

Sou' Wester

February 2007



boxing day regatta 2007

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Finn wins ABYC's mad Boxing Day scramble of 63 boats

Rich Roberts photos

Could a Naples Sabot beat a Melges 24? Would a Lido 14 have a chance against an F24 trimaran? And who would have figured a couple of singlehanded Finns to rule among a mix of 63 boats ranging from 8 to 37 feet? Only in Alamitos Bay Yacht Club's annual post-Christmas Boxing Day Regatta Dec. 30, where size and design stood on their heads as slower little boats enjoyed their moments in the sun while big and fast played mostly futile catch-up in a light-air scramble around the bays.



Sabot sailor John Merrill finds himself on a collision course with Bob Anderson's trimaran.

The boats were sent off on inverted starts based on Portsmouth handicaps for a 100-minute race. The course started in Alamitos Bay and ran the channel down to Naples Bay and back until time ran out. When the finish horn blew, Chris Raab, sailing an Olympic-class Finn, had a victorious 100-yard lead over Jerry Thompson's Snipe, with Mandi Smith as crew. Henry Sprague was third in another Finn, followed by Eric Conn's Mercury and the first keelboat, Jerry Montgomery's Etchells.

Then came Steve Washburn's Lido 14 and four Sabots, which started first. Mark Golison's Melges 24, the scratch boat starting last with six family members aboard, spotted the slowest boats—class C3 Sabots and a single Cape Cod Frosty—a 74-minute head start. Working their blue and white spinnaker for all it was worth in the two knots of wind, the Golisons sailed faster than anyone but just fast enough to finish mid-fleet.

They saw Raab and Sprague only when passing in opposite directions. The Finns started 52 minutes after the leadoff boats and 22 minutes before the Melges 24. Raab was surprised.

"I thought the Melges had it won, then at the end they slowed down," he said. "The real competition was Jerry Thompson. I passed him when I got a little lift that he didn't get."

Raab took the lead in the last 20 minutes from Claire Pace of Long Beach YC, who snapped his smiling picture with her cell phone as he glided by. Raab is a Laser veteran new to Finns this year, while Sprague has been sailing one for decades. Sprague thought the table-flat water was an advantage where the Finn could sail "like a skateboard."

Although the breeze was minimal, it was steady, and a brilliant sun took the chill off the 62-degree day.

Raab said, "Everybody really had fun. The enthusiasm I saw was the highest in a long time."

This was the first appearance in the Boxing Day event for the Finns, who are seen almost exclusively in one-design racing on buoy courses. Sprague thinks they'll be back.

This was more fun than hacking around triangles," he said.

Complete results and photos at www.abyc.org

Rich Roberts



Smile! Claire Paice of Long Beach YC snaps Chris Raab's photo as his Finn passes her Sabot to take over the lead.

...more photos on page 12

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save the date

Super Bowl Party	February 4
Membership Meeting	February 16
Midwinter Regatta	February 17 - 18
Manning Regatta	March 3 - 4
Membership Meeting	March 16
Chapped Cheek/St. Pat's Dinner	March 17
Women's Group - Flower Arranging	March 25
OCR	March 31- April 1

commodore's comments



We are continue to enjoy record participation at our events and programs, as you will read; Boxing Day was a major success, the Rose Bowl Regatta was at its highest level, we inducted many new members and our general membership meeting was packed with old and new members. There is new energy at the club and it's contagious. Let's keep it going. We have a busy calendar of events that provide many opportunities for all our members to get involved as participants and/or as volunteers. While we busy planning our world-class events (Olympic Classes Regatta, US Junior Multihull Championship, Long Beach Race Week, Club 420 North American Championship) we recognize that there is a need and demand for more activities that allow families and friends to participate. Look for details on our New Member Party and the new format for the 4th of July regatta. If you have an idea for such an activity, see me, or anyone on the board.

In this so-called slow time of the year, Kelly, the staff and many hard working members have been getting our facility and equipment ready for the Spring and Summer. We've got a "new" 17 ft whaler .The bay barge is being rebuilt/replaced. Another mule is being refurbished. New sabot racks are being tested. A new phone/paging system is being installed. Again, if you have ideas and can lend your time, effort and resources, please see me, or anyone on the board.

My pitch for the month is to get you to come to Opening Day Saturday, May 5th. If you've never come, you're missing out on one of the best member events of the year. It's not the stuffy boring event you may be imaging. The club championship race, class hospitality tables, host boat hospitality and a crisp efficient ceremony make ABYC's opening day an excellent opportunity to enjoy your club. Make sure you're fleet has its representative ready for the championship. Get your boat shined up and sign up to join the host boats, or simply plan to come down for a few hours and check it out. Contact John Merchant or me if you need to know more.

Good sailing,
Jim

vice commodore's view



As I sail at different yacht clubs both locally and at different parts of the country, I come back to ABYC and realize how lucky we are to have the facilities and the equipment to make our sailing enjoyable. After all, there's not many clubs that can be ramp launching a Sabot, while just a few feet away, someone is hoist launching a boat as large as an Olson 30!

Having the facility and the equipment that we have means that we have a lot of assets that we need to take care of. It isn't just our staff that needs to look after what we own it is all of us!

If you're the last one hoisting out at the end of a regatta, put the mule that you're using away when you're done, and ask your competitor to do the same. We have an enclosed area in the east yard for the mules, as we've had so many rebuilt and refinished that we're trying to keep them out of inclement weather, let along just trying not to let the sun just beat down on them.

We all use the hoists, yet pay little attention to them. Do you have any idea how expensive they are? Slow the hoist down before putting in the pin while rotating them, so as not to slam them to a stop. If they don't sound right, or if a light fixture is hanging down, broken, let someone know about it so we can get it fixed. Take care of them, and they'll take care of us!

While washing down your boat, take a couple of minutes and access the hose that you're using. Is it leaking? Maybe you could just tighten the clamp at the nozzle, and that'd take care of it. Is the hose itself split? Let Rick or Roberto know, and they'll replace it. And when you're done with the hose? Yup, you got it... turn off the water, open the nozzle to drain the hose, and then coil the hose back up so it's out of harm's way.

But its not just hoists and mules. We have such a nice facility... lets take care of it too. Did you spill a beer or some wine while upstairs? Get a wet rag, and try to clean up the mess before it turns into a stain! Drop some crackers or some nuts? Don't just use your foot to grind it into the carpet, clean it up!

Appreciate our club for all that we've come to own, and enjoy yourself while in the yard and upstairs having a drink after sailing. Take care of our club, because, as an equity member, you're an owner!

If you have any questions about usage of equipment, or need help, grab me in the yard, and let's talk. I'm around often...

Glenn Selvin

manager's corner



Several years ago, I attended a marketing seminar that focused on an emerging business model described as "The Experience Economy" The basic premise is *work is theater and every business, a stage*.

A simple trip to the mall has turned into an "experience". We encounter live music, interactive kiosk, food courts and carousels. An evening in front of the TV has turned into a night in our home theater. Buying a cup of coffee now involves cyber lounges, CD sales and words like Vente and Macchiato. Price and service have taken a back seat to our quest to be WOWED.

I was inspired by the conference, and realized to stay competitive I needed to provide that "experience" to my customers and exceed their expectations.

This year, it is my goal to raise the bar, and provide a better *experience* for the members here at the club.

Some of the changes already in process are:

- Upgrade food and beverage service
- Exciting entertainment for happy hour and social events
- New phone system and outside paging system
- Repair of in-house computer system
- Ongoing facility and grounds repair

The staff and I are dedicated to providing you with a new level of service here at ABYC and your comments and suggestions are always welcome.

Life after curly fries...

One area I am going to focus on in the upcoming months is our Galley. Although we have made noticeable improvements in the quality of food and timeliness of service, there are still areas that can be improved upon.

I would like to form a very casual, fun committee to address Galley issues. We'll take a look at food & beverage currently being offered and discuss menu changes that will provide a more varied array of foods to our members and guests.

We'll take a look at our outside patio and discuss how to provide a better club *experience* while enjoying a meal, beverage or simply enjoying some of the greatest vistas in all of Southern California.

If you've been looking for life after curly fries and have an idea for new, innovative food and/or beverage in our Galley, please sign up. I'll contact all interested parties, and schedule our meeting.

Email me at: Kelly@abyc.org

Finally, it appears our friend and colleague Jesus Espinosa will be back working at the club starting January 31st. He's healthy, in great spirits, and ready to join us in an exciting new year.

Kelly Whitlow, General Manager

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rear commodore's notes



Here we are and it is already February 2007. Spring is on the horizon and everything is great at ABYC. We have had super attendance at all of our events. The regattas and social programs have never been bigger or better. Our membership is growing (bigger than it has been in many years). Our Junior Program is going ballistic. We have a new whaler, several new motors, and a new bay barge on the way. We have new sabot racks (maybe new Laser racks, too!) that are on the way and are going to create more room in the yard and make things easier for everyone concerned. We have been able to bring member's boats into the yard at a record pace. Our food in the Galley and, in general, is much better and getting better every day. None of this happens by accident. All of the volunteers and staff have been working hard. We all deserve kudos. Congratulations, your hard work has paid off.

Social

We have some great things coming up in the near future. Fridays are always great, but keep tuned because there are some new and exciting things in the works. You always enjoy yourself at the club, come down and enjoy Kelly's great food and our yachting atmosphere. Life has never been better at ABYC.

Super Bowl is coming up February 4, 2007. Special plans are in the works and it is going to be fun! Kelly is making tri-tip sandwiches and ribs and we'll have a Super Bowl Beer Blowout. How can you beat that? You can't...be here!

St. Patrick's Day Dinner will be March 17, 2007 as part of the Chapped Cheek Regatta. Come on down even if you are not sailing and enjoy the camaraderie. This is not our biggest regatta, but will be well attended. Our traditional Irish Stew will be served for the adults and the kids will be getting special fun food that they will find both entertaining and tasty. What a kick!

Easter is coming up April 8th. Stacy Conn is in charge and she is already on top of it. This is always a highlight of my year. The food will be excellent and you will enjoy every minute. There will be an Easter bunny and an egg hunt. I have already signed up and I can't wait! Please get your name in early, so we can plan for you and your party.

Membership

Mike Bauman and I handed out many burgees (14?) at the last General Membership Meeting! If you see new members around the club, welcome them and introduce yourself. I guarantee you will have at least one thing in common with them: Sailing! Who knows, you may just meet one of your new best friends!

Membership numbers wise, we are doing great! Don't let up...your club is healthy and happy because of it. Don't forget about our promotion! When you are the number one sponsor you get \$250 ABYC dollars to be spent on food, beverage, and ABYC logo items. Contact Mike Baumann at michael_baumann@mac.com, your hard working Membership Chairman, or myself with prospects.

See you around the Club! Go ABYC!

Merle Asper

fleet captain's report



Bay Marks: Mark "F" is still missing and will need to be replaced.

We received 2 old mooring buoys from Dave Luchau of the Isthmus Mooring Service.

The were brought to the mainland by Dr. John Edwards and Mr. Frank Medlock of the Isthmus Yacht Club

Bay Barge: Pontoon Kit delivery is due at ABYC, around the 1st of February 2007.

Whaler #3: Broken hull has been removed from ABYC property. Thank you Robert Sherwood for doing this. Replacement #3 has been purchased. (1974 - 17ft Whaler CF 1530 FM) It is now on the ABYC roster. Tom Smith Marine has installed our new ETEC 40 hp engine with hydraulic steering. We have an 88hp Evenrude stored at Tom Smith Marine for sale. When they receive a request for a replacement engine of that size, Mr. Smith will have the individual make out a check to ABYC. (Engine model J88MSLCER, serial # R08258238).

Patience: Is now at the shipyard for her bottom job and repacking of the prop shaft stuffing box. Vern Peterson and George Caddle say she will be ready for MidWinters February 16/17.

Race Committee Meeting Recap:

SCYA Midwinter Regatta, Board Liaison-Merle Asper, Regatta Chair-Chris Erickson. Shoreline Yacht Club will assist ABYC with Marks, Equipment, and Whaler.

SCYA Manning Regatta, Board Liaison-Glenn Selvin, Regatta Chair-TBD

ABYC Chapped Cheek Regatta, Board Liaison-Bob Anderson, Regatta Chair-TBD

fleet captain's report (cont)

Looking ahead to 4th of July Regatta: Board Liaison-John Massey, Regatta Chair-TBD... The Committee will change the 1-day regatta to a different format not unlike the Boxing Day Regatta. They recognize that the amount of "civilian" traffic will be quite different than Boxing Day so that will be a factor in the regatta design. The intent is to generate a member inclusive event. It will also give the Social Committee the opportunity to create a Family Day type 4th of July. This date is to focus on ABYC Families.

John Massey

from the pages of history

One of the problems in being the Club Historian is that sometimes the source data is not available, and that happened this month: for whatever reason—probably a filing error on my part—I couldn't find the SOU'WESTER for February, 1997. I'm sure we have one, but I hadn't found it by the deadline for this article. I apologize for the oversight, and will be more diligent in future.

THIRTY YEARS AGO:

Fleets were the center of activity for ABYC members not so long ago, and the February, 1977, SOU'WESTER was filled with fleet news. The very active Lido 14 Fleet reported on a very successful "B and C Regatta" in December, where "A"-fleet skippers crewed for their less-accomplished brethren. In another effort at outreach, the fleet held a Non-Lido-Owners' Regatta in January. And new members of the fleet included Don and Betty Barrus and Lee and Ruth Smith.

The then-new Keel Boat Fleet reported that 34 PHRF boats took part in the 1977 Chapped Cheek Regatta; among the winners was "new member Dan Clapp, third in PHRF B." Fleet reporter John Hand was looking forward to much more PHRF racing at ABYC in the coming year and was planning a new inverted-start race for the fall; that event came to be named in the reporter's honor and was a popular event for many years.

The SCYA Midwinter Regatta was coming up, and invited fleets at ABYC included 470, Cal 20 (in both "A" and "B" divisions), Coronado 15, I-14, Laser (in three divisions), Tasar and Snipe (also in "A" and "B" divisions). Lido 14's raced in "A," "B," and "C" divisions and were joined on the Bay by the National One Design fleet. Entry fees were six bucks for all but the Cal 20's who paid eight bucks.

A timeless observation was made by Commodore Tick Weber about the recently held New Year's Eve Party: apparently some folks were turned away owing to not having made reservations in time. "Some members do not realize that our space is limited," he wrote. "In future, party announcements will clearly spell out our first-come, first-served policy." Some things never change...A sailing film produced by former ABYC member Alex von Wetter was the feature of the February general membership meeting; included in the footage was the America's Cup, the Admiral's Cup and the 1974 Finn Gold Cup held at ABYC...

TWENTY YEARS AGO:

Big news in the February 1987, SOU'WESTER, was the second-ever Keelboat One-Design Regatta that had been held in January. Intended as a keelboat version of the dinghy-only Manning Regatta, the event was intended for keelboats that didn't often appear at ABYC; however, the regatta featured Cal 20's, Etchells 22's and J/24's, all ABYC home fleets. The sole out-of-club fleet was Schock 35's, and only three of them sailed. Nevertheless, ABYC did not lack for enthusiasm for the regatta: the NOR (and SOU'WESTER cover) featured artwork designed by Norma Clapp. Chris Ericksen was PRO, Sandy Toscan and Betty Kolberg handed entries and scoring and Ed Feo was Protest Chairman. Junior Staff Commodore Tony Fallon was Regatta Chairman.

The Notice of Race for the 58th Annual SCYA Midwinter Regatta was included in the SOU'WESTER and listed many classes not seen nowadays: Columbia Challenger, Cyclone, Dart, IOR, Laser II, MORC, P-Cat and both Sidney and Westward Sabots were among the invitees. Classes at ABYC included 470, Coronado 15, Finn, Flying Dutchman, I-14, J/24, Laser II, Lido 14, Phoenix 12 and Snipe. Entry fees were up: \$15 for the J's, \$10 for the larger dinghies and \$7 for the smaller ones. The regatta featured "the traditional chili dinner" after racing on Saturday.

The Keel Boat Fleet had a burgee by this time, and was busy not only planning the summer cruise, which was scheduled to go north in 1987: Marina del Rey, Channel Islands Harbor and Santa Barbara were among the destinations being considered by Cruise Chairman Neal Dundas. Bob Chubb was the "wagonmaster" for the upcoming "wagon-wheel raft-up" cruise to Newport Beach. And the inaugural "Armchair Cruise," an evening at the Long Beach Community Playhouse, was an assured success, according to event chair Judy Mathias: it was sold out well before the deadline.

A total of 3,800 Notices of Race were sent out in advance of the 1987 Olympic Classes Regatta, to be held April 3-5; John Weiss and Sherwood Jones were racing chairs for the event while Marietta Jones was Social Chairman and Ann Exley served as Chief Hostess...Commodore Tom Ramsey announced that the First Mates, the women's auxiliary of ABYC, was "only a concept" absent any enthusiasm for the organization until "there is desire to resurrect this group"...the first-ever ABYC Yachting Member to apply for a Regular Membership was featured this month; he'd been a Junior Member, was an active Snipe sailor who had just acquired a Cal 20 and with his wife was expecting their first child. His name? Glenn Selvin...

Chris Ericksen, Club Historian

the bay clogger (junior sailing)

Hello ABYC members! The racing team has already begun traveling down the coast for the first regatta of the new year. On January 13th and 14th, a team of a dozen sailors traveled down to San Diego for the Junior Invitational regatta and the third of a four part North Series. Jack Jorgensen, Samantha Gebb, Lauren Bussey and Riley Gibbs are our regular competing "A" level sailors and have represented ABYC extremely well. Jack had one of his most outstanding performances to date with two bullets and several top 5 finishes finishing in 3^d overall. A surprising finish (yet becoming less surprising with each regatta) came from 10 year old Riley Gibbs who pulled out a 12th place finish in the A fleet ranking up near the top 10 in Southern California. He received a 3^d place in one race and sailed remarkably consistently. Samantha and Lauren also competed very well despite the difficult and shifty winds that prevailed.

In the other fleets, we saw the younger of the Gibbs brothers Sawyer, come away with a trophy in C3's and Elle Merrill and Steven Hopkins also took away 5th place and 3^d place trophies respectively in the C1 fleet. The other sailors who came down included Richard Bell, John Merrill, Rory Gaudio, Ian Fournier, Korbin and Hailey Kirk. It truly was a great time and I was very proud of all the sailors.

The ABYC Spring Jr. Sailing Program starts on February 11th and is sure to be as good or better than the Fall. In addition to the applications in this issue of the Sou'wester, forms can be found on line at www.fleetracing.net by following the ABYC Jr. Program link or in the office at ABYC. Sign up soon to assure your child space in the program!

Brad Schaepter, ABYC Jr. Sailing Director



A group of our young lady racers including Sydney Bolger (far left) who was teaching them that day (last clinic in December).

junior spotlight

The year 2007 started out on a heartbreaking note for our junior sailing program. One of our junior sailors, Paul Washburn, passed away on January 2^d. He was a member of our beginner class this past summer and fall, a talented sailor, and an amazing person. He died suddenly from, what is believed to be, an undetermined heart condition and was 10 years old. He is survived by two older brothers, his father Stephen and mother Gretchen.



Paul Washburn

Paul raced in the Boxing Day Regatta on Saturday, December 30th and received 3rd place in the C3 sabot division. He was a super friendly boy who great things were sure to happen for. I could see the love of sailing building in him just like his father as they sailed together often. There is an extremely nice article on www.sailinganarchy.com regarding Paul and his father where people are encouraged to leave their thoughts and condolences online.

The family has asked anyone who would like to send flowers to give to the Children's Hospital of Orange County in memory of Paul instead (www.choc.org/giving). Other condolences can be sent to 3360 Watermarke Place, Irvine, CA 92612 or left online at the www.sailinganarchy.com website.

Our thoughts, prayers, and sympathy go out to Paul's family in this difficult and tragic time.

membership

January brought with it some overdue housecleaning in the membership department, as we presented burgees to 11 members who have joined in the past few months. A welcome goes out to Junior racers **Diego Ramos** and **Cameron Koller** as well as intermediate sailors **Johnny Blumberg** and **Patrick Dunn** from the morning program.

We also said hello to new Yachting member **Steve Casey**, Sponsored by Mike Shea; **Steve and Lisa Mee**, sponsored by Chas Merrill; **Todd and Nancy Wheatley**, sponsored by John Merchant; **Nik Vale**, sponsored by Grant Hill, **Pat and Deann McDaniel**, sponsored by Lynda Peoples, **Martyn Bookwalter**, sponsored by Norma Clapp, and **Dan and Maria Milefchik**, sponsored by Gabe Feramola.

As sponsors of new regular members, you will receive recognition and \$250 in ABYC dollars, good for purchases at the club (except dues and moorings).

This month we have posted Ron and Janis Dougherty for consideration for regular membership, and Andrew MacLean and Cameron Forsberg for consideration for junior membership.

Mike Baumann



New Regular Members



New Junior Members

passages

Staff Commodore Sherwood Jones—"Jonesy"—passed away suddenly at his home in Menifee, California, on January 1, 2007. He was 75.

Jonesy sailed most of his life, starting in Sabots, which were beach-launched off Malibu back in the 1940's. He graduated to the Penguin class, then C-15's, Santana 22's, Santana 20's and back full circle to a Snipe. He belonged to Windjammers and King Harbor YC's.

Jonesy and his wife Marietta joined ABYC in 1978 and quickly became involved in club activities, including race and social committees. They partnered in several boats, including a Cal 20 and a Capri 25. In 1981, Jonesy was chairman of the Snipe Worlds, for which ABYC was awarded the St. Petersburg Trophy. For the 1984 Olympic Regatta, Jonesy was in charge of the chase/rescue boats. He also served proudly as ABYC Commodore in 1984, the Olympic year.

After retirement from McDonnell Douglas in 1994, Jonesy started building and sailing radio-controlled boats and also built from scratch many scale replicas of the boats he sailed during his life. He was an avid golfer, but his first love was the water.

Jonesy is survived by Marietta; sons, Wes, Sandy, Cliff and four grandchildren. A memorial service at ABYC is pending.

Marty Bowman, ABYC's "Lido Lady" over four decades, passed away in her sleep at home in Westminster on December 17, 2006.

With her then-husband Dale Berkihiser, Marty owned Lido 14 #1, "Wonderful One," and was legendary in her support of the Lido 14 both locally and as a member of the Lido 14 International Class Association. She became a Lido dealer and supported the local fleet with boats, parts and advice, and served several times as Fleet Captain of Lido 14 Fleet Six. Marty participated in dozens of class championship regattas and made the annual High Sierra Regatta at Huntington Lake a regular destination. She was also active in the ABYC Sabotier Fleet.

Marty is survived by her son Elliott Berkihiser, daughters Dara Hodges and Mindy Gucwa and four grandchildren. No announcement of a memorial service has been made.

secretary's scribbles

US Sailing and OCR Regatta: We are about to host the US Sailing Youth Multihull Championships. This will be run concurrently with the Olympic classes Regatta at the end of March. As part of the event, we will be hosting about 20 teams in a round-robin format with 10 boats. Because it is a youth event we are asked to find host housing for the teams. I will be looking for housing for about a 15 teams. If there is anyone willing to enjoy a visitor participating in this event please contact me so we can make arrangements.

Adopt -a -Beach: on Saturday morning we had a beautiful sunny day and about 15 people showed up to do their part for the environment. We donned our gloves, grabbed our bags and set off to freshen up the peninsula. Teams headed to the harbor side, bay side, and along the rocks at the side of the yacht club. Lots of nasty things were carried away from what we would like to see back in pristine condition, our beaches. This is not a clean it until it squeaks type of event. We are just doing what we can for a small impact that is amplified by the number in attendance. On this day we had Barbara and Bryan Gabriel, Lisa Lubbesmeyer, Jeanne Reid, Mary and Joe Riddick, Brian, with Cindy, Hayley and Kyle Brown, Dan DeLave, Cathy Black and Larry Kidd.

Dan DeLave

adopt - a - beach

I hope we can make these short work efforts more of a family affair this year and really make a difference. They are held on select Saturdays, four times a year, from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. There are the three more dates: April 21st, July 21st, and September 15th. Hope to see you out with the family. If you would like to be on the Committee, please call anyone of us.

Adopt - A Beach Committee: Bob Anderson, chairman, Cathy and Todd Black-Smith, Brad and the Juniors, and Barbara Gabriel.

The first clean-up day was January 20th. Many thanks to the volunteers who turned out to clean the beaches. Old Faithfuls, Jeanne Reid, Mary and Joe Riddick, Larry Kidd, Cathy Black, along with the entire family of Brian Brown, Cindy, Kyle, Hayley, and my family Bryan Gabriel and Lisa Lubbesmeyer and board member Dan DeLave were all very much appreciated. My kids came all the way from Oregon to help out. We found some interesting debris, Lisa found a gorgeous shell, and we all had a very satisfying morning.

We hope to hold a meeting in February for suggestions and new ideas. If you are interested, give me a call or one of the above-mentioned people

Barara Gabriel



women's group

Would you like to learn how to create a floral arrangement? You are in luck! The Women's group will host a 1-day class just for you on Sunday, Feb. 25th. It will only cost \$25.00, (just try to buy an arrangement for that). A professional teacher will purchase the flowers, floral foam and containers from the flower mart and instruct us on creating our own arrangement. All you need to bring is a pair of scissors and a knife. We will meet in the quarterdeck at 3:00 and reservations will close on Wednesday, February 21st. Feel free to invite your friends and family, I know I will! Everyone is welcome to attend.

Questions?

Please call Stephanie at 951-549-0267

Stephanie Munn

Sou'Wester DEADLINE

Friday, February 16, 2007 is the deadline for the March Sou'Wester.

free mooring for out-of-towners at l.b.r.w

The West's largest keelboat regatta—Acura Presents Ullman Sails Long Beach Race Week on June 22-24—has the welcome mat out again for boats from everywhere. The City of Long Beach Parks, Recreation and Marine Dept. is waiving mooring fees for out-of-town competitors from Sunday June 17, through Tuesday, June 27. But they're advised to file online entry forms, fees and mooring requests early because transient slips and end ties are limited, and last year 160 boats from San Francisco to San Diego were in town enjoying winds of 20 to 22 knots. More information: raceoffice@lbyc.org. Online entry: www.lbrw.org



June 22 - 24, 2007

2007 rose bowl regatta

Rich Roberts photos

Maryland, Point Loma find ways to win in little wind

St. Mary's College of Maryland and Point Loma High School of San Diego made the most of what little wind there was in winning the college and high school championships of the 22nd annual Rose Bowl Regatta Saturday and Sunday.

Among 27 college teams from across the country, St. Mary's skippers Justin Law and Adrienne Patterson, both Southern California natives, won the college A and B divisions, respectively, with Meredith Nordhem and Melissa Pumphrey as crew. Their combined scores led host USC by 31 to 55 points, followed by the College of Charleston (S.C.) at 66, one point ahead of defending champion Boston College.

Patterson, who grew up sailing with Law in Newport Beach, arrived with a special purpose: to win it for her mother, Melanie.

"My mother just passed away on Dec. 20," Patterson said. "She was my biggest supporter. It was wonderful to go out and show her we could beat the boys, like she always said we could."

Point Loma topped a fleet of 57 high schools to reclaim the title it lost to Newport Harbor last year, also sweeping the A and B divisions of the Gold fleet behind skippers Tyler Sinks and Caleb Paine, with Shone Bowman and Reece Bernet as crew.

For some consolation, Newport Harbor's JV 2 team did win the 27-team Silver fleet with half the points of runner-up Sage Hill, also of Newport Beach.

The largest combined college and high school regatta in the nation was organized and conducted by the US Sailing Center of Long Beach and Alamitos Bay Yacht Club. More than 400 sailors sailed two-person CFJ dinghies, dealing with windless delays while rotating boats off the beach every two races.

As many as 14 races were planned for each of the three fleets, but the best the race committee could manage was three each day. It was especially frustrating with zephyrs of 3 knots and less Sunday, then even those gasped their last to force the end of all racing at 3 p.m.

But apparently it bothered St. Mary's and Point Loma less than some of their rivals.

"You can't look at it that way," St. Mary's coach Adam Werblow said. "You have to look at it as exciting and upbeat, while everybody else is bummed out."

Law said, "It comes down to boat handling with finesse and being aggressive at times and very still at other times."

Point Loma came in on a roll. Coach Steve Hunt had just won US Sailing's prestigious Champion of Champions title with Alan Field in Arkansas, while Sinks was fresh from his victory in the 420 class of the previous week's Orange Bowl Regatta at Miami.

"Our kids sailed conservatively, intelligently and fast," Hunt said. "Our main goal was to avoid the letters—OCS and DSQ."

Translation: no early starts and no disqualifying fouls.

"It was a big team effort," Hunt said. "Our kids talked to each other a lot on the beach."

All of the high school teams are members of the Pacific Coast Interscholastic Sailing Association (PCISA), the largest district in the national Interscholastic Sailing Association (ISSA).

Complete results at www.pcisa.org

More photos at www.abyc.org

Rich Roberts



hails from the fleets



KEEL BOAT FLEET ON WATCH

The January meeting of the Keel Boat Fleet was cancelled because of a scheduling problem. The Armchair Cruise remains on schedule and we are trying to reach all members via e-mail and phone as of course with out the January meeting there was not an opportunity to sign up. The next meeting of the Keel Boat Fleet will be March 8, and there will be the usual pot luck dinner plus news of the upcoming Cruise to Shoreline Yacht Club.

Many thanks to the following people who helped to serve the ABYC January General Meeting: Joe and Mary Riddick, John Massey, Al and Jeanne Nelson, Judy Mathias, Dale Berkihiser, Margaret Caddle and Vern and Bobbie Peterson.

Hope to see every one at the Armchair Cruise,
George C.



The cold snap that settled over Long Beach did not deter Senior Sabot Sailors, Mary Riddick, John Ellis, Bob Ware, Don Hodges, Dianne Gonzales, Brian Brown, and Mark Ryan all showed up to stay the course. Jinx Ellis, Al Nelson, and Joe Riddick of the Race Committee were the ones shivering as the competition heated up the competitors. It was a close call as Mary and Bob each earned 6 points, but Bob's first came in the last race which is the tie-breaker according to the Rule Book. Brian Brown had a Daily First which came from the sailing tactic of finding the wind near the beach to reach the weather mark first and getting a leg up on the rest of the fleet. He was not at the meeting to collect his trophy, but Isabelle is saving it for him.

Fleet Captain Isabelle Lounsberry, led the discussions of hot topics at the Fleet Meeting. Flotation requirements were explained by John Ellis as having a mast that is sealed at the top and bottom and a boom that will float. Testing procedures will be developed to accommodate Fleet Members before a major regatta.

Dale Berkihiser reported that in December, Commodore Jim Bateman and some of his officers met with a few Senior Sabot sailors to present proposed plans for condensing Sabot yard space. The purpose it to increase the Club's revenue by creating more yard space, so that the long waiting list of members wanting yard storage for their boats may be shortened. This plan requires adopting a new type of sabot rack, a "pigeon hole" type of storage. These new racks require less "foot print" space in the yard, which automatically uses less aisle space, a two way gain in yard space for the waiting list boats. Design details are still being worked out.

Mary Riddick brought up the subject of life jackets and their necessity. Isabelle will explore Club policy or lack of it, and this item will be continued.

Volunteers to greet the membership at the January Meeting were rounded up by George Caddle. Besides Maggie, Bobbie and Vern Peterson, Judy Mathias, Virginia Butcher and Jeanne Nelson signed up.

Judy Mathias said tickets for the theatre in February to support Children's charities can be obtained by calling Carol Reynolds or herself.

Isabelle announced the next Fleet Meeting would be held in the quarterdeck so that Adra Kober, who recently broke her hip, and Bernice Weiss could more easily attend.

We were all saddened with the news of the passing of Marilyn Gibbons, the mother of Nick Scandone, Commodore Fleetwood Jones, and the young son of Stephen Washburn.

The February Calendar includes the Fleet Race on the 11th and the Midwinters on the 17th and 18th. The Midwinters will be at BYC for the Sabots.

Barbara Gabriel



The racing year got off to a less-than-auspicious start in the first Etchells fleet regatta on January 13. Only two teams showed up, that of the Barber/Jorgensen/Newsome team

and the Powell/Dudley team. However, weather also showed up: it was blowing in the high teens and low twenties out the northwest and colder than a miser's heart. The combination made sitting in the lee of the Quarterdeck and staying warm seem to be the better decision, so nobody went sailing: one boat got launched, but none left the dock.

The good news is, rain or shine, a better turnout is expected for the annual Super Bowl Regatta on Sunday, February 4. This annual event, now more than a decade old, features racing on Alamitos Bay for all comers. The vision of up to a dozen Etchells sailing in the relatively sheltered waters of the Bay is a sight to see, and fun to do. Most races are sailed under jib and main only, but at least one race is scheduled for spinnakers.

Racing usually gets started at around 11:00 am, after a skippers' meeting at 10:00 am or so. The idea is that racing will be wrapped up and boats out of the water in time for kickoff of the ballgame so that the sailors can join the ABYC Super Bowl Party in the Clubhouse.

A special feature of the 2007 Super Bowl Regatta is the planned presence of Kevin Ellis, our globetrotting member: he is planning a return trip to the mainland from his winter layover in Hawaii. More on the regatta, and on Kevin's attendance, will be in the next month's SOU'WESTER.

Also on the calendar for February is the SCYA Midwinter Regatta on Saturday and Sunday, February 17 and 18. Again this year, Long Beach Yacht Club will host the Etchells class at Midwinters, and a fleet is already getting lined up. More on that next month, we hope.

Chris Ericksen

hails from the fleets



Boxing Day Regatta

Remembering a cold and gloomy 2005 Boxing Day and turnout of 25 boats, what were we to expect on a clear, sunny day before New Years Eve Saturday? To say 2006 Boxing Day was a success is an understatement. **Mark Townsend's** brainchild, for which he has given the name of his native England's *Boxing Day Holiday*, saw 63 boats sign-up for this reverse handicap chase on Alamitos Bay.

Nine Lasers and **Radials** were the second largest class, behind Sabots, represented on the starting line. Starting behind several larger boats, due to the Portsmouth Rating, Lasers had to contend with the wind-shadow of these and others, all looking for the best advantage in the light to nonexistent breeze. The competition became especially interesting at mark "1" near the Second Street bridge as Etchells, Cal 20's, Sabots, Lidos and Lasers fought for room at the mark in this rather confined area of water.

Everyone seemed to enjoy the day as good natured banter, challenges and jests were heard as boats passed in close proximity around the Bay. ABYC Laser Fleet newcomer, **Jay Golison** was our top-finishing Laser taking command at the first mark and leading the rest of us. Following in order were ABYC Laser Fleet members; **Jim Kirk**, your author, **Jorge Suarez**, **Palmer Luckey** (Radial), **Todd Smith**, **Spenser Snook** (Radial), **Lisa Lebold** and **Ede Spotskey**. Our fleet can take some pride, in that **Chris Raab** gave up his Laser to win the regatta in his Finn.

If you missed this year, mark you calendar for Boxing Day 2007!

Cameron Summers Goes to the Orange Bowl

Here is a story of my trip the *Orange Bowl Regatta* in Miami FL., held over the Holidays between Christmas and New Years Eve 2006. I was privileged to be selected one of 30 members on the CISA team from California. I sailed in the Laser **Radial** fleet. There were over 600 sailors from 30 states and nine countries sailing in Laser **Radials**, 420's and Opti's.

My family and I flew to Miami on December 25th from LA airport. When I got off the plane, I knew I wasn't in Orange County anymore. It was 80 degrees and humid in December! On the 26th I obtained my charter boat and went out to practice with the CISA team. Robbie Dean was our coach. It was good getting used to the layout of Biscayne Bay.

We had four days of racing. The first day was breezy, 20-25 knots...I loved it! I placed 4, 16, 20/ZFP on day one. The wind in Miami that time of year is much different than home. The breeze blows all day and night. There were 127 **Radials** in the fleet, broken into four groups with a round-robin race format. Day two and three the wind blew 12 to 15 knots. I placed 14, 23, 3 on day two and (64/OCS), 6, 24, 10 on day three. The last day of racing the wind was up again to 20 knots. I placed, (64/OCS), 7 in the final two races. Overall I finished 24th out of 127. I was pleased with the result, even though I knew I could have done better without two OCS throw outs.

A lot of my sailing friends and their families were at the regatta. **Sydney Bolger** (from ABYC) did great in the 420 fleet. She placed 8th out of 78. Sydney's crew was Garret Laudenback. There is a lot to do within walking distance of the hotels and Coral Reef Yacht Club where the regatta was held. The local town is called Coconut Grove. One night about 25 of us went to South Beach with some parents for dinner at a Cuban restaurant. That is a *happening* place between Christmas and New Year. I can't wait to go back to Orange Bowl this year. I highly recommend some of our club Sabot sailors go and race in the Opti fleet.



Cameron Summers at the Orange Bowl

Laser Fleet Races

Here's a report from ABYC's **Jim Kirk** on our latest Fleet races.

January 14th's Laser Fleet race day started out cold with a good north wind. After rigging up, the wind died off but filled-in from the southeast and was fairly light. **Jorge Suarez**, an ABYC guest, Steve Washburn and I sailed off Seal Beach in the light, shifty easterly. Jorge set up rabbit starts and also included a tacking drill, tack every minute...great tacking practice. After several upwind legs, we sailed downwind to the jetty and returned to the club. It was not very exciting sailing, but great practice in boat handling and moving the body around the boat.

Steven Smith, ABYC Laser Fleet Captain



Alamitos Bay Yacht Club

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boxing day (cont)



Rich Roberts photo

Wanna race? Mark and Sarah Ryan were ready to take on anyone in their Snipe.

photos by Chuck Hardin



Chris Raab, Boxing Day Regatta winner, with Mark Townsend, PRO and Jim Bateman, Commodore



Even the seagulls loved Boxing Day Regatta



Jerry Thompson and Mandy Smith with their second place trophy



The Rustigans sailing Cardinal Sin in the Bay!

General Membership Meeting - February 16th
Duty Fleets: C15 and Laser
Program by: Cameron Summers & Alex Vaught
Laser PCCs, Laser Radial Worlds, Laser Youth Worlds & Laser Videos