



labor day luau 2008

ABYC members and friends gave summer a glorious send off at the annual Labor Day Luau. The fun began with the traditional imbibing of mai tais on the patio while a few brave souls competed in limbo and hula-hoop contests.

The patio area itself had been transformed into a tropical paradise by SAC chair Sue McDannel's trusty crew made up of Steve Kuritz, Mike Bauman, Georgia Merchant, Diane Bateman, and Julie Campbell. John Massey and Rich Vaught created some "Sabot parts" palm trees the likes of which have never been seen before and probably won't ever be seen again!



John Merrill warms up for the Tahitian dance lessons

John not only got all the torches in working order, but also appeared in Polynesian attire to perform a most unique torch lighting ceremony!

Dinner was graciously served by the Etchells fleet, which looked suspiciously like members of the Vaught family. Besides Vicki Vaught, Fleet Captain Rich apparently also persuaded his mother Barbara and Nephew Todd and even Todd's girl friend Bobbie that serving at the ABYC luau was a noble cause! Jim Bateman provided the important service of assisting the staff with running up and down

the stairs replenishing the tasty buffet. Diane Bateman and Elaine Wood helped Sheila with the sign in table.

Entertainment was provided by Westwinds Productions who began with limbo and dinner music, put on a spectacular Polynesian show, featuring some of ABYC's children and coaxable men, as well as the more professionally trained dancers, and then concluded with music for dancing for everyone. It was a beautiful balmy evening and many people stayed late to enjoy the outstanding weather, lights reflecting on the water, which was at an unusually high level, and the usual great camaraderie of ABYC.

Sue McDannel



Rich Vaught, Bill McDannel, John Massey and Geogge Kornhoff (l to r) make an attempt at Tahitian dancing



John Massey, Sue McDannel (Luau chair) and Donna Massey

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save the date

Olympic Classes Regatta	Sept 13-14
Annual Meeting & Elections	Sept 19
Club ABYC - Flight 6875	Sept 26
Jr Fall Invitational	Sept 27-28
Charity Regatta	Sept 28
Stag Cruise	Oct 4-5
Commodore's Installation	Oct 18
Ladies Day	Oct 19

commodore's comments



Most assuredly, this has been a busy summer, what with our usual fare of regattas, the always active, Junior program, the Laser U.S. Nationals, and the Mercury Nationals. We'll end the summer with Labor Day regatta, and then, two weeks later, the Olympic Classes regatta. After that? At least for a little while? We have a break!

We're going to use that break to get Patience in for some very much needed repairs, as it seems that she's sprung an oil leak. We'll also work to get our whalers back up to snuff, and will use the break to clean up our grounds and facilities, as, after this busy summer, our Club is just plain tired!

We're also making some other changes. Your Board of Directors has made the decision to adopt Regatta Networks as our vendor for on line registration as we move ABYC into the electronic age. More and more yacht clubs are going with on line registration, and I think our members will find it to be a huge convenience. Once its up an running, play with some of its futures if you've not previously used Regatta Networks... you'll find it very easy, and it'll greatly increase the Club's ability to better plan our regattas both from a race management standpoint, as well as from a food service standpoint, as we'll be able to see how many entries are coming in on line.

We're also making some space allocation changes in the main clubhouse. Your Board has made the right decision that our accounting functions need to be moved to a private office for a myriad of reasons. Kelly will be moving his office into the front office, that area currently being used as our "utility room." This will allow Kelly to be more available and more on top of the operations of our Club. Sheila and the bookkeeping function will then be moved into Kelly's old office. We're also creating a maintenance office, giving Rick and Adam a dedicated space to do their work as it pertains to phone calls to vendors, etc. Through all of this, the Junior Room will be remaining intact for as long as the Juniors are able to keep their area clean and neat and to treat their Junior Room with respect.

So, its been a busy summer with lots going on! The elections for next years Board is coming up, and I hope that you'll come down, vote, and make your voices heard. Also in September is our Annual Meeting, which is our Member's time to hear from our treasurers and our 20/20 trustees and to see how our Club is doing financially. I hope you'll set aside that evening for a free dinner and the Annual Meeting.

See you at the Club... I'll be around I'm sure.

Glenn

vice commodore's view



September is marked as the start of the academic year and sadly, the close of summer. September brings new beginnings for many. Generally, the wind is not as strong, but we still have warm weather. A great month to come down and enjoy the Club!

Laser Nationals:

I was the board liaison for the event. I had a great time. The first day I worked the ramp to help move the sailors through to either the racing venue or back onto the hard. The next two days I spent at the weather mark with Dave J. Crockett, Dave T. Crockett, Charlie Crockett, and Phil Ramming from Newport Harbor. We used my boat (Tiara 33, "Having Fun!"), which is a comfortable platform for getting the job done and watching the races. Steve Smith, Chuck Tripp, Vann Wilson,

Mark Townsend and crew did a fine job of making this a world-class event. The world was looking at us and we were represented in only the finest fashion. 182 boats make for some interesting mark roundings. I can't say enough about how well it was put together. Nice job guys!

House and Grounds:

Rick and Adam have been up to great achievements, again. Thanks to them, many things get done around the Club. Right now, as I write this, they are busy redoing a lot of the striping in the yard. It started as painting the spots in the new 20' section created by the new sabot racks. Once they got going, they could not stop.

Chuck Stevens went above and beyond the call of duty. We had a rotting and dated display cabinet under the counter in the lobby. Kelly Asper asked Chuck if he could help as he is very talented. Chuck heard the call! Chuck took it out and went to the lumberyard and had special wood reverse sawed so that it would match the paneling perfectly. It is flawless. In fact, unless you were looking for the old display, you would not even know it is gone. Say "Hi!" and "Thanks!" to Chuck when you see him.

The Bishop family is also very important to us. Bob has spent countless hours restoring the Commodores wall and refurbishing the club name and logo, as well as maintaining the pin board for the flag halyards. Bob always uses his own tools and materials. Terry has been maintaining the landscaping around the club. She has made many trips to the nursery for new plants. She supervises the gardening at Spring Spruce Up and works several days before and after the event to prepare and clean up. The whole family pitches in and helps keep an eye on the club. If you don't already know them well, then get to know them, you won't be sorry!

Yard Czar Committee:

Not to be negative, but poachers are bad. They are stealing from the Club and marginalizing the sailing experience for the rest of the members. I really hate to say this, but there are certain people that have made lifetime careers out of sneaking their boats into the yard. Talk to them, report them, or remove them whenever necessary. If we all get in on this, then maybe it won't happen as much.

Remember this: If a trailer does not have a tag on it, you can pretty much count on it being in the yard illegally. Also, if for some reason your trailer does not have a tag, please go as soon as possible to the office and request one. It may save inconvenience later.

Membership:

I realize this is not my area of responsibility, but I would just like to point out a fact that we should all realize. What makes a Club is its membership. If a Club is going to be strong, then it needs strong membership.

Here is the best part: Our membership is strong! We have over 400 members now, which many say is the best since the 1984 Olympics! Keep bringing in your friends and family that you think will add to the fun and we will keep excelling.

There are many people to thank for this, but recently Ken Reiff has been doing an excellent job. John Williams will be picking up the torch for next year and we know he will do a great job, also.

Stag Cruise:

Stag Cruise is coming and it looks to be another great year!

We are going to go to a reduced menu plan since we do not have Patience to take over. It will be just as good, but without as much work for the organizers.

Remember: October 3-5, 2008 it is always great!

Finally:

ABYC has never been healthier or happier. All of our areas of interest are doing very well.

See you around the Club. **Go ABYC!**

Merle

late sou'wester

Sou'Wester DEADLINE
 September 20, 2008 is the deadline
 for the October Sou'Wester.

As you, no doubt noticed, your August issue arrived very late. We have changed our mailing service and hope this edition of the SOU'WESTER got to you sooner.

Please remember that the Sou'wester is always posted on our website on or about the 1st of every month.

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fleet captain's log



Online registration using Regatta Network has been approved by the Board of Directors. In our August BOD meeting staff commodore Chris Ericksen gave us a very nice overview outlining how we can adopt this system with out much deviation from our current entry/registration methods, but with much more efficiency. The first event using our new standard will be the Halloween regatta closely followed by Turkey Day. Please be aware that part of moving to online registration means we will no longer be accepting mailed in or faxed entries...and that payment will be by credit card or club charge only. We will have 'day of' sign ups and accept cash. If you have any questions about our new system please call me and I'll be happy to explain.

Have you ever noticed we have quite a few perpetual trophies at our club? Carol Kofahl is our perpetual trophy chairperson and has the daunting task of trying to keep track of all of these fine awards, and get the winners names from regatta organizers to make sure names get engraved. It doesn't help that our engraver is broken and that we are having difficulty sourcing new stylus's... I am amazed how much wonderful history there is. Instead of rushing by, pause and stare into the reflection - it is fun to get nostalgic and read the names of members from days gone by, you'll be surprised how many names you thought you forgot! Our trophy cases provide a fitting remembrance of camaraderie on the water (for both competitors and regatta organizers); take a closer look at our heritage next time you're in the clubhouse.

The Catalina Cruise was a blast, thanks to Mary Montz for being the event leader and to Merle and Kelly Asper for their support. We had over 60 members participate and there were a lot more young'uns this time. We had beach games (watch out if you play Bocce, Pat McCormick is a ringer) and had a lot of people join in this year who haven't participated in this event before – mark it on your calendar for next year.

Eric Conn and family did a masterful job running (and participating in) the Mercury Nationals held at the end of August. There were over 20 of these marvelous keelboats out battling for bragging rights. It was fun to see our yard transformed with a visiting class, we hope to see more of the Mercury's in years to come.

Patience is still being babied (thanks George and Vern) and will get her engine check up after OCR. Our new 17' whaler has the club name emblazoned on both sides (thanks again Steve Butler!) and our in-house shipwrights, Adam and Rick, continue to keep our fleet prepared for duty.

With summer behind us and the new year approaching there is still a lot of good fun times ahead at the club and many great sailing days await us. Our biggest event of the year, Turkey Day (November 23 and 24), is one of our signature regattas, and every year we really look to the membership to pitch in and volunteer. This year I'm in charge of helping staff the regatta so please call or email me if you can work one or both days and let me know if you want to help with registration, on the water work, social events, anything – thanks!

See you on the waterfront!

Jeff Merrill, Fleet Captain – mobile phone: 949.355.4950

from the pages of history

The September edition of the SOU'WESTER marks the end of summer, with lots of end-of-summer reports to be made. See what was being written in the past—and see if any of it (or any of the names) seems familiar.

THIRTY YEARS AGO:

The SOU'WESTER of September, 1978, started out with Commodore's Comments penned by then-Commodore Bill Nicolai. He was full of praise for Ron Fox and Eric Conn, who had spearheaded planning for and then sailed in the recently completed Snipe Nationals; he also mentioned regatta chairs Sandy Toscan and Tick Weber and listed Langdon Parrill and Dick Russell as leaders of the race committee. But the best quote was attributed to Dorothy Hill, the chief scorer for the event. "Don't worry about the people working," she said when someone asked if the volunteers were being cared for; "they are doing it because they enjoy it."

Apparently someone "took her at her word," the Commodore continued, and reported that ABYC had already signed up to host both the Senior and Junior Naples Sabot Championships, the I-14 Nationals and the I-14 World Team Races in 1979; this latter regatta turned into the first-ever I-14 Worlds sailed in a fleet-racing format in the history of the class in addition to an international team-racing regatta.

There was a lot of fleet information printed. The "Second Annual (Traditional) ABYC Inverted Start Family Picnic Race," organized by the founder of the ABYC Keel Boat Fleet, John Hand, was a success. There were plenty of trophies, with Jim Shirley and George Hardie taking first overall and first in the "A" division; Langdon Parrill was second and Dave Terry of Long Beach Yacht Club was third. Rod Ogilvie won the "B" division ahead of Mack Mills and Al Hartel in second; Austin Ford was third. And the Lido Fleet reported on having hosted the Lido 14 Junior Class Championship in August; the winner for 1978 was an ABYC junior, Mike Segerblom, while another ABYC Junior, Steve Rosenberg, came in third.

...continued next page

Some things remain unchanged in thirty years, I guess: when it was announced that members of the Board of Directors would paint the office prior to the installation of new carpet, somebody reported that “the work itself won’t take long but the decision...on color will probably take ten hours”...evidently part of the summer was spent in rearranging the boat yard, eliminating one of the Laser racks and identifying and marking all the trailers in the yard; it was hoped that this would keep the yard “in good shape for the next few years”...a number of new members came into ABYC in the summer, including Mike and Marilyn McMahon and their children Jeff and Molly; new Junior members included Greg Lowe, Kirk Tobler and Mike Bartell...

TWENTY YEARS AGO:

ABYC’s first Olympic Gold Medalist, Allison Jolly, made her return to the USA from the 1988 Olympic Regatta off Pusan, Korea, through Seattle: according to the *SOU’WESTER* of September, 1988, Allison won the Coronado 15 North American Championships. Husband Mark Elliot was filled with praise for his wife. “Sailing with Allison at this point in her career was an amazing experience,” he said. “It just didn’t make any difference what she did,” he continued: “she could get a bad start and she’d still horizon everyone else. If she found herself on the wrong side of a shift, she’d just go a little faster and still leave everyone else behind.” Five of the top eight spots in the regatta were taken by ABYC members; Bob Anderson and daughter Barbie—“The Hammer”—ended up in fifth place.

There were awards of a different kind presented to members of the Alamitos Bay Lido 14 Fleet Six during their annual Fleet Birthday Party: the fleet’s traditional “Funny Trophies.” Don Brackenbury, who had stepped off the Bay Barge during a regatta, was named “Phantom of the Deep;” Chris Ericksen won both the “Hole in the Head” trophy for something he did while race-committee chairman for the 1987 Turkey Day Regatta and the “Hot-as-a-Pistol” trophy for having won the “B” fleet championship in August. Chuck and Jan Babcock, then newlyweds, were awarded the “Loving Cup;” Wayne and Shirley Smith were presented the “Dueling Pistols.” And the winner of the “Scourge Of the Bay” award—the “S.O.B.”—was Don Barrus, winner of the Fleet Championship the month before.

An interesting thing was reported in Ann Exley’s “From the Pages of History” column: in September of 1931, the club decided that the Skimmer class “be split into two sections, the first division to be composed of skippers with racing experience (and) the second...to consist of the new skippers.” This was the first mention on Alamitos Bay of what is now recognized as dividing into fleets based on the relative skill of the skippers. It is not known if this was happening anywhere else in those days, but we know it happened here more than 75 years ago.

The creation of two new special funds were announced: one would collect money for the “replacement of the ABYC Race Committee Boat” while another would collect money to support the ABYC Junior Program; contributions were invited for both...nominees for the ABYC Board of Directors were announced: they were, in alphabetical order, Dick Caley, John Ellis, Chris Ericksen, John French, Pat Marr, Steve Moffett, Carl Rischer and Steve Shaw; four would be elected at the annual meeting in September...on the weekend of the ABYC Stag Cruise, Sharon Pearson was organizing an ABYC (“Absolutely Beyond Your Comprehension”) Slumber Party for the women left ashore; it would begin with an official flag ceremony at 7:30 pm Saturday night and end with a Continental breakfast on Sunday morning...

TEN YEARS AGO:

Photos celebrating the end of the ABYC Summer Sailing Program graced the cover of the September, 1998, *SOU’WESTER*; among those pictured were Daniel Henry, Christopher McNaboe and Sarah McNaboe showing off trophies. Another showed a Laser II under sail with a crew on each trapeze wire; Chief Instructor Rick Merrill was pictured being “escorted” toward the water—apparently against his will—for an end-of-the-program swim in the Basin.

The individual performances of many ABYC juniors were touted inside the magazine as well. Freddie Stevens was the top-placing ABYC sailor in the Naples Sabot Junior Championships at Mission Bay, finishing in fifth place in the Gold division; he also won the Junior Sabot “A” division at the Summer Gold Cup at Newport Harbor Yacht Club. Chris Clevenger was first in the Silver Division at the Junior Championships and won the Wild Wednesday’s series; Sarah McNaboe was top ABYC girl at the all-girl’s Sabot regatta at Lido Island Yacht Club in August, finishing third.

The Lido fleet was looking forward to the “Lido del Luna” cruise—or is it the “Luna del Lido?”—on the night of a full moon on September; Lidos less rigs were to be towed behind “Shorty’s boat” over to Naples for a party at the home of Sam and Dana Bell before a moonlight cruise thorough the canals. Sam and Dana’s son Jon took first place in the Lido Junior Championships. And it was reported that Stu Robertson, then not an ABYC member but a member of the local fleet, won the Lido 14 class at the High Sierra Regatta on Huntington Lake while daughter Erin was top-finishing woman at the Class Championships. Wonder how those two are doing, ten years later?

Kevin Ellis was chair of the Stag Cruise to be held the first weekend of October at the Balboa Yacht Club facility at White’s Landing; the only competition events scheduled were horseshoe pitching and chipping golf balls into a dinghy...Larry Harvey and Stan Gibbs held a one-point lead over Steve Moffett in the Etchells Fleet Championship Series; the final event had been held in August but after the *SOU’WESTER* deadline so the final standings were not reported...nominees for the Board of Directors were David T. Crockett, Chuck Hardin, Jim MacLeod, John Merchant, Jim Morford, Stan Sorensen, Bill Van Cleve and Rob Waterman; Staff Commodores Chas Merrill and Bill Nicolai were nominated to serve as 2020 Fund Trustees.

Chris Ericksen, Club Historian

the bay clogger

(junior sailing)

Brad Schaupteter photo

Well, the summer is over for ABYC and it ended with a huge bang down in San Diego for Junior Sabot Nationals. Just four years ago, ABYC went down to Mission Bay with 8 students attempting to qualify and only 5 of them qualified. This year, we took down 30 students and 27 qualified! Truly amazing when you consider that not only so many qualified, but they did so incredibly well.

ABYC ended with 9 sailors in Gold Fleet, 5 in Silver, 8 in Bronze and 5 in Iron. This was monumental as ABYC accounted for 25% of the Gold Fleet alone and over one-fifth of the entire qualifying field (there are fourteen clubs that sent students to compete in the regatta). Riley Gibbs was our top finisher placing 10th in Gold while other highlights included Brian MacLean, fresh off getting 2nd in the Summer Gold Cup winning the Bronze fleet overall. Kevin Baumann trophied in Bronze as well, while Rob Rice took home the perpetual Sportsmanship trophy for the event.

The conditions were tricky with the breeze oscillating at a high frequency rate. The middle of the course became a death trap for sailors due to wind sheers off the peninsulas in the bay that favored the edges of the course much more. The students performed extremely well particularly in qualifications and flight selections as they heeded the advice of the coaches and used smart sailing to make up for the local sailors' advantage. I would like to personally thank the outstanding coaching staff for their amazing efforts down in San Diego and this season. We had National champions in four different types of boats represented in our staff and it showed in their knowledge, passion and commitment to team ABYC.



Team ABYC at Sabot Nationals 2008 in San Diego -30 went down and 27 qualified!

FALL SAILING Sign Up Available Now!

We have a great staff lined up for this fall which will consist of Chuck Ullman, Russell Olson, Alex Vaught, Mac Mace, myself and more. It is a great way to keep the rust off and have a great time seeing summer friends. For younger sailors, it usually means jumping a class in the next summer and improvement you won't believe. So sign up by visiting the ABYC Jr. Webpage via www.fleetracing.net (sign ups are downloadable on the jr. home page) or grab a copy from outside the main office at ABYC. The first clinic is September 6th for Lasers and September 7th for Sabot and 420's. See you on the water!

Brad Schaupteter, ABYC Junior Sailing

2008 laser nationals

a junior perspective

Each month Marc Schryer invites a Junior sailor to write something for the So'wester...this month he selected Palmer Luckey, a 15 year-old Junior Laser sailor.

Laser Nationals 2008 was an amazing experience all around. It is great to have the chance to compete with some of the best laser sailors in the world!

Out of the eighty-something people who were entered in my fleet, I ended up in 71st. It was funny how a lot of people ten, twenty, or thirty places ahead of me were moping around after the first day. At that point, they were at least hoping for the throw out to make up for it. By the last day, there were people who were doing far worse than they had hoped, and were sad, for good reason! These people had come from other states, even other countries, just to compete. I, on the other hand, was able to just roll out of bed and be there in 10 minutes! It would have been hard for me to justify the sacrifice that the other sailors had to make to get there, being at the skill level I am.

At the same time, though, I was able to learn more than I thought possible. In the span of three short days, I learned as much as I normally would in three or four regattas, and at least a couple weeks of practice. Everything is on a much larger scale than most of the regattas that we have an opportunity to participate in: massive starting lines, crazy long upwind legs, and incredibly large mark roundings. Just the experience you gain from negotiating room at the leeward marks made the regatta worthwhile.

But what taught me more than anything else were the sailors. You are not racing against just the local kids, plus maybe a few people from nearby clubs. You learn a lot from those people, but after a while, you have gotten as much help from that as you can. Different people have different sailing styles, and a lot of the laser nationals sailors can help you learn the advantages to each, and how you can use them yourself. And those guys have some serious gear... I suppose that if I venture beyond the waters of Southern California, I won't be able to compete in bare feet, swim trunks and a t-shirt...

Overall, Laser Nationals was an incredible experience. I had fun, learned a lot, and got to meet a lot of interesting people. If I had the chance, I would do it again in a heartbeat.

Palmer Luckey

membership report

Dan DeLave photos

One of the duties of the Membership Chair is to move potential members through the membership process so that they eventually become full-fledged ABYC members. With help from our current members in bringing new members forward, critical processing support from our office staff and then backing from the Board this process has become a bit more streamlined. It's always been my goal to move potential members through this process as quickly as possible. With that in mind I'd like to report on a few items this month.

First of all, if you attended the August membership meeting you would have heard me congratulate ABYC for going over the "400" member number. In fact, at last count we are currently at **402 Regular Members**. For those of you that don't keep track of these things, let me give you a bit of perspective on this figure. The last time that ABYC had over 400 members was during the 1984 Summer Olympics (24 years ago). Obviously there are a lot of people that should be congratulated for helping in reaching this historic figure, let's just say that if you were a primary sponsor of a member in 2008 you had a very significant role in reaching this mark.

Second, we're not stopping at number 400. Membership is continuing to come in, here's what's on board for the coming month:

The following Members were all approved at the August Board Meeting:

1. Greg Clinton (Regular Membership), sponsored by Sharon Pearson
2. Patty Nash (Regular Membership), sponsored by Merle Asper
3. Clover Stubbert (Junior Membership), sponsored by Scott Babcock

The following folks are currently posted for Membership:

1. David Michaels (Regular Membership), sponsored by Jon Robinson
2. Mark Juranek (Regular Membership), sponsored by Vann Wilson
3. Robert Wright (Regular Membership), sponsored by Ken Reiff
4. Nicholas Trainotti (Junior Membership), sponsored by Teri Bishop

I look forward to presenting all of these members along with others their burgees in September.

Lastly, our Junior membership ranks have also been growing. In fact we are close to the maximum level set forth in the By Laws. If you have someone that you're thinking of sponsoring for Junior membership, please contact me in advance so that I can update you on our ability to move forward on that particular member.

That's it for now, once again **CONGRATULATIONS** on hitting and exceeding 400 members, but don't stop now...keep it coming.

Ken Reiff, Membership Chair

562-637-6630, kenreiff@gmail.com



Dan, Susan and Matthew Bates with sponsor Jeanette Hodges and Membership Chair Ken Reiff



Damon and Annie Kunkle, with sponsors Merle and Kelly Asper



Patty Nash with her mother Jean and friends Norma and Dan Clapp

mercury messenger



The Mercury Class Championships were deemed a great success by all who participated. Mark Townsend and a very experienced race management team ran five well executed races in varying conditions without a hitch. Once ashore Stacy Conn and her team kept the social simple but as always first class.

Twenty-two boats competed in 3 races on Friday and 2 on Saturday. Each race saw the wind build in velocity and shift direction over the previous race. Toss in a steady stream of 10-15% degree wind shifts and you have a venue that tests the whole fleet. Returning to the dock after the fifth and toughest race (18 knots. 4 windward and 3 downwind legs) the ice cold refreshments provided by the CBYC sailors made unrigging a lot more relaxing. Also, by reserving Sunday for a travel day the usual rush to pack and head home disappeared. Northern California sailors were able to enjoy the regatta and drive home at a leisurely pace on Sunday. This allowed everyone to stay around Saturday night for a very pleasant post regatta reception and trophy dinner.

The final tally found last year's winner Chris Raab of ABYC and Kenny Dair in first. Kevin and Cathy McCarthy of ABYC finished 6th and Eric Conn and Don Shirley of ABYC finished 7th.

The reduction from the class's usual three-day championship regatta to two allowed more sailors to participate and all appreciated Sunday as a travel day. All the visiting participants were very complimentary regarding ABYC's commitment to quality sailing and warm hospitality.

Eric Conn

unsung heroes

On the three days of Long Beach Race Week I was assigned to the leeward gate on Charlie circle with Martyn Bookwalter. Martyn had with him a fishing net and a trash bag and we picked up trash whenever we had the time to do it.

Without a lot of wind shifts we had a lot of time. You can get all kinds of stuff out there but the biggest offenders are the plastic store shopping bags that float just below the surface of the water looking for a water intake to get sucked up into or the plastic six pack things that wind up around the necks of some of our wild life. There is also no shortage of plastic plates and styrofoam cups either.

This takes no time and you're out there anyway. All Race committee whalers and mark-set boats should be so equipped.

Good-on-ya Martyn. I don't know of a single race management person that wouldn't applaud this as a great idea.

Dave Rustigian

charity regatta

The 22nd Yacht Clubs of Long Beach Charity Regatta will be held on Sunday, September 28th. The Children's Clinic is the recipient of proceeds of this community service event started by four commodores in 1987; Tom Ramsey was our commodore. The Children's Clinic was selected because of the care they provided to under insured and uninsured children. They had one clinic then and now there are six and the families of these children are also treated, the children are healthier when their families are healthier.

There have already been three fund raising events held over the summer, SIBYC's Swap Meet, LSFYC's Cruise - Cruise and CBYC's Golf Tournament. ABYC member Carol Kofahl won Women's Low Gross again this year. All clubs participate in supporting these events, NYCLB prepares and serves the breakfast for the Swap Meet and they and LSFYC share a location for the Cruise - Cruise, along with the Classic Chevrolet Club. CBYC has a raffle and burger bash following golf.

The day of the Regatta SYCLB, SIBYC, LBYC and ABYC will have racing venues, after the racing, the Trophy Presentation, Silent Auction, Raffle Drawing and Burger Bash will take place in the Quarter Deck and Patio at ABYC. Come join the fun, race, cheer and support The 22nd Annual Yacht Clubs of Long Beach Charity Regatta community service event.

Norma Clapp ABYC Representative

member news

Since you haven't seen the Sherwood's sailing their Lido these past months, you might ask...*what have you been up to?* I'm sure Bob and Emily would be glad to fill you in on their recent experiences.

They packed the van and the kids to spend six months in New Orleans, serving the victims of Hurricane Katrina. Bob's responsibilities included overseeing the construction equipment and supplies for the Crisis Response Ministry and leading volunteer teams at job sites. Emily's jobs included (along with being a mom) interviewing the volunteer teams following their week of service.

The Sherwoods are a bit homesick and are anxious to get back to Long Beach. They left Louisiana August 24th and will arrive in California after visiting family and friends in Texas and Arizona. Welcome Back and Thank You.

Don Taugher

the junior room

In recent weeks the Juniors at ABYC have come under fire. A need arose for an office for the club accounting. This need would for a sizeable room to house our bookkeeper, files, and records. This is an important part of our club and it needs to have privacy so the bookkeeper can concentrate on their work and security for the information. To this end our club management felt that Kelly's office would be the location for accounting. Kelly would then need an office. When the Junior room was reviewed as an alternative office it was viewed as a play room for Juniors and the Juniors had little respect for the room. It was felt that logical location was for Kelly to take over the Junior room. After the decision was made, I, as several others, was contacted about the decision. It was discussed that the need was great and that it was in the club's best interest.

When club members involved with the Juniors found out, they were enraged. To a point that signs and phone calls were made and emails sent. The heated debate lead to a postponement of the moves and refurbishment. Cooler heads prevailed and many of our members had discussions as to how to resolve the problems. The Juniors' position was that we understood the needs of the club but we have several needs as well. The Junior Program needs several locations for instruction of which the Junior Room was one. We also need a storage area for equipment and gear used in the Program. Finally we need a location for the Juniors to socialize.

The discussions culminated with the Board of Directors. The BOD had members come to the board meeting and address the needs of the Juniors and the heritage of the club and a Junior Room. The BOD had an extensive discussion with mock ups and a walk around the club. A lot of brain storming and good discussions went into the ultimate decision.

The BOD ultimately decided to:

1. use the utility room off the entry to the club is to be cleaned out painted and carpeted and used as Kelley's office
2. leave the Junior Room alone and have the Juniors paint and clean up the room
3. the Junior Room will be used as an instructional room
4. the Junior Room may be used for socializing, it will be under strict rules.
5. race equipment will have its own container
6. gear and equipment used for the Junior Program will have its own container

It was decided to lock the Junior Room and keys would be issued to the Junior Director and Assistant Director. A key will also be available at the front office and any adult wanting to use the room will be able to check out the key. This will make the user of the room responsible for the care of the Junior Room. With this compromise all of the issues of the club are being addressed. The appearance of the club will improve and our space will be better utilized.

Jon Robinson, Board Liaison to the Junior Program

oracle boys

Dan DeLave photo

The Oracle boys are in town

What a great four days of experience.

I was asked by Pete Melvin to help out with the Americas Cup Team Oracle. My job was to make sure the four boats that were used by them were all in working order and sailed consistently well. I got to be on the water while Pete, Pease or Jay Glaser imparted the fine art of sailing multihulls. Watching the likes of Russell Coutts, James Spithill, John Kostecki, Frank Cammas and the rest of the eight member crew come to terms with sailing the Formula 18s provided mostly by ABYC members was really fun. They came away at the end of the fourth day ready for most conditions. Thursday was the lightest breeze and it built each day to Sunday when we were seeing winds up to 18. This gave them the perfect venue for learning small cat sailing while waiting for their new boat to be launched the next day in Washington.



We had these 8 illustrious sailors here as guest of Pete Melvin, Pease and Jay Glaser, Myself (Dan), Steve Rosenberg, Steve Myrter, Charlie Devenneaux, and Ian Sammis.

There were plenty of members that conversed with them either for the first time or because they have connections with them in the past. The whole team were gentlemen and treated everyone with kindness.

I would gladly help to host them again at our club again if they are looking for an opportunity to sail in great conditions.

Dan DeLave

long beach sea festival

Long Beach Sea Festival regatta – a day to treasure Leeway (the original ABYC club house) and the City of Long Beach Parks and Recreation staff did a great job of hosting nearly 50 kids for this low key one day Sea Festival sailing regatta at the other end of Alamitos Bay.

Sea Festival has been around for decades. I especially remember the old Independent Press – Telegram “treasure hunt”, there would be a clue each day in the newspaper and someone always managed to decipher the gibberish and dig up the loot.

The regatta was organized with 3 quick races, a lunch break, then two more contests before trophy presentation. This year there were five divisions of sabots, a laser fleet and a Capri 14 fleet.

And speaking of treasure, ABYC skippers did a great job of digging up the gold...here are this years ABYC winners:

Laser – Samantha Gebb

Sabot A – Melissa Shadden (Winner of the Paul C. Merrill, Sr. Sea Festival perpetual)

Sabot B – Brian MacLean

Sabot C1 – Bridget Luckey (who as the only entrant in this class got to take home the trophies for first through third!)

Sabot C2 – Jonn Merrill (who got five firsts and was nick named “bullet boy” for the day)

Sabot C3 – Dana Boudreau (Winner of the Mayors Cup for the largest class. The perpetual is about 6” taller than he is!)

Congratulations to all who sailed for ABYC, it was a great weekday regatta at the beach.

Jeff Merrill



Dana Boudreau, winner of the Mayors Cup

catalina cruise 2008

August Catalina Cruise a family affair!

Who needs an excuse to go to Catalina? This year the Catalina Family Cruise was enjoyed by 61 members of our yacht club, a fantastic turnout and hopefully a measure of more to come next year (in fact mark your calendars now – July 17 – 19, 2009).

Summer island style is something that ABYC members know instinctively and it was quite a gathering this year as our collective fleet spread out over 4 coves – Isthmus, Cherry, Fourth of July and Emerald.

The Friday afternoon arrival by many was met by packed moorings (hint, the seasoned veterans arrive on Thursday to get closer to the shore side action). But we all found a piece of dock to tie up our tenders (no kidding at least 100 inflatable’s all nested together) and made our way to the beach side gazebo which became ABYC island station for the weekend.



Hans and Carol Fassnacht with Tom Ramsey

There’s a lot of gear (food, snacks and drinks) to ferry over (and back) and just about everyone who came pitched in to help us get all of the goodies ashore – fun teamwork with an important mission to accomplish...kick back, relax and enjoy hanging out with your yacht club pals.

Friday afternoon was a wonderful burger bash preceded by an appetizer contest during happy hour that for many would have made for a fantastic dinner by itself and was an amazing assortment of great taste. Congratulations to contest winner, Norma Clapp!! There were beach toys for the kids and some serious bocce playing for adults, plus the usual kick back on the picnic benches and just marvel that it’s a summer Friday night in Catalina.



Event chair Mary Montz presents Norma Clapp with a prize for creating the best appetizer.

Jeff Merrill photo

...continued next page

As Saturday rolled around, we not only enjoyed the hosted cocktail party boats thanks to the Conn's, Vaught's and Ramsey's, but also a Treasure Hunt, Kite Building and Treasure Chest decorating that the younger set enjoyed on shore. We wrapped the week end up with a great meal and camp fire.

We would like to thank all of the members who participated for the support we received making this a family event, especially the following for volunteering to assist in the transportation of our supplies: Chas and Nancy Merrill, Merle and Kelly Asper family and Steve and Nicole Moffett. Without their assistance this event could not be possible. We would also like to thank Pat McCormick and Mary Ellen Barlow for not only assisting in the Treasure Hunt, but for their exemplary bartending and cocktail preparing skills.

Thanks everyone can't wait to do it again!
 Event Chair Mary Montz and Board Liaison Jeff Merrill



Pat McCormick and Mary Ellen Barlow

hails from **the fleets**

2008 us laser **national champs**

photos courtesy of Glennon Stratton
www.GTSphotos.com

One Hundred and eighty three *Laser* racers from across the USA, Canada, Mexico, Puerto Rico, Russia, Bermuda and the Virgin Islands descended on ABYC the weekend of August 8-10 for their 2008 U.S. National Championship Regatta. Boats and sailors began arriving the preceding weekend and continued coming right on through Friday morning. If you did not see them, you may have been impressed by the number and size of the multi-boat trailers from as far away as Canada and Florida. Many of these and other sailors were attending our ABYC event after competing in the *Laser* North American Championship in San Francisco and the *Laser* Pacific Coast Championships (PCC's) on successive preceding weekends.

Once everyone was registered and found a spot to store and rig their boat, we conducted our Competitor's Briefing and began launching the fleet. Imagined nightmare scenarios of launching and retrieving 183 *Lasers* from the ABYC ramp had been on the mind of this author, but my worst fears were never realized as volunteers kept the lines going, launched the racers and stored the dollies on both sides of the launch ramp.

Our Principal Race Officer, **Mark Townsend**, assisted by **Steve Washburn** set a trapezoid race course south of the Huntington Harbor entrance out beyond the oil platform in that area. Considering the number of boats, Mark decided on a split-start line with *Patience* in the middle and Race Committee whalers marking the ends and watching for premature (OCS) starters. By ensuring square lines and extra eyes looking for OCS racers, Mark was able start the fleet on time Friday in a fresh 12 knot breeze.

The racers in this regatta were divided into three fleets based on the sail/rig combination mounted on the *Laser* hull. The first fleet to start was the 78 strong full-rig *Laser* Standard most are familiar with. The *Laser* Standard (full-rig) is the Men's One Person Dinghy for the Olympics. It carries a 76 sq. ft. sail and is recommended for sailors 155 lbs+. The second fleet consisted of 92 *Laser Radials*. The *Radial* is the Women's One Person Dinghy for the Olympics. It carries a 61 sq. ft. sail and is recommended for sailors 120-155 lbs. New to ABYC, was the fleet of 13 *Laser 4.7's*, the newest *Laser* rig with an even smaller 50 sq. ft. sail, suggested for 80-120 lb sailors.



Cameron Summers preparing to round the windward mark in Race Two

Fleet starts were alternated and assigned either the inside or outside portion of the trapezoid course ensuring minimal mixing of the fleets. Wind on Friday continued to build to 18 knots accompanied by chop and swell making for challenging and wet racing. Canada was well represented in the *Laser* fleet with **Abe Torchinsky** representing the Royal Vancouver Yacht Club (RVYC) posting two firsts and a third on Friday. Abe must be getting used to ABYC, as he won the *Laser* class at our 2007 Labor Day Holiday Regatta. Finishing next in order was; **Lee Parkhill** representing the Royal Canadian Yacht Club (RCYC), **Luke Ramsey** from RVYC and one half point behind Luke was **Derick Vranizan** from the Seattle Yacht Club and top ten finisher in the last U.S. Olympic Sailing Trials.

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hails from the fleets

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In the *Radial* fleet, from the Lauderdale Yacht Club, **Sarah Lihan** - who finished just behind Anna Tunnicliffe and Paige Railey in the U.S. Olympic Sailing Trials last fall – posted two firsts and an eleventh to lead on Friday. Sarah was followed by **Marco Teixidor** representing Club Nautico San Juan Puerto Rico and a tie between **Chris Barnard** representing Newport Harbor YC & ABYC and **Ryan Hoeven** of King Harbor Yacht Club. Ryan has also won some ABYC hardware winning the *Laser Radial* class at our 2007 Labor Day Holiday Regatta.

Cameron Hall of the St. Petersburg Yacht Club was unbeatable in the 4.7 class with three bullets on Friday. He was followed by **Jack Swilkart** representing SSSYC/CRYC and **Abby Featherstone** representing Sarasota Youth Sailing.

Having heard rumors of Rule 42 violations at the PCC's the previous weekend in Monterey where there was no on-water judging, our Chief Judge, **Latham Bell** admonished the racers to behave as the Judges would be watching. This seemed to work as warnings for Rule 42 violations were rare throughout the weekend.

Saturday started with a lighter 8 knot breeze that did build throughout the afternoon. The different conditions did cause a reshuffling of the leader board in all classes. In *Lasers*, Lee Parkhill moved into first as he was able to drop a potentially disastrous 79 points for OCS. A mere one point back, **Chris Dold** from the RCYC moved up to second with a 1st, 2nd & 3rd, while Abe Torchinsky fell back to third.

A new leader emerged in the *Radial* fleet as Ryan Hoeven took a 1st & 3rd and discarding a 25th. **Mateo Vargas** from the St. Petersburg Yacht Club moved from 5th to second while Sarah Lihan survived a scare dropping a 52nd to hang-in at third place. In the 4.7 fleet, Cameron Hall continued to dominate, while Jack Swilkart and Abby Featherstone switched places with Abby now in second.

With scores close and three more races scheduled for Sunday, things were going to be interesting in all three fleets, but first the sailors gathered on the patio for a Burger Bash and entertainment from **Brad Schaupeter**, our Junior Program Director. Also during the Burger Bash, regatta sponsors and ABYC members **Art & Tiffany Vasenius** representing **Sailing Pro Shop** held a generous raffle of **Zhik®** dinghy booties, hiking pants, hiking straps and other slick sailing accessories. Art even began tossing hats into the crowd making it look like baseball fans trying to catch a foul ball into the stands. Thank you Art and Tiffany!

Day three began with the lightest breeze of the weekend. First and second places in both the *Laser* and *Radial*



Laser Full-rig start of Race Two



Vann Wilson leading the fleet to the leeward mark of Race Six

Club who sat in fourth place the previous two days, put together a 4th, 1st and 3rd to finish second overall. Taking the overall title by one point over Philip was **Mateo Vargas**. Chris Barnard finished well enough to take third place while Ryan Hoeven had to settle for fourth with **Isabelle Bertold** representing RVYC, finishing fifth.

Unlike the *Lasers* and *Radials*, the 4.7's contested only two races Sunday. **Cameron Hall** continued his winning ways with two more bullets, while Jack and Abby traded places again, separated by only one point, Jack taking second, Abby third. Rounding out the top five in order were; **Kayla Gibson** from the Houston Yacht Club and **Tyler Macdonald** representing Newport Harbor YC & ABYC.

...continued next page

hails from the fleets

...from page 12

Seeing 13 registered and 12 *Laser 4.7's* competing in this regatta gives this author encouragement for increasing participation of ABYC Juniors in this class. In addition to **Tyler**, other ABYC members competing in *4.7's* were; **Derek Landeau**, **Dugan Farrell**, and **Patrick Griley**.

Traditionally in major *Laser* regattas, competitors of a more ripened vintage are recognized for their performance. This year in the *Laser* class, the first *Apprentice* (35-44 yrs.) was ABYC's **Mark Juranek**. First *Master* (45-54 yrs.) was **Jay Renehan** of the Seattle Yacht Club. First *Grand Master* (55-64 yrs.) was ABYC's **Jim Kirk** and our first *Great Grand Master* (65+ yrs.) was our own *Laser* District 25 Secretary, representing Mission Bay Yacht Club, **Nils Andersson**.

In the *Laser Radial* class; first *Apprentice* was **Dave Leuck** of Mission Bay Yacht Club, first *Master* was **Scott Deardorff** from the Santa Barbara Yacht Club and first *Grand Master* was your author.

There were a total of 23 racers hailing from ABYC. ABYC sailors not previously mentioned were: in *Lasers*; **Cameron Summers**, **Ian Paice**, **James Saunders**, in

Radials; **Alex Vaught**, **A.J. Robinson**, **Ryan McNaboe**, **Spenser Snook**, **Palmer Luckey**, **John Bergan**, **Hilton Beckham** and **Dustin Starr**, in *4.7's*; **Derek Landeau**, **Dugan Farrell** and **Patrick Griley**

As with all regattas at ABYC, we could not function without our volunteers and club staff. **Kelly Whitlow** and his staff were tireless and courteous to all making sure we were welcome, watered and well fed. I think Kelly said they served a record number of pounds of pasta to this young and hungry group.

From the volunteer side, I must thank the Co-Chairmen for this event. **Chuck Tripp**, sacrificed his opportunity to compete in the regatta to remain ashore and ensure a smooth running event for the rest of us. **Vann Wilson** also sacrificed, passing on his last day of racing (and probably the *Laser Master* award). Both Chuck and Vann were responsible for staffing, t-shirts, visors launching & retrieving boats as well as myriad other details too numerous to mention, but essential to run a successful event.

For Race Management, we must thank **Mark Townsend** and his team on the water. Mark and the Race Committee conducted 26 starts with only one General Recall and recorded 1,562 finishers. I was told by a coach from Texas as I left the club Sunday, "Your race committee sure knows how to change a course. They really know what they're doing". We also thank **Jim Morford** for his attention to detail and for keeping track of the 1,562 individual finishes he tracked this weekend. We can't forget our Board Liaison, **Merle Asper** for his guidance and hands-on involvement with this regatta, nor our ever vigilant on-the-water Judges; **Latham Bell**, **Jerry Montgomery** as well as **Margaret Caddle** on-shore for protests.

This regatta also enjoyed and wishes to acknowledge generous support from sponsors; *LaserPerformance* providing charter boats and dollies, **Sailing Pro Shop** for the raffle mentioned previously, The Pro Design Group for trophies, **SPEED&Smarts™** for providing copies of their newsletter and ABYC's **Jon Robinson** for the cool, custom-printed water bottles competitors received in their Welcome Packs.

We received a number of nice compliments about the regatta, similar to what this sailor told Chuck Tripp...Brendan Casey, who is now a coach and once ranked top 5 in the World in *Lasers* wanted to relay his admiration for the race quality, course precision, shore-side organization, and hospitality. He said it was one of the best regattas he attended this year. He was especially impressed with the three-boat starting line. We won him over because at the skippers meeting he didn't think it would work.

And this...Terry Nielson, who is a Master sailor from Canada and won the Bronze medal during the 1984 Olympics as well as the *Laser* World Championships in the 80's, was extremely complimentary of the regatta and venue. He said that he had lived across the street in a motor home for 3 months during 1984 and everything was just like he remembered. Great!

We enjoyed the assistance and hard work of numerous volunteers both on and off the water for the 2008 *Laser* U.S. National Championship. I was pleased to be a part of it and thank you all for making this a memorable event!

Steven Smith

2008 *Laser* U.S. National Championship Co-Chairman



Ryan McNaboe rounding the leeward mark in Race One



By the way, I apologize to both you and Sharon, our editor, for the goofed-up text in last month's Etchells article. If it looked like I was stuttering, I kind-of was: I had a tragic cut-and-paste accident with Word. Sorry about that.

And this month I get to report on a regatta in which I didn't even sail, the August fleet regatta. I have a good excuse: I was flying home from New York. Believe me, I'd have rather been here than there.

And I hear I would have had a great day of sailing. The race committee, made up of "Cubby" Vaught, his mother Vicky and Cameron Summers, set a course down off the entrance of Anaheim Landing. They found nice wind and bright sunshine—and none of the summertime boat traffic and resultant chop that a course inside the breakwater would have. Four races were sailed.

And Team Corkett stretched out its lead in the Fleet Championship Series—of which this regatta was a part—with two wins, a second and a fourth. Jerry Montgomery sailed an equally steady series to take second place. Third went to Fleet Captain Rich Vaught, who beat Tim Carter on a tiebreaker.

Another tie on points occurred between the team of Greg Sims and Doug Menezes and the gang on SPIRIT. Don Burdge and the gang had a good regatta going but managed not to finish the last race; Doug and Greg sailed to a third-place finish in that last race and ended up winning their tiebreaker. John Chapman rounded out the field of those who sailed while equipment failure took Jeff Powell and Gordon Dudley out of the regatta entirely. Here are the results:

OWNER	SAIL NO.	RACE 1	RACE 2	RACE 3	RACE 4	TOTALS
Corkett/Palmer	USA889	1	1	4	2	8
Montgomery	USA792	2	2	1	6	11
Vaught/Vaught	USA821	3	7	5	1	16
Carter/Ericksen	USA491	5	5	2	4	16
Sims/Menezes	USA494	7	3	6	3	19
Barber/Burdge/Newsome	USA126	4	4	3	DNF/8	19
Chapman	USA1002	6	6	7	5	24
Dudley/Powell	USA531	DNC/8	DNC/8	DNC/8	DNC/8	32

At this stage in the Fleet Championship Series the larger truths are coming out. The Corkett juggernaut just keeps between their opponents and the finishing line to stay in first place. The Barber/Burdge/Newsome team fell to third in the standings as Montgomery outscored them in this last regatta and moved into second place while the Carter/Ericksen team closed in on Vaught/Vaught in fourth place. Here are the standings:

OWNER	SAIL NO.	TOTALS	OWNER	SAIL NO.	TOTALS
Corkett/Palmer	USA889	111	Sims/Menezes	USA494	29
Montgomery	USA792	107.6	Dudley/Powell	USA531	28
Barber/Burdge/Newsome	USA126	101	Frost	USA669	21
Vaught/Vaught	USA821	85.8	Rice/Ureño	USA90	11
Carter/Ericksen	USA491	74	Wells/Hardy/Dooros	USA488	5
Chapman	USA1002	57	Markowitz	USA662	5
Bateman	USA143	29			

And it all comes down to the next fleet regatta, scheduled for September 21. This promises to be a gala event as it will be not only the last race of the series but the prize giving and a celebratory dinner. If you are an Etchells sailor, be sure to be there; if you are wondering how it all came out, you may need to wait until November to find out if I miss the deadline for the November SOU'WESTER.

By the time you read this, the Labor Day Regatta should be over. Thanks to all the Etchells folks who gave up sailing for the weekend and volunteered to work on the race committees and elsewhere. Thanks, too, to the Vaught family who did the fleet's duty at the August General Membership meeting.

Chris Ericksen



KEEL BOAT FLEET ON WATCH

Friday September 12 is our first meeting of the Keel Boat Fleet since the summer vacation. Joe Riddick, Judy Mathias and John Brennan will be calling the meeting to order after 'a bring your own entrée and libation' to a barbecue dinner. More details on the dinner to come on the mailer to be sent out to all the members.

Don't miss this meeting as it will have all the information on the up coming year, 2008 – 2009. Dues are due. Please bring \$10, or send to Sue Brennan, 118 Glendora Ave, Long Beach, CA 90803

See you there, George C

hails from the fleets

L¹⁴

Sell your _____ and buy a Lido! This fleet is absolutely rocking and rolling! Summer may be wrapping up, but the lido fleet won't admit it, our twilights are continuing through the month of September, Oh yeah! Everybody is invited, first start is around 6 PM then we sail into the sunset. Come on out.

August 18-20 was the Lido 14 class championships hosted by Eugene Yacht Club on Fern Ridge Lake, Eugene, OR. Fleet 6 had two teams go up, Freddie/Fred Stevens, and Sarah/Mark Ryan. We left sunny southern California to sail in thunder, rain, wind, and chop. Regardless of the weather all competitors seemed to have had a good time. Eugene Yacht Club provided free camping on the club grounds, breakfast, lunch, dinner and a keg every night. The venue was excellent, the people were great and everyone left soaking wet and smiling. Both teams from our fleet placed in the gold flight; team Freddie/Fred Stevens placed sixth in the gold flight and team Sarah/Mark Ryan placed ninth in the gold flight. Sarah was also awarded the Betty Schock perpetual for being the first woman skipper to finish in the class championships, congratulations to both teams! Huge congratulations go out to ABYC member Stu/Erin Robertson who won the World, Galactic Lido 14 Championship Regatta with six first place finishes, and one second (which became their throw out). Next year the drive won't be quite as long, the 2009 Class Championships will be August 10-13 on Mission Bay in San Diego.

Hope to see all you out on the water in your high performance Lido 14's!
Sarah and Mark Ryan



Mark Ryan, Sarah Ryan (ninth place and top female skipper), Fred Stevens and Freddie Stevens (sixth place)

N

EASY DOES IT. The end of summer arrives at a leisurely pace.

The twilight series are drifting by and the Sabotiers are moving off into their fall schedule. With our BlackBerries turned off, the sabot rack changeover finished, and a busy summer schedule behind us, we could all use a bit of rejuvenation and what better way than to spend some time in a sabot when there are less people on the water.

On August 17th following our Sunday Sabot Series our fleet bid a fond farewell to one of our favorite and dedicated Sabotiers, Barbara Gabriel, who is moving to Oregon to be with family. We laughed and reminisced and talked about Barbara's many accomplishments and services to the club. She is a willing and dedicated volunteer who took many pictures for both the club and the fleet, was a founding member of the ABYC Adopt -A-Beach program, a tireless writer for the Sou'Wester (a deadline that comes along way too often), a committed member of the inside race committee, a and a jury secretary with her own inimitable flair. She will be greatly missed and it is Oregon's gain and ABYC's loss.

Coming up on the calendar are a few events around So Cal for the months ahead including the SCWSA series events listed below.

September 17th The Little Old Ladies and Gents Regatta. Balboa Yacht Club Contact Nancy Mellon at 714-998-0917 or visit the Balboa Yacht Club website.

October 19th ABYC Ladies Day Alamos Bay Yacht Club. More information coming next month

November 8th SDYC San Diego Yacht Club. Another race which is part of the SCWSA series

Elections are on the horizon "Think not what your fleet can do for you but what you can do for your fleet" If you have not recently held office or if you have never held office, now is the time to say YES when asked to throw your hat in the ring. It is fun; it is not too much work; and it gives you the opportunity to put your ideas into action. We will need a Fleet Captain (who does receive a lot of help from the fleet), a Sou' Wester reporter (which only happens 12 times during the year) a wine steward and a treasurer.

Robin Townsend



Racin' in the Basin continues, every Friday evening before Happy Hour. After rounding the marks, Jesus's hors d'ouvers and ABYC happy hour awaits. Dan and Don are there to help with repairs if your boat needs attention. Our fleet is over 90 strong now, so come on down and bring your boat. Last weekend with the Mercury Nationals saw some great races at the club by the Nirvanas. Watch the ABYC fleets website for upcoming Sunday racing after Labor Day. September Friday nights

are wide open for Nirvana racing, and the weather will be great for Kelly's pitchers at the dock.

Come on down!
Don Shirley



Alamitos Bay Yacht Club

7201 East Ocean Boulevard
Long Beach, California 90803

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more cat cruise photos



Chas and Nancy Merrill



Merle Asper photos

Kids doing the "private thing"



Don Shirley and Ching Sun



Gail and Bruce Conn

ladies day

Ladies Day will be Sunday, October 19, sailed in sabots. Please mark this event on your calendar and save the date. There are 3 Women's Divisions and Men's Divisions A and B. We want all levels of sailors to race, including those with little or no racing experience. Please come sail and help to make this regatta a success. And have some fun too.
Mary Riddick