

Sou' Wester

August 2007



Official Publication of
Alamitos Bay Yacht Club
Volume 80 • Number 8

4th of July Regatta 2007

Stephanie Munn photos

As everyone knows, the 4th of July occurred on Wednesday this year. The mid week holiday provided many folks an opportunity to enjoy 9 days off that only cost them 4 days of vacation time from work and we thought they would go out of town. With the prospect of low attendance, we decided to do something other than a full blown regatta.

Commodore Jim Bateman had suggested a summer pursuit race along the lines of our Boxing Day Regatta that was so popular last December. So, a plan evolved to create a picnic that might appeal to racers and non-racers alike. That's how it all came about folks. As the Club was closed on the 4th, we chose the following Saturday. As the date neared, it appeared we may have shot ourselves in the foot. The Lido14s traveled to Huntington Lake, and the Juniors sent over 35 Sabots down to Gold Cup in Newport...oops.

But, the luck of the day 07/07/07 held true. Racers, good and not so good were out in force. Of the 38 starters in the harbor 79% were ABYC boats while 59% of the 22 bay racers were home-grown. In the harbor 13 different makes and models were going at it.



How often would you find Howard Hamlin and Pease Glaser in their A-Cats duking it out with Steve Washburn's Columbia 30 and the Ellis clan in a Cal 20. Ah yes, but, next time the A-cats will, for sure, get a new handicap. The Finish line was off the second deck corner of the clubhouse, where a large rooting section gathered. Cheers went up for beginner laser sailors Dusty Starr and Hilton Beckham who toughed out the strong winds. And there was a special cheer for John Perone who, since there was no time curfew, finally finished a race. :)

The bay ran two races, and we saw rare sights. Boats that had not raced in years were out, ask Ed Spotsky. There were even husbands and wives actually racing together in the same dinghy, Wow... like old times. Brand new member, Bob Best and daughter Edna in Bob's brand new Lido14 were in the

hunt. Take a look at the race results on the web site. With the unexpected number of boats, thanks go to Cathy Black-Smith who saved us with extra trophies.

Ashore, we had a grand time. Geared as a picnic for ABYC, that's exactly what it was. Special thanks to Diane Bateman, Sue McDannel, Stephanie Munn, and Donna Massey for their work on decorations, games, and projects. The small fry were busy with the inflatable bouncer, spirit sticks, and rubber duck racing. Tattoo decals were everywhere on young and old. Classic 4th of July food fair of Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, a very good Potato Salad, and Apple Pie was served with background music pumped out on a Wurlitzer Carousel Band Organ. The winners of the bowline tying contest were, Sue Crockett - Ladies, Rich Vaught - Old Guys, Alex Vaught - Juniors.

...continued page 5

inside

Commodore's Comments	2
Manager's Corner	2
Vice Commodore's View	3
Rear Commodore's Notes	4
Fleet Captain's Report	5
Men's Day Report	5
Junior Sailing	6
From the Pages of History	7-8
Hails from the Fleets	10-11

save the date

Catalina Cruise	August 4-5
Membership Meeting	August 17
Club 420 Nationals	August 18-21
Labor Day Regatta & Luau	Sept 1-2
Membership Meeting & Elections	Sept 21
Olympic Trials	October 3-14
Commodore's Installation	October 20
Ladies Day Regatta	October 21

commodore's comments



The summer has been living up to our expectations – very busy and great fun. Late June and early July were full of activities at ABCY. Big regattas, parties, the Junior program in high gear and the midweek Twilights, Wet Wednesdays and Pop-Top Thursdays kept the club buzzing with activity. While it can get hectic at times, it is wonderful to see that so many members are actively using and supporting the Club. As always, many thanks to all the volunteers that make this happen. Likewise, Kelly and the staff have been working very hard keeping the club clean and functioning well. Make sure you let them know how much we appreciate their efforts.

This year, rather than working the event, I actually got to sail Long Beach Race Week. As a last minute extra crew, I sailed with LBYC Commodore Mike Van Dyke in the Catalina 37 Fleet. Big fun with a great group of sailors. We only got beat by fellow member Chris Raab. As I will co-chair this event next year, seeing it from the competitors' standpoint was not only fun but informative. Our joint efforts with LBYC have produced a first class event. Congratulations and thanks to the regatta co-chairs Nicole Peoples-Moffett and David Stotler as well as competition chair Mark Townsend and the whole crew of volunteers from both clubs that it takes to put on this event.

The new format of the 4th of July regatta was a big success. The inverted start, low-key approach succeeded in bringing out many members and friends that don't often make it out on the racecourse. I'm sure we will build on this start and make this a family classic.

July brought Transpac and we have a good representation of sailors from ABYC. Ed Feo, Jerry Montgomery, Rob Waterman and Scott Atwood are a few of our members sailing this year. I attended the Opening Ceremonies which, while generally very festive, included a touching tribute to Wendy and the huge contribution she made to Transpac.

With all the activity at the club, I need to ask all our members to help with a few issues.

- Parking in the yard, is only for members. Please don't let your friends follow you in.
- The pedestrian gate should be kept closed. During the summer we get many people who wander in.
- You may not give permission to non-members to use the club. If you have guests, you must be at the club with them.
- If you are bringing a boat into the yard – even if just overnight, you need to register at the office.

Thanks for your help with these matters.

Good Sailing,
Jim Bateman

manager's corner



As unbelievable as it seems, by the time this edition of the Sou Wester is published, I will have experienced my first year as ABYC General Manager.

And what an experience it has been. From the Regatta's to the Memorial Services, barbeques to Eagle Scout presentations, Opening Day, Commodore's Installation Dinner, General Membership Meetings and Luau's...and THEN things started to get busy.

Commodore Bateman and I have had this running joke about the "slow period" that's always just around the corner. Well Jim, I just looked at the calendar for August, and unless I'm missing something, the slow period isn't going to happen this year.

The good news is we ARE a busy club with constant activities, training, events and programs for our members, and there's no sign of it slowing down. It's what makes this such a special place to work.

The team of employees at ABYC has been an absolute joy to work with this past year. I can't say I've worked with a group more amicable, and willing to dive into whatever it is that needs to get done. Thanks to each of you.

I've heard from many of our members how much they enjoy the changes in our Galley food and service. The "Bay Burger" and cold draft beer have been a big hit, and several new changes are in the works. If there is a food or beverage item you would like to see in the Galley, give me a call, or email and we will try to accommodate.

Finally, thanks to each and every member this past year that has taken the time to introduce yourself, been patient with my attempt to learn your name, and given me such positive feedback about the direction of the club. It has been my absolute pleasure serving as your club manager this inaugural year, and I look forward to many years of service ahead.

Kelly Whitlow

vice commodore's view



Summer is here, and ABYC has been a very jumping place lately with lots going on around the yard and clubhouse.

Kelly continues his yeoman's work of keeping up with the needs of our wonderful building, bringing in refrigeration contractors, plumbers and electricians as needed to keep the ol' gal looking sharp with all systems a go. Latest on our list is the gathering of quotes to repipe our barbeque, for so long an enjoyable place for summer's social gatherings. At the same time, we're also looking at getting the fire pit out in the patio working once again, as the one vendor that does the barbecue can also do the fire pit.

If you've been in the yard lately, you've seen that the area between the hoists and the first row of boats, called the fairway, has been slurry coated. That area takes the worst of the abuse of boats and water, and needs maintenance far in advance of the rest of the yard. We're also getting quotes on laying some concrete along side the quarterdeck, where it's always muddy and the grass never grows.

If you've been down in the evening enjoying a twilight dinner, you've seen the big improvements in the lighting, both around the yard and building and back on the patio. ABYC is a volunteer club, and Ed Spotsky is the member responsible for our huge improvements in lighting. Ed is in that business, and has sold us his parts at cost and charged us just enough to cover his labor, and I'd like to thank Ed for his volunteer spirit!

In the boat yard? People have been coming in for their transom stickers, which is making Lisa LeBold's job much easier as it pertains to keeping track of the boats in the yard. If you've not yet come in for a transom sticker, especially if you're in a Sabot, please do so, as it really is a big, big help. Lisa and I will be doing another yard walk in July some time, so please make sure that your boat is where its supposed to be, and that your space in the yard is ship shape. And if your boat is in the yard, and you're not paying for a space? Please, no poaching... please take your boat home.

And lastly? The new, prototype Sabot racks. There is a grouping in the far corner of the yard, and the Juniors, with my permission and blessing, have taken over those racks for storage of charter boats and junior program sailors. While that solves the storage issue for the summer program and prevents the annual headache of where to put junior Sabots, it also allows the prototype to be tried out under very difficult, daily usage. The Juniors will then give the Board back feedback as to what did and didn't work properly, so that we can eventually build new Sabot racks that work properly for our members.

Come on down and enjoy your club. The weather has been SoCal gorgeous... come on down and take advantage of these beautiful sunny days.

Glenn Selvin

Sou'Wester DEADLINE
 Friday, August 17, 2007 is the deadline
 for the September Sou'Wester.

2007 OFFICERS & DIRECTORS			
Commodore Jim Bateman jbateaux@hotmail.com		Treasurer	George Kornhoff/Mary Montz
Vice Commodore Glenn Selvin ghselvin@ix.netcom.com		Junior Rear Commodore	A.J.Robinson/Laura Newton
Rear Commodore Merle Asper merleasper@verizon.net		Fleet Surgeon	Dr. Jeff Cohen
Jr. Staff Commodore Nicole Peoples-Moffett npeoples@att.net		Judge Advocate	Tom Ramsey
Fleet Captain John Massey JFMasseySr@aol.com		Port Captain Dave Myers/Jeff Ives	
Secretary Dan DeLave DDELAVE@aol.com		Sou'wester Editor/Layout	Sharon Pearson
Directors		ABYC	
Junior Program Jeff Merrill jeff.merrill@nordhavn.com		Phone	(562) 434-9955
Volunteers Bill McDannel bsmcdannel@hotmail.com		Fax	(562) 434-2267
Bob Anderson BobDAnders@aol.com		Homepage	www.abyc.org
		Email	abyc@abyc.org

rear commodore's notes



August! Oh no! Summer is half over! You better get out there and get wet! There is plenty of sailing to be done. Splash your boat and duel it out with your friends or get on somebody's boat and crew. Either way you will not be sorry. Summer is about having fun and particularly: sailing.

We are very fortunate to belong to such a fine organization located right in the middle of one of the best places to sail in the world. Don't take it for granted, we have it better than just about everybody! Why do you think people from other places (I started to name them, but it seemed a little rude) come here to sail so much?

Even if you can't sail, get down to the club and just hang out. You have an "E" ticket (remember those?) to ride, don't let it go to waste!

Membership:

Sponsoring new members has its rewards. Besides doing something good for the club and good for the new member, ABYC has her way of saying "Thanks!" This is for sponsoring REGULAR NEW MEMBERS only. The #1 sponsor receives two hundred and fifty (250!) ABYC dollars. You can use fifty (50!) only for Club merchandise. The remaining two hundred (200!) can be used for food, beverage, or Club merchandise. The ABYC dollars need to be used within 6 months and they can't be applied towards dues or mooring. Just mark you bill when you are paying it how you want your dollars applied. The New Member also gets the same deal. You can give them your ABYC dollars as well. This way we can get them into the ABYC groove early! Email me if you have any questions.

I want to remind you about the Commodore's Council. The Commodore's Council was formed to recognize those that go above and beyond the call of duty in sponsoring new members. When you enter the club you will see on the right hand side a plaque that celebrates these individuals who sponsored two Regular, Yachting, or Junior members during the calendar year from November through October. You may want to thank these people listed on the board as the do deserve our thanks. Your name could be there also!

Close-up of the names listed on the Commodore's Council Plaque:

We are doing great! Keep it up. It looks like we have filled all of our slots for junior members (we have a waiting list!) and our regular membership is on the rise. We have some really great people coming in, remember to introduce yourself, you may just meet your next best friend.

Do you know some people that are interested in joining? Contact Mike Baumann michael_baumann@mac.com, your hard working Membership Chairman or me. We like to meet new people and help them get into and enjoy our Club. I can email them any information they may need.

Social:

I want to thank everybody on the Social Advisory Committee for doing a great job! So far we have had a very good turn out for all of our events and we have managed to more than break even on the dollar side of things. This keeps the wheels turning. As a club our participation has been way up and everybody is having a great time! When you see Diane Bateman (the Queen of Bunting) and Sue McDannel (our socially fearless leader) around the club, please thank them, because they put an extra-ordinary amount of effort into making our events go off with style and color!

Independence Day Regatta and Picnic went off with a bang! John Massey, the Social Advisory Committee and the Senior Sabot Fleet did a great job of providing an ABYC family event that really was designed to make our relationships within ourselves stronger. I believe it succeeded with flying colors! The event with reverse starts on bay and harbor courses made the racing fun and social. The picnic was entertaining and everybody had a great time. My hat goes off to the organizers!

Fridays have been grand. We are Racin' in the Basin with the remote control sailboats and then upstairs for Happy Hour. There is great entertainment, great food, great camaraderie and ultimately great fun. You are invited to participate. We will be having Flight 6875 (the songs you love between the years of 1968-1975) playing soon and there will be a steel drum band playing for a number of dates as well. Stay tuned for more information.

Some super events to keep your eyes open for are: Catalina Cruise (get your friends together and have a ball!), and Labor Day Regatta and Luau (come dance the dances of the islands). Lori VanSkyhock has been working diligently to make this an extra special event. See the flyer in this edition of the Sou'Wester.

I try to keep everyone very abreast of what is happening every week via email. If you have not been getting my emails, send me your address, and I will put you on the list. We want you there and participating! You won't be sorry.

See you around the Club! Go ABYC!
Merle Asper, merleasper@verizon.net



fleet captain's report



I'm writing this report during the next to the last weekend of July, and we just experienced those first few scattered rain drops that herald in our typical late summer monsoon weather cycle. Thunder storms over the desert and that occasional boomer that comes ripping up the Catalina Channel. If you are going to the island keep an eye on the weather...especially if you plan an evening crossing. Overhaul your safety equipment plus refresh yourself and crew in man overboard procedures. Don't forget to inspect the towline on the dinghy that you thought was even a little fuzzy last year.

The Boats and Race equipment are getting a lot of use, possibly even more so than previous years. If you use any club equipment, please do so correctly. Afterwards, please put it away properly. If you are unsure where things are stowed ... ask ... and follow instructions. Dave Meyers is doing yeoman's service, keeping things in repair. Please don't expect him to have to clean up after you or chase you down to reclaim a radio, compass, or other materials issued to you. It is your responsibility

to see that each item is returned.

That goes for the boats as well. Stow equipment correctly, anchor and rode, life jackets, manual bailers, tilt the engine and inspect the hull. Write down any problems on a squawk list and see to it that the information gets to the office so corrective action can be taken. Be specific... words other than "Engine Quit" would help. Example... "The engine would not start after I had wrapped the prop" or "The engine wouldn't run because the fuel fitting would not stay attached." Much better... we know where to look now.

And please.... before you finally leave the boat, look around in the boat and remove any unwanted gear or trash, particularly food wrappings and drink containers.

Overhaul of the Bay Marks is almost complete. They are now bright yellow to conform with US Coast Guard requirements. The following marks are in place and the GPS coordinates noted to the USCG... Marks "X, C,D,V,F,J,H,I". Marks "A,B,G" are still in repair. The ground tackle has been or will be completely replaced on all marks except "C". Laugh as you will, but nobody has yet been able to lift that sucker off the bottom.

"Sidney T" and "Outrage" now have electric bailers, actuated by a manual button on the control consol, and the open inspection ports are sealed. New Bay Barge engine is due to arrive. It is a 15 horsepower Honda, extended shaft, remote control, and electric start. Also, Superstructure material due soon.

Once again ... A Note to our Newer Members ... All our regattas and events, are excellent affairs to get to know other club members. Also, you will become accustomed to the operation and use of club equipment. To repeat last month's report, "Don't be shy. All of us were new at one time. Just hang a name tag around your neck and dig in ... it truly is fun messin' around with boats"

John Massey

4th of july regatta (cont)

...from page 1

A couple of slip ups occurred. The draft beer box refused to provide anything but foam, and the watermelon spitting contest was DNS due to no watermelons with any respectable seeds. Go figure. Nothing but seedless watermelons at the produce market.

Judy Mathias captain of the Keel Boat fleet and Isabelle Lounsberry Captain of the Sabot Fleet organized the racing, with Jim Drury as PRO in the harbor, and Mike Baumann PRO in the bay. Mike did bay handicaps while Bob Anderson wrestled with the harbor times. Mark Townsend was kind to share his experience on the handicapping start times. Robin Townsend deserves special mention. She set out marks in the bay in fine order. Then when the PRO requested a change, some darn fool made the change and failed to tell Robin. Well, Robin went charging about the west turning basin looking for the "lost" mark... Robin, I confess, I done it ... sorry! Thanks go to everyone. It was a fine day.

John Massey



the bay clogger (junior sailing)

Well, it has been a fantastic summer so far for the junior sailors of ABYC. Our team has competed in nearly 20 regattas all across the country and still have 12 more to go before the summer ends! We have seen record numbers at these events but most importantly fun had by all. Here is a recap of a few regattas and some info about events that are coming up for the juniors...

Summer Gold Cup

This year we sent 34 sailors to Summer Gold Cup down in Newport Harbor. This was hands down the biggest group we have ever sent and almost just as impressive is the number of volunteers it took to get them down there (11 trailer towing parents with 4 left over volunteers - wow!) Our students did well in every fleet which consisted of approximately 35 boats per fleet and about 150 sabots total, but the highlights came from the C2 fleet where our team took home four of the top 5 trophies out of 36 sailors! Davis Bakker, Jacob Rosenberg, Dugan Farrell, and Kevin Leddy took home 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 5th respectively. We also saw some serious action in the C3 fleet, which boasted 31 sailors, six of which were ours. Diego Ramos and Brian MacLean took home 3rd and 4th



overall, but there was shining moments from all the new racers including a race where founding "carnage crew" member, Alex Cascell was in 2nd place around the leeward mark along with first time racer Gentry Bell following close behind in 6th. The rest of our new racers fell somewhere in the top 10 that race and there were smiles had by all. Carl Olson had this to say, "this was the best regatta ever!" Great job to all of them!

Sabot 2 North

A famous 11 and under regatta, the sabot 2 North boasts some of the best up and coming sabot talent in Southern California. If you are looking for lightweight crew, you should check out some of these sailors. ABYC in particular had an amazing showing at this event. We took down 14 sailors to compete and all of them nearly finished in the top half of the 75 total boats. Beyond that, this event qualifies the top 10 from the North and top 10 from the South to move on to the Sabot 2 Invitational at Mission Bay Yacht Club. ABYC was very well represented with Rob Rice winning the whole event (all bullets and a sixth), Riley Gibbs took home 5th place, Jacob Rosenberg (barely 9 years old!) took home 9th and Kevin Baumann took home 10th qualifying four of our sailors to compete in the finals! Matt McDermaid came in 14th and narrowly missed qualifying himself. This was an amazing achievement for all our sailors and whispers from spectators could be heard that ABYC had a very strong presence. Good luck at the Invitational to those who qualified and congratulations to all our Sabot 2 sailors!

Junior Olympics

One of my favorite weeks of the summer is that of the Junior Olympics where we send out best Laser and Radial sailors to compete. It is one of the pinnacles of the summer to see if their training has paid off and where they stack up against the rest of Southern California. This year we sent eight sailors up to Santa Barbara with our coaches from Argentina and Ireland. We did not know what to expect as many of them were new racers, but we were pleasantly surprised to hear that not only did our veterans do well, but also our rookies. AJ Robinson, Ian Fournier, Ryan McNaboe and Laura Newton took home 10th, 14th, 22nd and 32nd respectively out of 45 Radial sailors and they are all relatively new to the boats. Our veterans did even better with Alex Vaught pulling home a 5th place in Radials and Max Nickbarg (visiting from the Virgin Islands) taking home a 9th also in Radials. Cameron Summers yet again has gotten even better, grabbing 2nd in Full Rig Lasers and therefore qualifying to sail in the Smythe (single-handed) US National Championship. This is a huge honor and an unbelievable performance for all these students. It is hard to put into words how proud we are of all of them.

420 Nationals

There will be much more detail on one of our extraordinary sailors and coaches, Sydney Bolger, in a later Sou'wester, but it is worthwhile to mention she just recently got 2nd place overall in the 420 Nationals. Wish her luck in the 420 North Americans that will be held in August out of our very own ABYC.

Don't forget that we have some big events that the juniors are hosting here at ABYC including the North Series for junior Sabot Sailors on September 29th and 30th. We will also be making a presentation at the August 17th General Membership meeting. This is a great opportunity for all to see all the great things going on in the junior program. I hope to see many of you there!

Up next, Junior Sabot Nationals and Laser Pacific Coast Championships...

Brad Schaupeter, ABYC Junior Sailing Director

from the pages of history

August has traditionally been championship-regatta season, so there is mention of several in the SOU'WESTER's of the past. And odd-number summers mean Transpac, so there is some mention of that event as well. Besides, there are new members to greet, business to transact and all the rest—so let's get to it.

THIRTY YEARS AGO:

According to the SOU'WESTER of August 1977, the summer was filled with championship regattas. The Sea Scout Nationals, an event for members of the Sea Scout division of the Boy Scouts of America, was held at ABYC August 14-17. Clyde Ellerman and Rod Ogilby were in charge of the event, which was sailed (if I recall correctly—the article does not say) in Snipes. Memory also serves that an ABYC member was racing, too, but we'll have to see if next month's SOU'WESTER backs that up.

The C-15's held their Nationals later that same week—in fact, it started the day after the Sea Scout Nationals ended. The Junior Nationals was to be held that day with the adults racing Friday, Saturday and Sunday. There were certainly plenty of ABYC members in that fleet, so I'm sure we'll hear about that next month. And the Catalina 27 Nationals was held the very next weekend at ABYC. So four consecutive weekends of racing—Sea Scouts, C-15's, Cat 27's and the ABYC Labor Day Regatta—happened in the summer of 1977, and all that ending just a week before ABYC hosted the Tornado Worlds! And we think we have a busy regatta schedule in this day and age.

A very nice note was posted by Tom McCormick, an ABYC junior, thanking ABYC for sending him to Tinsley Island, the island station of the St. Francis Yacht Club up the Sacramento River, for an Olympic training seminar and regatta in July. Sailed in Lasers, St FYC invited one representative from each yacht club on the Pacific Coast. Tom reported having “learned an awful lot about sailing Lasers and sailing in general.”

Members were reminded that the General Membership Meeting on August 19 would feature a vote on the newly revised By-Laws; they were also reminded to be sure to bring I.D. to the Luau over Labor Day weekend as the bartenders would be carding those who looked to be under age...the Men's Fashion Show held on Father's Day seems to have been a big success: Ted Flood of Kenady's, a men's store then in the Shore, supplied clothing modeled by Paul Merrill, Bill Sohle and David Crockett...three familiar names hit the membership list as Interim members, now called Yachting members: Don Shirley, Bruce Golison and Tom Newton, Jr., all of them college students at the time and members to this day...

TWENTY YEARS AGO:

There were four events the summer of 1987, according to the SOU'WESTER of August of that year: the Etchells PCC's, the Lido 14 Junior Nationals, the Cal 24 Nationals (called the “Intergalactics” by some) and the big one, the Naples Sabot Junior Nationals. This would have been the first major regatta at ABYC for a class then called Etchells 22, and probably was the last-ever Cal 24 Nationals in history. But the Lido's and Sabots go on.

Additionally, Commodore Tom Ramsey announced in his “Commodore's Comments” that a new event was on the horizon: “a one-day, yet-to-be-named regatta for charity.” This event was jointly organized by yacht clubs in the Long Beach area, with ABYC hosting racing on the Bay, other clubs hosting racing in the harbor and an after-racing burger bash and awards ceremony to be held at Seal Beach Yacht Club. This was, of course, the first of what is now named the Yacht Clubs of Long Beach Charity Regatta to benefit The Children's Clinic.

Ann Exley's “From the Pages of History” column contained an incredibly interesting report on a regatta held in conjunction with the Pacific Southwest Exposition that was held in the Long Beach Inner Harbor back in August of 1928. A fleet of ABYC Skimmers, managed by the then-teenaged Sid Exley, George Hart and the legendary “Ducky” Woodman, were among the crew that loaded the Skimmers onto a large, flat-bottomed motorboat in Alamitos Bay, took them out under the bridge and P.E. trestle that crossed the opening to the ocean and watched the boats overnight. The trip back was pretty exciting, too: as the motorboat laden with Skimmers attempted to enter the Bay—there was a good surf running and no jetties—they managed to take the latticework and running lights off the top of the motorboat's house when they hit the underside of the trestle. According to Ann, the Russell's won the regatta; whether it was Richard Russell, Senior, our first Commodore, is not clear, but it is likely.

The Cal 20 Fleet was getting ready for a trip to Santa Catalina Island that included a dinner at the Bird Park; it is not clear if they were going in their boats or staying ashore, but one can wonder...the recently disbanded Coronado 25 fleet liquidated the fleet treasury and made a donation of nearly five hundred dollars to the ABYC Junior Program in memory of Ernie Marr and Rod Ogilby, two former fleet members who had recently passed away...new members of ABYC included Richard and Marie Knowles, both with ARCO and owners of the restored 8-Metre yacht “Laila,” and Bruce and Margo Golison, who had met in Texas on the J/24 circuit...

TEN YEARS AGO:

The cover of the August 1997, SOU'WESTER featured an exciting photo of RALPHIE, the Santa Cruz 50 that was owned by John Latiolait and co-skipped by John and Jerry Montgomery. The team, which included ABYC members Jim MacLeod, David Thompson and Don Reiman, had some excitement on the way: their steering gear failed and the boat was steered by emergency tiller while repairs were completed. It worked out OK in the end, as RALPHIE and her crew won the

entire regatta on corrected time. The photo showed RALPHIE bowling along down the Molokai Channel en route to their finish off Diamond Head.

The Naples Sabot Junior Nationals appeared on the calendar again in 1997, in advance of the A-Class Catamaran Worlds to be held in September; Jim Morford chaired the Sabot regatta while Chris Ericksen was chairman of the catamaran event. July saw ABYC host the 5-0-5 North Americans, with Mike McDade as PRO; he repeated two months later for the A-Cat event when the designated PRO became unavailable at the last minute.

There was a note to members who apparently were taking to parking their cars in the aisle between the parking lot and the Etchells row: The parking lots across the street are free after 6:00 pm each night; this is still a problem in this day and age and the same parking-lot rules apply across the street today. Ann Exley's history column reported the First Annual Long Beach Sports Night was held in 1957 to honor locals who excelled in sporting events; among the luminaries that included Olympic diver Pat McCormick, Olympic swimmer Greta Andersen and baseball Hall of Famer Bob Lemon was our own Sid Exley...new members pictured in the SOU'WESTER included Eric Bakker, Steve Myrter, Cole Price and David Thompson, he of RALPHIE fame...

Chris Ericksen, Club Historian

flotsam and jetsom

Stephanie Munn's nephew was drafted by the Dodgers! His name is Paul Koss, he is a closer, a pitcher. He is also a recent graduate of USC. He is currently in Utah, playing for the Dodger's 1A team called the Utah Raptors. Go Dodger Blue!!!

abyc member accomplishments

After seven races sailed in Club 420s on Lake Pontchartrain, Emily Maxwell (Stonington, Conn.) and Kelly Stannard (Salem, Conn.) triumphed over 35 teams in a hotly contested finale to capture the U.S. Junior Women's Double-handed Championship for the Ida Lewis Trophy. During the three-day regatta, the young women racing at this event were schooled in conditions that try the patience of the very best sailors: the vagaries of light air. Stephanie Hudson/ Laura McKenna (Winnetka, Ill./Palo Alto, Calif.) finished second with Sydney Bolger/Morgane Renoir (Long Beach, Calif./San Diego, Calif.) in third. — Full report and results: <http://www.ussailing.org/pressreleases/2007/usjwdcwrapup.asp>

Way to go Sydney...we're proud of you!!

Two-time Santana 20 National Champion Bruce Golison (Rossmoor, CA) and crew Blair Wallace and Andrew Kerr continued their winning ways at the 30th National Championship, scoring 2-1-1-2-3-1-3 for 13 pts. The event was sailed June 18-22 at Windycrest Sailing Club, Tulsa, OK. Eric Kownacki (Rancho Bernardo, CA) took 2nd with 16pts, closely followed by Kenny Baggett (Tulsa, OK), 17pts. Teams dealt with a variety of conditions on Lake Keystone including light air, high water from weeks of Oklahoma rains plus a huge thunderstorm with widespread lightning Tuesday night. See complete results at <http://spreadsheets.google.com/pub?key=poeXwtZv9Lyx9FkvpvWBJCw>

“ye auld challenge cup”

Bring the Golf Championship to ABYC!

The Pacific Coast Sailing Foundation with The Auld Dubliner Irish Pub cordially invite you to a day of golf, food & beverage, and fun at our annual charity golf tournament benefiting the United States Sailing Center. Form an ABYC foursome of active members and bring the 2007 perpetual trophy home!

Where: Long Beach Recreation Golf Course (“Big Rec”)

When: Thursday, October 4th, 2007

11:00 a.m. Registration, 12:30 p.m. Shotgun Start

The cost of golf & cart, lunch & beverages is \$150. Additionally, our generous sponsors at The Auld Dubliner will host an after party with fine food & spirits at their wonderful restaurant. Funds raised will support the U.S. Sailing Center's *Disabled, Youth-At-Risk, High School, and USC Sailing programs*. We are a 501c.3 Public Benefit Charitable Corporation, Federal ID #95-3626059.

For information: U.S. Sailing Center 562.433.7939, www.ussclb.org



Wendy's boat, Wendy's home, is called the Willow Wind. When she bought the Willow Wind about 20 years ago, she found and left onboard, a quotation from Kenneth Grahame's *The Wind in the Willows*, which reads: there is NOTHING—absolute nothing—half so much worth doing as simply messing about in boats.

All of us will one day breathe our final breath. Not all of us will be blessed to do so engaged in the activity which is our true love. Wendy was so blessed, spending the final moments of her too brief life, aboard her boat, her home, the Willow Wind.

In Wendy's world of sailing, there is what's known as the triple crown—three races which conclude in Hawaii. Until Wendy met Duncan, she had been in two of the three, but not the Transpac. The Transpac would become their event, Wendy's event. In the Transpac, she was a competitor, including becoming only the 2nd female skipper to win in her boat class, which she did in 2001, a board member, chosen to present this year's winners with their trophies, an organizer of the 40th anniversary of fellow owners of her beloved classic Cal 40 boat, back in 2003. The Transpac was Wendy's event. In a typical year, when she, Duncan and their crew arrived in Hawaii, there was a sign to greet them, reading simply, "Welcome Wendy and crew."

How symbolic is it therefore that Wendy passed away just days before the start of her beloved race, and circumstances beyond anyone's control required that she was still in California a number of days, her body at rest, but her spirit no doubt present when the beginning of the race was marked with a memorial service in her honor.

To say that Wendy was a well liked person would be a gross understatement. She was loved by so many people, and it never took more than a few minutes in her presence to connect with her. Ken, Duncan's cousin, describes meeting Wendy for the first time, just a few years ago, and immediately feeling that he had known her his whole life.

Jennifer, a close friend, met Wendy at a New Years Eve party more than a dozen years ago. Although they quickly found out they had so much in common, what Wendy found most interesting was that Jennifer was from Long Beach, so she spent the entire evening asking Jennifer about the fellow she had recently met from Long Beach. His name was Duncan Harrison. Thanks to Jennifer's kind words, and that coincidentally Jennifer had known Duncan since they were teenagers, Wendy and Duncan were soon together, and have shared their lives, and their love for the water, ever since.

Wendy was the skipper and Duncan, the navigator, on the boat and in their lives. Among the many special memories Duncan recalled when we spoke last evening, was the Surprise 50th birthday party he and friends celebrated with Wendy. How Duncan, and everyone, loved the way she tilted her head just so, smiled so easily, exhibited such a sense of trust in others.

Wendy and Duncan always had plans for the future, including one day sailing around the world.

Perhaps Wendy's philosophy of life can best be described in her own words. On the boat when a member of her crew would ask, "Where are we going?" Wendy would reply, "See that horizon—catch it!"

Several years ago, Wendy abruptly embarked on a new career path, re-training to become certified as a teacher, and then pursuing a permanent classroom position, which she found as a 6th grade math and science teacher at Stephen White Middle School in Carson, California.

Why become a teacher? Everyone knows Wendy was fearless. She would dive into the water fearlessly in the middle of the ocean. She was in a hot air balloon recently. How much more frightening could it be to handle a classroom of teenagers?

Reporter Doug Krikorian, of the *Press Telegraph*, put it best when he worded the headline of his recent article, *Siegal lives for Sailing*.

**Memorial - Thursday August 9th
3:30 pm - ABYC**



Attention ALL senior sabot sailors!

Please join the fun and participate in the annual Ladies Day regatta to be held on:

Sunday October 21st.

This is an annual fall classic that will extend your summer sailing for one more glorious weekend day.

There will be three Ladies divisions - A, B and Novice as well as an open mens division.

Dust off your leeboard and come out for a fun day of bay sailing.

hails from the fleets

KEEL BOAT FLEET ON WATCH



U pdate on Bard Heavens and Barbara Mark's trip to Alaska is that they have completed the Alaska part and have returned to British Columbia. Unfortunately that is all I have and that information from Bard's daughter and son-in-law. The problem was that Bard was having a technical difficulty with the communication equipment. Hopefully I will be able to bring you up to date next month.

The good news is the next meeting of the Keel Boat Fleet September 14, will be a barbecue outside on the patio. Bring your entrée to barbecue and a side dish or desert to share plus your libation. The Fleet will provide the plates, utensils etc.

The meeting will be the first of our new calendar 07-08 year. Judy Mathias, John Brennan and Joe Riddick will be talking about the up coming events and it promises to be a lot of fun. Please bring your dues for the new year (\$10) to the meeting

Hope your summer has been a great one so far,
George C.



“Believe me, my young friend, there is NOTHING —half so much worth doing as simply messing about in boats. Simply messing, the Water Rat went on dreaminily.” so reads Wendy Siegal's favorite quote from *Wind in the Willows*.

It would be nice to have that inscribed on a Fourth of July Wendy Siegal Perpetual Trophy. We will be working on getting something together before the August Memorial Service. Duncan and Jennifer attended the service for Wendy July 12th in Detroit. Wendy will be remembered for admonishing us all to be participants and not spectators, a credo she spent her life demonstrating.

So here's what participating Sabots are doing on the bay:

Bob Ware has won the Fleet Championship again! No surprise, but we tried to keep you in suspense. He was given a plaque to take home as well as having his name inscribed on the Championship Trophy. There was an error in reporting the winners of the May Twilights. The correction reads:

(1) Freddie Stevens IV (2) Bob Ware (3) Mary Riddick

As there is a protest pending in The June Twilights, we cannot report those results. The July Twilights are continuing with some of the best sailors anywhere. A dozen or more boats churn to the starting line every Thursday, and it's anybody's race. Here is a sample of the lineup: Lee Berlinger, Sheila Eberly, John Ellis, Chas Merrill, Jeff Merrill, Mack Mills, Tom Newton, Jo Ann Pike, Mary Riddick, Mark Ryan, Fred Stevens III, and IV, Jerry Thompson, Mark Vredenburgh, and Bob Ware. The first July Twilight, Bob, Fred, Mary, and Tom took the first three

slots. The second July Twilight saw Tom, Chas, Lee, Jeff, and Fred crossing first. We had a third generation Merrill out at the start of the race last Thursday as Elle Adra (guess who she was named after) accompanied her dad and grandad to the starts. We look forward to her joining us in a few years.

Jinx continues giving us a running report on the new barge. If you have suggestions let her know so they can get to the committee.

Jeanne Kasper was a very good friend to our fleet and she and Dennis used to attend many events with us. The services and Memorial were beautiful for Jeanne. Her strong and kindly persona will long be remembered.

UPDATE: Sunday Race and Meeting.

The three races on Sunday, July 15th had eight participants: Judy Mathias joined the usual regulars: Bob Ware, Mary Riddick, Lee Berlinger, Mack Mills, Dianne Gonzales, Jennifer Kuritz and John Ellis. Mary got the first place trophy. Mack Mills and Lee Berlinger tied for second. Steve Kuritz was PRO for the day and also chase boat operator. He towed the whaler behind us, set the line and courses while Jinx Ellis did her usual perfect timed starts.

The Sunday meeting was led by Jennifer Kuritz as Isabelle was out of town. She gave out the trophies and presided over the discussion on protests. It was decided to ask Margaret for clarification on the rules and incidents that happened on the water, but there will be no protest hearings. Offenders are asked to do their circles on the water on the honor system.

Lee Berlinger gave the INSA report: There are now 470 current members. Dues will be going up for Senior Membership to \$20.00. Juniors under 18 years old are still \$15.00, and non-boat owners/Supporting Membership is still \$10.00. The Sr.Sabot Nationals was well attended with 49 entries. Rowell Greene reported on a turn-screw mast step adjustment that will be provisionally accepted for one year. Carbon Fiber will not be allowed. There will be no more yearbooks. Corsair has turned their molds over to Shock and will not be making boats. New Sabots will be in the neighborhood of \$6000.

Jennifer requested help on measuring the Juniors' boats the following Wednesday. (She and Dad, John Ellis worked from 9:00 until 3:30 getting the job done.)

Jesus served a very nice Chicken Mole after the meeting.

The following Thursday Twilight was complicated by no barge and no wind. John McNaughton started the races with Jinx timing from a whaler. John and Susan Brennan manned another whaler as chase boat. The first race around course 16 went very well. Bob Ware, Fred Stevens, and Lee Berlinger came in first, second, and third. The second race around course 28, saw Chas Merrill with a great lead, but then the wind died after rounding X. Even shortening the course, did not help get the sailors home any faster. Jeff Merrill floated in first, Joann Pike second, and Lee Berlinger third. Lee had even done a

hails from the fleets

penalty circle at the start. Sue Crockett was sailing with us for the first time. Hopefully, they'll be better conditions the next time.

I leave you with Wendy's words: "Don't be a spectator; be a participant! Come sail with us! Call Isabelle Lounsberry for more information on fleet activities.

Barbara Gabriel



The Lido 14's are in full sailing mode this summer. The twilights have been well attended having nine or ten boats at the starting line with a total of 20 different teams being out in May and June enjoying the sailing, patio dinners and just plain good ole camaraderie following the races.

Chuck Babcock with his grandson Grayson Williams handily won the May Series. Conditions were blustery but this didn't seem to matter to this pair. June brought out more boats and varied conditions, Tracy Conn with either Ron Clanton or Grant Hill as crew narrowly finished ahead of Mark and Sarah Ryan to take first place.

Seven Lidos participated in the Fourth of July Pursuit Race in the Bay, Chuck and Paige Tripp were third, Ed Spotsky and Eric Chawick fourth and our newest fleet members, Bob and Edna Best taking fifth.

August 19th is the beginning of the celebration of the Lido 14's Golden Anniversary Class Championships, which will be sailed in Newport Beach, the site of the very first Class Championship in 1958. Few Classes can boast of the vitality after fifty years like the Lido 14 can. New fleets are forming and existing fleets are growing, regatta participation is on the rise. This is due in part to an active National Class Association and the fact that Lido's of all ages when cared for are competitive with each other. Boats remain competitive years and years after they are manufactured, and new members to the fleet quickly learn, with time on the water, they can become competitive with boats of any age and have a grand time while learning. With the Lido 14, it is difficult to find more bang for the buck!

Don Taugher, Fleet Captain



Fleets don't seem to go through "mood swings" but they do seem to go through activity swings, and this year it seems the ABYC Etchells fleet is in a bit of a downswing. Now, it has nothing to do with the boats or the fleet or the fleet officers: Jeff Powell, our fleet captain, and Gordon Dudley, his boat partner and our secretary/treasurer, are working as hard as they can to keep the fleet in touch. Jeff sends us all an e-mail every week, and they do their best to chivvy the fleet into activity, but the summer seems a bit "off."

Speaking for myself, the last time Tim Carter and I were out in DESPERADO was the first Fleet Championship Series race back in—I can't remember when! And the gang for Thursday night races with Seal Beach Yacht Club has been pretty scarce: some weeks there are no boats and others there is only one or two.

We did get a few boats out for the last fleet regatta back on June 16. Three, to be exact. Jeff Powell skippered a team that included Dave Morse and Jason Rodgers while multiple fleet champion Doug Jorgensen turned out with son Jack and Dave Myers as crew; John Chapman flew in from the desert as the third boat. And that was the order of the standings when the racing was done: our fleet captain managed three bullets in three races, including the last one that finished off the ABYC flagpole. That one was really tight, with the lead changing often between the Powell team and the Chapman's right down to a near-photo finish. Ken Reiff and Gordon Dudley did the race management chores.

There were three boats out for the ABYC Fourth of July Regatta, which also finished in the channel adjacent to the clubhouse. As befitting his Commodore year, Jim Bateman was top finisher among the Etchells: he and his team of Ralph Sewell and Don Shirley finished in eighth place overall, right between two family teams—the Ellis/Kuritz clan and the Crockett family—both in Cal 20's. Steve Moffett took his daughter Kelly and her friend Richard out for the day and was second among the Etchells and 12th overall, right behind Jim Grubbs and Alex Vaught in an Snipe. Chris Wells was the third boat; sailing with boat partner Rex Jacobs, he was 15th overall and finished among dinghies.

There were two events on the calendar in July, however, that promise a better turnout—although they are yet to be held as the deadline for this article comes up. On Saturday, July 21, the Fleet Championship Series continues with a one-day fleet race.

And on Sunday, July 22, the ABYC Etchells and the ABYC Junior Program have scheduled a day of juniors on Etchells. As many boats as can get on the water will take as many kids as we can collect to introduce those who have not raced keelboats to the Etchells. Races on the Bay are scheduled, and I'm sure there'll be a great time had by all.

August is vacation time, so the Etchells will be taking much of the month off. Another fleet race, also part of the Fleet Championship Series, will be held on Saturday, August 25, the weekend before the ABYC Labor Day Regatta. And the series will conclude with a race and awards dinner on Saturday, September 29.

Chris Ericksen



Alamitos Bay Yacht Club

7201 East Ocean Boulevard
Long Beach, California 90803

PRSR STD
U. S. Postage
PAID
Long Beach, CA
Permit No. 685

beach to bay



Sarah, along with the Sea Urchins, are cheerleaders

Regatta details next month!!

Kelli Clinton photos

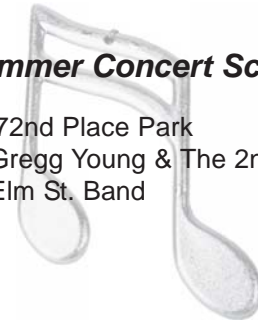


On the beach...getting ready

Charity Regatta
 Sunday September 23rd!!
 Save the Date...details next month!

Peninsula Summer Concert Schedule

5:30 - 7:30 pm - 72nd Place Park
 AUGUST 5 Gregg Young & The 2nd Street Band
 AUGUST 26 Elm St. Band



Labor Day Luau
SEPTEMBER 1st
Live Entertainment! *\$3.00 Mai Tais!
 Dust off that grass skirt and limbo on down to join your fellow ABYC members for some great food, good times, and fun and games, at the Labor Day Luau.
What a great way to end the summer!