

International Lightning Class

2012





**20
years**

visit: www.APSltd.com
best: Customer Service
turf: Annapolis, MD

800.729.9767  

The World Leader in Outfitting Performance Sailors.



Blasting through 75 years of fun.

Happy Birthday ILCA!



EAST (203) 877-7627

Brian Hayes brian@od.northsails.com | Ched Proctor ched@od.northsails.com

CHESAPEAKE (410) 280-3617 Allan Terhune allan@od.northsails.com

GREAT LAKES (216) 361-2594 Nick Turney nick@od.northsails.com

onedesign.com



One Design

FASTER BY DESIGN

Photo Thomas Jansen

LIGHTNING *FAST* SOLUTIONS

FOR OUR CHANGING WORLD...



PREFORMED LINE PRODUCTS

The connection you can count on.

With manufacturing facilities in fourteen countries, three located in the United States, PLP is proud to have had its global headquarters in the greater Cleveland area for over sixty four years.

Developing ground-breaking and innovative solutions in copper and fiber optic communications networks as well as for the transmission and distribution of electrical energy, PLP has consistently pioneered modern advances for the communication and energy industries since 1947.

(NASDAQ: PLPC)



COMMUNICATIONS



ENERGY



SPECIAL INDUSTRIES



SOLAR

660 Beta Drive • Mayfield Village, Ohio 44143
440.461.5200 • www.preformed.com • email: inquiries@preformed.com



We dedicate this yearbook to the countless photographers who have captured the culture of the Lightning Class over the past eight decades. We recognize not just specific artists who wield their telephoto lenses like pros and always get a straight horizon line, but all of those people whose talents have immortalized special moments on and off the water.

It's thanks to this legion of shutterbugs that we can look back at countless awards ceremonies and lively regatta parties, admiring the goofy smiles and kooky fashion choices, and marveling at the candid capsize shots and mark-rounding excitements. These are memories that mean so much to so many of us, and these are images that will continue to entertain and inspire.

We are deeply grateful for the work of the photographers who have chronicled the class so far—and those who will continue to snap photos, even when we least expect it.

The International Lightning Class Association offers you a variety of ways to stay current with Class members and activities.

The ILCA Yearbook



This annual production, either paper or CD, serves as an ongoing historical document. The Yearbook chronicles the regatta venues, the Champions, the District and Fleet reports, Boat Grant recipients, the Governing Board, Class Officers, members and boat owners. Photos of boats, smiling members receiving trophies, and parties are sprinkled throughout the book.

Additional copies and some past editions are available either from the website store or from the [Class Office](#).

ILCA Flashes Newsletter



Three issues per year, the Flashes Newsletter keeps members up to date on ILCA activities and events. Information on our worldwide fleet activities, go-fast tips from the sailmakers and champions, wooden boat projects and history of the Lightning are regularly featured.

The full color electronic version of Flashes are distributed via e-mail to all ILCA members: Active, Associate, and Crew. Paper copies are available for an additional fee.

Flash Blasts

Periodic e-mails to all members with up-to-date news, regatta results and more.

ILCA Facebook



The International Lightning Class Association is now on [Facebook](#)! The ILCA created and maintains a social networking Facebook page with almost 1,300 fans. Lightning sailors from around the world contribute photos and information.

Wooden Lightning Yahoo Group



This group shares their knowledge of known Lightning woodies, restoration ideas, material resources, events, stories, and the like. It helps bind the wooden boat community together as well as provides an avenue for people trying to find, research, or sell an older wooden Lightning. [Wooden Lightning Yahoo Group](#).

Districts and Fleets

Many Districts and Fleets have their own websites or Facebook pages. Links are found on the [ILCA website](#). Look under Membership in navigation, then click on District/Fleets members.



Table of Contents



Introduction

President's Message	2
Executive Committee	4
Former Officers	6
Governing Board	8
Donations	11

Reports

District and Fleet	15
2011 Winners	124
Championship Reports	127
World Championship	128
International Masters' Championship	142
XIV Pan American Games	152
North American Championship	158
North American President's Cup	178
Special Awards	184
Women's North American Championship	186
Juniors' North American Championship	190
Masters' North American Championship	196
South American Championship	202
European Championship	208
Canadian Open Championship	212

Champions Records

Championship Records	217
World Championship	218
International Masters	219
Youth World Championship	220
North American Championship	221
Women's North American Championship	225
Juniors' North American Championship	226
Masters' North American Championship	227
South American Championship	228
European Championship	230
Canadian Open Championship	231
Southern Circuit	232

ILCA Members

Active Members	235
Associate Members	258
Boat Owners	261

Our Supporters

APS, Ltd.	ii
North Sails	iii
Preformed Line Products	iv
Allen Boat Company	72
Nickels Boat Works, Inc.	111

International Lightning Class Association

1528 Big Bass Drive, Tarpon Springs, FL 34689

Phone: 727-942-7969 • Fax: 727-942-0173

www.lightningclass.org office@lightningclass.org

2012 Yearbook Contributors

Executive Secretary: Laura Jeffers

Editors: Laura Jeffers, Monica Jones • Design: Sherryl Egly

Photo credit: Bill Clausen, Laura Jeffers, Thomas Jensen, Nelson Veiga, Abby Ruhlman, Rebecca Espinosa, Debbie Probst, Art Petroselomo, Ernie Dieball, Francine Hoffman, Shelly Hughes, Sharon McIntosh, Brian Wholehan, Marc Hayford ILCA Members

© 2012 International Lightning Class Association

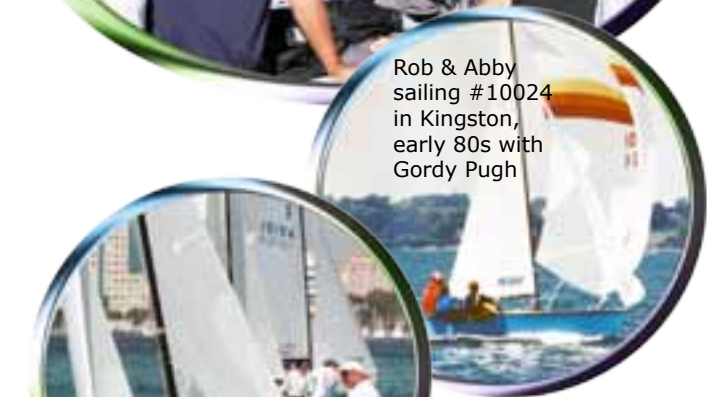


International Lightning Class Association

President's Message



Rob & Abby
sailing #10024
in Kingston,
early 80s with
Gordy Pugh



When the season at home started badly in May with the cancelling of Pymatuning's Spring Classic after twenty-six straight years, due to water levels the lake had not reached in my lifetime, the year was not off to a great start. But, for a year that I had long dreaded, 2011 wasn't so bad after all.

You see, for years, when asked if I was skippering in a Masters' event, I had proudly been able to say, "How old do you think I am?!" That all finally changed in 2011. In retrospect, I am sure the question was the result of having spent a lifetime in the Class much more so than actually looking eligible!

And what a wonderful lifetime it has been. My father, ILCA Past President, Jon Ruhlman, was racing Lightnings before I was born, and, consequently, you might say being part of this amazing Class came to me naturally, as it has for my kids, Ryan and Maegan. My wife Abby took to the game quite naturally as well, after being "baptized" by the wind and waves of St. Pete during the 1978 Southern Circuit. We've had a great time through the years racing as a family, both together and as competitors. As you might imagine, those events, where we have all three teams on the line, can lead to some pretty interesting dinner conversations. Yet, we still team up for various events as well, as we did in 2011.

My first Masters' event at the helm was this year's Masters' Worlds in the big breezes of Búzios, Brazil. Abby, Ryan and I teamed up for this event, and were we ever glad to have the "big man" in the middle. Still, we were no match for team Biekarck, which sailed a brilliant series, winning the Masters' and finishing as Runner-Up in the South American Championships! Ryan then jumped ship for the Worlds, beating us handily with an 8th to our 16th, as he sailed with Nick Turney and Martha Fisher, both "adopted" family members, while Abby and I sailed with long-time teammate and member of our extended Pymatuning family, Dave Werley.

In August we took another run at a Masters' Championship with surrogate son Nick Turney. While we were in a hard fought battle with Peter Hall and his team of Ched Proctor and Stephanie Boucher, Maegan, Abby Rowlands and ILCA Executive Secretary, Laura Jeffers, were battling it

President's Message



out with another family-based team of Allie and Monica Jones sailing with Debbie Probst. Where Maegan and team prevailed by a point, we lost our battle with Peter by a point.

Nick returned to Ryan's team for the NAs, along with Ryan's fiancée, Tesse LaPlante (I sense a pattern repeating itself), while now reigning Women's champ, Maegan, joined us for the first time since the Worlds in Chile. We even sailed under the pink flash for that event, thanks to Maegan being on board. Ryan and team beat us again with his 12th to our 13th! The number of times over the years that we have finished events side by side on the scoreboard is almost comical.

Our NA's finish combined with our Masters' finish led to the bittersweet moment of winning the Jack Elfman trophy. Jack was a great friend of our family and he and Maegan had a really special relationship. For my part, Jack was a tremendous friend and mentor when I first ventured beyond the safe confines of Pymatuning and the Ohio District and into the broader and more competitive national scene. It's an honor to have my name on his trophy.

I could go on forever with our various sailing stories involving immediate as well as extended family, but those can wait for another day, perhaps a lazy afternoon waiting for the AP to drop or a late night around the bar. Besides, there are lots of other great family stories in this yearbook.

I don't use the term "family" loosely, because family is hugely important to me. While I am lucky to have my immediate family so involved in this great Class, we also consider ourselves to be extremely fortunate to be part of the extended ILCA family. The competition and camaraderie on and off the water over the years have led to something far more than simple friendship with many, many members of the Class. I don't dare mention names in order to avoid embarrassing anyone, but you know who you are. Thanks for being there.

And we are not unique in this feeling. You can see it in the pages that follow; you can feel it at events all year long.

We love this Class!

Rob, Abby, Maegan, Ryan and Tesse

