

# Jeff Lenhart Romps In 'Biggest Ever' Midwinters

*Four firsts in heavy weather series at Clearwater is too much for 61-boat fleet.*

Jeff Lenhart won the biggest ever Midwinter Regatta at Clearwater, February 27 - March 1, with a neat round zero points. Jeff, who likes light weather, topped the fleet of heavies in the roughest weather the Midwinters has experienced lately. The 61 boat fleet managed to complete only 4 of the 6 races scheduled for the event.

John Dunkley, Nassau, Bahamas, was second; Dirk Kneulman, Oakville, Canada third; Vice Commodore Bruce Colyer, Ft. Lauderdale, 4th; and Vincente Brun, Clearwater and Rio de Janeiro was 5th.

Don Hite, Detroit, was 6th. Pierre Seigenthaler, Nassau, Bahamas, finished 7th, despite losing his mast in the first race when an unsecured shroud pin came loose. Jim Belford, Oakville, Canada, in 8th place, had his wife Phyllis as crew. She received special recognition as the highest placing woman in the series. Earl Elms, San Diego, with a DSO, and Van Wesley, Chattanooga, with a capsized, completed the top ten.

The new location of the Club on Clearwater Beach allows easier access to both the Gulf and the South Bay. Regatta

Chairman Don Cochran announced that the bay course would be used in high winds, and the gulf course only in lighter winds. Because of a large entry list, the boats were divided into fleets for two starts per race.

**SATURDAY** — For the practice race, the winter-weary northern troops headed for the Gulf in winds of about 16. The boat was wet, and the reaches had nice easy planing conditions. The only casualties were one capsize and one rudder adrift. (Do make sure your rudder is firmly and positively attached — it's a rule AND doing unplanned 720s among planing boats while you replace it is trying on the nerves.) Bruce Colyer finished first — but Jeff Lenhart dropped out with a huge lead. Don't win the practice race.

**SUNDAY** — At the 11:00 o'clock skippers' meeting, boats were still getting a few things fixed before having their new black and white 1977 decals attached. Sail measuring had to be moved under a tent borrowed for the occasion, as winds were blowing smartly out of the S.S.W. at 25+. Because of a threatening front moving down from the north, and already high winds, the committee postponed the start of the first race.

At 1:30, with the winds diminishing, and the forecast improving, the committee fired a harbor gun, hoping for a 2:30 start. The wind continued to diminish as a fog bank rolled in, at times completely obscuring the scene. After a couple of windshifts, a late change in the forecast led to cancellation of racing for the day. Just as the last boats arrived at the club, the predicted thunderstorm with heavy rain moved in from the north.

**MONDAY** — After the cold front moved through late Sunday night, Monday morning was clearing and windy with a forecast of northerly winds of 15 to 20. One of the two hoists kinked up, and the slow down in launching forced a delayed start. On the way to the South Bay



*Jeff Lenhart and Eric Krebs sailing to weather on Clearwater Bay. (Weber photo)*



## Don Q Title Copped by Lenhart

Fifty six boats showed up at the Coconut Grove Sailing Club for the 11th Don Q Rum Keg Regatta.

On Friday the wind was 10 to 12 for the morning race, decreasing as the afternoon continued. Earl Elms won the first heat with Jeff Lenhart and Frankie Levinson following. The second race was won by Jeff with Pierre Siegenthaler in second and Dave Chapin in third.

The wind for the first race on Saturday was around 8 mph. Earl, again, won the first race with Jeff in second and Van Wesley in third. In the second race of the day the wind almost died to pick up at the end of the race when Jeff Lenhart crossed the finish line in first place only at 7 minutes from the time limit. Dave Chapin and Francis Seavy following him.

The final race Sunday was sailed with 8 to 10 mph winds. Jeff again took the honors with Earl Elms and Gonzalo Diaz, Jr. in second and third. Our thanks to the Coconut Grove Sailing Club and the members who worked hard to organize and run this Regatta. To Jim Weber who

### 1977 DON Q REGATTA Top 26 of 56 Entries

Boat	Skipper/Crew	Fleet	Races	Points	Finish
20560	Jeff Lenhart/Eric Krebs	Mission Bay	2-1-2-1-1	6	1
21643	Earl Elms/Carl Hultgren	Mission Bay	1-7-1-5-2	26	2
20306	Pierre Siegenthaler/Scott Brown	Nassau	6-2-8-9-2	55.4	3
21713	Gonzalo E. Diaz/Mark Williams	Miami	10-5-7-19-4	72	4
20259	Robin Gales/Randy Smith	Mission Bay	5-14-10-12-5	74	5
22543	Jim Grubbs/Kurt Langford	Alamitos Bay	8-9-21-6-6	78.4	6
20988	Frank H. Levinson/Carl	Indianapolis	3-10-24-9-11	83.7	7
19432	Dave Chapin/Mark Chapin	Island Bay	13-3-25-2-13	87.7	8
21711	Gonzalo A. Diaz/Eric Sheeder	Miami	7-13-17-22-3	88.7	9
21021	Van Wesley/Karen Gregory	Privateer	19-18-3-4-20	88.7	10
20707	Terry Timm/Marta Swanson	Barton BC	9-17-9-10-14	89	11
6995	Francis Seavy/Vicky Stebbins	Clearwater	28-16-4-3-17	92.7	12
19437	Dick Tillman/Linda Tillman	Satellite Beach	11-30-5-11-8	94	13
22286	Vince Brun/Keith Crowe	Clearwater	14-4-13-14-24	97	14
19066	John Dunkley/David Weir	Nassau	4-15-11-17-26	101	15
20002	Bruce Colyer/Jim Martin	Fl. Lauderdale	15-8-16-18-16	103	16
20818	Peter Fanner	Dallas	18-23-15-13-12	111	17
22699	Bob Blomquist/Gina Blomquist	Annapolis	12-38-8-7-19	114	18
19267	Don Hite/Tim Dixon	Lake Angelus	20-11-30-16-10	117	19
20369	Cory Thompson/John Schoendorf	Lake Angelus	30-6-20-23-22	130.7	20
21716	Dirk Kneuman/John Haire	Oakville	22-12-28-25-31	148	21
21735	Don Cochran/Eric Merkel	Clearwater	41-21-26-24-7	149	22
22800	Bill Buckles/George Awer	Cleveland	17-19-26-30-23	155	23
9091	Pete Duvoisin/Jane Duvoisin	Privateer	27-37-19-15-28	156	24
20690	Jim Belford/Phyllis Belford	Oakville	35-20-21-21-25	162	25
21143	Frank Levinson/Dick Edwards	Clearwater	25-17-14-28-41	165	26

did a super job as the Race Committee Chairman.

Gonzalo Diaz, Jr.  
Miami Fleet 7

## Lenhart Wins Zimmerman, Bacardi Cup; Elms Wins Gamblin

Jeff Lenhart of Newport Beach, California retained the Carl Zimmerman Trophy following the eight-race Bahamas Mid-Winter Snipe Championships on Montagu Bay, Nassau. The trophy is awarded on the basis of the cumulative results of the Clearwater Mid-Winters, the Don Q Regatta at Miami and the Bahamas Mid-Winters, which includes the Bacardi Cup with 3 races, and the Dudley Gamblin Memorial Series with 5 races. Jeff had a remarkable low point score of only 22.7 points for the 16 races completed.

Jeff won all three races in the Bacardi Cup series against 37 other boats, the biggest turnout ever for the Nassau Championships. Robin Gales of San Diego was second, followed by Bahamian sailor and current world Sunfish Champion "Powerful Pierre" Siegenthaler. Earl Elms was 4th and Gonzalo Diaz fifth.

The Bacardi series was a heavy weather regatta with northeast winds of up to 25 knots. The winds lowered to the 10 to 15 mph range for the Gamblin Series.

Earl Elms won the Dudley Gamblin Memorial series with 1-4-1-1-3 finishes. Jeff was second with 2-1-3-4-1. Van Wesley, Chattanooga, TN placed third and John Dunkley of Nassau was 4th. Gonzalo Diaz was fifth again in the second series.

In the overall Zimmerman Trophy standings Elms placed second and Siegenthaler was third.

### BACARDI CUP - NASSAU - 1977 Top 20 of 38 Entries

Boat	Skipper/Crew	Fleet	Races	Points	Finish
20560	Jeff Lenhart/Eric Krebs	Mission Bay	1-1-1	0	1
20259	Robin Gales/Randy Smith	Mission Bay	2-6-5	24.7	2
20306	Pierre Siegenthaler/Scott Brown	Nassau	8-2-4	25	3
21643	Earl Elms/Carl Hultgren	Mission Bay	3-11-2	25.7	4
21713	G.E. Diaz/Mark Williams	Miami	4-8-6	33.7	5
20002	Bruce Colyer/Jim Martin	Fl. Lauderdale	5-12-3	37.7	6
21716	Dirk Kneuman/John Haire	Oakville	7-5-10	39	7
19432	David Chapin/Mark Chapin	Island Bay	10-7-16	51	8
19091	Pete Duvoisin/Jane Duvoisin	Privateer	11-10-12	51	9
22800	Bill Buckles/George Awer	Cleveland	15-9-11	53	10
19267	Don Hite/Tim Dixon	Detroit	9-13-15	55	11
19066	John Dunkley/David Weir	Nassau	nc-7-7	61.7	12
21706	Bud Culbertson/Larry Reader	Miami	14-26-9	67	13
16488	Bas I Kelly/Don Martinborough	Nassau	13-15-22	58	14
21021	Van Wesley/Karen Gregory	Privateer	20-4-nc	74	15
22585	Ed Trevelyan/Jamie McArthur	Mission Bay	21-18-19	76	16
21711	G.A. Diaz/Eric Sheeder	Miami	nc-17-8	80	17
20707	Terry Timm/Helmut Siepmann	Barton BC	16-nc-13	82	18
16853	Charlie Fowler/K. Russell	Miami	17-21-28	85	19
21700	Herry Davis/Wangaard	Omaha	nc-14-17	86	20

### GAMBLIN SERIES - NASSAU - 1977 Top 20 of 36 Entries

Boat	Skipper/Crew	Fleet	Races	Points	Finish
21643	Earl Elms/Carl Hultgren	Mission Bay	1-4-1-1-3	13.7	1
20650	Jeff Lenhart/Eric Krebs	Mission Bay	2-1-3-4-1	16.7	2
21021	Van Wesley/Karen Gregory	Privateer	5-5-8-2-2	40	3
19056	John Dunkley/David Weir	Nassau	21-2-4-5-8	57.7	4
21713	G.E. Diaz/Mark Williams	Miami	6-7-9-6-9	66.4	5
9432	Dave Chapin/Mark Chapin	Island Bay	7-11-2-8-17	70	6
20707	Terry Timm/Helmut Siepmann	Barton BC	3-17-15-7-11	77.7	7
20306	Pierre Siegenthaler/Scott Brown	Nassau	4-3-dq-9-5	81.7	8
20259	Robin Gales/Randy Smith	Mission Bay	22-10-11-12-6	90.7	9
21711	G.A. Diaz/Eric Sheeder	Miami	16-15-12-5-21	98	10
22585	Ed Trevelyan/Jamie McArthur	Mission Bay	15-6-16-19-14	99.7	11
20690	Jim Belford/Phyllis Belford	Oakville	8-21-6-15-25	104.7	12
17387	Jerry Thompson/Fred Schenck	Lake Angelus	20-16-7-25-7	105	13
19267	Don Hite/Tim Dixon	Lake Angelus	9-15-25-16-12	110	14
21753	Godfrey Kelly/Sonia Kelly	Nassau	12-5-10-21-28	110	15
9723	M. Brown/A. Goldweber	Miami	18-8-20-13-23	112	16
22286	Vince Brun/Keith Crowe	Clearwater	27-24-5-18-15	118	17
21716	Dirk Kneuman/John Haire	Oakville	13-13-17-nc-13	123	18
22800	Bill Buckles/George Awer	Cleveland	14-dq-15-11-18	125	19
20002	Bruce Colyer/Jim Martin	Fl. Lauderdale	dq-2-nc-10-4	128	20



MIDWINTER REGATTA  
Top 25 of 51 Entries

Boat	Skipper/Crew	Fleet	Races	Points	Finish
20360	Jeff Lenhart/Eric Krebs	Mission Bay	1-1-1-1	0	1
19066	John Dunkley/David Weir	Nassau	3-1-5-1	15.7	2
21716	Dirk Kneulman/John Haue	Oakville	4-4-1-4	24	3
20002	Bruce Colyer/Jim Macdon	FL Lauderdale	1-10-3-2	24.7	4
22286	Vincent Brun/Keith Crum	Clearwater	2-9-3-2	26.7	5
19267	Dan Hite/Tim Dixon	Lake Angelus	7-5-2-9	41	6
20306	Pierre Siegenthaler/Scott Brown	Nassau	ni-2-2-2	44.7	7
20699	Jim Lefkowitz/Phyllis Belford	Oakville	5-3-12-6	45.4	8
21643	Earl Elms/Carl Hultgren	Mission Bay	4-2-4-dq	48	9
21021	Van Wesley/Steve Cooper	Privateer	10-6-9-3	48.4	10
21713	Gonzalo Diaz/Bob Russell	Miami	6-5-7-8	48.7	11
20369	Jerry Thompson	Lake Angelus	3-3-14-15	52.4	12
20813	Pete Fenner	Dallas	5-6-13-7	53.7	13
21583	Ed Tveety/Jamie McArthur	Mission Bay	8-7-6-10	54.7	14
18091	Pete Duvichin/Jane Duvichin	Privateer	6-11-4-14	56.7	15
18321	Tom Nute/Diane Cook	Mission Bay	9-8-6-13	59.7	16
21809	Bill Buckles	Cleveland	9-15-7-7	63	17
20983	Carl Levinson/Buzz Levinson	Indianapolis	ni-4-10-5	63	18
22699	Bob Bloomquist/Glenda Bloomquist	Annapolis	12-10-13-11	70	19
21933	Gregg Fisher/Dan Vert	Cleveland	ni-12-5-5	71	20
22543	Jim Orsburn/Kurt Langford	Los Angeles	ni-13-11-4	71	21
19057	Phil Nelson/Ed Nelson	Clearwater	13-19-11-5	72.7	22
20259	Robin Gales/Randy Smith	Mission Bay	ni-7-8-8	74	23
16104	Dan McNair	Clearwater	7-9-25-9	74	24
6993	Francis Seavy/Scott McConnell	Clearwater	12-8-15-17	76	25

course several boats capsized in the channel's tricky wind shifts as the wind continued to build.

The first of 3 planned races got underway after a few delays, and the first fleet was rounding the windward mark in less than 10 minutes. Bruce Colyer rounded the mark in third, but gained on the two

reaches, and was in 1st place at the end of the 2nd beat of the two triangle plus beat course. In the second fleet, it was Jeff Lenhart all the way. He had a comfortable lead at the first mark, and increased it to 1 minute 20 seconds at the finish.

Meanwhile, back in the fleet, capsizes and breakdowns were routine, with 5

boats over at one time at the jibe mark. Most were up and away without much trouble.

The winds continued to increase after the finish, with the RC clocking gusts of 35+. The remaining races for the day were cancelled, with a scheduled 10:00 o'clock start for Tuesday.

**TUESDAY** — Winds were still out of the north west at 15 to 20, but were predicted to shift easterly and diminish during the day. Three races were scheduled back-to-back in South Bay. The conditions were more of the same as Monday, but not so violent. The course was the same, 3 wet beats, 2 reaches and 2 runs. The day's only damage was to muscles and hands made tender from months of inactivity.

Jeff won all three of his races, although he was over early and had to restart in the last race. Earl Elms, who had a 4-2-4 going into the last race, finished first in his fleet, but was disqualified for having touched a mark, dropping him from 3rd to 9th in the standings. John Dunkley was moved into first for that race, and also won the first race of the day. The other first place was taken by Dirk Kneulman.

(Continued on next page)

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## Midwinters...

A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO...

Although Monday's workout was grim after the first fifty or so buckets full of cold water came flying over the spray rail, it had its funny side too:

Don Hile capsized at the jibe mark, and after the race went back to find what he was doing wrong — and capsized again...

Bruce McHie lost the main halyard for the second time on the way in, decided the heck with it, pulled in behind a breakwater near downtown Clearwater, and got a taxi home from the course.

When Bill Buckles decided to dive and get better leverage to right his capsized boat, he found the water was only a little over waist deep.

### WHAT'S NEW?

One of the best things about the Winter Circuit is finding out what's new.

Earl has a new Cobra mast that is handy, and fast. He has promised us an interview about the mast which we will try to get for a summer issue of the BULLETIN.

Clearwater Yacht Club has a new home on Clearwater Beach just north of the causeway. The clubhouse is under construction, but the hoist for small boats was in operation in time for the

regatta. The new location allows easy access to both the inside and outside courses.

Bob Blemquist has a new boat which he built — a natural finish plywood beauty done by the "West" method. Jim Grubbs sailed Ron Fox's new Phoenix Boat built on the west coast. He finished 21st in spite of a DNF in the first race.

Jeff's new bride Peggy was there. AND Augie and Julie Diaz have a new baby daughter.

**SOCIAL SCENE:** As usual, the hospitality of the Clearwater Fleet, under the direction of Fleet Captain Stan Mitchell, was more than gracious. Coffee and donuts were provided every morning by the ladies of Clearwater Yacht Club. Leo Murphy and Fritz Gram of District 5 gave a champagne party at Leo's family's beach house on Saturday night. Joanne and Frank Levinson entertained the whole bunch with a lasagne supper which Joanne had planned for an outside event. Ever have a sit down dinner for 200 hungry sailors during a Florida rainstorm? The awards dinner was at the Hilton. Among the celebrities attending (in addition to the sailors previously mentioned) were Past Commodores Taver Bayly and Carl Zimmerman.

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Traffic jam on Clearwater Bay during Tuesday's races. Winds were 15-20 knots. (Weber photo)