

Connecticut Rhode Island

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District Commodore: R Neil Hayes

6 Housatonic Boat Club

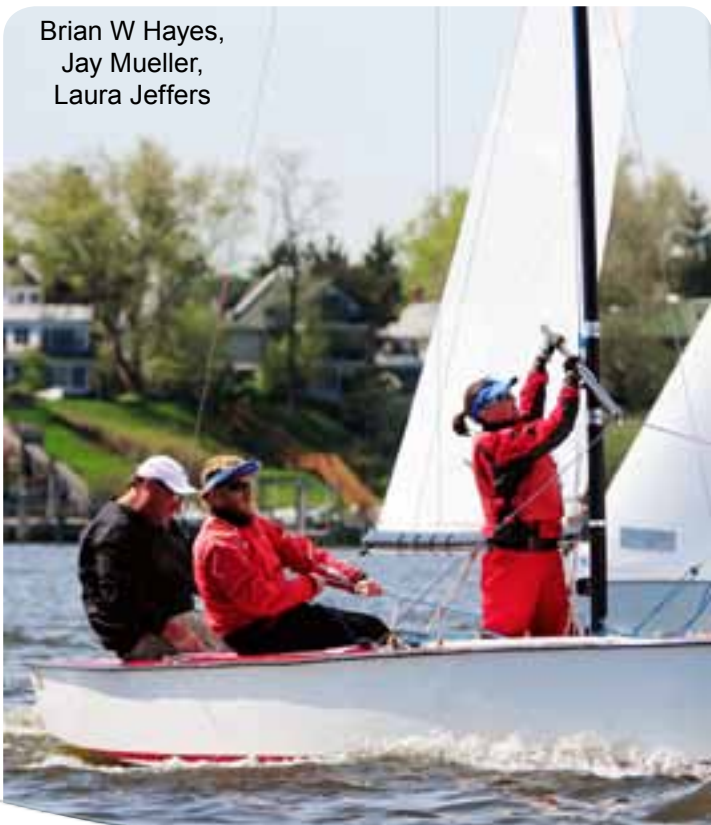
Sailing on Long Island Sound
Stratford, Connecticut

Fleet Officers:

Fleet Captain: Brian W Hayes

Boat#	Boat Name	Skipper
10801	Woody	R Neil Hayes
11381	Oblío	Brian W Hayes
11752		David W Schrader
14688	Mouette	Brian W Hayes
14688	Mouette	Brian W Hayes
15385	Ultimate Pressure IV	Peter R Denton

Brian W Hayes,
Jay Mueller,
Laura Jeffers



85 Niantic Bay Yacht Club

Sailing on Niantic Bay and Long Island Sound
Niantic, Connecticut

Fleet Officers:

Fleet Captain: David Peck

Boat#	Boat Name	Skipper
6315	Au Gust	Melanie A Ginter
7170	Baby Makes III	David G Dickerson
10801	Woody	David M Peterson
11912	Crazy Train	William J Healy
12069		William A Sebestyen
14289	Ciao	Thomas W Emch
14417		Donald R Barrett
14619	Hillaryus	Theresa Colantuono
14848		Daniel R Hertzner
15130	Vann Bros	Christopher J Vann
15215		David Peck

Having just attended a memorial service for Mary Vann, wife of veteran Lightning sailor John Vann, and matriarch to the Vann Brothers, Lightning dynasty, we are reminded of the long reach of the arms of the Lightning family. To those of us who have sailed this hard chine boat for generations, it is no wonder why we love this Fleet. It is a Fleet that knows no age limits and accepts all sailors—from age three to eighty-three. All of us in Niantic Bay have stories to tell of ages past and hope to hear many more stories from our upcoming youth. But at present, we can say that our family of Lightning sailors is alive and well in Niantic!

At home in our Fleet racing, The Vann brothers, Chris and Lenny, continue to structure the backbone of our



Fleet, along with the husband/wife teams of Don and Donna Barrett, our season winners, David and Nina Peck, Larry and Theresa Colantuono, Greg and Jenn Hall, Paul and Virginie Campbell and Dan and Martha Hertzner. We see as well the next generation of sailors coming along. Parker and Daisy Colantuono sail with with mom and dad, often as a crew of four, and Kylie Hall help out father Greg, albeit a bit undermanned in any kind of wind!

We miss Adrienne Barrett, part of the Barrett team for years, who has taken up an oar with UCONN crew, but welcome Colleen Gardner, who will hopefully be teaming up with her dad Jim Gardner. Finally, we are buoyed to see that the Peck family has finally evolved to a crew of five able-bodied sailors, so usually at least three can be found to sail. Our other loyal Fleet members, Sebestyen, Stack, Emch and Spira, could benefit from more local youth. We are working on that!

On the national racing circuit, our Fleet was represented by Chris Vann at the Southern Circuit in St. Pete, finishing eighth in the Masters' Division. Dave Spira won the traveled-the-furthest award, making the trip to the Worlds in South America, where he finished fifth in the Masters' division.

Closer to home, our sailors took their families along for great rides. Larry and Theresa Colantuono placed eighth in the Long John regatta, sailing with their young son and sailing enthusiast, (keep your eye on him) Parker. Dave Peck, sailing with daughter Sarah, son Charlie and Brian Lilley, placed fourth in the Districts, while Chris Vann, sailing with brother Lenny, took an eighth. At the Governor's Cup in Niantic, the Peck team of David, Sarah and Charlie came away with the big trophy, posting a string of almost consistent firsts, marred only by one second. The Peck team perfected their winning streak at the ACCs. However, again sailing as a family, David, Sarah and younger Dave won the Atlantic Coast Championships with an unprecedented perfect string of first place finishes. We do believe that family sailing is a wonderful thing to cultivate here in Niantic!

126 Cedar Point Yacht Club

Sailing on Long Island Sound
Westport, Connecticut

Fleet Officers:

Fleet Captain: Eric Heller
Secretary: John Boxberger
Treasurer: Richard Thackaberry

Boat#	Boat Name	Skipper
11385	Oi' Blue	Richard Thackaberry
13889	Wind Breaker	David Marseli
14287	Sloppy Firsts	David Lutian
14719	Green Stripe	William C Bogardus
14807	Second Chance	Rod Ratcliffe
14808		John L Boxberger
14819	Too Hot!	Eric S Heller
14821		Charles E Proctor
14889	Stripes	David M Fried
15111		Gianni L Cuccio
15116	Amethyst	Douglas Latour
15456		Joshua Goldman

2011 was certainly an exciting year for the Lightning Fleet at Cedar Point Yacht Club. First and foremost, our Fleet is celebrating bringing home two North American Championships. The first was won on the water by our very own Ched Proctor, Jamie Ewing, and Meredith Killion, while the second was just recently won on paper as our bid to host the 2013 Lightning North American Championships was accepted by the ILCA. We look forward to welcoming the Lightning Class back to our premier, one-design club for this event.

While 2011 certainly wrapped up on a high note here in Westport, Connecticut, the start to the year was nothing to sneer at. Several Fleet members migrated south for the Lightning Southern Circuit. Josh Goldman, David Lutian, and Rod Ratcliffe all sailed well in the competitive fleets. Notably, Josh ended the Circuit in third overall—quite a way to kick off his 2011 campaign to defend his club championship.

Local sailing on Long Island Sound started in May with our annual Early Bird regatta. We hosted eleven

teams, including regatta winner Peter Hall, who used the challenging conditions as practice for the Pan American games where he and his team represented Canada. Cedar Point's own Charlie Proctor finished second, while another Fleet 126 member, David Fried, sailed well to claim third.

The Fleet 126 summer series extends from May through to September, generally with races held on Saturdays on Long Island Sound. The series kicked off with the Cedar Point Yacht Club Vice Commodore's Cup over Memorial Day weekend. Six boats competed in the two-day series, with Josh Goldman continuing his hot streak and taking the weekend. Dick Thackaberry followed closely in second, with David Fried taking third. On the July 4th weekend, Cedar Point Yacht Club held its annual Commodore's Cup regatta, with Josh Goldman again taking top honors among the six-boat fleet. David Fried edged out second place over Dick Thackaberry, who took third. The final club event was held over Labor Day weekend. Josh Goldman capped off the season with yet another win, claiming the Rear Commodore's Cup, again besting a six-boat fleet. Dick Thackaberry finished a consistent season to claim second, while Bill Bogardus took third. Over the course of the season, the Fleet saw fifteen different boats on the course.

Our high was ten boats on one Saturday in June, a planned "Maximum Participation Day" by the Fleet. After completing twenty-two races, which counted towards the season, Josh Goldman won the Fleet Championship and the Gladys Cuccio Trophy for the second year in a row. Dick Thackaberry took second place in the series, Bill Bogardus/Rick Swann/Stephanie Swann co-skippered their way to third, and David Fried won fourth, and Fleet Captain Eric Heller rounded out the top five.

Rod Ratcliffe was recognized for his encouragement of sportsmanship, camaraderie, and an overall love of sailing with the Dayton Titworth Trophy for the 2011 season. Rod is always willing to lend a hand in the parking lot and introduces several new sailors into the Fleet every year. Our Fleet was also proud to have Dick Thackaberry recognized by the Cedar Point Yacht Club for his excellent race management skills with the Joan Eadie Perpetual Trophy. Dick acts as the PRO for what seems like every major, and minor, regatta that comes to Cedar Point and has yet to disappoint a competitor!

The local scene wrapped up with the Annual Fall Classic regatta. Only eight boats made it out for this two-day event, but the competition was incredibly tight, with only four points separating the top three. Ted Duffy edged out Justin Coplan for the win, while our own Bill Bogardus claimed third.

In addition to the already mentioned Southern Circuit, Fleet 126 was well represented around the Lightning Circuit at both district and national events. Highlights included having nine fleet boats sail the Connecticut/Rhode Island Districts at Housatonic Boat Club, with Ched Proctor in second, Josh Goldman in third, Ched Proctor besting twenty-one boats to win overall at the Central Atlantic Districts regatta, David Peck and Ched Proctor taking first and second at the forty-boat Atlantic Coast Championships, and a North American victory to finish out the year. Ched Proctor led his team to the North American Championship, and he also crewed with Peter Hall to win the Masters' Championship. Quite a year for Ched!

As mentioned earlier, Fleet 126 is thrilled to be hosting the 2013 North American Championships. Chairman David Lutian has already begun organizing what promises to be an excellent event. We look forward to everyone joining us for some excellent competition and not-to-be-matched fun. We welcome everyone to join in and sail or socialize with our Fleet at any point in the upcoming 2012 season to practice up for the big event! Our competitive Fleet boat is ready and waiting for you!



Gianni Cuccio, PJ and Ellen Schaffer



129 Madison Beach Yacht Club

Sailing on Long Island Sound
Madison, Connecticut

Fleet Officers:

Fleet Captain: Timothy Millhiser

Boat#	Boat Name	Skipper
11207	Early Times	James R Deepphouse
11933	Rosie	J Michael Sulzbach
14509	Early Times	James R Deepphouse
14765	Quicky	Jeff Swiggelt
15400	Otia	Timothy Millhiser

Madison Beach Club had another year of racing with lots of participation from our juniors and young members. Three boats were within six points for second, third and fourth. Juniors, James Cutler, Jr. and Matt Karas, kept the Cutler boat light and fast. Young member Bobbo Simons, when he could get away from outfitting other peoples' boats, was always at the top and got second for the season with junior, Wells Sakmar, and ol' salt Jim Deepphouse, crewing. Young-member Erin Riley also made Sulzbach's ol' Lippincott point higher than a twelve-meter. I would sure like to know how she does it. She won the Club's Pape Trophy Race with junior Grace Adams and Deep crewing. Another ol' salt, yours truly, Tim Millhiser, with junior,

Dylan Farrell and several other juniors crewing, won the season. My new Allen is fast and a joy to trim.

After several seasons crewing, Dylan felt comfortable enough to be a pinch-skipper on Deepphouse's boat. Using all his skills from his winning 420 season, he raced faster in each race until he was pushing everyone else. Sometimes those kids can be so aggravating!

Young member Rory Coster was another pinch-skipper, who was at the top when he could get away from his job captaining an eighty-foot cruiser. Toward the end of the season, he decided that he had had enough operating a stink-potter whose owner always wanted to cruise on the weekends. Those eighty-footers can't compare to our nineteen-foot, floating flower box. Rory really showed his skill in his first season racing on the Atlantic, earning a sixth at the Atlantic National Championships.

Other young-members, Taylor Sakmar, Sam Davidson, Tyler Swiggelt and Archie Adams, skippered and crewed when they could get away from their jobs. Hopefully, they'll have more seniority this coming summer.

Junior Nick Chober will be skippering with his father, crewing on the Lightning they bought at the end of last summer.

Unfortunately, the season was cut short by hurricane Irene. Below is a picture of homes in Madison being blasted at the height of the storm, causing lots of serious damage.



134 Noroton

Sailing on Central Long Island Sound
Central Long Island Sound, Connecticut

Fleet Officers:

Fleet Captain: Jim Crane

Boat#	Boat Name	Skipper
15380		Jim Crane

Dixie

50	Potomac River Sailing Assn	329	Severn Sailing Assn
192	Havre de Grace	509	Hampton Roads
253	Susquehanna Yacht Club	513	Rock Hall
314	Sassafras River	518	Poquoson River

District Commodore: Jason Werner

50 Potomac River Sailing Assn

Sailing on the Potomac River
Washington, DC

Fleet Officers:

Fleet Captain:	Aaron Boesenecke
Treasurer:	Robert Astrove
Lieutenant for	
Racing:	Eric Hakanson
Scorer:	Jeff Storck
Co-Secretary:	Brian Ganjei
	Will Phillippe
Webmaster:	Chris Kozel
Special Olympics	
Coordinator:	Joe Warren

Boat#	Boat Name	Skipper
584		Doug A Dixon
7603	Pandora II	Robert Astrove
8739		Robert Astrove
14037	Bony Buns	Joseph Warren
14100	3 Little Birds	Red Fehrle
14313		Eric Hakanson
14553	Sinistra	Richard Welch
14566	Resistance is Futile	Frank J Gallagher
15142	Shadowfax	Nabeel Alsalam
15386		Katie C Zeglis
15386		Mark S Boaz

Established in 1943, Fleet 50 is proud to carry on the tradition of the Lightning as the longest enduring, most competitive and fun one-design racing class in the Washington, DC, metro area. We currently have about thirty-five active and semi-active boats. Our competitive racing schedule runs from early April through the first weekend of November each year. The racing season includes a seven-week Sunday spring and fall series, and a twelve-week Wednesday night sum-

mer series. In addition, we hold a number of two-day weekend regattas each year, including the Doc Gilbert Potomac Cup in early May, the Memorial Day Spring regatta, and the President's/Leukemia Cup in September. No fewer than five, and sometimes as many as fifteen, boats are out racing on any given Sunday, with many more on the water for our two-day regattas.

Lightning Fleet 50 had an outstanding 2011 racing season, with a total of seventy races completed in spring and fall Sunday racing series. Twenty boats were active over the course of the season, and on any given Sunday there were different winners. Several teams, including some of our new Fleet additions, earned that elusive first bullet over the course of the season as well! This season, we made a regular practice of gathering around the BBQ grill after the racing to trade stories about starts, mark roundings, and other tall tales from the river.

Congratulations to Rick Welch, Aaron Boesenecker, Piercarolo Brunino and Lisbet Kugler of Team Sinistra, #14553, for winning the Spring Series, the Fall Series, and the overall Fleet Championship Series! They were the model of consistency, putting "Sinistra" on the line for all seventy races and finishing with an impressive one and seven tenths average. Team Shadowfax, #15142, crewed by Nabeel Alsalam, Craig Huzway, Stefano de Leo, finished second, just two tenths behind "Sinistra," with an average of one and nine tenths. Team Resistance is "Futile," #14566, crewed by Frank Gallagher, Mladen Karcic, Will Summers, placed third with a two and nine tenths. Jeff Storck, Bruce Heida, Becky Mach of Team Ariel, #15256, were forth with an average of four and three tenths, and Eric Hakanson and Team Ferris Bueller, #14313, placed fifth with a 5 and nine tenths average.

A complete listing of our Fleet 50 boats and skippers can be found here: <http://tinyurl.com/7h85agi>

A complete rundown of the season's scores can be found here: http://lightningfleet50.org/?page_id=24

Fleet Awards

Our Fleet awards were given out at the Fleet 50 annual meeting and awards banquet, which was held on February 11, 2012. Congratulations to the following award winners!

Overall Awards

- **Endurance:** It is no surprise that Rick Welch earned the Iron Skipper award and Aaron Boesenecker earned the All Weather Sailor award. These awards recognize the skipper and crew with the most days on the water racing. These guys certainly earned it, as Team Sinistra was on the starting line for all seventy races of the season!
- **Bloody Rudder:** Ron Buchanan won the Bloody Rudder for competing in the most away regattas on "Deux Poissons Et Un Chat," #14485. Congratulations in particular to Ron for a great Dixie District's regatta and a strong showing at the 2011 North American Championships!

Crew Awards

- **High Impact Crew:** Craig Huzway is the High Impact Crew as the middle crew of Team Shadowfax. His spinnaker trimming is crucial to the team's consistent top finishes.
- **Best New Crew:** The Crew of #14376, Brian Ganjei, Will Phillippe, and Alex Thomson, are this 2011's Best New Crew in their first season racing #14376, still without a name, as one of our newest Fleet additions.
- **Most Improved Crew:** Meghan Rafferty earned the Most Improved Crew award for her work racing on "Ferris Bueller" this season.

Skipper Awards

- **Skipper of the Year:** Eric Hakanson is our Skipper of the Year for his support of the Fleet and commitment to racing. As one of our newer Fleet members, it was great to see Eric out on the water consistently racing and improving over the 2011 season.
- **Most Improved:** Chris Kozel earned the Most Improved Skipper award for his consistent improvement over the season and for the fact that he earned his first bullet driving "String Theory," 14395, in 2011.

- **Mr. Congeniality:** Jeff Storck earned the Mr. Congeniality award. You can always count on Jeff saying hello in the mornings while rigging boats and for some advice at the end of the day.
- **Team Spirit Skipper:** Will Phillippe was recognized as the Team Spirit skipper for becoming the new addition to the Fleet. Team 14376 spent as much time as possible racing and working to become more competitive over the season.
- **Bungle Bucket:** Goes to Red Fehrle and Suzan Humphrey, #14100, for racking up dozens—literally dozens—of penalty turns in one particularly tricky light air mark rounding. To their credit, Red and Sue, sailing with their son David, they completed all of those turns. Red, in his own words, said, "Borrowing from Kenny Rogers, you got to know when to point up, know when to duck 'em, know when tack away, and know when to run. You never count your rounding till the mark is past your transom. There will be time enough for cheerin' when the rounding's done." Red, Suzan, and David are all to be commended for his Corinthian sailing spirit.

Officers for 2012

We are looking forward to the 2012 racing season. Fleet 50 will be hosting the Dixie Districts on June 9 and 10, and we are looking forward to having the District join us this year to race on the Potomac with our nation's capital as a backdrop.

Many thanks to the officers that served our Fleet in 2011.



192 Havre de Grace

Sailing on the Susquehanna River
Havre de Grace, Maryland

Fleet Officers:

Fleet Captain: Tom Compton
Secretary: Patrick Phelan

Boat#	Boat Name	Skipper
10302	Blueberries for Sale	Kyle Hanson
10318		Bill Johnson, III
13939	Rolling Thunder	William J Johnson, Jr
13989	Nittany Lightning	Michael Magyar
14484		Mike Mays
14629		Mike McCusker
15131		Patrick Phelan
15136		Thomas Compton

We had another hurricane this year. Irene caused major flooding. We moved our boats into the marina's Hi & Dri to keep them out of the flood. Later in the season we moved them again for another flood.

Mike Mays bought a Lightning and joined our Fleet this season. He and his crew did the Frigid Digit regatta at Severn Sailing Association.

Mike McCusker finished repairs on #14629, my old boat that was damaged in a tornado. Mike sailed with our Fleet several years ago. We welcome him back.



Tom Compton

Due to bulkhead repairs at Susquehanna, the traditional team race between the Susquehanna Yacht Club and our Fleet did not take place.

It was our turn to host the Dixie District regatta this year. We had twenty boats on the start list. Steve Constants from Severn Sailing Association won.

We hosted The Duck Challenge regatta. Havre de Grace is known for its museum of hard-carved duck decoys. Several people in the area produce such decoys for sale. We give them as awards at our regatta.

Most of our sailing is focused on Tuesday evenings. We run our own races on windward/leeward courses. We tend to run a lot of short races, with thirty-three races this year. Jim Albert ran race committee for us every week.

Duck Challenge



Tom Compton, Jason Phelan, and Bill Johnson cooking steaks for the Duck regatta. Pat Johnson made the duck aprons.

Duck Challenge



Pat Phelan, skipper, and crew Barb Hill and Jason Phelan after winning a race at the Duck regatta



253 Susquehanna Yacht Club

Sailing on the Susquehanna River
Long Level, Pennsylvania

Fleet Officers:

Fleet Captain: Trevor D Prior

Boat#	Boat Name	Skipper
11582		Walt Poyck
13047	Shamoo	Gary L Hoffer
13218		Ken Kuzdro
13310	Brick House	Gary L Hoffer
14156	Starthrower	Kevin L Smith
14158		Kevin Smith
14365	Strikes Twice	Kenneth C Kuzdro
14525	Spitfire	John C Bates
14692	Potluck	Matt Potvin
14902	Ms Conduct	Carol A Park
15024	Lube Tube	Trevor D Prior
15118	Yellow Boat	Starling H Mikell
15159	Worm Burner	Frank X Hanson
15221	Shark Bite	Michael Wertz

Lightning Fleet 253 continues to flourish but has seen a decrease in the number of boats in our Fleet. As a result, there were fewer racers on the starting line during our Wednesday night series.

Members of our Fleet participated in ten regattas over the course of the 2011 sailing season. These included the Southern Circuit championships, Doc Gilbert regatta, Dixie District Championship, Atlantic Coast Championship, Duck Challenge regatta, Frigid Digit, Rock Hall regatta and the Hampton Fall Fling.

During the latter part of the season, our area, along with the rest of the eastern seaboard, experienced hurricane Agnes and tropical storm Lee. Because of all of the turmoil which these storms dumped on us, we were forced to cancel the Pennsylvania Governor's Cup regatta, which we had just begun to host again during the last two years. Additionally, the new bulk-head project for our drysail area had to be postponed until the following year. We look forward to moving ahead with both of these events next year.

Our junior sailing program continues to be one of the highlights of our Club. Once again, we hosted a one-day event in June and July for new, aspiring sailors and children who had participated in the classes before. We introduced sailboat racing fundamentals for the first time and, by the end of the classes, everyone was racing around the buoys.

Our Spring Series began with an average of eight boats on the line. This first series was won by Trevor Prior and crew. Second place was won by Matt Potvin, with Carol Park coming in third.

The Fall Series continued with a strong showing at the starting line. Trevor Prior and Matt Potvin repeated their first and second place finishes, respectively, and John Bates came in third place for the series.

The overall Frey Cup Champion for the entire sailing season was Trevor Prior. Matt Potvin placed second, and Carol Park came in third. Congratulations to everyone for a fine season.

Fleet 253 looks forward to next year and sharing our fine sport of sailing and the friendships we have established over the years.

314 Sassafras River

Sailing on the Sassafras River
Chestertown, Maryland

Fleet Officers:

Fleet Captain: David J Horne
Robert B Horne

Boat#	Boat Name	Skipper
12381	Great Pumpkin	Robert B Horne
15023	Star O'dust	Robert B Horne

329 Severn Sailing Association

Sailing on Chesapeake Bay
Annapolis, Maryland

Fleet Officers:

Fleet Captain: David Friebele

Boat#	Boat Name	Skipper
6345		Ned Daly
10493	M I Nuts	Benjamin C Eloff
12480	Stuck on Stupid	Jonathan I Lange
13608	Relax	Lesley Frymier Cook
13872	Think Twice	Jason D Cosler
14073	His	Gary S Hurban
14221	Iwakuni	Mark E Whitson
14222	Windchaser	Russell Roberts
14548	Painkiller	Jonathan S Guth
14581		James Bielefeld
14588	Tijuana Taxi	Gregory Virgin
14900	His	Gary S Hurban
14907		Craig Cobbum
15016	Loon	James B Brickell
15054	Blue Highways	Jonathan I Lange
15083	Killer Biscuits	Jason Werner
15093	Hers	Joan A Hurban
15151	Palindrome	Geoffrey D Becker
15202		Todd Johnson
15240	Bella	Stephen Constants
15353		Allan Terhune
15363	Sundancer	Greg Kelly
15425		Edward J Friebele
15449		Allan Terhune

Fleet 329 sails from Annapolis, Maryland, on the Chesapeake Bay with boats from Severn Sailing Association, Eastport Yacht Club, and Annapolis Yacht Club comprising the Fleet. We are growing and very lucky to have several great sailors who are generous with their time and expertise. The result is a Fleet that has fun and helps the up and coming. We are part of the Dixie District and have several Fleets nearby to fill out the racing calendar. The Fleet ran the No-Gas

invitational regatta in May and the ever-popular and late-season Frigid Digit in October.

Joe Friebele bought #15425, a virtually-new boat, in October, 2009, and Jim Bielfeld bought Joe's old boat, #14581. We welcomed Craig Cobbum to the Fleet with #14907 and Ben Eloff with #10493.

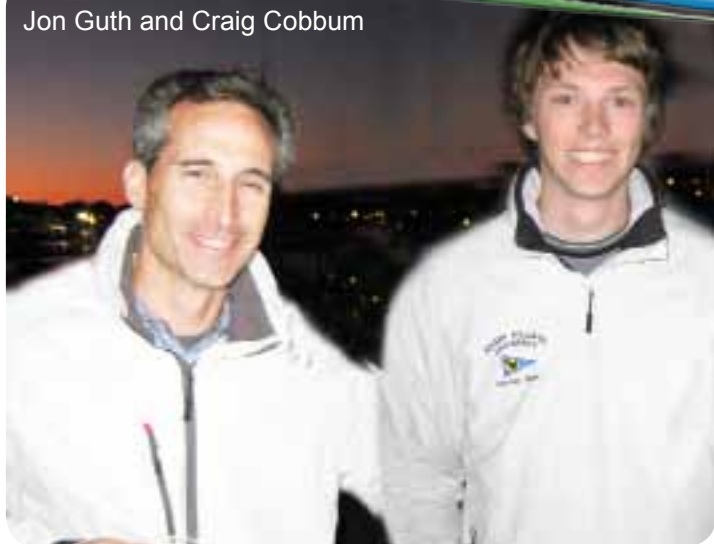
Local Regattas

The season started off with the SSA Spring regatta, which was won by Steve Constants, with the advantage of being one of two boats to finish a two-leg course in dying wind on Saturday. Jamie Brickell and Joan Hurban took second and third. Next was our invitational No Gas regatta, so named in 1973 during the gas crisis when the Fleet added a local regatta to the schedule to lessen the travelling and waiting in gas lines. The gas can trophy has been long lost, but we may think about buying a new one, as gas prices rise over \$4.00 per gallon. Steve Constants won, followed by Jason Werner and Paul Luisi from Monmouth Boat Club. Joe Friebele found light air speed and handily won the SSA Summer Series with eleven points over eight races, followed by Craig Cobbum and Mark Whitson. Joe also won the Fall Series, with Gary Hurban and Jamie Brickell following. The overall Fleet Champion for 2011 was Joe Friebele, who sailed with Laura Johnson and Jared Ackers, an excellent and very patient crew.

This year's Frigid Digit, held on October 15–16, marked the sixtieth anniversary of the regatta. Fleet 329 pulled out all the stops for the celebration with t-shirts, a cocktail party, an excellent Italian dinner and a band. Forty-five boats showed up and headed out to the race course Saturday morning, only to be blown back to the



Jon Guth and Craig Cobbum



harbor, as the winds gusted over thirty knots on the race course. David Starck, a Frigid Digit winner many times, put on an excellent, impromptu seminar in the afternoon, and the kegs were opened early.

The winds were more moderate on Sunday, and we were able to get in three races. David won the regatta, followed by Ian Jones, who came in second—both of Buffalo Canoe Club—and Steve Constants was third. Interestingly, David and Ian did a wife/crew swap for the regatta, with Jody Starck sailing for Ian and Monica Jones sailing for David. Fleet 329 had eleven members sailing. Notable finishes were Craig Cobbum fifth and John Guth in seventh, while Joe Friebele, the Regatta Chair, put himself in prime position to win the Most Improved Skipper award in 2012 with a twenty-sixth-place finish.

Away Regattas

We had good participation in away regattas this year. Allan Terhune went to the Southern Circuit and finished fourth in Miami and third in St. Petersburg, for a sixth overall place for the Circuit. Congratulations to Allan and his wife Katie. Jonathan Lange also sailed in St. Pete, which he has attended for many years.

In the spring, the fiftieth anniversary of the Long John regatta at Monmouth Boat Club found Steve Constants, Joan and Gary Hurban and Joe Friebele on the water. The Doc Gilbert Memorial Potomac Cup regatta was sailed by Allan Terhune, who finished first, Steve Constants third, Jason Werner, Jonathon Lange, sailing with his brother Phillip, Joan and Gary Hurban.

The Dixie Districts were held in Havre de Grace this year, and there was an excellent Fleet 329 turnout.

Steve Constants finished first, Jason Werner second and Jamie Brickell sixth. Other Fleet competitors included Joan and Gary Hurban, Joe Friebele and Greg Kelly. Jonathan Lange, crewing for his brother, was our only representative at the World Championship in Brazil in July, but both Joan and Gary Hurban, sailing Hers and His, travelled to the Atlantic Coast Championship. Allan Terhune competed in the North American Championship, where he accumulated ten points (Yeah!) plus a DNF (Boo) due to an untimely capsized in puffy winds on Lake Erie.

The fall found many members on the road again. Jon Guth won the Duck Challenge at Havre de Grace, with Jason Werner, Joan and Gary Hurban, and Greg Kelly also racing. Jamie Brickell and Gary Hurban travelled to the new Wild Oyster regatta, organized by Greg Fisher in Charleston, South Carolina. Being retired has its advantages in flexibility of schedule!

Overall, it was a great year on the water with good Fleet participation, both on our home waters and in away regattas, and we're looking forward to even greater participation in 2012.

Olivia Constants

Steve and Dorothy's fourteen-year-old daughter, Olivia, tragically drowned in June while racing in the SSA Junior Sailing Program. The Fleet and US and international members of the Lightning Class were all devastated. The outpouring of love and compassion for the Constants family was remarkable, and it reminded us all that Lightning sailors are really a community that draws together in times of trouble.



509 Hampton Roads

Hampton, Virginia

Fleet Officers:

Fleet Captain: Joe Buczkowski

Boat#	Boat Name	Skipper
10374		Frederick E Wright
14044	Whistling Pygmy	Charles C Wardwell
14485	Duex Poissons et un Chat	Ronald R Buchanan
15084	Irie	Joe Buczkowski

513 Rock Hall

Sailing on Chesapeake Bay
Rock Hall, Maryland

Eight Bells...It is with sadness that we report the passing of Fleet 513 Captain, Charles "Chuck" Parry. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his wife Linda

518 Poquoson River

Sailing on the Poquoson River
Dare, Virginia

Fleet Officers:

Fleet Captain: Jack Shepherd

Fleet Secretary/

Treasurer: Rob Watt

Fleet Champion: Jim Dillard

Boat#	Boat Name	Skipper
10266	Water Bug	Rob Watt
12396		Doug Harbin, Jr
12741	Warrior	James H Dillard
13818	Warrior	Chuck Wood
14209		John M Shepherd
14427		Mike Mastracci
15311	Go Green	James H Dillard

Fleet 518 picked up two new owners. Jim bought back #12396 that had been sitting unused. Cleaned up and fitted with new teak rub rails and coaming, #12396 is now owned by Doug Harbin. Our newest member, Mike Mastracci, is upgrading #14427 and hopes to have it racing in the spring.

Our third Annual Potomac Challenge, sponsored by Yuengling, had six boats competing. Only two races were sailed due to threatening weather. Chandler Owen took two firsts, with Jim Dillard right on his transom in both races. Third place went to Justin Morris sailing "Warrior." As in the past, there was plenty of crab picking, food and beer with the party lasting well into the night.

Two Fleet boats sailed from Washington, DC, to the Poquoson, a trip of one hundred fifty-eight miles, taking four days. Jim Dillard and Nabeel Alsalam sailed Go Green with "Warrior," crewed by Chuck Wood and Rob Watt. They camped the first night at Leesylvania State Park and partied with the Flying Scotts, who were holding a regatta. The second day they sailed among big boats racing out of Quantico. They reached Colonial Beach and spent the night in a beautiful log cabin. The third day was met by high winds off their stern quarter. Holding on by their toes, they flew down the Potomac all the way to the Chesapeake Bay. The night was spent in the Little Wicomico with a WWII vet and his wife. The fourth day saw the wind die at the Rappahannock, and they were forced to use their kickers till the wind picked up again at New Point Comfort, allowing them to sail the remaining distance. A really great experience! Jim has been cruising his various Lightnings on the Chesapeake Bay almost every year since 1961.

