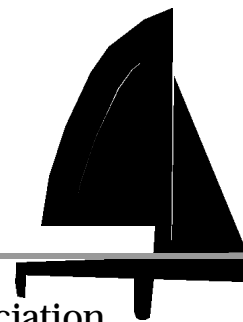


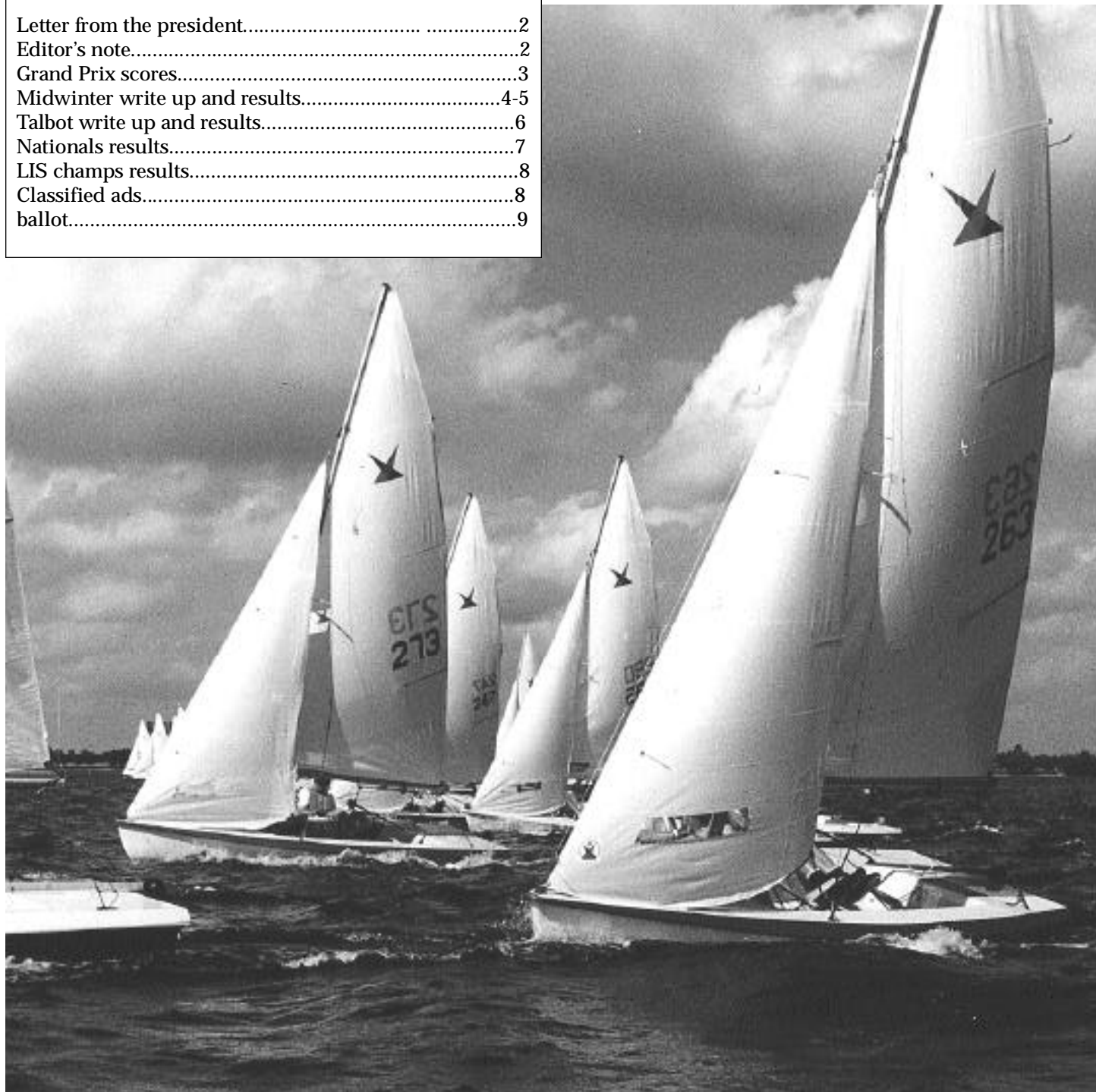
BOWDOWN



The Official Newsletter of the Vanguard 15 Class Association

Index to this issue

Letter from the president.....	2
Editor's note.....	2
Grand Prix scores.....	3
Midwinter write up and results.....	4-5
Talbot write up and results.....	6
Nationals results.....	7
LIS champs results.....	8
Classified ads.....	8
ballot.....	9



News From The President

Although it is the middle of January, and most of us (except those lucky enough to be sitting in 60° heat in Boston) are shivering through winter; I wanted to take this opportunity to fill everyone in on all the changes that have been taking place in the Vanguard 15 Class.

First of all, at the annual meeting, Jim Weber, Francis Blesso and Kyle Welch stepped down as class officers after two years of service. They have accomplished a great deal for the class association. A new slate of officers was nominated and will take over the responsibilities of running the class subject to the members' approval. They are:

Martha Carleton, President
Polly Gibbons-Neff, Vice President
Tim Fallon, Secretary/Treasurer

Your voting ballot is on page 9.

This year has been an important one for the Vanguard 15 Class. We officially separated the organization of the class from our manufacturer (Vanguard) and are now fully run, and managed by the members of the V15 class association.

The V15 Class has grown considerably over the course of 1998. New fleets were organized in Texas and California, not to mention an increased presence in Chicago and Cleveland. And 1999 has begun well, with many new members (and all the returning members) who joined in Miami for the mid-winters (see page 4).

In looking forward to the upcoming year, we would like the class to continue to grow and develop, while maintaining the same level of competition at regattas. The class officers and the technical committee are trying to solidify the V15 rules by the beginning of the upcoming sailing season.

Most importantly, we want everyone to keep sailing and having fun at V15 events. With that in mind, if there are ways in which you think the class could improve or ideas that would help your fleet develop, please let us know.

Hope to see you all on the racecourse soon.

—Martha Carleton, President-elect

A Note From The Editor

As I pass into my second year as newsletter editor, I want to remind the class that **we need your input for the newsletter**. If you go to a regatta or have an interesting experience, write about it. If you figure out a neat trick for rigging, launching, or making the boat go super-fast (and care to share it) drop a note. If you have an opinion on, for example, ooching, let me know, so we can let the class know. Also if anyone has a suggestion for any way to get more people involved in the class—one thing that has been discussed is a women's event in the spring—suggest it. And don't forget the free classified listings. Otherwise the newsletter will become just a listing of results and ads.

There are, as Martha mentioned, a number of new fleets, and fleets that have grown in 1998, such as the Texas and San Francisco fleets. If you all are holding a summer series, or hosting regattas, please send me results and announcements. Many V15 owners travel, and the more regattas we know about the better for developing a truly national class.

In addition, **I need your pictures**. Snapshots are great, but anything scannable works. It would be great to include pictures of the events we are writing about in the newsletter. **Get yourself in print! immediate fame!** Send all material to me either by email, sailmail@channel1.com or to SAIL Magazine, 84 State St., Boston, MA 02109 —Gaelen Phyfe

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V15 1998 Grand Prix Circuit Final Scores

Congratulations to 1998 Grand Prix series winner Jim Weber, and to top Female finisher Whitney Connor!!!

1	Jim Weber	235.5	36	Tim Herzog	71	70	Matt Denatale	41	105	Colin Farrar	19.5	139	Joe Harris	8
2	Francis Blesso	189	37	Bill Hardesty	70	71	J Fava	40	106	Matt Cottrell	19.5	140	F Perkins	8
3	Graeme Woodworth	184.5	38	Karl Ziegler	70	72	J Kelly	38.5	107	Mel Levy	19.5	141	Steve Perry	7.5
4	Park Benjamin	171.5	39	Andrew Horton	69	73	Mark Zagol	37	108	Adam Deermount	19	142	Chris Crane	6
5	Dan Herlihy	169	40	David Ellis	65	74	R Costello	37	109	Hamish Murdoch	18	143	Jim Bigham	6
6	Andrew Buttner	169	41	Bill Smith	63.5	75	Dean Balcirak	36	110	Bill Faude	18	144	Mac McDevett	6
7	Timothy Fallon	168	42	Patrick Downey	63	76	M Callahan	35	111	P Ginz	18	145	Fred Hagedorn	6
8	Josh Adams	154.5	43	Ward Cromwell	59	77	Brent Harrill	34	112	Liz Morrow	18	146	B Sandberg	6
9	Chris McDowell	147	44	White/Bessette	59	78	J Camara	34	113	Jamie Ewing	17	147	Cloudy Snaith	6
10	Zack Leonard	143.5	45	Andrew Green	58	79	Anthony Kotoun	34	114	Andrew Murdoch	16.5	148	David Graham	6
11	Kyle Welch	140.5	46	C Curreri	58	80	Paul Bearis	33	115	Ann Renzy	16.5	149	Lee Sackett	5
12	Bern Noack	136.5	47	Tracy Haley	57	81	Mike Breault	33	116	Carissa Harris	16	150	Chris Odom	5
13	Mike Zani	131	48	Kyle Shattuck	56	82	Larry Ehrhardt	33	117	Aaron Houston	15	151	K Logue	5
14	Tim Wadlow	129	49	B. Wagner	56	83	Ned Roseberry	33	118	D Rynne	15	152	Chad Brick	5
15	Rob Richards	129	50	Ben Altman	55	84	Polly Gibbons/Neff	32	119	John Murray	15	153	Dean Whitman	4.5
16	Whitney Connor	118	51	Mike Richards	55	85	David Dowd	31	119	Dewey Canning	00	154	Peter Crumley	4.5
17	Lars Guck	116.5	52	C. Siegal	53	86	A. Rosenfeld	30.5	120	Pete Collins	15	155	Stephen Katz	4.5
18	Ed Lalanne	109.5	53	Mark Powell	51	87	J Loutrel	30	121	John Senger	14	156	Joerg Esdorn	4.5
19	Steve Kirkpatrick	109.5	54	Andrew Herlihy	51	88	Mark Ivey	29	122	Brent Creelman	13.5	157	Paul Whitesides,III	4
20	Josh Gleason	108	54	Blueberry Close	00	89	Kenneth Wolfe	28	123	Dan Feldman	13.5	158	Mark Denatale	4
21	Mike Collins	104.5	55	Dave Reynolds	50.5	90	Ken Allen	28	124	John Condon	13	159	Brian Wood	3
22	Chad Demarest	99.5	56	Harcourt Schutz	49	91	M Birman	28	125	Jay O'Malley	12	160	Doug Shilliday	3
23	Pete Conway	98.5	57	Ryan Mahoney	49	92	Senet Bischoff	28	126	Art Kessler	12	161	Paul Kleinmann	3
24	Ezra Smith	92	58	Richard Feeny	48	93	Rob Maxim	27	127	Stuart Colie	12	162	D Turnbull	3
25	Scott Nixon	88.5	59	Katie McDowell	48	94	Peter Wadsworth	27	128	Mike Buczkowski	11	163	Gavin Watson	3
26	Caitlin Mcallister	85.5	60	C Merrick	47	95	Kevin Downey	26	129	Andrew Stackhouse	11	164	H Ostrander	2
27	Will Stout	84	61	Gaelen Phyfe	46.5	96	Tommy Bremen	24	130	Tom Kent	10.5	165	Bob Perrone	2
28	John Edenbach	83	62	Mason Woodworth	46	97	J Elvart	24	131	Mike Devlin	10.5	166	Brita Formato	1.5
29	Barr Batzer	81	63	Carlos Lenz	46	98	Lee icyda	23	132	Josh Raymond	10.5	167	Kyle Burton	1.5
30	Ted Ferrarone	81	64	Stan Schreyer	46	99	W Welles	23	133	Roger Morris	10	168	George Garey	1.5
31	W. Mason	81	65	Chris Arner	46	100	Jamie Logan	22.5	134	Charlie Branning	9	169	Brian Brennan	1.5
32	John Baxter	79	66	Doug Clark	45	101	Bob Merrick	22.5	135	Roger Mays	9	170	Daniel Freeborn	1.5
33	Rickey Tagg	73	67	Tina Hazard	44	102	Dennis Bell	21	136	Dave Abbott	9	171	Paul Whitesides, Jr.	1
34	Todd Hudgins	73	68	PJ Schaffer	42	103	Ben Marden	21	137	H. Thompson	9	172	Peter McGowan	1
35	Michael Welch	72	69	Tucker Thompson	41	104	Henrick Dunleavy	21	138	Julie Caldwell	8.5	173	Mark Bear	1

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REGATTA RESULTS and Write-Ups

1998 Vanguard Midwinter Championship - Miami, Florida

With only six boats pre-registered, we had 53 boats representing the Northeast, California, Chicago, Texas, mid-Atlantic and the Southeast appear for the 1998 Midwinter's in Miami, Florida. The event was hosted by the Miami Yacht Club and sponsors included Douglas Gill, Sailing World, Bags By Mimi and Sea Fever Gear. We were given T-shirts and funding to help pay our damage deposit by the Orange Bowl Committee, who has now recognized our midwinter's as part of their event.

Exhausted, caffeine over-dosed, competitors slowly started arriving on Sunday, after the adventure drive, to get their boats unloaded and rigs up. The few that were camping found their tent space and cribbed down amongst the red ants and pricklers—the Chicago clan could have all slept in the enclosed three boat trailer that they brought down, they definitely get the “travel in style” award.

Early Monday morning, registration began and everyone received their killer T-shirts, designed by Catherine Leonard in Annapolis. Terry Bischoff and his top notch race committee team got the skippers meeting rolling and all 53 boats set sail to make their way out to the Venetian causeway. The course area offered flat, shallow water and open sailing, ideal for big triangles and windward leewards.

The first day consisted of light and shifty breeze but we were able to complete 5 races easily. Tuesday started with

almost no breeze which made it difficult to get out to the course. Finally, the breeze filled in after what seemed like a dozen general recalls. Not only did the breeze fill, but it continued to build. Competitors started dropping their pins and cranking on their halyards—some people had their pins pretty low to begin with and were afraid of dropping their rig - not me of course!

Let the games begin. The breeze picked up to about 12 and our last few races offered excellent fleet racing conditions. Some of us on the lighter side had some issues hanging in the breeze, while the big dogs grinded through to finish strong and battled for the top positions. After completing nine races, the trophies supplied by Douglas Gill were presented to the top five boats, see results page 5. The top womens trophy went to Tracey Hayley/Louise Vanvoorhies, top masters went to Levy/ O'Neil, and top junior went to Colin Merrick/Anna Kilkenny (in this case under 21 because we did not have anyone under 18).

This year's midwinters turned out to be a great event despite the lack of wind on the first day. However, the PRO asked if we would think about returning the fleet racing portion of midwinters to Stuart, which will be in a new location next year. Imagine, the same great event at a sailing center that actually wants to help run the event, organize food and deal with social activities. —Polly Gibbons-Neff

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USTRA Midwinter's

After two days of competitive fleet racing, most teams were ready for three days of high cutthroat team racing. The teams were warmed up and ready for action. Due to the thong-bikini shoot occurring directly across from the start, it was all that I could do to keep my skipper in the boat! The three day regatta consisted of light, shifty breeze and short courses right in front of the club. The PRO, Jeff Bresnahan, and Zucker's stellar team of race committee ran a fair event despite the breeze.

Jeff used an unusual rotation, based on rankings. Each team was given an initial ranking and each day you were placed on one course or the other depending on your record from the previous rotation—regardless of your initial ranking.

The social scene varied from South Beach to Coconut Grove and constantly offered pure entertainment for the preppy sailor type!! The Tavern in Coconut Grove sponsored one of the teams and had drink specials for the competitors one of the night. It was great fun to have everyone in the same bar. Furthermore, the New Year's Bash was anything but boring. By 12:01 fireworks were going off over South Beach, cheap champagne was flowing everywhere, togas were stripped on the beaches of Biscayne Bay, and boats set sail by the light of the moon.

New Years Day...Painful! But we were able to finish the rotation with some bang-up races on both courses. Then people hit the beach and started packing up their gear for the 25 hour commute back to home. Trophies supplied by Sea Fever Gear were awarded to the top five teams, see results —Polly Gibbons-Neff

1998 V15 Midwinter Championship Results

Miami Yacht Club, December 28-29, 1998

1.Fallon/Armitage 44; 2.Richards/Largay 57; 3.Horton/Sheahan 70; 4.Welch/Lackey 73; 5.Smith/Wilson 74; 6.Wadlow/Bell 81; 7.Hayley/Vanvoorhies 91; 8.Baker/Dimock 95; 9.Benjamin/Prior 98; 10.Shattuck/Macallister 100; 11.Woodworth/Icyda 109; 12.Siegal/Boardman 114; 13.Herlihy/Nelson 114; 14.Bellerman/Hall 129; 15.Sellers/Norris 130; 16.Merrick/Kilkenny 138; 17.Edenbach/Harrington 141; 18.Denatale/Morel 141; 19.Baxter/Bowen 147; 20.Buttner/Renzulli 149; 21.Pusch/Lowder 159; 22.Lalanne/Melanson 162; 23.Key/Rosenfeld 163; 24.Smith/Butlin 169; 25.O'Connor/O'Connor 181; 26.Funk/Calderbach 184; 27.Forbes/Gray 191; 28.Deermont/Keith 194; 29.Gaffney/Gaffney 209; 30.Ziegler/Huang 215; 31.Thompson/Hall 222; 32.Gibbons-Neff/Johnson 228; 33.Levy/O'Neil 233; 34.Perkins/Perkins 234; 35.Condon/Hinman 242; 36.Pitcavage/Pitcavage 249; 37.Casidy/Priestly 252; 38.Wurtzebach/Fox 254; 39.Powell/Powell 257; 40.Hazard/Matthews 264; 41.Galway/Williams 273; 42.Mason/Younger 283; 43.Harris/Ashford 290; 44.Furry/Graham 322; 44.Brennan/VanDam 326; 45.McMichael/Hall 334; 46.Irving/Irving 346; 47.Crane/Crane 361; 48.Church/Hwang 363; 49.Bordignon 367; 50.Marten/Conzala 377; 51.McDevett/Scope 380; 52.Huyskens 383; 53.Mohinddin 390

Team Racing results:

GOLD

1 ConLeche 33-4
2 Gorditas 27-10
3 Chicos 24-12
4 BUTTNER 21-16
5 Hofnar 21-17
6 Gang Green 21-16
7 Hobart 14-22
8 CO/BC/BU 14-25

SILVER

1 KY200 24-12
2 Not Navy 17-20
3 Two Spent 17-18
4 Tavern 16-20
5 Simpsons 14-20
6 Mrs O'Learys Cow 6-29
7 Windy City 1-34

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VANGUARD SAILING CENTERS

Jimmy Talbot Memorial Regatta

Held October 3-4, 1998 in Chicago, Illinois. 24 Lasers and 16 Vanguard 15's challenged the wind and waves off of Chicago's Belmont Harbor the weekend of October 3 & 4. Both days saw winds from 15 to 22 knots out of the East raising waves in the 2 to 4 foot range. Many boats elected to not race all of the races, but the regatta was close for those who did, and fun for everyone including the RC and support boats who saw some spectacular action.

Three Vanguard 15's were separated by 2 points after the first three races. Paul Wurtzebach and Barb Fox McBriarty at 6, Ben Altman and Elizabeth McCance with 7 and Ben Marden and Erica Beutler had 8. Sunday found the Wurtzebach McBriarty team tuned in as they swept all 3 races to finish the 6 race one throwout series with 6 points. The other two teams held their respective positions from Saturday night.

The Laser fleet saw people within shooting distance of the lead held at the end of Saturday by Kurt Taulbee of Buffalo, New York. Kurt had 6 points followed by Canadian Chris Cook at 7, local Shawn O'Neill at 9 and Adam Bowen, Lars Hansen and Jeremy Crowder lurking back at 15, 15 and 16 respectively. Kurt's impressive 1, 1, 2 to clinch the regatta was nearly matched by Cook's 3,2,1. O'Neill fell off the pace a little bit compounded by a broken top section in the last race denying him any chance at holding off Lars Hansen for third overall and top master.

Next year will have more of the same, but better. It will also be the Vanguard 15 National Championship, so there will be two separate courses.

Jimmy Talbot Regatta results:

1. Paul Wurtzebach/Barb Fox 6; 2. Ben Altman/Elizabeth McCance 12; 3. Ben Marden/Erica Beutler 17; 4. Mel Levy/Sue O'Neil 21; 5. Scott Willey/Drew Loeller 25; 6. Tom Kent/Mary Bruecker 29; 7. Tony Bordingnon/Dan Bochnovic 33; 8. Tom Kane/Jerilyn Kane 53; 9. Scott Muyskens/Jill Goldman 60; 10. Mike Considine/Marta Considine 71; 11. Brett Liebmann/Jamie Gwidt 73; 12. Adrian Irving/Cheree Dillon 74; 13. Stephen Katz/Wil Rafol 77; 14. Paige Roseen/Anja Rosenberg 78; 15. Dave Abbot/John Abbot 85; 16. Bob Kirby/Rob Zerban 85

The Hampton Fleet hosted a small one day regatta on November 14. We had 6 boats, did 7 short races and had great weather (60 degrees, 10-12 knots of breeze). We plan to host some more events next year and hope to get the mid-atlantic fleet more involved and growing.

Results as follows:

1. Todd and Kristen Hudgins 12pts
2. Tina Hazard and Mike Park 19 pts
3. McDevitt and Julie Scope 22 pts
4. Stanley and Peyton Hassinger 23 pts
5. Sterling Spruill and Kim Senger 30 pts
6. Jennifer Dewey and Josh Crosby 41 pts

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1998 Vanguard 15 National Regatta October 3-4, 1998, Toms River, New Jersey

1	26 Zack Leonard/Katie McDowell	34	27	25 Stuart Colie/ John Munderson	187 J1
2	17 Graeme Woodworth/Megan Bohlen	37	28	27 David Reynolds/Lisa Core	191
3	12 Tim Fallon/Kim McManus	41	29	41 Tim Herzog/Erin Davis	192
4	46 Karl Ziegler/Chris Museler	45	30	4 Tina Hazzard/ Mark Matthews	222
5	6 Anthony Kotoun/Matt Lindblad	46	31	10 John Senger/Robert Ragsdale	229
6	32 Chris McDowell/Brendan Prior	54	32	5 Gaelen Phyfe/ Sarah Skeie	231
7	28 Lars Guck/Victoria Guck	69	33	2 David Graham/Chris Sheldrick	244
8	9 Josh Adams/Brett Davis	70	34	21 Had Brick/Steve Schmitt	253
9	8 Park Benjamin/Candace Prior	80	35	24 Polly Gibbons-Neff/Heidi Johnson	264
10	18 Francis Blesso/Alex Manley	88.00	36	7 John Murray/Marybeth Martin	267
11	44 Senet Bischoff/Martha Carleton	93.00	37	37 Bob Peronne/Steve Gunther	281
12	23 Rob Richards/Molly Merrill	95	38	22 Mark Bear/Ashley Bear	320
13	11 Joshua Gleason/Lewis Gleason	107	38	14 Larry Ehrhart/Kiri Wilson	320.00
14	31 Jim Weber/Michael Devlin	109			
15	19 Ned Roseberry/Dorsey Warfield	110			
16	29 Todd Hudgins/Kristin Hudgins	113			
17	30 Andrew Buttner/Kimberly Gresalfi	129			
18	48 Ezra Smith/Heidi Thoma	133			
19	16 W Mason/Sarah Taylor	133			
20	1 Adam Deermount/ Coury Yetman	136			
21	3 Ted Ferrarone/Kenny Lao	147			
22	43 Pete Conway/Carolyn Pitcavage	157			
23	35 Chris Curreri/Tim Hall	170			
24	13 Pete Collins/Meredeth Schreyer	173			
25	20 Amy Rosenfeld/Lynn Rasic	183			
26	15 Chris Arner/Kiara Knudsen	186			

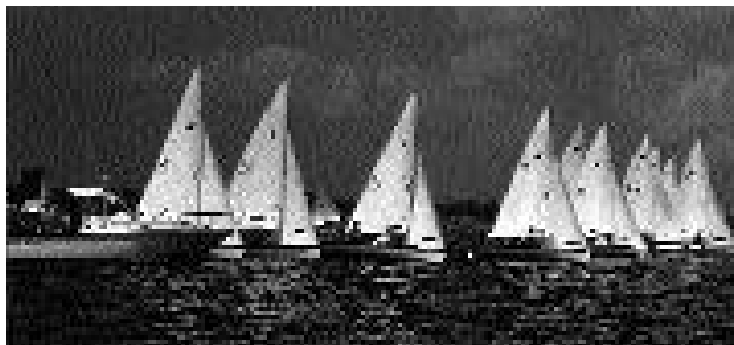


Photo: Eric Mays

Vanguard 15 Long Island Sound Championship

September 26-27, Noroton, Connecticut

- 1 311 Jim Weber/Fred Sage 24
- 2 135 Chris McDowell/Brandon Prior 26
- 3 379 Park Benjamin/Candice Prior 26
- 4 118 Josh Gleason/Louis Gleason 27
- 5 552 Robert Merrick/Liza Gleason 27
- 6 181 Francis Blesso/Jesse Picunico 29
- 7 165 Steve and Jane Kirkpatrick 45
- 8 203 Liz Morrow/Larry Reid 53
- 9 195 Amy Rosenfeld/Lynn Ragic 62
- 10 35 Chris Curreri/Tim Hall 74
- 11 425 John Kelly/Susanna Mieran 75
- 12 374 John Murray/Elizabeth Fox 77
- 13 210 Josh Raymond/Jen Renshaw 78
- 14 540 Polly Gibbons-Neff/Heidi Johnson 84
- 15 455 Gaelen Phyfe/James Phyfe 85
- 16 215 Cleody Snaith/Sara Sherter 89
- 17 633 Joerg Esdorn/Daniel Esdorn 106
- 18 234 Gavin Watson/Bill O'Donnell 123
- 19 433 Daniel Freeborn/Lisa Murphy 139

Classifieds

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1995 V15. Sailed very little, Seitech dolly, bottom cover, always garage stored. Like new. Asking \$3900. Contact Jim Karalekas 781-941-2433 jim_karalekas@cw.com

Hull # 411. White deck and hull. Includes Seitech dolly, deck cover, mast sleeve, vang swivel, and fast pins. Contact Daniel Feldman 847-433-0551

Hull #26 (1998 National Champ!), cover, blade bag, 3 jibs (one brand new), dolly. Contact Zack at zleonard@lbccom.com or zleonard@lbcdesign.com

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(You must be a member to vote—see form on back)

I vote to elect the following slate of officers:

YES / NO

- 1) Martha Carleton - **President**
- 2) Polly Gibbons-Neff - **Vice President**
- 3) Tim Fallon **Secretary/Treasurer**

Note: Elections for the technical committee will take place next year.



Tim Wadlow, Polly Gibbons-Neff, Brandon Prior and Heidi Johnson enjoying the Spookfest 1998 costume party October 24, 1998, Bristol, RI—Photo courtesy of Polly Gibbons-Neff

Vanguard 15 Class Association Membership Application

To skipper in any Vanguard 15 Grand Prix or Championship event, vote, receive newsletters and other information, you must be a member of the class.

Please send completed form and check to:
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