

SIDEWINDER



NEWSLETTER

PUBLICATION OF THE UNITED STATES SIDEWINDER ASSOCIATION

President - Walter Schroth
41 West High Street, Union City, Pennsylvania 16438

Editor - Pat Schroth

May 1975

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HELLO - HI - GREETINGS - HOWDY - WELCOME

* FLASH - THANKS to considerable show of interest on your part, the mailing system has been much improved.

* REGATTAS - are in Massachusetts, New York State, two in Oklahoma, and two in Pennsylvania. The earliest is June 7-8.

* "ROLL-CALL" - This is the LAST MAILING (into the indefinite far future) being sent to all owners of record. Reason: COST.

1975 dues-paid MEMBERS will: 1) receive more Newsletters and MAY: 1) sail in Sanctioned Regattas, 2) vote, and 3) hold office.

* EVERYONE who receives this page only is asked to REPLY THIS ONCE to confirm who has which Sidewinder and where you are.
IF you send 1975 dues of \$3.00 - you will receive the May Newsletter, newly reprinted Constitution and By-Laws, your 1975 Membership Card, and Newsletters through April 1976.

* ALERT - Many sail numbers are unaccounted for in the owners list. If you can get names of owners for any boat beyond your own, please do so. ALSO, tell your Sidewinder acquaintances that both MFG and the Association want to be able to get in touch. Times change.

Cut here:

Mail to: Walter Schroth, Pres., 41 West High St., Union City, Pa. 16438

- 1) No dues, this is to confirm ownership of boat.
- 2) New Sidewinder since summer 1974, 1975 dues paid with purchase, send May issue.
- 3) Enclosed my \$3.00 for 1975 membership, please send May issue.

NAME _____

STREET & # _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

SAIL # _____ FLEET # _____

Sailing on (lake) _____

New boat? Give DEALER'S NAME _____

WALTER SCHROTH:

Together with this Newsletter is an updated copy of the Constitution and By-Laws. Several minor changes were made. Each is marked with an asterisk * for easy identification.

Five additions and two prohibitions to specifications were voted in by a majority of the National Meeting last summer. Only four additions and one prohibition have been added to the By-Laws. Jib luff tensioners failed to win the 2/3 majority mail vote required to allow, and main sail luff tensioners (Cunningham devices) failed to win the 2/3 majority required to prohibit. If you wish to discuss either of these items at the next National Meeting, let us know so that we can put it on the pre-announced Agenda.

And a word of caution -- your many written comments show that you enjoy using many kinds of spinnaker launchers ranging from sail bags to cloth tubes, and some use none at all. But nearly all of you voiced strong opinions against cutting through the hull or deck to accomplish your purpose. So we agree now as we did last summer that we will not allow that.

Now, while we still have your attention, let us remind you that the Annual Meeting held at the National Regatta is the time and place to propose any change you wish. So let us know early what you want -- even if you cannot personally attend. We will try to get it all on the Agenda.

So have a wonderful year!

Hopefully next Newsletter in July. Send material early: deadline about July 1

***** LOST PEOPLE - - - The following are owners who must have moved. Who has the Sidewinders and/or where are these people?

Samuel N. Preiss, Clifton, N.J.	Helmut Beiber, Sparta NJ
Christian A. Crooker, McGuire AFB NJ	Gerald P. Dodson, Pittsburgh Pa. # 1114
Melvin P. Crissey, College Pk, Ga. #522	Robert Houston, New Castle Pa. # 1017
N. Jerry Salisbury, Akron O # 1210	Joseph Todd Fraker, Mansfield O. #407
E.W. Anderson, Mahwah NJ # 384	David O. Powell, Akron O #1112
Richard Morgan, Akron O (Fleet 11)	John P. Hart, Kent O #600
Thomas R. Mieran, Orville O	Dr. Daniel L Bizier, Lewiston Me. # 982
Johnny K. Wolfe, Houston Tex. #1585	Talmage V. Rogers Jr, Houston Tex.
Timothy B. Webber, Del City, Okla #1074	or Roger V. Talmage
Kathe Lynne Grebe # 517	Robert A. Smith, Oklahoma City #1131
Abington or Huntington Valley PA	John E. States, Omaha Nebr.
Dave Taliaverro, Copperas Cove Tex. #1166	Wm. E. Belser, Potomac, Mo. #1300
Judith F. Harris, Chester, Va # 1549	Dr. Rossett Myers, Charleston Va. # 162
James E. Schoonover, Fairfax Va	W.H. Prioleau, Charleston SC # 62
Robert D. Graham, Richmond Va	Lee E. Coulthard, Norman Okla # 1061
Chauncey Olin, Bloomington Ind # 440	Jack R. Davis, Oklahoma City # 1366
Doyle Koky or Koht, Pontiac Mich	Charles E. Epperson, Marion Iowa # 259
Rev. Charles Newman, Waukomis, Okla	Ferdinand S. Ermlich, Cooperstown NY #1013
Robert H. Pembroke, Bethesda Md.	Ronald L. Coleman, Huntsville Ala # 651
Dorsey Woodward, Worthington O	Mary L. Stewart, Carolville Iowa # 1014
Daniel S. Sommerschild, Palatine Ill	James J. McCormack, Lysander NY # 1611
Dr. Thomas Wartik, St. Coll. Pa. # 268	Larry & Cheryl Bessler, Orlando Fla
Dennis E. Gershenson, Royal Oak Mich	Barry Deemer, Ft. Wayne, Ind # 1255
Harry Puckett, High Point NC # 937	Michael W. Young, Manchaca & Austin TX #1193

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 Dan Sanders has accepted the responsibilities of District Secretary for Oklahoma. Three clubs which include regular racing for Sidewinders are: Ponca City Sailing Club, Thunderbird Sailing Club at Norman, and the Central Oklahoma Sailing Association. A JUNE REGATTA is planned - call Dan for facts or write him with a long self-addressed envelope with your stamp on it. The Oklahoma State Championship will be in September hosted by the Ponca City Sailing Club.

Balloting on the amendments: spinnaker launchers 78%, jib luff tensioners 61%, halyard hooks 69%, hiking straps 91%, windows 87%, travellers 77%, Cunninghams 59%. 66 2/3 required to add a clause to the By-Laws, therefore read it now. Alert: there is another practice the Sidewinder Association has had but which is not in the By-Laws, that is to publish the agenda for the National Meeting in a Newsletter beforehand. You may or may not now or ever wish to have that procedure in the rules, but maybe you feel it's at least a nice idea we can do without a rule to "make" us.

Since Margie Penoyer left the MFG office in December, there has been no one to maintain the address files there. To get ready for this Newsletter, we have had a great deal of help from Grace Tarbell and Gladys Magee. They have worked on the Constitution, the addresses and the address labels. Many thanks.

From Fanshawe Lake, near London, Ontario, I quote ~~XXXX~~ Bruce and Elinor Elliott: "In May of 1974, we placed the brand new hull in our garage to install the hardware to get ready for the summer of '74 sailing season. Early in May, on our quiet residential street, some nimrod lost control of his car, smashed both our cars in our driveway, knocking one of them through the garage door. This, in fact, of course, resulted in our boat, which was on a trailer, being knocked backwards into the woodpile and partly through the wall of the garage resulting in a crushed transom, etc." "However, in the end, we finally located someone to get the hull repaired and, believe it or not, managed to get the boat in the water once before the cold weather hit."

Camp de Sales, Brooklyn, Michigan 49230 has a Sidewinder for the campers. Thomas Helfrich writes that the camp wants to buy more used Sidewinders. Along with his request came pleasantly worded praise for the Newsletter and Sidewinder, the boat.

The Constitution and By-Laws call for the appointment of District Secretaries. Walter is now negotiating with sailors in several locations where a little something is known about the people. The heap of correspondance that came in with the voting and dues-paying has been most helpful, but there is not enough to go on yet from several areas which have many Sidewinders. If you care enough to recommend someone, including volunteering yourself, write him or call. Home phone - 814-438-2410. His office phone is 814-438-3841 -- 8 - 12 and 2 - 5 (he alternates lunch hours) and Saturday mornings.

The May 3rd HARRISBURG race was 5 miles down river with free food, beer and pop at the finish. Sidewinder was the 2nd largest class after Sunfish. Also participating were Lasers, Flying Fish, Bandit 15, Whip, Dingo, Hobie 12, Buccaneer, Sesame. Sidewinder winner was Park # 1200, Second Schroth 836, Third Millar 1163. The Park women placed high in the '74 Nationals, too.

Hopefully, this little paper is a learning experience for all of us. Thank you VERY MUCH for the notes and letters! Keep them coming! I learned something about travellers. Previously I knew only of the kind at the stern which pull the main sheet down from out toward or at the end of the boom. This is the kind that I was told would be a bad thing for the Sidewinder boom and sail function. From the mail I learned that another kind can be mounted amidships and that that type would have a big advantage "because it would pull down and flatten the main at the sheer line while going upwind". The explainers voted to ban because the advantage would be so much that everyone would have to buy to compete.

A little social problem: Why...? is something in American speech that is sometimes said with a sneer or for persuasive purposes. I have used it for "please give me your reasoning". When why questions are set down in print, it's anybody's guess as to how to take it. Just so you know: this Newsletter is fishing for paragraphs to print. People like to know the why's, and also the how's.

The mail on the halyard cleating devices requires this statement: 1) it is not a mast modification, unless you call a couple of screw holes by that name. 2) It is not a substitute for tying the halyard on the regular cleat on the lower mast. 3) Its purpose is to keep the sail UP even when you pull down on the downhaul AND to keep the sail UP when the mast bends and the halyard becomes like a bow-string. Its purpose is not to re-trim during sailing. Argue whether it's a go-fast aid. Best purpose is during docking approach; crew can drop main boooloop exactly when helmsman wants. 4) Company sources say to go to a sailboat hardware store and ask for a halyard hook. One is a piece of metal about two inches long, 3/4 inch wide with two screw holes on the flat part. The end is about half an inch more which is bent up a little beyond 90° so the angle is slightly acute, and it is cut into a V shape. 5) One place to mount it is about 4 to 5 inches below the pulley and on the mast beside the part that curves out to form the slot. The bent part goes at the high end. You'll likely want it on the same side of the sail as your regular halyard cleat. Fuss around to find the proper place and tie a simple knot in the halyard so it can be caught under the V when the sail is up. 6) Some users need a helper to balance the boat while this is done. To release, just pull and it pops out. 6) There are probably other methods and kinds. The device is optional.

A VERY frequent question on single items and groups of items that went with yes votes and with no votes from different members reinforces paragraph two above. "Why allow a change when advantages or disadvantages are questionable?" The question has several parts. First, the Sidewinder Association cannot compel the manufacturer to change anything, nor are the recently voted items anything that will be on purchased boats. They are all optional additions by owners, or prohibitions; and the rules pertain to SANCTIONED RACING SITUATIONS. Secondly, the voting was to ratify the results of the meeting which ratified what the Chief Measurer had previously allowed. In two cases that didn't happen. Thirdly, the questionableness of what constitutes an advantage was-is-and-will-be eternally arguable wherever sailors gather! The issue was whether to allow for the sailors with different opinions and to what extent. The sense of the 1974 National Meeting was that liberty is hard to keep from becoming extreme or expensive; they don't want hair-splitters stretching the simple plain language rules, and they don't want somebody who is both skilled and rich to use money to win. For the first three years Sidewinder Class was pretty wide open: so long as the sails, spars, boat, rudder and centerboard were standard MFG - everything else was okay. Gradually, the things people did were added to the permissive list, and a few things were added to the prohibitions list. You all should recognize that some members have strained to afford a racing sailboat, and for others Sidewinder is merely a trinket. ALSO, there is a VAST range of time, ability and interest in tinkering. As you each work out your opinions and decide which ones you will act on, consider everyone, even the Salts.

TRAVEL PLANS 1975

June 7-8 Erie, Pennsylvania

June & September

Regattas in Oklahoma

July 11-12 Monument Beach, Massachusetts

* CONTACT:

Dan Sanders

Rt.# 1 Box 105

Pawhuska, Okla 74056

August 2 Meridian, New York

918-287-1977

August 16-17 Altoona, Pennsylvania
National Championship

* * * * *

July 11-12 --"1st Annual Southern New England Regional Sidewinder Races"

Phinneys Harbor on Cape Cod

Total 3 races: 2 on Saturday and 1 on Sunday

ALL SIDEWINDERS INVITED

Motels and Camp Grounds within 5 miles of race area.

Sponsored by Perry's Boat Yard

420 Shore Road

Monument Beach, Massachusetts 02553

Early registration and information: Lin Perry

P.O.Box 267

Monument Beach, Mass 02553

617 759-3062

August 2 - SATURDAY -- District 8 New York State Championship
NOT open to residents of any other state.

Steve Keenan, Cross Lake Marina
Meridian, New York 13113
315 626-6475

SLIGHTLY WEST
OF
SYRACUSE, N Y

This is the beautiful setting of 1974 Nationals. The invitation specially encourgges new members, those who have never travelled before, those who haven't met other Sidewinder sailors. The hope is to have a group among the District members and to develop more regattas in New York. These folks have good power-boat support and marks you'll be able to see. It's a fun place to go.

"If your excuse is that you are, 'not the competitive type', then don't race for the sake of winning, but race insthad, to improve your sailing ability. And you will improve! Just the mere fact that you have to negotiate a fixed course will sharpen your skills." /LB

"I like sailing in races just to go along for the ride with the other boats close by. I still feel dumb about trusting the wind, call it a machine age hang-up, but sailing is so much easier with a group."/JP

1975 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP REGATTA

AND ANNUAL MEETING

AUGUST 16 - 17

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HOSTS: PRINCE GALITZIN SAILING CLUB

PLACE: Lake Glendale in Prince Galitzin State Park

CONTACT: Larry Booth - phone 814 226-4444 evenings
537 Bloomfield Avenue, Apt. 17
Johnstown, Pennsylvania 15904

REGISTRATION: The entry fee for the Nationals is \$15.00 perboat. If you are an out-of-state resident and your boat is not registered in Pennsylvania, you will also be required to pay a \$2.00 launch fee to sail on State waters. The additional \$2.00 MUST be included in your entry fee. When it is received, Larry will register your boat with the Park Authorities so you will not be inconvenienced by this matter when you get there.
Make check payable to : SIDEWINDER NATIONALS

CAMPING: was supposed to have been arranged through Herman Slaybaugh before May 9th, the State's deadline for park reservations. His address is: Apt.# 662B East Prospect Street, State College, Pa. 16801
After 5 PM Herman and Nancy can be reached at 814 237-6444.
If you didn't pre-arrange camping, don't expect any miracles.

MOTELS: about 30 minutes away at Altoona
Holiday Inn, 2915 Pleasant Valley Blvd. 814-944-4581
Sheraton Inn, Route 220. 814-946-1631
Bellmeade Motel, 1876 E. Pleasant Valley Blvd. 814-944-3561
Fountain Motel, 2906 Pleasant Valley Blvd. 814-944-3555
Rogers Motel, 1539 E. Pleasant Valley Blvd. 814-943-7441

ACTIVITIES: three races Saturday and two races Sunday
LUNCH will be provided to skippers and crews both days and is included in your entry fee.
Fleet # 7, in cooperation with the Lake Glendale Sailing Club, will put on a barbeque and bonfire party for visiting sailors and friends. There will be a \$2.50 per person charge to cover the cost of dinner and drink. \$1.50 for children under 12.

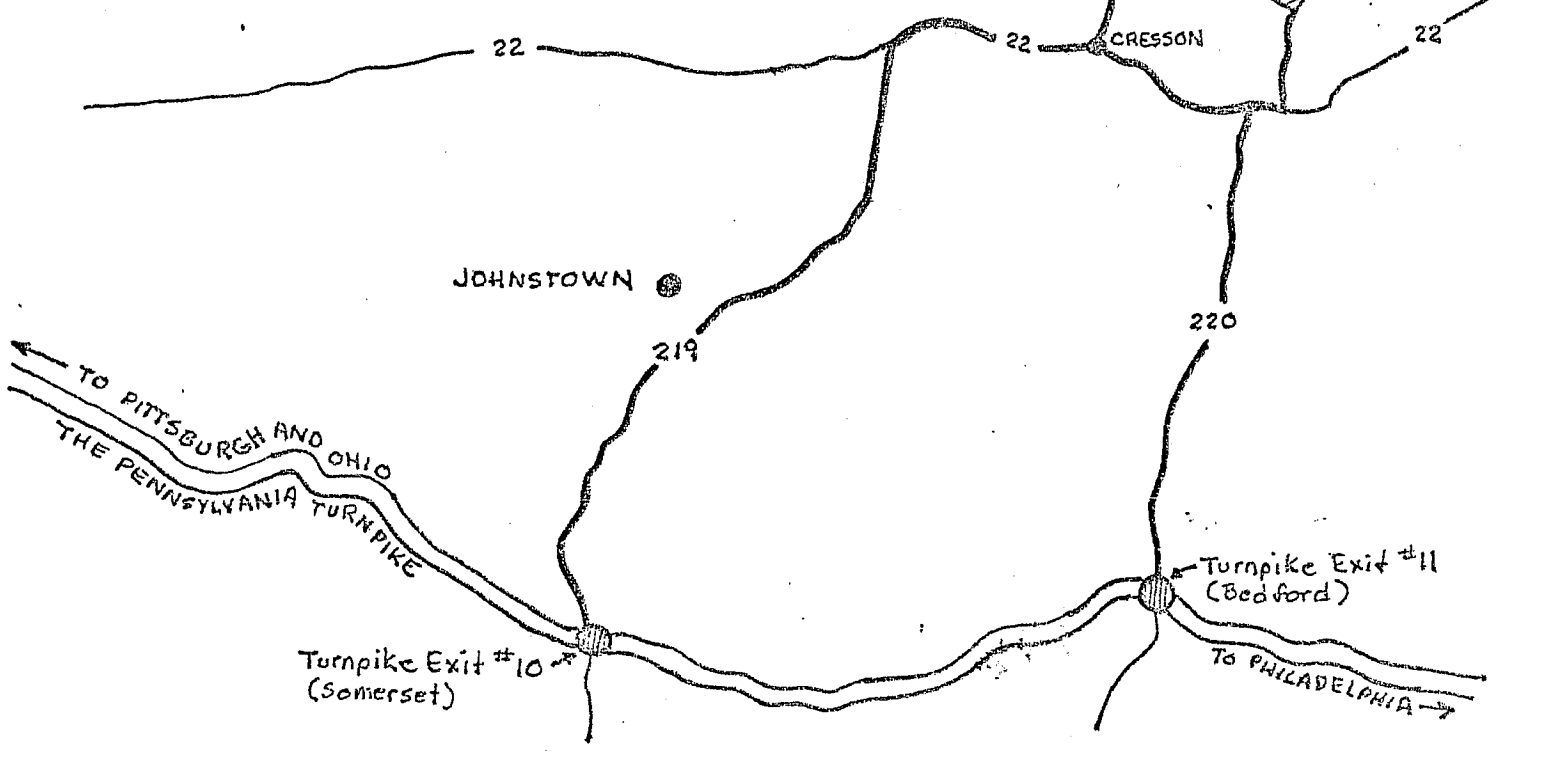
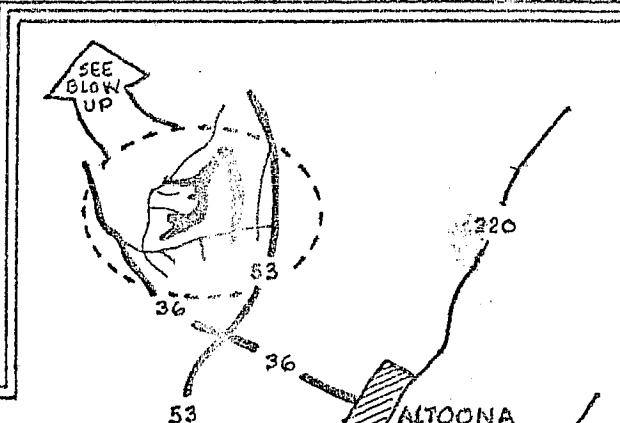
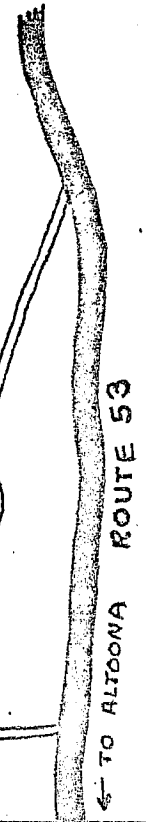
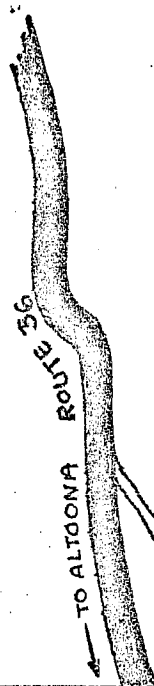
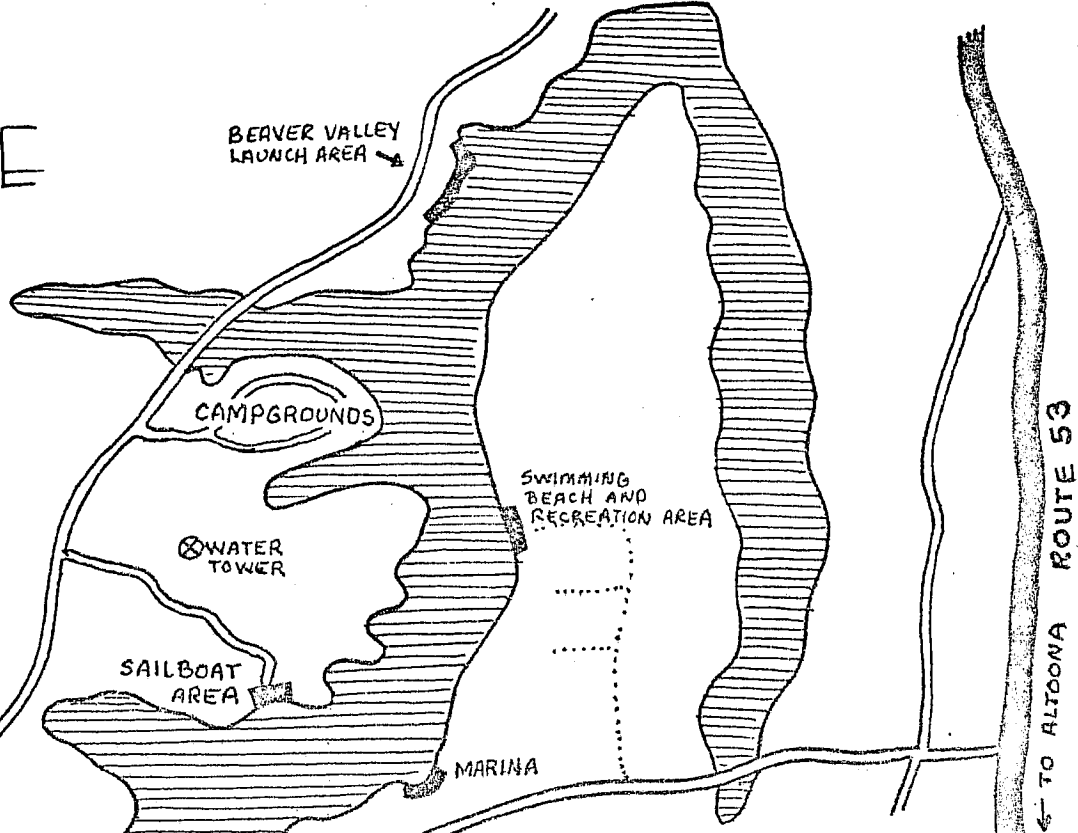
DESCRIPTION: Lake Glendale is a small picturesque lake located among ~~the~~ rolling hills and farm lands. The park is well equipped for travelling sailors: large camping facility with "Improved Sanitary Facilities", a separate sailboat launching area equipped with telephone, water, and toilet. The park grocery store is nearby. Map herewith.

AWARDS: There will be awards for the top eight skippers and crews. And wait until you see them! They're bound to make everyone sail harder. The special custom-made plaques were designed by Larry Booth, a graphic designer and Chairman of this year's Championship. There will also be special surprise awards.

**** ABSOLUTE DEADLINE for registration is August 1 - Friday with Larry.
Please use coupon on another page of this Newsletter.

LAKE GLENDALE

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ANNUAL ERIE OPEN REGATTA - JUNE 7 - 8 1975

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Every year over 100 sailboats make the Erie Open an early weekend in the summer schedule. The Sidewinder Fleet at the Erie Open has grown every year for the past five years. We have a full range of competition that spells f-u-n for every sailor.

A Sidewinder that has sailed in the Erie Open has placed in the top ten at every Nationals, and at least one Sidewinder skipper sails his or her first race at the Erie Open every year. Make your summer begin on the right tack and sail in the oldest annual Sidewinder regatta! /FP

REGISTRATION is Friday evening, June 6th from 8 to 11 and Saturday Morning from 8 - 9:15.....at Erie Yacht Club. SKIPPERS' MEETING is scheduled for 9:15 Sat AM. They plan two races Saturday and one Sunday. The sailing at EYC is in the bay formed by Lake Erie's famous Peninsula.

ON-SHORE ACTIVITIES: Children 3-12 will have a fishing derby. There will be a Volleyball Tournament by fleets after the Saturday races.

CAMPING areas inside the club grounds will be BY ASSIGNMENT at the registration table. There are many motels within two miles. There is NO baby-sitting at EYC. There is a zoo in the city, and many beaches on the Peninsula. The only people who swim at the club are Winners who get thrown in.

*****TELL YOUR FRIENDS.....The classes invited are: Lightning, Thistle, Highlander, Hobie 16, Hobie 14, Mirror Dinghy, Laser, Rhodes Bantam, Fireball, Sidewinder. NO OPEN CLASS this year: only fleets, only these classes.

ADVANCE REGISTRATIONS -- "Pre-registration fee \$7.00" Most people intend by this that registration upon arrival costs more. Others intend no last-minute entries. In this case ~~we don't know~~.

Your check and letter should go to: LATE INFO:
Mr. Gus Neuss
\$5.00 to arr before June 5 810 Pasadena Drive
\$7.00 to arr after June 5 Erie, Pa. 16505

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NATIONALS REGISTRATION FORM for racing at Prince Galitzin State Park August 16-17
Check Payable: SIDEWINDER NATIONALS
Mail to: LARRY BOOTH, 337 Bloomfield Ave., Apt 17, Johnstown, PA 15904

Name _____ Sail # _____
Street _____ City _____
Zip Code _____ Auto License # _____
Will you be staying at the State Park _____, local motel _____ other _____
How many for the Saturday night barbeque? _____

\$15 or \$17, \$2.50 and \$1.50 -- see the fact sheet & send proper amount

*** ABSOLUTE DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION IS AUGUST 1 - FRIDAY at Larry's