

Sou' Wester

January 2006



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family christmas party-2005

Another reason why this is still the best yacht club in town.

photos by Barbara Gabriel

December 11th was the date of this year's ABYC's annual Christmas Party, and for those who missed it, you truly missed a wonderful event. This party has become a tradition within our yacht club, and for good reason. Nearly 200 dinners were served, with our members and guests enjoying roast beef and turkey with all the holiday trimmings, followed by some very nice deserts. The members of our own Social Advisory Committee assisted in Sunday's decorating, and the club looked festive! A big thanks to the ABYC staff for their serving efforts as well as to Diane Bateman, Stephanie Munn, and Carol Selvin for

pitching in when the going got busy. I know I've missed the names of some other volunteers, but my thanks go out to everyone who helped out during what was a very busy evening.



The enjoyment was also in the entertainment, with the Tres Amigos caroling to a lot of very cute kids. It was so much fun to watch all these kids, along with their parents, circled around the stage, singing along as Chris Ericksen, Jorge Suarez and Kevin Ellis belted out Christmas

carol after Christmas carol. Usually, I'd suggest that they not quit their day jobs, but these three might have a career coming! John Massey played an awesome banjo...perhaps this needs to be the Quatro Amigos in the future!

But, what Christmas Party would be complete without Santa Claus himself. I know we have no chimney, but I'm pretty sure that was Santa that I saw sliding down the banister and onto our second deck! Jim Morford, as Santa, made a lot of promises to these kids, so I'm sure some very nice Christmas presents will be on the way, with Santa's blessing, of course! Thanks Jim, for having a place in your heart to play Santa and give these kids some very nice holiday photos that they'll enjoy for a long time!

And for all those who missed the Christmas Party...Bah humbug...but come next year. The entertainment couldn't be better, and the food is worth the drive, but, it's the ABYC family that makes this event so special...some holiday cheer at the bar, hanging out with your sailing buddies, good food, and good music. Does it get any better than that?

Glenn Selvin, Rear Commodore



Santa with son-in-law Tom and grandson Tanner.



inside

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save the date

Rose Bowl Regatta	January 7 -8
Membership Meeting	January 20
Super Bowl Regatta & Party	February 5
Membership Meeting	February 17
Midwinters	February 18-19
Manning	March 4-5
Chapped Cheek/St. Pat's Party	March 18

commodore's comments



Happy New Year and best wishes for a happy and healthy 2006! Another great year at ABYC is about to begin with lots of sailing and social activities for every yacht club member.

Looking at our calendar, you'll find all of our regularly scheduled sailing events as well as some major regattas too. Not only will we continue with our Holiday Series, but this year we'll be hosting the Junior Olympics in July, the I-14 Worlds in September and the Pre-Olympic Trials in October. This sailing year promises to live up to all of our past sailing years in true ABYC form.

All of our regatta and event chairmen and women are actively recruiting volunteers to help with every part of each activity. It takes a membership like our ABYC membership to make these events huge successes. Please make a point to participate in at least one regatta or social function. You'll get to know more of your fellow members and you might even learn a few things too. And if time isn't on your side to help at an event, there are still some behind-the-scenes jobs where we can always use some extra help. Remember, our club is built on our members' enjoyment of sailing, but it does take all of us to keep it strong and moving forward.

I am really excited to tell everyone about a special honor received by one of our members. Our own Margaret Caddle was the recipient of the 2005 Peggy Slater Memorial Award presented to her by the Southern California Yachting Association in a special ceremony this month. Margaret was honored for her outstanding contributions to sailing. Hopefully, you've never had to meet her in a protest room, but even if you have you know what a fantastic and wonderful woman she is to our sailing community. It was a privilege for me to nominate her for the award, but it was an honor to see Maggie be able to receive this award. Congratulations Margaret, we are so proud that you are our yacht club's member!

In closing, I'd like to remind everyone to leave some room in this year's resolutions for your yacht club and don't forget to enjoy the upcoming sailing year. We work hard all week so let the club have a chance to take you to a place where you can relax, go sailing and enjoy the camaraderie of your friends and fellow sailors. We are coming into our 80th yachting year at ABYC and I know it promises to be a great one!

Fair winds and fast sailing!

Nicole Peoples-Moffett

manager's corner



Allow me to start by saying what a wonderful organization this is and by wishing all of you, our membership, a wonderful, prosperous and peaceful New Year.

What a great year of growth we have experienced, and along with the Board of Directors, committees and staff we have already begun to implement programs that will not only grow our numbers, but will also grow the benefits of membership as well. We have new and exciting ideas presented every board meeting and their passage has seen our membership numbers grow. Member discounts for bringing in new members will prove the adage "membership has its benefits"! I know everyone has the goal to reach full membership by year end, and I know that with the active leadership of the Board our members it is not pie in the sky to

achieve this goal.

We also have a full calendar planned of sailing and social events that will bring you an action packed year. Please refer to our calendar section for all dates that have been scheduled to date. I know that you will find our newly revised web site a pleasure to surf! Remember that if you would like to only receive the Sou'Wester online you can do so on our website and the flyers will be e-mailed to you if you notify Lori in the office. This saves the club postage for each of you that have opted into the electronic program.

I know that the year will be exciting, interesting and above all successful for all of us.

Again, I want to thank you for the privilege of being your General Manager for 2005.

Theresa

do it all online for ullman sails long beach race week

It's not too soon to start getting your act together for Ullman Sails Long Beach Race Week June 23-25, and you can do it from where you're sitting. Register online for the West's largest inshore regatta, purchase event merchandise and review last year's results to figure out the boats to beat. The Long Beach and Alamitos Bay Yacht Clubs are co-organizers again. New this year, with the City of Long Beach on board as a sponsor: free docking for out-of-town competitors. (www.lbrw.org)

Rich Roberts

rear commodore's notes



Having a Party? Getting Married?

Come party with us!

The building has been repainted, the carpet is in, and the flooring looks just absolutely gorgeous! New kitchen appliances, caterers that prepare meals to just die for! And, one of the best banquet facilities around with service much more personal than some public restaurant.

Having a birthday or anniversary party? Getting married? Want to impress that boss of yours by holding a company party at some fancy schmancy yacht club? Consider holding your next event at Alamitos Bay Yacht Club. After all, where else can you rent an entire upstairs banquet area with such gorgeous, water front views?!? You'll find our pricing to be quite competitive, and our food service top notch. Please contact Theresa Laird, Club Manager, for information on holding your next event at your club!

Glenn Selvin

Ahhh... lunch on the patio

Now that those pesky holidays are over, come on down to the club and relax and enjoy some peace and quiet. The sun has been out though it's been a little bit brisk. This is your club, so come on down and enjoy it...enjoy a nice lunch out on the patio and watch the boats go by. The galley is open Saturdays and Sundays for the enjoyment of all our members, so come on down, enjoy a salad or a burger, and kibitz with your friends!

Glenn Selvin

fleet captain's report



Race Management and how it can make your life better.

As a club, one of the things we do exceedingly well is run races. In case you were unaware, the group responsible for this is the "Race Management Committee". Chris Ericksen is in charge and he runs a tight ship. This group meets once a month on the second Wednesday of every month, feel free to come and participate. ABYC has a strong tradition of going the extra mile to make a regatta both highly professional and enjoyable.

An added benefit of being a member of ABYC is your ability to get involved with running races. There are many people that consider it to be as fun as actually racing itself. Find yourself watching the multi-hulls, 505's, or any type of skiff scream by on a reach. See the Etchells in their entire splendor doing a leeward takedown in 20 knots of breeze. Observe the Cal 20 fleet

with many on the starting line playing bumper boats while planning out the next chess move. This is better stuff than most sports enthusiasts get to see on television and you can go out and see it in real life for free!

You will meet people that share many of your same interests!

Junior parents give much to their kids. After helping their kids get launched or after driving them to the club, they should then kick off the dock on one of the committee boats and go have an adventure of their own!

We throw one or more regattas a month and there are many chances to get on the race committee. People with strong administrative skills will enjoy helping or running the major regattas from the shore. Would you like to be on a Whaler setting marks? Would you like to be on Patience helping start and finish the races? If you really like it, you could kick it up a notch and become one of the race officers. People in charge try to call everyone that is interested, but they may not know you are interested. You call first! Look on our calendar, find out what races are coming up, find out who is the race chairperson and call them. Regardless, you could contact me, email is best, and I will help you find a spot. Don't be shy!

The Olympic Classes Regatta (OCR) is coming up and it looks like it will be a big one! April 1st and 2nd, 2006. We will have close to 200 Lasers, 20+ Finns, Stars, and not to mention the other Olympic classes yet to commit. The sailboard class, RS:X, may use the 2006 ABYC OCR as the US qualifier for 2006 ISAF Youth World championship. Dan DeLave and I are in charge and we would love to find a place for you. Call or email Dan (ddelave@aol.com) if you would like to be on the water, or me if you would like to help on the shore.

Remember, life is about having fun and this is a spectacular way to enjoy it.

Come run a regatta!

Merle Asper

from the pages of history

Here we go: another set of years from the past to review. Thanks to everyone for their kind words of encouragement.

And a special thanks to those of you who have contributed copies of past Sou'westers to the club's archives: recent contributions have brought our records to near completeness from 1985 through 2002. If anyone has older copies or complete sets from before about 1990, please get them to the club.

THIRTY YEARS AGO:

The Sou'wester was a booklet-sized document in 1976, staple-bound, with the centerfold a club calendar and lots of cartoons but no photos. Nowhere inside is the editor identified, but it may have been Don Brackenbury, a staff writer for the Long Beach *Independent, Press-Telegram* and the inside race-committee chair. There was a special logo on the cover commemorating our fiftieth year.

Commodore Paul C. Merrill, Jr., reported on the ABYC Christmas Party. It was apparently hugely attended: "400 persons of all sizes," his report says, a record turnout. Santa arrived aboard PATIENCE, and Kelly Winterrowd put on a puppet show.

Inserts are often interesting to review, as much so as the Sou'wester itself. This edition included invitations to the 47th Annual SCYA Midwinter Regatta in February; ABYC would be hosting Nationals, Snipes, I-14's, 470's, Force 5's, Lido's and Lasers. There was also the Notice of Race for the E.E. Manning Dinghy Race. In those days this regatta was hosted by the home club of the previous year's winner and ABYC was the host. There was also an NOR for the Honest Abe Regatta in early February, which had an interesting format: ocean classes raced on Saturday and Bay classes on Sunday. Lasers, apparently, could race both days. Racing was under the 1973 NAYRU rules, by the way; NAYRU stands for "North American Yacht Racing Union" and was the predecessor of the current U.S. Sailing Association.

Latham Bell won the Junior Sabot C trophy at the Poinsettia Regatta at Oceanside Yacht Club...James B. Grubbs of Los Angeles 90048—Pacific Palisades, I think—became an Interim Member, now called Yachting Member; he had a 470 named "Torch II".

TWENTY YEARS AGO:

The Sou'wester of 1986 was being edited by Vicki Ericksen. It looks much like the Sou'wester of today in size and format. The articles were composed on a personal computer, printed on a dot-matrix printer and pasted up. Printing plates were made by photographing the pasted-up pages. Kind of a transitional technology.

The Christmas party contributed a lot of art but most of the copy was on Turkey Day: full results were printed and there was a lengthy article on the regatta. There were 177 entries in 15 classes, and the largest class was Snipes, with 25 boats entered.

One of the inserts was a flyer for the Super Bowl Regatta, which was to be held on the second day of the E.E. Manning Regatta. Grant Hill and Randy Smith were the event chairs, and they asked anyone who could to bring a T.V. so that there'd be enough to see. The other insert was an invitation to participate in the Advanced Racing Clinic being run by CISA, the California International Sailing Association; Dave Perry and Tom Kinney were the instructors, and Marylee Goyan was in charge. Instruction was in Laser and Laser II.

Ann Exley dedicated her historic column to the geography of Alamitos Bay in the late Twenties: it looked a lot different, with mud flats and train trestles...Betty Newton reported in "Driftwood," her column of news and gossip, that the Commodore arrived at a Christmas party and found someone in his parking place; however, rather than parking somewhere else, he left the car in the middle of the entrance aisle to seek the interloper and inadvertently locked the keys in his car—WHILE THE ENGINE WAS RUNNING...

TEN YEARS AGO:

The Sou'wester of 1996 is almost indistinguishable from that of 1986—or this one, for that matter. It's not clear who was editing the Sou'wester at this time, but it probably was Mark Elliot and Allison Jolly, whose tenure featured whimsical captions to the cover photos.

A sign of the times was the preponderance of babies in the photos from the Christmas Party—and an ad asking for "babysitting juniors" who could watch the children of the Snipe Fleet in February. The Snipes, once the most active in the club, was struggling a bit as many of their members had become parents. They planned to come out and race in the Bay with the Lido's at the latter's fleet races, and the first one was February 10.

Inserts in this Sou'wester included a calendar and a reduced NOR for the 67th Annual SCYA Midwinter Regatta. ABYC would host not only International Canoes, I-14's, 5-0-5's, Lasers, Laser II's, C-15's and Lido 14's but also the Olympic dinghies: 470 (in both men's and women's divisions), Finn's and the "Euro-Dinghy," then the new singlehanded women's boat that we found later was called the Europe. ABYC's Chuck Fuller was chairman of Midwinters.

A program about "our new neighbor," the United States Sailing Center in Long Beach, was to be presented at the January general-membership meeting; Executive Director Mike Segerblom would be the speaker...Tom Paulling and Steve Bloemeke, touting themselves as "T&S Productions," were in charge of Happy Hour for the year...Bard Heavens was the Keel Boat Fleet captain.

Chris Ericksen, Club Historian

The Board of Directors has unanimously approved the custom creation of a limited edition ABYC burgee lapel pin. This fabulous collectable will be awarded to the number one sponsor of a new member. What could be simpler? One new member - one pin. The pin presentation will be concurrent with the new member burgee presentation.

All other incentives still apply:

Commodore's Council nametag and recognition on the perpetual plaque – Requires sponsorship of two new members.

250 ABYC dollars to the number one new member sponsor.

250 ABYC dollars the new member.

Bill McDannell

thank you duncan

OUTSIDE R.C. BOAT PATIENCE AND THE JUNIORS

Although we are all proud of Patience and job she does for the outside race venue, she is getting a little long in the tooth. And like all ladies of age, needs T.L.C. and occasional service of a professional boat wright. One of our service persons, Duncan Harrison, has donated the fee from his latest job on Patience to the junior program. He is an avid sailor and racer who wants to support the next generation. Thanks Duncan.

Vern P. and George C.

lasers to host

Mark your calendars for February's General Membership meeting!

The Laser fleet will be making a special presentation on the recent Laser Master Worlds in Brazil! Come for food, music, and drink specials, all from Brazil! And of course, be ready to make a quorum for the meeting! See you there, February 17, 2006!

Jorge Suarez

Alamitos Bay Beach Preservation Group

presents

Meet the Candidates

for

Long Beach Mayor

and

3rd District Council

Wednesday, February 22

6:00 pm @ ABYC



He's still working on his docking skills!

Sou'Wester DEADLINE

Friday, January 17, 2006 is the deadline for the February Sou'Wester.



Marina Watch

Program in Force

The Long Beach Police Department – Marine Patrol Unit invites you to work with us to prevent crime in the Long Beach Marinas. We're on-duty and available 24 hours a day to respond to your concerns. Reach us anytime, day or night at the following telephone numbers:

EMERGENCY: **911** (from dock phones, dial 9 911)

Non-Emergency: **(562) 435-6711**
(use this number when calling from a cell phone)

We are here to serve you.

Sgt. Tom Keleher
Marine Patrol Unit
Long Beach Police Department



Marina Watch is as easy as 1 – 2 – 3:

1. Keep an eye on your neighbor's boats, vehicles, and property.
2. Be aware of people, vehicles and boats in and near the marinas.
3. If you see anything suspicious, call the police.

****NEVER CONFRONT SUSPICIOUS PERSONS****



Help us keep "Pete the Pirate" out of the Long Beach Marinas.

family christmas party photos

Thank you Barbara Gabriel for all of the Christmas Party photos!



family christmas party photos



family christmas party photos





KEEL BOAT FLEET ON WATCH

As usual, the combined Sabotier/Keel Boat Christmas party was a wonderful success. I do not know how Rhonda, our piano player, seems to play just the tunes everyone enjoys the most. And the hors d'oeuvres were more like a 50 course meal I would say. Of course we all ate too much but it was so good. Joe's 'guess who this is?' in the old snapshots was great. How Carol Reynolds figured out as many as she did was terrific and deserved first place. The evening ended up with everyone singing the old favorite Christmas songs and that in it's self was a grand finale.

Many thanks to Keel Boat Chair Joe Riddick, Sabotier Chair John Ellis plus Judy Mathias for an absolute bench mark party.

Mark your calendar for January 13, our next Keel Boat Fleet meeting, potluck as usual. I am sure Judy Mathias and Carol Reynolds will have the latest information on the armchair cruise. If you want a great evening come ready to sign up as there is always a limit for seating. We will hope a report on progress about the spring cruise is available.

I could use some help for the March and May Keel Boat meetings. Something of local interest would be great.

George



December 4th was the date for our usual Sailing Sunday in December. The weather was very nice, and Tick Weber ran four races. We needed an extra race that day due to "Speed Can Confusion." Jane McNaboe won, and John Ellis and Mary Riddick tied. We all enjoyed Jesus' good vegetable & beef soup.

Next month please join us in sailing on January 15th. Remember to come to the January 20th General Membership meeting to hear our sailors talk about the Transpac Race.

Dues are due for 2006! Please send your \$7.00 check (unless you still owe for '05) to Marilyn McMahon to support or participate in the Senior Sabot Fleet.

Mary Riddick, Fleet Captain

ABYC's Turkey Day Regatta was the last scored race to determine the 2005 ABYC Laser_Fleet Championship. This year one of ABYC's truly "good guys", Bob Falk took the honors with consistent participation and top finishes all year. Bob was honored with a Laser_Fleet Championship award to go along with his first place turkey. Congratulations Bob!

Bob was followed in the championship standings by these ABYC Laser_racers in order; Vann Wilson, Chris Raab, Jorge Suarez, Willem Emmer and Mike Pentecost.

The ABYC Laser_Fleet completed the first of the Winter Series Sunday December 4th. We kicked off with a question and answer session conducted by our in-house expert, Kevin Tauger. Kevin covered the fine points of tuning the Laser and Laser_Radial rig for a variety of conditions and touched on the fine points of sailing up-wind and down in a variety of conditions.

Following the tutorial, sailors adjourned to the boatyard to rig and sail out for some hands-on application of the morning's lessons. We thank our local Vanguard Laser_dealer representative Matt McKinlay for helping the sailors with rigging and racing pointers as well as handling race committee duties for the day.

To recap the Winter Series...we race in the Bay or outside depending on conditions. We take turns with RC duties and all competitors will pitch-in for gas (\$5.00 per racer will cover the cost of renting a whaler).

We include anyone who wants to race Lasers, especially anyone new to Lasers /Radials. **The local Finn fleet has expressed interest in joining the Lasers_for the series and we hope to see them out with us for the remaining dates.**

Here is our Winter Series schedule:

January 15th

January 29th

February 12th

February 26th

This schedule takes us up to the ABYC *E.E. Manning Series* March 4-5, ABYC *Chapped Cheeks* March 18th and the Laser *Midwinters West* March 24-26 in San Diego.

We need volunteers to handle Race Committee duties, so if there is a date you can volunteer your services, please send me an e-mail.

2006 ABYC Laser Fleet Championship

The 2006 Championship Series will be scored from results of the following ABYC Regattas:

The Manning Series: March 4-5

Olympic Classes Regatta: April 1-2

Memorial Day Holiday Regatta: May 27-28

U.S. Sailing O'Day Area "J" Qualifier: June 3

Labor Day Holiday Regatta: September 2-3

Turkey Day Holiday Regatta: November 18-19

ABYC Member Laser racers can score points based on placement in each Championship race entered.

In addition, all ABYC Member Laser racers entered will receive *participation points* equal to half the number of racers entered in a Fleet Championship Series Regatta.

Laser Masters Host February 2006 ABYC Membership Meeting

Do not miss the February 2006 Membership meeting February 17th! The ABYC Laser racers who participated in the 2005 Laser Masters Worlds Championship in Brazil will be giving a presentation on the regatta and their collected adventures before during and after. A multi-media presentation is anticipated with some surprises as well. So don't be out of town that weekend.

Steven Smith, ABYC Laser Fleet Captain

hails from the fleets



Winter is often a quiet time around the yacht club, and it has been so for the ABYC Etchells fleet. Turkey Day in November was the last event in which our

Etchells sailed, and then as part of a Portsmouth division. Doug Jorgensen, sailing with Kyle Smith and Gordon Dudley and Kyle Smith, proved steady competitors over both days and came away with the win. Ed Feo, sailing with Steve Beck and Chuck Simmons, and Reese Lane and Jonathan Mitsumori, rounded out the fleet.

January will find ABYC's Etchells scattered about a bit. Jerry Thompson's and Jeff Littell's boat is to be found in Florida, campaigning in the very popular Jaguar Series of regattas through the winter months. A few boats will winter in San Diego to race with the largest West Coast fleet, one that is made even larger in the wintertime by an influx of boats from up the coast and as far east as Marblehead and Chicago.

January will also be a month of organization for the fleet as a new Fleet Captain will be elected, the 2006 Fleet Championship Series schedule will be set and plans for the coming year are made. A fleet race with the Cal 20's is scheduled for Sunday, January 22. The annual Super Bowl Regatta on Alamitos Bay is set for Sunday, February 5, and Etchells will again sail at Long Beach Yacht Club as part of the 2006 SCYA Midwinter Regatta February 18-19.

With the Etchells Worlds in Australia, 2006 will likely be a year with little international attractions for ABYC's Etchells. One owner, a competitor in four Etchells Worlds', has said he plans to spend the year racing his boat out of ABYC. So watch for the Etchells fleet in 2006: we're hoping for more local participation and more local fun.

Chris Ericksen



Not much sailing is being done with the holidays fast approaching and Jack Frost nipping at our noses. But the Lido fleet is hard at work in spite of the cold days. By the time you read this, the fleet will have

had their Christmas brunch. The details of this lively annual affair will be in the next issue of the Sou'wester.

The main focus of this winter is the fleet's ongoing membership drive. We would like to have all Lido owners at ABYC join the fleet and come out and sail with us. The Lido is a great two-handed dinghy and a lot of fun. So come on out and discover or rediscover how much fun the Lido can be. You can call Tracy Conn or Ron Clanton to get further membership information. If you have already received the membership form, please send it in.

Finally, mark your calendars for the Midwinter Regatta on February 18 and 19. Hope to see a lot of Lidos out there.

Ron Clanton

scuttlebutt

Steve Moffett's daughter Kelly has graduated from ASU...congratulations Kelly (Steve and Nicole too). Donna Massey had gall bladder surgery this month and is doing fine.

Joy Moffett had back surgery this month and is recuperating, however, her mother passed away on the day she has surgery. Wishing you a speedy recovery, Joy, and sending warm thoughts and prayers on the passing of your mom.

long beach race week

Once again ABYC and LBYC are jointly organizing Ullman Sails Long Beach Race Week 2006 June 23-25, 2006. ABYC members Ron Wood, Mark Townsend, Sandy Toscan and Jennifer Kuritz are all part of the organizing team.



With the success of the 2005 event still fresh in sailors' minds, several new classes have expressed interest in participating in Race Week 2006 and therefore we are expecting entries to exceed the 137 of 2005. New classes include the Etchells and J/29.

June provides some of the best most consistent racing conditions in Long Beach. The sea breeze regularly builds to 18-20 knots in the afternoon and with temperatures reaching the 80's, everyone has a great time.

Several classes chose to incorporate their regional and in one case national class championship as part of USLBRW 2005. We are currently accepting requests from classes to host their championships, ranking regattas, and high point series as part of Race Week 2006 or 2007.

Due to competitors' enthusiastic comments, the Water Taxi service will again be available at USLBRW 2006. Once again it will run between the clubs and pick up and drop off crews to boats located on the marina end ties. Moving between the clubs for the various post racing events or returning to your boat or car location will be easy and enjoyable.

The Race Week website is at <http://www.lbrw.org>. Here you will find the latest information about the regatta, notice of race, new updates about the event etc.

Mark Townsend





Alamitos Bay Yacht Club

7201 East Ocean Boulevard
Long Beach, California 90803

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Our wonderful Santa and...

photos by Barbara Gabriel



...his adorable helper!

2006 OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

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Vice Commodore	Jim Bateman	Junior Rear Commodore	Sydney Bolger
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