

1977 Report:

PENTWATER LIGHTNING FLEET (340) Michigan District Sailing on Lake Pentwater at Pentwater, Michigan

Fleet Captain Don Lambrix
Fleet Secretary . . . Chris Cowles & Jeff Lambrix
Regatta Chairman Alan Graettinger,
Dan & Pat Fawkes

Fleet Champion Alan Graettinger, Arnie &
Jenne Samuel

First Runner-Up Jeff Lambrix

Second Runner-Up Tim Northrup

Boat No.	Boat Name	Skipper
6889	Dave Anderson
9259	Took	Mary Ann Bates
9412	Alethia	Donald N. Basler
10071	Wiki-Wiki	Peter, Timothy & Martha B. Northrup
10606	Willi Waw II	Don Lambrix
11134	Frantic	Milford M. Miller
12177	Mac Cowles
12371	Dandy Lion	George Roth
12372	John Scott
.....	Alan Graettinger

Year after year the Pentwater Lightning Fleet has a surprise or two and always an abundant supply of exciting racing. 1976 was no exception. When was the last time you used adhesive tape to hold up your jib?

The season opened in mid-June with the Pentwater Invitational Regatta which attracted boats from Tawas Bay to Detroit. Unfortunately, it had to be scheduled before the club was in full gear and, thus, was sailed without most of the home fleet, but did provide a colorful sight from the beach and the lake. Garry Demarest won comfortably winning three of the four races over good competition. The fleet racing began the following weekend and continued through the end of August. All were blessed with exceptionally good weather during the summer with very few overpowering days—allowing all races to be sailed as scheduled. The racing moved to Sundays only this season, racing two back-to-back, allowing more efficient use of the club's facilities with the expanding sailing program.

A former fleet champion boat *Frantic* with a new crew of Alan Graettinger and Arnie and Jenne Samuel swept honors by winning the June, July, August, and Club Championship Series. Placing second in the June Series was the Lambrix boat which consistently places at or near the top of the fleet. George Roth and Tim Northrup tied for third place. Tim Northrup quickly moved up to second place in the July Series. The Lambrix crew was third while Chris Cowles placed fourth in the series. Jeff Lambrix and Alan Graettinger, two long time Pentwater sailors, and their crews duelled closely on the race course all summer. In the last race of the August Series *Frantic's* Tim Miller was on board to inspire a last second victory near the finish line to capture the series. George Roth placed third and Tim Northrup was fourth.

Following *Frantic* in the championship series (all races) were: Jeff Lambrix, second; Tim Northrup, third; George Roth, fourth; and Chris Cowles, fifth. Other boats providing good competition throughout the season were skippered by Sue Scott, Ramey Galt, Doug Basler, Dave Anderson, Mary Ann Bates, and Bob Schoonbeck. Walt Hallenbeck, after twenty years of enthusiastic racing, retired from the fleet last year, but at least Jim March will be returning the boat to the campaign next summer. Connie Dumas is organizing a new Sail Week '77 which will give everybody some extra fun sailing and a few surprises. 1977 promises to be another great summer!