

Hi, just a reminder that you're receiving this email because of your membership with the International Lightning Class Association. Don't forget to add office@lightningclass.org to your address book so we'll be sure to land in your inbox!

You may [unsubscribe](#) if you no longer wish to receive our emails.

78 years young and the Intl Lightning Class is still a leader in One-Design sailing!



Flash Blast April 15, 2016

Sponsored by Nickels Boat Works and WindRider International

**Lightning builder Nickels Boat Works and WindRider International
wants your business**

WindRider International and its manufacturing division Nickels Boat Works, can help you with all the sailboat parts and accessories you need. Get a 10% off coupon [CLICK HERE!](#) WindRiders' mission is to get people to Go Sail™ and we encourage community based sailing through [Go Sail Give Back™](#) in which we donate 6% of parts and accessories revenue to organizations chosen by you.

So please shop for your replacement parts and accessories for Lightning or other sailboats at www.windrider.com and designate the Lightning Class Boat Grant program or your own local sailing club to receive donations. Your club, class, school or similar organization can also receive wholesale discounts if you call to setup an account.

Thinking about a new Lightning? Trade-ins are considered so contact us with information about your current Lightning. Please email Dean Sanberg dean@windrider.com or call 888-609-2827.



A message from Dean Sanberg,
President, Nickels Boat Works - Learn
more about Go Sail Give Back™

Single advertisements are available for each Flash Blast. For more information or to reserve your spot please contact Laura in the [Class Office](#) or at 727-942-7969.

Notes from the Class Office

- Next Flash Blast deadline: April 29th.
- Next Flashes Content Deadline: Spring/Summer Issue: May 15th. Drop Date - June 1st
Email, Paper Copy Mid-June. Issue will include a look ahead for 2016.
- The remaining 2016 Flashes Schedule is as follows: Fall: Content Deadline, Sept 1st
(drop late Sept); Winter: Content Deadline, December 1st.
- We are looking for more articles and stories to use in all of our publications - short, long
or anything in between... if you don't have something to tell, what type of article(s) would
you like to see? Please send your thoughts to Todd Wake or theclass office.
- Looking for a new boat? Check out the [Classified Section](#)! There is a lot of activity
happening right now! Also check out the Sail Classified or Other Items Classified pages.

Lake Norman Spring/Stopover Regatta

North Carolina

April 23-24, 2016

Registration Reminder!!

This is just a friendly reminder to register for the Spring Championship (Stopover Regatta) at Lake Norman. The event is only a week away and the organizers are trying to get a head count for the caterer and beer supplier.

Join the 20+ boats already signed up! You'll be in great company... World Champions...North American Champions...with sailors coming from as far as Florida, Connecticut, New York and

Colorado! Don't miss out on the fun!!

Please register as soon as you can at http://www.regattanetwork.com/event/11642#_home

There are a few free housing options left. So after you register, please contact **Bill Wiggins** and inquire about housing for you and your team.

Hope to see you in the Carolina's!!

Rochester Yacht Club

Samson Rope 2016 Lightning North American Championships!

Rochester YC/Fleet 52

Rochester, New York

WJM's Aug 10-14

NA's Aug 13-19

Rochester YC is looking forward to hosting Lightning sailors in August! We are pleased to announce Samson Rope as the title sponsor. Samson Rope is partnering with APS/Annapolis to offer line packages for the Lightning. Event shirts and gear will be available on site at the Coral Reef Sailing Apparel store.

Sailing on Lake Ontario in August is warm, fresh water accessible re: a short sail out the Genesee River.

The Executive Committee has approved a 1:1 ratio so to qualify for the NAs you must register for your District Championship. The WJM's are an open event.

Rochester YC welcomes all sailors and family members to enjoy the facilities and will offer guest charge privileges during the event. The club has a swimming pool/snack bar, tennis courts, bar and dining room. Those who are not sailing can enjoy sitting on the deck right on the river and watch boats sail out and come in each day. RYC Sailing program, led by Holly and Liam are putting together a great week for Lightning Kid's Camp Monday-Friday during the NA's featuring a mid-week adventure to Rochester's famous: Strong Museum of Play. Kids Camp will include a mix of many fun activities for kids age 5 and up. **Kid's Camp Registration is open!**

Skip Shumway and Shumway Marine, the club's neighbor to the South has offered to make arrangements for those wishing to bring an RV and stay close by. Contact Skip at Shumway Marine to make arrangements directly with him: 585-342-3030.

The Housing Committee is making every effort to fill requests for housing for all junior teams who request housing by July 1st as well as to match up club members willing to host sailors in their homes or staying aboard boats in the basin. There are several recommended hotels with special rates for the event.

Saranac Beer has come on board as the event beer sponsor. The beer truck will be open for 2 hours after racing each day with free beer and soft drinks. Daily debriefs with snacks included will be scheduled after racing each day along with drawings for give away items from our

sponsors.

Come for the **Womens, Juniors and Masters** and enjoy an evening at Seabreeze Amusement Park Friday evening. Welcoming meeting Thursday night includes food and drink, RYC cookout Saturday night and Awards party Sunday after racing. NA's begins with a practice race on Sunday afternoon August 14th with an Opening Ceremonies party (food and drink), a Monday night dinner after the debrief featuring entrees from two of Rochester's famous food trucks, Wednesday RYC cookout, and Awards Friday evening followed by a buffet meal and entertainment.

The club setting is a perfect place to enjoy socializing after sailing each day.

Springboard Regatta

Western Carolina SC/Fleet 391

Anderson, South Carolina

April 2-3, 2016



Team McCray edges out Team Whitesides by one point for the win....

Western Carolina Sailing Club kicked off it's annual Springboard Regatta with beer and social activities

Friday night before racing April 2-3. For those who have never been, the club is set atop a citadel

overlooking Lake Hartwell, South Carolina. The sheltered launching areas, docks, and campgrounds

supplement the panoramic views and legendary hospitality of this awesome club.

This years version saw extremely windy conditions Saturday with gusts well into the high 20's. Paul Whitesides and his crew Carter Cameron and Laura Dupnik sailed to a tight victory in race one with Henry McCray and his Full Bunny crew of Mays Dickey and Scott Watson in second. After the race the fleet- along with the Highlanders and Buccaneers- deemed it too windy to be either safe, or fun, or both, and we headed to shore. Saturday night the club delivered another awesome dinner and social for all three fleets (and friends.)

Sunday awoke to much quieter conditions with a 5-7 knot breeze which was forecast to die. The RC quickly got us going... read the entire report and see the full results [click on the title above](#).

TX District Champs/Elissa Regatta

Houston Yacht Club

Shoreacres, Texas

April 9-10, 2016



Team Frost from New Orleans, LA won the Elissa Regatta by one point over Team Beckman from TX, who took the tilte of TX District Champs!

Team Beckman - TX District Champs!

They had sunny skies and building winds from the southeast on Saturday. Races one and two were in breezes of 10-12mph. Race three was in 12-15mph. Race four was in 15-20mph. Sunday morning was sunny with southerly breezes 18-20mph. For full results click on the title above.

5th Annual Moonshine Regatta

Virginia Inland Sailing Assoc

April 9-10, 2016

A clipper system moved through the Mid-Atlantic on Saturday and Sunday and created havoc on Smith Mountain Lake.

Temperatures were below freezing at times and gusts were measured on the committee boats up to 45 mph. Racing was abandoned early on Saturday and crews enjoyed what the surrounding area had to offer including brewery tours, sightseeing around the lake, and, of course, naps. The weather didn't dampen the atmosphere of the social Saturday night which consisted of Caribbean-style food and Southwest Virginia-style drinks. Sunday dawned clear, cold, and windless but the stalwarts managed to get one light air race in to call it a regatta. Bob Wardwell and his crew took the line honor. Thanks to everyone who came! We look forward to next year and getting back on our winning streak of awesome wind! Click on the title above for a full listing of results.

Fleet Development - Will you be a "Plus One" this year?

Bill Cabrall

Fleet 488 Fleet Captain

Denver, Colorado

...Often, the addition or subtraction of only a single boat per year, year over year, will make or break a fleet. Like football's turnover ratio, it is a lot better to be 'Plus One' rather than 'Minus One' at the end of a game/season. Our experience in Colorado has been that fleets that are 'Minus One' for more than a year or two are gone shortly after that. Now is the perfect time to do the planning to make sure that your fleet is 'Plus One' this year...and next year, and the year after that.

For example, have you found that it has gotten harder and harder to attract and keep sailors with young families active in your fleet? Do you know how old their kids are, and what activities are competing for their attention? Your fleet may have raced every Thursday night for generations, but if youth soccer in your community holds their games that evening, you are competing against every middle school in your community. Racing on Wednesday might be a much better option.

Now is the time to do the research needed to figure out such things, to schedule a Lightning Lab, to establish a fleet level 'boat grant' program, to talk to your juniors about going to the WJMs next summer, and to do all of the other things that make your fleet a special place to be in your community.

Making some decent but older boats available is also a good idea. The newest member of our fleet, for example, is a high school student that just bought his first boat. Yes, it needs a little elbow grease, but it was cheap and he has the time and a huge smile on his face! We are delighted to see him sailing with us. If you know where the boats that are no longer active in

your fleet have gone, and why they have faded away, then you will be able to find ways to bring them back or get them passed on to active sailors.....

Bill put together wonderful piece with a lot of ideas and resources, be sure to click on the title link above to read the full article.

Upcoming Events

click on the title for a full schedule of events

April

Short Courses	San Diego, California	17-Apr
The Post-Circuit Stopover Event!	Mooresville, North Carolina	April 23 - 24
Hellenic Championship Cup	Voula, Greece	April 23 - 24
Long John	Red Bank, New Jersey	April 30 - 1

May

Burl Harmon Memorial IndianaOpen Regatta	Indianapolis, Indiana	May 7 - 8
No Gas Regatta	Annapolis, Maryland	May 7 - 8
US Sailing Area F Youth/Sear"s Cup Qualifier in Lightning"s	Shoreacres, Texas	8-May
Southeastern District Championship	Savannah, Georgia	May 14 - 15
Lake Lansing Regatta	Haslett, Michigan	14-May
Pymatuning Yacht Club Spring Classic	Jamestown, Pennsylvania	May 14 - 15
32nd Annual Doc Gilbert Potomac Cup Regatta	Virginia	May 14 - 15
Bay Series	San Diego, California	15-May
Great Lakes Leukemia Cup	Grosse Pointe Park, Michigan	21-May
Mini Off Shore Regatta	Voula, Greece	21-May
FL District Championship	St Pete Beach, Florida	May 21 - 22
Southern District Championship & Jubly Wynn Regatta	New Orleans, Louisiana	May 28 - 29

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