Ryan Ruhlman
Robert Savarese
Kevin Smith
Keith Taboada
Paul Wood

John McIntosh, Sr



In Memory

On March 23, 2010, only a few short days after another hugely successful Deep South Regatta had finished up, the Lightning Class heard the news that we had lost a legend. John McIntosh, known to all as "Johnnie Mac," had passed away.

Johnnie Mac founded the Lightning Class Southern Circuit fifty years ago and was a fixture in Savannah as long as most Lightning sailors can remember. He won two of the first three Deep South regattas and never lost his appreciation for the toughness of the competition. He was a past Class President, a charming and handsome man whose passion for the ILCA, the Southern Circuit, and youth sailing brought him so much respect and adulation amongst all sailors.

His successes were not limited to Lightning sailing. He served in the Army during World War II, making him Captain Johnnie Mac. He ran a successful business and proudly raised a family, many of whom still enjoy boating like their dad. He mentored many young sailors, was involved in the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games and assisted in the preparation of the yachting bid that brought those events to Savannah.

Over the past few years, the Deep South Regatta was defined by Johnnie Mac's presence. Whether as host to an impromptu campground in his home or as a competitor, he began staying on shore only a few years ago. While holding court from one of the cozy leather chairs in the Savannah Yacht Club bar, Johnnie Mac distilled the essence of charm, welcome and wisdom. The event wasn't a "happening" until he arrived. The Southern Circuit and the Deep South Regatta won't be the same without John. He touched a lot of us in the Lightning Class, and his contributions will not be forgotten.

Thank you, Johnnie, for the wonderful memories.

Brian Hayes, Sr, Past ILCA President

Johnnie Mac was a special man to Jan and me. Our mutual interest in the International Lightning Class Association, the Southern Circuit, all things sailboat racing and youth participation made for an immediate friendship. It was his integrity and intelligence that made the friendship important to us. I suspect that he enjoyed the company of Jan the most, though we all had some good times together.

I first met John in Miami at the Masters' World Championship in Miami when I provided him a Lightning boat and my wife. No wonder John liked me! Thankfully, Eric Oetgen sailed as well so that everyone and everything could get back to the dock safely.

To watch John get on the boat in the morning when it was howling and to see him on the race course was an inspiration for me. Here was a guy that was enjoying life and sailboat racing, even after several joint replacements and in incredibly difficult conditions. It was amazing. I don't think we were able to get him on a Lightning boat after that event, but it didn't matter. I didn't know John in his prime racing years, but I could see from that experience what a formidable competitor and sportsman he was.

Truly, the highlight of our trips to the Southern Circuit was to stay with John in Savannah and talk about the Lightning Class and what he was doing with his young sailors. His house was an incredible museum of trophies and pictures, along with youth sailors running around.

Of course, in the evenings a few rounds of backgammon and whiskey were enjoyed as well. In the mornings, there were a few times when we were all up and ready to get to the Club and were wondering if John was OK, as he wasn't moving. We would send Jan in to his bedroom to find out what was going on, and John would start yelling, "I'm still alive!"

When Jan and I visited John at the care facility last year, it was difficult to see a man whose mind was keen but whose body was failing. He was certain that he would be back in his motor boat for the next Deep South Regatta.

I know that John had many interests in his life. I am privileged to have known him through his sailboat racing interest. He was intelligent and passionate and a gentleman—not traits that many sailors have. His lifelong work for the Lightning Class is appreciated by many. I will always recall his voice in my ear, "You have to feel the boat and make it slide through the water."

Fair winds, my friend. We will miss you.

Steven Davis, Past ILCA President
Jan Davis, Past ILCA Executive Secretary