



## NEW ENGLAND

District Commodore.....Patrick Gallagher  
District Secretary.....Bill Fastiggi  
District Champion.....Don Brush  
District Runner-Up.....Bill Fastiggi

### Fleets:

**Merrimac River 121; Spofford Lake 145; Annisquam Yacht Club 151; Marblehead 189; Bomoseen 227; Lake Massabesic 273; Wellfleet 280; Lake Champlain 301; Squam Lake 332; Bow Lake 493.**

This was a great year for the New England District with substantial growth at the Malletts Bay and Spofford fleets and the potential for a revival of activity at Massabesic. Squam and Newburyport are both very active good-sized fleets and Bow Lake as a very active though smaller fleet. Activity has been declining at Bomoseen and Wellfleet, but we hope for some increased activity in the future.

The 2003 Season started off early for a few New England Boats with Dave Gorman, Bob Shapiro, Ken Deyett, and Patrick Gallagher sailing the entire Southern Circuit, John Hughes sailing in Miami and St. Pete and Bill Dutcher sailing in just St. Pete.

The first official event on the New England schedule is the Lake Champlain Spring regatta hosted by fleet 301. Alain Boucher from Montreal won the event followed by Bill Fastiggi and Jamie Allan in third. 6 races were sailed in the Inner Bay on a gorgeous weekend.

Spofford YC hosted the Dave Fitch Memorial on June 28 and 29th. Bob Bush won the event followed by Ray Harrington and John Hughes. Spofford YC did a great job hosting the event.

The New England District Championships were sailed at the American YC in Newburyport in conjunction with the Brian Hughes Regatta. Don Brush with Kate Brush and Lea Ann Smith sailed consistently at this difficult venue to win the District Championship. Bill Fastiggi, Ray Harrington, Georges Peter and Bretton Gardner rounded out the top 5. The AYC team did a great job hosting this event.

The Atlantic Coast Championships were held in Malletts Bay this summer and were won by Allan Terhune as a warm up to his winning the NAs. Dave Peck, Bill Fastiggi, Peter Hall and Bill

Healy rounded out the top 5 in this 52 boat fleet. The sailing conditions in the outer bay were ideal and everyone had a great time.

Three Junior teams from Fleet 301 sailed at the Junior NAs in Niantic CT. Chad Miller, Peter Hazelett, and James Unsworth will all be back for a few more years to come and will be a real force on the Junior circuit in the future. At the Masters John Hughes ended up 3rd after having a 1,2 in the last race.

New England was well represented at the NAs in Cedar Point with Bill Fastiggi, Dave Gorman, Bretton Gardner and Don Brush sailing in the Blue Fleet, and Peter Hazelett, Joe Ray, and Chad Miller sailing in the Green Fleet. Everyone had a good time and a few bright moments, even though NE boats came home with any trophies.

This year's Squam Lake Lightning Regatta had 16 boats show up on August 23 and 24th, but the wind blew too hard for two days. One race in marginal conditions on Saturday turned out to be the only racing for the weekend. Ken Deyett won the race and the regatta followed by Ben Wallace and Christian Whatley.

The Bow Lake One Day regatta was held on September 13th. Bob Shapiro won the last two races to clinch the regatta with Ned Hinds and Ben Wallace in 2nd and 3rd.

The NE season finale was the Leaf Peeper held on October 11th and 12th. This is a great fall event and after 7 races Al Boucher ended up in first followed by Don Brush and Jamie Allan.

2004 looks to be a promising season. If you find yourself coming to New England next summer, bring your boat and come sail with us!!!



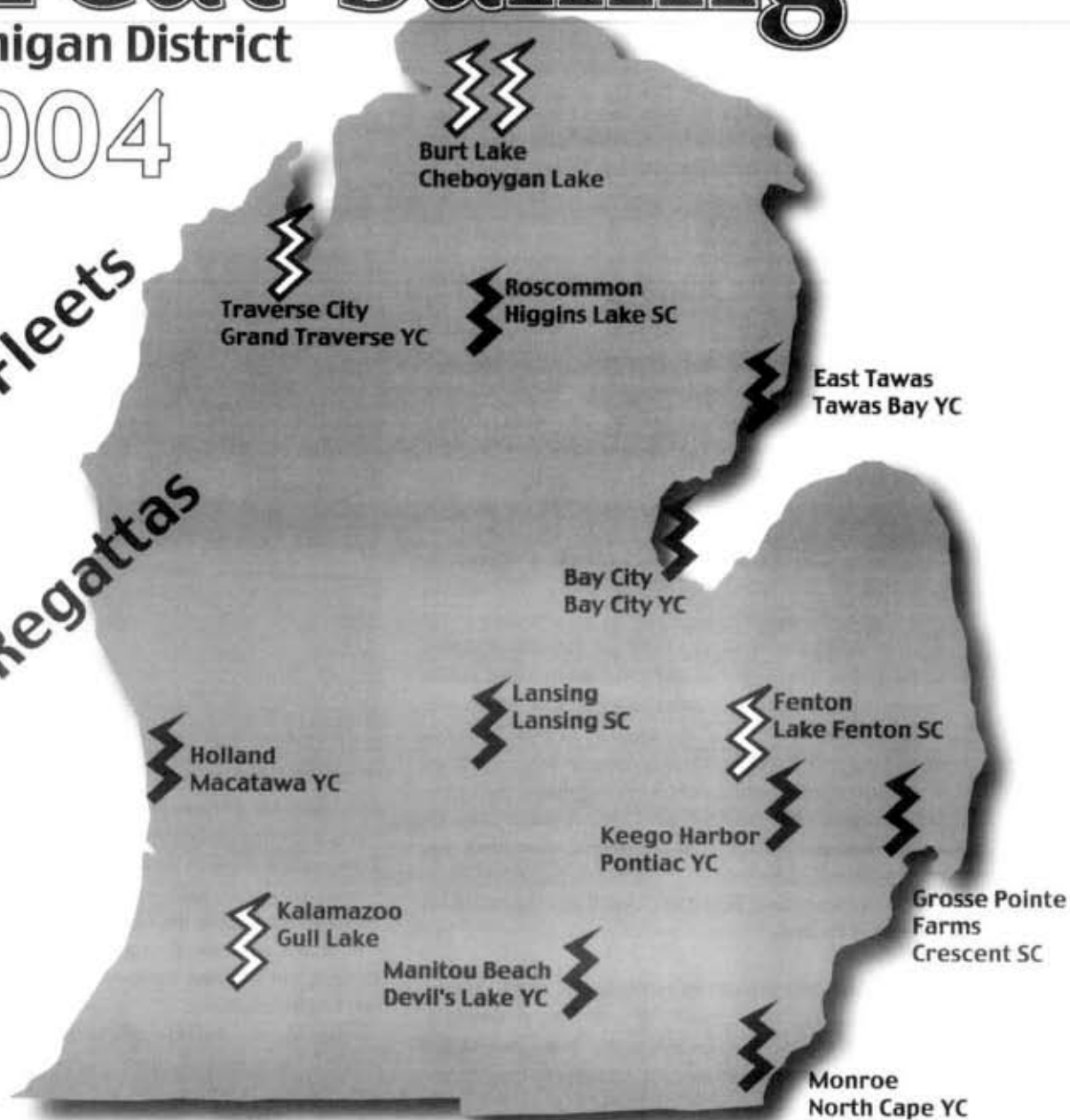
# Great Lakes Great Sailing

Michigan District

2004

Great Fleets

Great Regattas



TBA Tune-Up Regatta, Lansing S.C., Lansing [www.lansingsailing.org](http://www.lansingsailing.org)  
 May 15-16 North Cape Y.C., Monroe  
 June 19-20 Pontiac YC  
 July 24-25 Tawas Bay Y.C., East Tawas  
**July 20-21 Michigan District Championships, Bay City Y.C., Bay City**  
 July 31-Aug 1 Higgins Lake Invitational, Higgins Lake S.C., Roscommon

August 10-16 2004 North American Championships, Buffalo NY  
 Sept. 11-12 Pontiac White Cap Regatta, Pontiac Y.C., Keego Harbor  
 Sept. 18-19 Last Blast, Devils Lake Y.C., Manitou Beach  
 Oct. 2-3 Ice Breaker, Crescent Sail Y.C., Grosse Pointe Farms  
 Oct. 17 North Cape Fall Blow-Out, North Cape Y.C., Monroe

For more info, visit <http://www.lightningclass.org/Calendar/index.htm>

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## OHIO

District Commodore.....Mike Brock  
District Secretary/Treasurer.....Eric Brandt  
District Champion.....Skip Dieball  
District Runner-Up.....George Fisher

### Fleets:

Indian Lake 23; Leatherlips 27; Turkeyfoot 33; Pymatuning 36;  
Buckeye Lake 43; Rocky River 71; Mansfield Sailing Club 150;  
Atwood Yacht Club 212; Cowan Lake 303; Hoover 353;  
St. Mary's 400.

### Districts

The 2003 Ohio Districts were held at Indian Lake and were co-sponsored by Indian Lake (#23) and Leatherlips Yacht Club (#27). The event started on Friday afternoon with a Lightning Lab given by Skip Dieball from North Sails. Skip spent a few hours helping many with rig tune and some general lightning questions. The plan was then to get out on the water but some very strong storms came through the area and we had to move the class inside where we watched the Lightning training video. Skip took us through the video and stopped to answer many questions. Thanks to Skip for a great learning experience!

The racing was great with 16 boats participating in moderate breeze on Saturday and strong wind on Sunday. The Indiana Lake race committee did a great job and we were able to sail five windward leeward courses. Skip and Laurie Dieball took all the training Skip taught us on Fri and demonstrated how to execute it on the water with three bullets and the regatta win. Given Skip was out an out of district sailor, George Fisher, Eric Brandt and Dick Pugh get bragging rights to first, second and third place finishes respectively. Special thanks go to Eric Brandt (regatta chairman) and Jim Young at Indian Lake, for making this co-sponsored event a success. Mike Brock was voted sportsman of the year.

2004 Districts will be hosted at Cowan Lake. Mansfield has put in a bid for 2005.

### NA's

We did not send many boats to the NA's in 2003. George Fisher was the lone person to sail the Masters and Championship NA's. George placed 4th in the Masters and 24th in the Championship fleet.

Meagan Ruhlman along with Martha Fisher placed 4th in the Junior NA's.

### Miami World's

Ohio had good representation in Miami with George Fisher (6th), James Taylor (29th), Rob Ruhlman (48th) and Ryan Ruhlman (59th).

### Ohio Governor's Cup

The Cup is awarded annually to the skipper with the highest four finishes in the districts' sanctioned regattas including the district venue. This year it came down to James Taylor (Cowan) and Eric Brandt (Leatherlips) battling it out. Jim sealed the Cup

by winning Cowan's Fall-In regatta.

### Other News

New Members: Cowan Lake has picked up two new members and they are getting active in the club races.

Atwood's Harvest Moon regatta was cancelled for the first time due to flooding.

Mallory Cup - This year a Cowan Lake team consisting of James Taylor, Mike Brock and Steve Weeber qualified for the U.S. Sailing's Men's Championship in Highlanders. This team of skippers spent many weekends at the club practicing in Highlanders versus competing against each other in Lightnings.



After qualifying and just prior to heading to the finals at Lake Norman, Steve separated his shoulder while taking his boat out of the water at Pontiac's WhiteCap regatta. This put Steve out of commission and the team looking to find another Area E crew. The team stayed with the Lightning skipper theme and found Eric Brandt who quickly signed up and headed to North Carolina. In the finals the team finished 7th overall in some very tough competition.

George Fisher - A special note on George's accomplishments in 2003. As mentioned above with his finishes at the World's and District's, he also placed 3rd at St Pete Mid-Winters and 2nd at Frigid Digit.

Ohio Circuit Regulars - Special acknowledgement to these folks who helped keep attendance up on the OH circuit this past year: Tom Varley, Karla Varley, Jim Stone, Dave Gall, Eric Brandt, Steve Weeber, Jim Taylor, Mike Brock and Kurt Andrews.

### District Leadership

Dave Werley stepped down as Commodore for the past two years. Mike Brock takes over for Dave, and Eric Brandt will serve as Secretary/Treasurer.



## PACIFIC NORTHWEST

District Commodore for Life John DeBenedetti  
District Champion.....Darrell Peck

**Fleets:**

**Kitsilano Yacht Club 90; Lake Washington 132; Eugene 229;  
Columbia 283; Prairie 507.**

The PNW district seemed to have an average year of sailing. With fleets in Calgary, Alberta, Kelowna BC; Vancouver BC; Portland/Vancouver WA and Eugene; our district saw average turnouts.

Traveling seemed to be off a bit, as gas prices were extremely high for our far-flung district. We need to set up a regatta in the Puget Sound area.

The district championships were held at VLSC and were won by Darrell Peck of fleet 283. In the spring John DeBenedetti and crew went to San Diego for the California Circuit. However no one of this district went to the PCCs in Richmond--various excuses.

Jay had a great series and finished 7th, Jamie Allen 26th, Peter Hall 32nd Mike Holly and Doc Gorman had many good races and finished in the high 30's.

We experimented with team racing, had a blast, and realized Doc Gorman loves to attack from all positions! Peter had the opportunity to sail with many juniors, and had fun sailing with young focused determined ladies. Russ Scrim has moved back to Montreal and is figuring out what to do with his black machine (Mark Bryant's boat). Rod Hayes and crew participated in most local regattas, had lots of fun, and improved with their new sails.

Next year, we are going back to Wednesday night races, and thinking of fun racing (match team, obstacle) on Friday evening. Jamie Allen is planning to develop a junior team for the World Championships. Chantal Leger is training hard to represent Canada in the Yngling class at the 2004 Athens Olympics. We all wish her fast speed, fair winds, and great results.

Peter Hall.

## PERU

District Vice President.....Bruno Levaggi  
District Commodore.....Augusta Navarro

**Fleets: Yacht Club LaPunta 265; La Pinta 424.**

## ST. LAWRENCE VALLEY

District Commodore.....Peter Hall  
District Champion.....Jamie Allan  
District Runner-Up.....Peter Hall

**Fleets: Royal St. Lawrence Yacht Club 215; Pointe Claire Yacht Club 499.**

We had a fun season. Tony Staples is having twins (following his 1 year old), Scott Collins and bride are having a baby, Al Boucher and Christine had a second baby, and Valerie and Mike Holly are working at developing a crew! So our fleet is expanding in all directions!

Jamie Allen, Andrew and Brent won the class championship in a close battle all summer with Peter Hall second and Al Boucher third. Doc Gorman, Jamie Allen, Al Boucher and Mike Holly participated in many regional regattas with distinction.

At the Miami World Championships, Al Boucher, Chantal and





## SOUTHEASTERN

District Commodore.....Pete Marriott  
District Secretary/Treasurer/Webmaster.....Ron Wright  
District Measurer.....Carter Utzig  
District Champion.....Lenny Krawcheck  
District Runner-Up.....Pierce Barden

Traveling Series Champion Pierce Barden 2003  
World's Qualifier Bob Harkrider.

### Fleets:

Savannah 127; Clark's Hill 257; Lake Lanier 348; Catawba 365;  
Lake Norman 415; Greater Charleston 429; Palmetto 440;  
Lake Waccamaw 463; Wake 481; Tennessee Valley 500;  
Cape Fear 511.



*Bob Harkrider at the 2003 World's.*

Pierce Barden and Lenny Krawcheck split honors this year in the Southeastern District. Pierce won the Traveling Series while Lenny won the District Championship.

Pierce Barden opened the 2003 season with a win at the Cottonwood Regatta at Catawba Yacht Club, Charlotte, NC in April.

In May, Bob Harkrider won the third annual Voodoo Regatta on Lake Norman.

June brought ocean racing at Wrightsville Beach, Wilmington, NC. Very stiff breezes greeted us this year. After two races on Saturday the fleet was called in. That night we were treated to ferocious thunderstorm. On Sunday, racing was cancelled due to high winds. Pete Marriott won the shortened event.

Next we all converged on Raleigh for the SELD District Championships. What a difference a year makes. In 2002 we faced drought conditions across the Southeast. In 2003, the

district championships were moved to Lake Jordan due to flooding at Kerr Lake! Lenny Krawcheck won the District Championship by a scant point over Pierce Barden.

John Pelosi won the fifth regatta of the year off the coast of Oriental, NC.

When September arrived, we went back to the lakes. First it was the Augusta Regatta where Pete Marriott won his second regatta of the season.

At September's end, Pierce Barden won his second regatta at Lake Waccamaw.

Pete Marriott took the Atlanta Cup in early October.

That left our largest regatta – The Borderline. The Wake Fleet hosts a great regatta. The Borderline annually attracts national caliber sailors. 2003 was no different. Pierce Barden, Bob Harkrider, and Pete Marriott were the top three SELD finishers. Tom Allen, Jr. won the event.

It was a solid season in the Southeastern District. Participation was up and we welcomed several new faces to our circuit. We had ten boats qualify for traveling series awards, up from 8 in 2002.

Bob Harkrider represented us well at the 2003 World's. Carter Utzig finished in the medals as crew for Colin Park. Pierce Barden sailed his way in to the championship fleet at the North American Championships.

If you need a home for great Lightning sailing, check us out at [www.sailsoutheast.org](http://www.sailsoutheast.org).



*Pierce Barden at the 2003 North Americans.*





## SOUTHERN

District Commodore.....Dr. Larry Frost III  
 District Secretary.....John B. Waskom  
 District Measurer.....Dr. Larry Frost III  
 District Champion.....Dr. Larry Frost III  
 District Runner-Up.....Larry Frost Jr.

### Fleets:

Southern Yacht Club 62, Mobile Bay 135, Shreveport Yacht Club 175,  
 New Orleans Yacht Club 209, Jackson Yacht Club 388.

Like many districts around the country, we are putting a significant amount of energy into maintaining our visibility and presence within the local yachting communities.

2003 is closing with several very encouraging signs for continued health of our district.

Re-activated Fleet 388 at the Jackson, Ms. Yacht Club sponsored the District Championship Regatta and two invitational events drawing boats from several states.

Regatta participation and traveling by district members to area events has continued to grow and include some of our newer skippers. Inter District cooperation and travel with neighboring Tex. and Miss. Valley Districts has resulted in more competitive sailing and more enjoyment for all the participants. We have the first new boat in the district in several years and have had an encouraging turnover of existing boats into the hands of new boat owners. An exceptionally encouraging event was when our District Commodore, Dr. Larry Frost III, managed to sell two boats in one weekend to new owners at the Pass Christian Yacht Club. The expectation is they will have a new fleet by the start of the next season.

Our District Level 2003 Competitions included:

**The District Championship:** was sailed May 3 & 4 on Ross Barnett Reservoir at the Jackson Yacht Club, Jackson Ms. An "open" regatta was held to encourage all area Lightning sailors to attend. 3 races were completed Sat. afternoon in light shifting winds after a morning postponement to allow for wind. Sunday brought good winds which challenged the boat handling skills of each crew with lots of hiking on the weather legs and some exciting jibes on the downwind legs.

Dr. Larry Frost III turned in an unbeatable performance with 4 bullets and a second followed by the rest of us.

**The GYA Championship:** was sailed July 26 & 27 on the Gulf of Mexico at Pass Christian, Ms. The regatta was hosted by the Pass Christian Yacht Club, in conjunction with their Birthday Regatta. 3 races were sailed on Sat. and 2 on Sunday in light air and warm, humid Gulf Coast conditions. The Frost family was sailing well and won the top positions.

10812	Dr. Larry Frost III	Fleet 62	First
15126	Larry Frost Jr.	Fleet 62	Second
13170	Chris Frost	Fleet 62	Third

Congratulations to Dr. Larry Frost III. By winning both the District and GYA events, he repeats as the Combined Trophy winner.

All lightning sailors are invited and welcome to attend our District events in 2004:

Schedules are being developed and will be announced in the Flashes & on the web.

Spring Fling Regatta	Jackson Y.C.	April
School's Out Regatta	Punchartrain Y.C. Mandeville La	Early June
Southern District Championship	Location TBD	Time TBD
GYA Championship Regatta	Pass Christian Y.C.	Mid July
Wadewitz Regatta	Mobile Bay	Mid September
Hospitality Regatta	Jackson Yacht Club	Mid October
Sugar Bowl Regatta	Southern Yacht Club, New Orleans	December

**John Waskom, Southern District Secretary**

### THE "OFFICIAL REGATTA RESULTS"

10812	Dr. Larry Frost III	Fleet 62	5 points
14969	Batton Kennon	Fleet 274	15 points
14488	Bill Baxter III	Fleet 274	16 points
11311	John Waskom	Fleet 388	19 points (T)
15126	Larry Frost Jr.	Fleet 62	19 points (T)
11311	Joe McDevitt	Fleet 388	30 points





## SWITZERLAND

District Commodore.....Jacques Perret  
District Treasurer.....Margrit Graf  
District Measurer.....Urs Wyler  
District Champion.....Urs Wyler  
District Runner-Up.....Gilbert Despland

### Fleets:

Lac de Neuchâtel (169);

Sempacher-Hallwiler-/ Vierwaldstätter-Greifensee(250);

Murtensee (358).



Photo: Sophie Marc-Martin

### National activity:

This year we went again to Sempach the first weekend of May.

With a participation of four boats we just reached the minimum to organize a regatta. We were not lucky with the wind and we could just sail one race on Saturday afternoon.

In memory of our dear sailor fellow Claude Lambelet, who left us prematurely in January, we have changed the name of his baby, "The Fondue Regata", in "Memorial Claude Lambelet".

We have sailed our District Championship during this first Memorial in Neuchâtel on 25th and 26th October with a good participation of seven boats with the participation of two new members:

- Cédric Monnerat and crew on Gargantua 11858
- Jean-Michel Lüthi on Garoupa 12860

## Memoriam Claude Lambelet

Claude was a pioneer for the Lightning Class in Switzerland and in Europe and a mover for our activity since the fifties.

He was the initiator of the Europeans championship 1964 and 1980 in Neuchâtel. He was also active in the organization of the World Youth championship in 1994.

After the Second World War, Claude knocked about the world and was in Peru in the year 1948 and spent three years in Canada at the beginning in Ontario and in 1952 in Montreal.

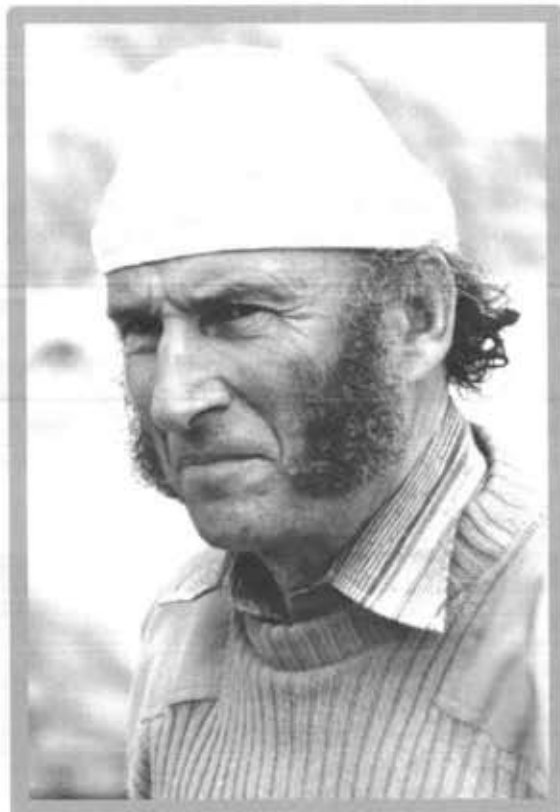
During his working life as ship chandler in Neuchâtel, Claude has had a lot of contacts with the professionals of the Lightning Class in the States (Bill Shore, Tom Allen, Harkens, etc) and in the seventies his son Laurent was working two years in the sail factory of Bill Shore.

As Lightning sailor Claude was active since 1954 till the end of his life. In 1960 he was Swiss Champion and European Runner-up. A second time Swiss Champion in 1964 and Italian Champion in 1976. Claude was also winner of the Winter European Championship of Marsala in Sicilia in the year 1978.

He sailed his last European Championship in 1999 and closed his international activity at the 2nd Europeans Masters Championship in Neuchâtel the same year.

Claude was also active in the Class administration as vice-president, commodore and was life member of the Class.

A faithful friend has let go... too early, Lightning sailors around the world will miss Claude.





*Photo: Sophie Marc-Martin*

#### **International activity:**

The crew Meltemi participated at the World Championship in Miami. They tried to take the Meltemi in their luggage, but they had to abandon this project because of transportation delay and sailed with a charter boat.

Congratulations for the beautiful 22nd final score!.

Unfortunately because of too late announcement of the event, it was not possible to bring the European sailors together and we have had to cancel the European Championship 2003.

Next year the European Championship will be organized in Switzerland in Grandson on the lake of Neuchâtel on the beginning of July.

We will do our best to motivate a maximum participation of Swiss boats for this event and we are sure that our sailor friends from Finland, Greece and Italy will snatch this opportunity to continue our class activity in Europe.

I wish to all, active and less active, a very good season 2004 and I make an appointment to all Europeans Lightning sailors in Grandson in July for the 51st Europeans Championship.

Jacques Perret.







## TEXAS

District Commodore.....Jeff Bodkin  
 District Champion.....Scott Anderson  
 District Runner-Up.....Ralph Blinks

### Fleets:

Corinthian Sailing Club 35; Rush Creek Yacht Club 435.

Activity continues to be oriented around the White Rock Lake area in the Texas District. Interest in Lightning racing seems to be on the upswing with a bid to hold the Sears Cup area F qualifiers in Lightning's at the Corinthian Sailing Club and efforts under way to co-host the Leukemia Cup regatta for the Dallas area. We hope to have 100+ boats participate in the regatta with a strong Lightning contingent in attendance. Notices of race and updates will be posted on the Class web-site as things firm up.

Plans are to hold the 2004 Texas District Championships at CSC as well, dates to be established at the annual meeting in January. Once determined these will be published on the Class web-site. Congratulations to Scott Anderson our Texas District Champion for 2003. Scott was the top finishing local boat at the regatta and as such was awarded the Championship. Full results are posted below.

Finally, I would like to thank all of the travelers who have visited us from the Southern District. We hope you will continue to visit on a regular basis and look forward to seeing you at your events as well.

### 2003 TEXAS DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS

PLACE	PARTICIPANT	FLEET #	HULL #
First	Batton Kennon	274	14969
Second	Scott Anderson	35	14817
Third	Bill Baxter	274	14000
Fourth	Ralph Bilnoski	35	11118
Fifth	Sylvain "Doc" Newman	35	13806
Sixth	Clancy McKenna	35	14344
Seventh	Vern Goldberg	35	13228

