



turkey day regatta

*Rich Roberts photos
underthesunphotos.com
Ed Spotskey photo boat captain*

Flams' victory leads a regatta for the holidays

In the spirit of the holidays, the winners collected turkeys instead of trophies, but most who competed in Alamitos Bay Yacht Club's annual two-day Turkey Day Regatta Sunday went away in the mood for a happy Thanksgiving. That would include Barney Flam and son Steve, who despite the loss of their wife and mother Evelyn only eight days earlier won the 19-boat Cal 20 class. But they had to come from behind in the sixth and last race to pull it off.

Longtime local friend and rival Keith Ives seized overall first place when the Flams stumbled with a fifth place in the next-to-last race as Ives won Sunday's first two races. That set up a serious fight in the final go-round, and nobody was about to hand it to anyone on sentiment.

As they started side by side at the committee boat, Ives bumped the Flams but immediately recognized his foul and did a penalty turn that in effect destroyed his chances of winning the race.



Nevin Snow (l.) chases Olin Paine to windward mark. Snow won Laser Radial class with Paine second

Steve Flam said, "The best part of it was that nobody said a word. The worst part was that we still needed to put two boats between us. We beat the second boat by about a foot."

The Flams finished third, with Ives sixth, and won by two points.

"We were really fortunate," Steve Flam said. "My goal was just not to fall apart completely."

The good vibes prevailed all weekend. With 120 races for 247 boats in 20 classes from San Diego to San Francisco, there were only two protests all weekend, and one of those was withdrawn and the other settled by arbitration.

The winners ranged in age from mid-teens to octogenarians and showed an encouraging approach to balance between males and females.

Winners of the larger classes included Evan Hoffman, 17, of Escondido and Nevin Snow of San Diego in the full-rig Lasers and Laser Radials, respectively; Sterling and Hans Henken in 29ers, Carolyn Smith, Newport Beach, in Sabot A class, with no finish worse than second while boys filled out the rest of the top 10. Bruce Golison and crew Becky Nygren won in Lido 14s.



Multihull icon Pete Melvin and son James, 14, were 2nd in Formula 18s

Bruce Golison? The guy who ran the largest keelboat regatta on the West Coast for 20 years until opting to do some serious sailing of his own? He had never even raced a commonplace Lido 14 dinghy while growing up in Long Beach.

"When you're a kid you just want to go out on the ocean where the big racing is," he said. "Then when you get as

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save the date

Christmas Party	December 13
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Family Movie Night	January 22
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commodore's comments



I'm writing this article after experiencing our Turkey Day Regatta for 2009. I can imagine almost anything I might say will merely be a validation of the success of which everyone is already aware. So, here is an observation or two not directly associated with the planning and organization. I am joyful to point out the resurgence of "Home" Fleet loyalty and activity. To be specific, the Lido-14's, Cal-20, Olson-30's and the Lasers. The leadership of this year's fleet captains is most evident as they successfully put significant numbers of their boats on the starting line. It makes it all worthwhile to see our own boats and members active and participating in the club's premier activity. That sounds like a grand standing statement, yet, reading between the lines, is to reveal what happens off the water. These skippers and crews are cheerful and enthusiastic as they help one another launch and retrieve their boats. And, later at the Saturday dinner and Sunday trophy presentation one can not help but notice that these folks are just plain having fun. This is the core of our club, and here comes the pitch folks ... the fleets remain healthy with your support and (most important) your participation. Make sure you get your dues up to date. Gads, for the most part, the fleet dues are cheaper than lunch for the family at In-N-Out Burger or McDonalds.

Serving at the big crane brought to mind, that even though we have invested a good amount of treasure this past year fixing several specific problems, there is still a yet to be diagnosed a "rattle" while lowering at speed. A couple of members commented that they would gladly donate one hundred dollars into a pool to properly fix the hoist. So, if you are of like mind and wish to donate then make sure you note "Hoist Fund" on your your contribution. When we develop a sufficient war chest we'll be able to consider replacement of the hoisting mechanism.

Once again ... A Note to our Newer Members ... All our regattas and events, are excellent affairs to get to know your club and other members. Plus, you will become accustomed to the operation and use of club equipment. Don't be shy. All of us were new at one time. Just hang a name tag around your neck and dig in. Ahead for the year are a line up of "hands on" classes and seminars on many of the tasks that make our club so well founded as a brilliant regatta venue. After all, the secret that we know and others don't understand, it truly is an extension of the fun of messin' around with boats"

John Massey

viceverses



Thank you members for reading last months message about our yard. My photo essay of flat tires, masts tied to fences and expired CF #s struck a cord. It is clear to me that our vocal membership prefers active boats utilizing our limited yard storage capacity. Take this simple test...try looking at our boat yard through the eyes of a visiting yachtsman, what kind of impression do you want our club to make?

As I have dug deeper into the historical background of yard spaces I see that each vice commodore has tackled this project in a different way. Continuing with my cat breeding analogy from November, managing the yard is a lot like herding cats. And even though we all know curiosity killed the cat I want to be careful not to kill the goose that laid the golden egg by upsetting long term members who are skating by...but it is a bit frustrating to see so many violations of our simply stated yard

rules.

I want to help ABYC get more members AND more active boats in the yard. More members, more activity, more sailing, more volunteers, more camaraderie, more fun...more is better!

We have greatly reduced the wait for sabot and laser sailors, but the dinghy and keel boat yards are as coveted as 50 yard line season tickets for USC (not that I'd want 'em...but enough on that). Many members do not want to let go of their space even though they aren't sailing their boat. Put yourself in my position for a minute. I don't want to anger veteran members who have paid their dues literally and figuratively over decades, but if boats are just sitting in place providing shade for weeds we are lessening our vibrancy by preventing members who wish to sail from keeping their boats in the yard.

Here is, in my view, a quick summary of some of the key rules that seem to be ignored and/or overlooked by the Members, our Board of Directors and Club Management in the past:

Yard rule 3.4 regarding ABYC and CF stickers: "All boats ...must have an ABYC sticker permanently affixed...All boats required by law to be registered, must have a valid CF number and current registration sticker affixed to the boat."

Please make sure your boat has a sticker registered in the office and that the sticker is legible. If you need a new sticker, please get one. CF numbers need to be current. If you don't want to put the number and sticker on your hull and have it on your boom or somewhere else please let me know.

Yard rule 3.5 regarding trailers: "Boats, trailers and covers must be in good state of repair and operable condition...Failure to do so may result in a surcharge after notice. Any trailer found not to be in compliance with this rule is subject to eviction by the Board of Directors." (Read the entire rule – this is very important!)

Please pump up your tires, check your rigging, bail out your boat and tidy up your space!

Yard rule 3.11 regarding subleasing or loaning your space: "Assigned spaces may not be loaned by the assignee."

Members have "loaned" their spaces...sometimes to non-members! Let's remind each other that this prevents other members from keeping their boats at the club and is a breach of our yard rules.

Yard rule 3.13 regarding selling your boat and the space it is in: "If a member owning a boat in a yard space assigned to that member sells the boat to another member not holding available yard space, the new owner must remove the boat and trailer until an application for space in the new owner's name is approved."

A little known, but widely used "loophole" is where one member sells his boat AND space to another member and carries the title paperwork as a "partnership. Let's stop this practice and get the true owner on the title and have him pay the bill. If this situation applies to you please settle with the office and get the correct owner in our yard files and make sure the billing is going to your account and that the boat and sticker are registered under your name.

Yard rule 3.18 regarding masts and other equipment scattered in the yard: "Unstepped masts and other equipment may not project into the aisles nor encroach upon other storage spaces."

Masts tied to the sail lockers are not supposed to be there. If you have one, please move it out of the yard.

Yard rule 3.20 regarding boat use: "A yard-moored boat must be sailed at least once during each six-month period (from Jan 1 – June 30 and July 1 to Dec 31) to retain yard storage privileges."

Come down and launch your boat for a sail. I will be keeping track of boat use starting with the next sailing window which commences January 1st. I anticipate that boat spaces will be shifting - with water launching proximity being prioritized to favor active boats with lesser used boats being moved further away from the ramp and hoists.

And speaking of the current year winding down and a new year coming up I believe I have a compromise solution that will work for everyone. I am going to allow an AMNESTY period for violators of the above rules from now until December 31st providing all members a chance to come down, clean their boat, apply their stickers, get their title work in order, clean up their mess, pump up their trailer tires, kick out the feral cats, bail out their boats and pitch in to get our yard ship shape. Please help me out and let's try to get things back on track otherwise it's going to be crazier than a bevy of long tailed cats in a room full of rocking chairs. Let's all be proud of the boats in our yard. I would like to enter the New Year with a clean slate and a clean yard. Wouldn't you?

Poachers beware! If you think you have found a hiding space and believe you can stash your boat without a sticker and without paying you are wrong. Poachers will be impounded. If you have to leave an unregistered boat in the yard please make the proper arrangements with the front office. Approved yard permits will be posted in the glass case outside the front office for all to see.

As I have stated before, these are not my rules, they are OUR rules and they have been in place for many years.

By the time you get this issue of the Sou'Wester, every boat trailer is going to be tagged. We also want to tag all privately owned dollies. If we don't know who owns something we will have no choice but to impound it. If you keep a

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smaller boat on your boat or trailer, or stow a sail board or kayak on your larger boat you need to get it stickered and registered with the office. If you store same on the ground please get it stickered and then lift it up onto your boat or put it on saw horses within your assigned space so that it is not collecting dirt and hindering us from cleaning up the yard. My expectation is that there are a lot of abandoned boats in our yard and that we are not collecting rent from them.

I met with a junior sailor during Turkey Day who came to race and his laser spars and rigging had been taken and someone had moved into his space. Another member had his Lido trailer stolen. I don't say this to worry you, but it certainly alarmed me. Theft of property will not be tolerated.

Remember, we intend to have an auction in March, 2010 to sell off the boats/kayaks/boards/masts/covers, etc., that are not claimed. This includes belongings left behind in the sail lockers. I would hate to hear that you forced us into a position that finds you bidding to get your neglected property back!

This is your second notice that now with Turkey Day regatta behind us we are going to get strict in the yard and lock up unidentified boats and gear.

In the glass case outside of the main office we have now posted three key yard documents: the waiting list, the authorized visitor permit parking and the impound list.

Please, use the "trees in the bay" as an excuse to visit our club and check on your boating property, and then join your fellow members in good cheer.

The holiday season is upon us, spread joy and goodwill. Enjoy family and friends and come down to the place to be, our little oasis at the end of the peninsula.

If you have any questions about your boat(s) in the yard please email me jeff.merrill@nordhavn.com (put "ABYC Yard" in the subject line) or call me on my cell phone 949.355.4950.

Thank you and see you at the club!

Jeff Merrill

rearview



Family Movie Night was held on Friday November 6. The movie was Morning Light, this was the movie that Disney made about a crew of young adults preparing for and sailing Trans-Pac. This was another great event for ABYC. There were more people there than I recall seeing at a Family Movie Night. There were more adults in the audience than juniors. My thanks go to Rich Roberts for his introduction to the movie and donating a copy. We raffled off the DVD to a lucky junior

On Friday November 20, we held our monthly General Membership Meeting hosted by the Cal 20 fleet. Patty Nash put together an incredible program hosted by Russ Boudreau about the issues around the Break Water. This was one of the best attended General Membership Meetings that I have attended in a long time. In addition to the presentation, we enjoyed a great dinner catered by Enrique's, located Loynes and PCH.

On November 21, we held the biggest party of all, Turkey Day Regatta. This was the one of the largest ever, 280 boats entered. We served 487 dinners in less than 2 hours. In the past the regatta dinner has grown and has been an event that everyone looks forward to. With a dinner this large we have had long lines and crowding conditions. This year we changed our usual one serving line to two serving lines. We also used outside seating on the veranda with space heaters. We experienced no lines or crowding, and the dinner was tastier than ever. This has to be one of the best events of the year. I would like to say a huge THANK YOU to all of the volunteers that helped me with this regatta.

The next big event is Wine Tasting at ABYC. We will have a wine tasting on Friday December 4. We will taste wines that would make good Christmas gifts or one just for your personal enjoyment. We will also have cheese, crackers and dark chocolate. This will be an adult event. More information is on the website.

Do not forget the Bridge Club that meets the first Friday of the month on December 4 in the Quarter Deck. These folks are serious about their bridge so bring your best game.

On December 5 the Etchells and Lasers will hold their fleet races. On December 6 the Sabots and Nirvana IIs will hold their fleet races.

On Friday December 11, Sr. Sabots and Keel Boaters will hold their annual Christmas Party. On Saturday December 12 Cal 20s will hold their Christmas Party.

On Sunday December 13, we will hold our annual ABYC Christmas Party. Santa will be there for the kids and the club will be covered with holiday decorations. This will be a fun event for both young and old with everyone in festive mood. Look for more information on the website.

On Saturday December 19 the lido 14 fleet will hold a race and Christmas Party. This will be a fun event.

December 19 is also the Naples Christmas Parade. Again our Juniors will have a float in the parade. So, if you are not joining the Lidos, go to Naples and wander around the canals. You will probably see our float.

Last but not least do not forget Boxing Day Regatta December 26. This is a traditional British holiday and has been celebrated for many years at ABYC with a regatta. This is a pursuit race and is lots of fun. Come and join in.

This is my favorite time of year. I hope that you are enjoying the season with Thanksgiving and Christmas as the centerpiece. This is a wonderful time of year to spend with family and friends. I hope you will have lots of fun and wish you a warm and safe season.

See you around the club

Jon Robinson

fleet captain's log



The holiday season is the time when we step back, repair, and prepare for the coming year. This month I wanted to give you an update on the club's race assets.

The Boats: Patience and the new barge are in great shape, and surprisingly the old barge is still running. We have two 21 foot whalers, both are in good shape. We have six 17ft. whalers, of which one is waiting for an engine, and one is in refurbishment by Adam and Rick. One additional 17 footer was recently scrapped due to a transverse hull failure (yes, Boston Whalers do eventually die). We have four 13ft. whalers, all are running, but some need refurbishment, particularly our long serving 'Bix'. Kelly is looking to get a new engine for one of the 17 footers donated from a grant program.

The Equipment: One year on, the equipment container has been a great addition to the club. Our racing stuff is safe and secure, and we know what is available at a moments glance. As usual, we lost some whips, flags, and ground tackle through the year, and that will be replaced. Stacy Jackson has fabricated some portable signal equipment for when we 'borrow' a race committee boat to run 2 circles. Sandy Toscan has some plans to complete the portable equipment, which we will build next year.

We should be OK for Boxing Day and Rose Bowl, and have additional boats refurbished by MidWinters.

Happy Holidays from Mike, Betty, Glenn and Kevin

Keel Boat Fleet/Sabot Christmas Party
Friday, December 11th
6:00 p.m. to whatever
Bring hor d'oeuvres and a smile
Enjoy live music - games - friends
HAPPY HOLI DAYS!

10th Annual Boxing Day Regatta

Pursuit Race

Saturday December 26, 2009

Summer is over, so it's time to start planning for the last holiday regatta ... Boxing Day!

Mark your calendar, turn off the football game, this years Boxing Day regatta will be on Saturday December 26, and your last chance to hit the water in 2009! Once again there will be a pursuit race. In a pursuit race the slowest boats start first and the fastest last.

Don't miss a fun day on the bay at the tenth annual Boxing Day Pursuit Race, Saturday December 26, 2009 starting at 1pm.

Mark Townsend

Sou'Wester DEADLINE

December 29, 2009 is the deadline
for the January Sou'Wester.

from the pages of history

The holidays are the common themes in the pages of the SOU'WESTER, both past and present.

THIRTY YEARS AGO:

Jim Morford was the Regatta Chairman for the 1979 Turkey Day Regatta, according to the SOU'WESTER of December of that year. There were 169 boats in the regatta, with the Cal 20 fleet doing the duty under their Fleet Captain, Peter Baine. Marietta Jones was in charge of the dinner and Robin Lounsberry decorated the clubhouse.

There was a lot of Junior presence at Turkey Day, both on the water and off. Steve Bloemeke was tops in the Junior Sabot "A" division ahead of Kevin Dumain while Russell Fox came in behind first-place Mike Goyan in the Junior Sabot "B" fleet. The crew of Juniors that assisted with Turkey Day clean-up included Charlie Crockett, Russell Fox, Mike Goyan, Todd Parrill, Scott Sorensen and both Darren and Ron Rosenberg.

Christmas parties were on the calendar for the month, and a lot of 'em. The Lido 14's started the season on December 8, followed by the I-14's on the ninth; the Cal 20 party was the following Friday, the Senior Sabots were scheduled for Saturday and the club's party was set for Sunday. The weekend before Christmas was set aside for the C-15 Christmas party; the "Fall Series Trophy Presentation, Good Food and Dancing" seems to have been the schedule for that event, according to Laura Nuñez, the fleet reporter.

Margaret Duhamel was in charge of the Christmas float and had some requests. The float committee was planning to work every weekend in December on the float, but also said they would need "last-minute helpers...on Friday, December 14, from about 4:00 to 9:00" as well as "on Saturday, December 15, to get things ready for the parade." And she also said they needed "two (2) large (5-7 foot) artificial Christmas trees" for the float and wondered if anyone had one "that will not be in use."

A new member of ABYC was introduced as an Independent Junior: Paul Anctil, who attended Stanford Junior High School, raced a Sabot, belonged to Leeway and "also enjoys the piano"...Commodore Gary Winterrowd and Bay RC Chairman Don Brackenbury had sailed in the Newport Ocean Sailing Association (NOSA) Commodore's Regatta, held in Lido 14's at Balboa Yacht Club in October; the ABYC team took second to the host club team...it was announced in "Notes from the Board" that ABYC had donated \$100 toward the Trees in the Bay program and that Long Beach Yacht Club would withdraw reciprocal privileges previously extended to ABYC members as of January 1, 1980.

TWENTY YEARS AGO:

Alamitos Bay Yacht Club was awarded the One-Design Club Award for the year's most outstanding one-design sailing program in the United States by the United States Yacht Racing Union (USYRU) One-Design Class Council. Pictured on the cover of the SOU'WESTER for December, 1989, were USYRU Directors at Large Don Brown and Jerry Thompson; ABYC Race Management Committee members Chris Ericksen, Sid Exley, Dick George and John Weiss; ABYC Commodore Dick Caley and ABYC Junior Staff Commodore Mike McMahan.

Judy Mathias announced that she was stepping down as editor of "Driftwood," a column of news about members and their families that appeared in the SOU'WESTER in those days. "Thanks to those who gave me tidbits to report," she wrote, "and to those who talked about what they were doing, perhaps not knowing it would appear in print!" Carl Rischer was taking up the pen and would be doing "Driftwood" in the coming year.

A new event was on the 1990 calendar and announced in the SOU'WESTER, the Second Century Carnival. Intended to yield funding for the 2020 Trust Fund, the Carnival would invite each fleet at ABYC to set up a booth to have contests, food or whatever; each fleet would keep the proceeds from their booth and the club would enjoy the income from raffles and a silent auction. A big-screen color TV and a full suit of sails for a dinghy or a main for a keelboat donated by Dave Ullman of Ullman Sails were the "big-ticket items" to be raffled off.

An entire page and one column on the next page was dedicated to printing updated Yard Rules; one new rule required each boat stored in the yard to be sailed "at least once during a six-month period" or face "immediate eviction"...long-time Peter Gantz recounted "a memorable shopping trip" to Santa Cruz in October experienced by former member Phyllis Gayman when she rode out the Loma Prieta earthquake; memory serves that current (and then) ABYC member Jennifer Kuritz rode it out in San Francisco's crumbling Marina District, but that was not reported...C-15 fleet member Allison Jolly reported having finished second in the USYRU Championship of Champions Regatta, sailed in One-Design Grand Prix 14's; it was said she would have won the regatta except for the fact that her crew (presumably her then-husband Mark Elliott) "packed the spinnaker on top of the jib sheet" and made it impossible for her to cover the eventual regatta winner on the final beat.

TEN YEARS AGO:

Ten years ago, the SOU'WESTER for December, 1999, reported that ABYC's Pease Glaser with her skipper, J.J. Isler, had won the US Women's 470 Trials in Florida and were off to the 2000 Olympic Games in Sydney, Australia. It was recounted that the Women's 470 is what brought Pease—then Pease Herndon—to ABYC in the first place, vying for a spot on the 1988 Olympic team. That spot was taken by another ABYC woman: Allison Jolly, who won the Gold medal; while not history at the time of this story, Pease and J.J. went on to win the Silver.

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Turkey Day came too late to be reported in the SOU'WESTER in 1999, so earlier regattas took center stage. Ron and Mike Wilson won the Cal 20 class in the Charity Regatta while Doug McLean was tops at Halloween. Peter Gales won the Senior Sabot class at Halloween ahead of Isabelle Lounsberry. The Charity Regatta itself cleared over \$20,000 for The Children's Clinic in that year while ABYC received a beautiful half-model trophy for having the most boats sailing in the regatta of any yacht club, both facts which made Norma Clapp, the perennial ABYC Charity Regatta representative, very proud.

The Etchells fleet announced that Jerry Montgomery had been chosen Fleet Captain for 2000, with Joe Markowitz as Assistant Fleet Captain and Chris Ericksen as Secretary/Treasurer and Fleet Measurer...Mara Bell was returned as Junior Rear Commodore and therefore head of the Junior Board; joining her on the Board were Dustin Delgado, Daniel Henry, Andrew McDade, Michael Oliver and Freddie Stevens...the passing of Clyde Ellerman, a long-time member of ABYC was noted; he passed away in Las Vegas, where he and Betty had moved upon his retirement...

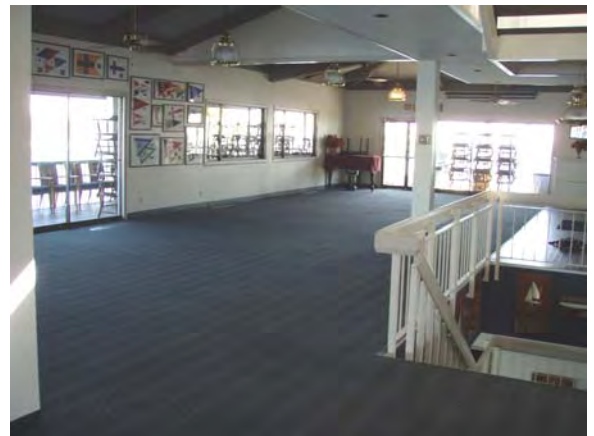
NEXT YEAR:

And may the coming year be one of historic happiness and legendary prosperity for one and all.

Chris Ericksen, Club Historian

carpet cleaning

Following Turkey Day trophy awards we removed all of the tables and chairs to have the upstairs carpet shampooed on Monday. It now looks clean, smells fresh and is ready for the holidays. Special thanks to Roberto for overseeing the job and moving back in all of the furniture.



more turkey day

...from page 1

old as I am [53], the [inside] bay is better."

Actually, he successfully campaigns an Etchells on the class's pro-level circuit. He bought a used Lido 14 the day before the regatta and raced it for the first time.



Erik Lidecis came from behind Sunday to win the Finn class

"It's a tactical boat that puts the importance on starting and tacking," he said, "totally back to the basics."

Snow said, "Today was a little different from [Saturday]," when he found success by playing the fluctuations of the light 6-to-7-knot breeze on opposite sides of the ocean course.

Hoffman, who also does most of his sailing in San Diego's normally light winds but races often in



Larry Spencer and Todd Downey's Blue Star swept all 6 races in the Olson 30 class

events at Long Beach, said, "This is my favorite place to sail."

It wasn't windy this weekend, but Hoffman said, "I like to come up here on a windy summer day and just sail all day long."

The most dominant performance was by Larry Spencer and Todd Downey's dark blue Olson 30, Blue Star, which won all six races with a five-person crew.

Complete results at: abyc.org

Rich Roberts

turkey day dinner

Jeff Merrill photos

Turkey Dinner...a feast for the masses

Jon Robinson and I teamed up again, this time as co-chairs for this year's Turkey Day regatta, ABYC's biggest event of the year. Jon organized the racing side – no small feat for 70 volunteers and 261 boats entered – and I was in charge of the Turkey Day dinner. A modern record of 480 dinners were served upstairs Saturday night. The Social Advisory Committee (SAC), led by Sue McDannel, once again brought their "A" game and the event was a smashing (pumpkins) success!

Preparations began during and after Friday's General Membership meeting with silverware rolled into orange napkins and tied with a green string. Our Club staff did an extraordinary job helping to get things ready.

Saturday morning Margaret Jorgensen handled extra dinner ticket sales during registration in the Quarterdeck. The decorating committee was anchored by Sue McDannel, Vonnie Robertson, Jamie Bell and Ann Seapy who put together a very festive Autumnal display enjoyed by all.

Stacy Massey was a colossal contributor running registration and then later in the afternoon manning the ticket distribution table in the lobby handing out nearly 500 "Head Turkey" dinner tickets (printed with the help of Sharon Pearson) and each featuring a caricature of our beloved commodore John Massey resplendent in top hat!

We began serving earlier this year; around 4:30 pm. Jesus and company cooked two dozen turkeys with all of the trimmings and had this delicious repast on display for the mouth watering masses to devour. To speed up the lengthy line from years past we opened two serving stations and no one had to wait longer than ten minutes to get a full plate of Thanksgiving dinner. We also pre-carved the turkeys in the kitchen which made for a quick run through the lines. Our servers included many staff commodores and spouses among them were; Ted and Kathleen Flood, Mark

and Robin Townsend, Jim and Toni Morford, Glenn Selvin, Chuck Hardin, Dave and Sue Crockett, Nicole Peoples-Moffett, John Merchant, Al Nelson, John and Alaine Weiss.

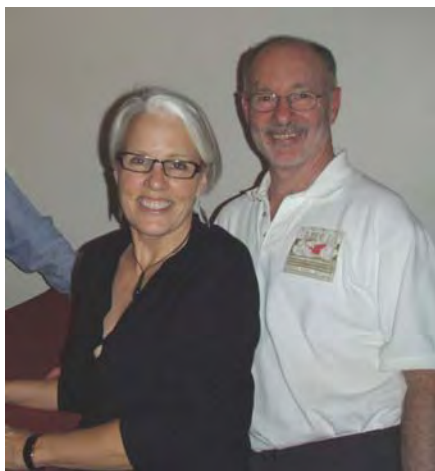
Staff commodores Chris Ericksen and Merle Asper were bussing tables and we set up over 250 seats and place settings with several tables in the Quarterdeck and outside dining warmed up via gas heaters under cover of the roof overhang on the second deck – what an incredible dining experience!

Other volunteers who pitched in were: Kelly Rose, Kathy Robinson, Bill McDannel, Steve Bloemeke, Kim Blumberg, Pam Merrill, Marissa Golison, Elle Merrill, Ed Spotskey, Michelle Spotskey, Lori VanSkyhock, Dave Myers, John Massey, Mike Baumann, Patty Nash, Ken Reiff and many more!

It was a wonderful evening and all who participated left the club quite content and a bit full of themselves.

Thank you everyone (including those names who I have surely forgotten) for a wonderfully delicious team ABYC effort.

Jeff Merrill



halloween regatta

Sheila Eberly photos

The Halloween Regatta turned out to be a Spooktacular event! Thank you to the Senior Sabot Fleet and the Keel Boat Fleet for making this a success. We had 75 entrants with both bay and ocean classes. The Juniors ruled the bay with a Sabot B class of one, and 19 Sabot C's in 3 classes. There was also a Lido 14 class of 6 boats. The ocean classes included Cal-20s, Laser, and Portsmouth A and B classes, for all those who did not have enough to make up their own class. I heard the scoring got pretty interesting in the Portsmouth classes due to some creative sailing.

There were three races held in the bay under the competent hands of Jim Drury and his crew of Jinx Ellis, Mary Riddick, Ron and Susan Long with Joe Riddick, Don Wilson, Bob Ware, and Diane Gonzales manning the whalers. We had beautiful weather with enough of a light breeze for racing.

The ocean race committee was led by Mark Townsend with his crew of Robin Townsend, Jon Lounsberry, Sandy Toscan, Judy Mathias, and Jennifer and Steve Kuritz, and Jane and Jerry McNaboe on whalers which made it a real family affair. They ran 4 races for the outside racers.

The Juniors enjoyed an apple bobbing contest while waiting for the trophy presentation. Sarah "Pippi" Ryan did a wonderful job of organizing the Junior racers and awarding them each a ribbon for their great costumes. I believe the Lido 14 fleet deserves the best team costume award since all of them dressed up and sailed in costume! Watch out Juniors, you have some competition!

Thank you to all of our shore side helpers: Bobbie Peterson, Mack Mills, Don Hodges, Lee Berlinger, and Cliff Mathias. Ken Reiff was a great help in organizing the regatta and race committee. Jim Morford was our reliable scorekeeper and recorder.

Our trophy presentation was a surprise with all the trophies hiding under a sheet and the winners had to choose a ribbon attached to a hidden trophy. This made it interesting since we use all the excess trophies from other regattas. Results on the our website: abyc.org

Come and join us next year for some Halloween fun!

Thanks again to everyone who helped make this a great regatta!

Sheila "Duck" Eberly, Senior Sabot Fleet



member news

Yvonne Lindermann took a fall and spent a short time in the hospital. She is home and would love to hear from you. A card or a phone call would be greatly appreciated.



Economic Crisis Hits Sailing

November 24, 2009 (Long Beach California)

Last weekend nearly 500 starving sailors descended on Alamitos Bay Yacht Club in hopes of finding a meal. Instead of traditional trophies this year, ABYC handed out much needed food. Racing was fierce as famished sailors competed for the prizes: 25-pound turkeys, complete with a cordon bleu chef to cook it up for you on Thanksgiving Day. Competition was so fierce that sporadic violence erupted

throughout the day, the worst incident being an act of cannibalism by one of the competitors.



Peter Beale of Fleet 2 takes a large bite out of Sarah Ryan (Englishmen seem to get away with so much more)



An emaciated Joanna Smith struggles to grab a few morsels of food.

It is not only the general economic condition that is causing the problem but the sport of yacht racing has gotten so expensive. Nowhere is this more obvious than at the pinnacle of the sport: Lido 14 racing. Previously affluent fleets like Marina Del Rey and Newport Harbor descended on Long Beach just for the free handouts.

Lido sailing in particular is out of reach of all but the wealthiest. Walter Johnson of Lido Fleet 1 complained, "I've got \$85,000 in my boat but it's a \$95,000

boat that wins the regatta. I can't compete. I may have to mortgage my Hummer just to get some Dave Carroll blades." The \$95,000 Lido to which Mr. Johnson refers is that of Mr. Bruce Golison. The WD Schock Company would not go on the record about the actual cost of Golison's boat but a highly ranked employee, speaking on the condition of anonymity, said "I can build you a Lido for \$14.95 but does it have to float?"

Golison/Nygren literally devoured the entire A fleet last weekend with 1-1-3-(6)-1-1 finishes but the economy had virtually assured their victory even before the regatta got underway. Money has decimated the competitiveness of the Lido A fleet. Second place finishers, 2-1-4-(7)-2-2 Jerry Thompson/Mandi Smith were forced to sail in resurrected 40 year-old equipment. Finishing third with 3-9-2-1-(10)-3, Mark and Sarah Ryan sailed in an unfamiliar borrowed boat. They had rented out their own boat to a wealthy Australian. Class champion Stu Robertson couldn't even compete, economic conditions forcing him to charter out both his boats for the extra income.

Mr. Golison bristled at the thought of the field being weak. "OK, there may have been a bit of hunger related fatigue but it's a tactical boat that puts the importance on starting and tacking," he said, "totally back to the basics. It's dog eat dog. Survival of the fittest. When Stu finally shows up, I'll eat his lunch too just like I ate Thompson's lunch."



The severest of diets, the water-only diet, proved the winning secret for 14 year old Mike Anctil. Mike's first place in the B Fleet, 1-2-5-4-1-1, makes him one of the youngest sailors ever to have been sung into the A fleet. (Despite appearances that's water in front of him, not a gin and tonic, but his crew/father Paul Anctil is rumored to have said "You should see what I'm going to buy him when he wins his first A regatta")

Truly followers of the sport believe that it was Rebecca Nygren who was responsible for Bruce's victory. An accomplished international sailor in her own right, Becky was pressed in to service as Bruce's crew. "He stole my lunch money, and wouldn't give it back unless I crewed for him."



Brand new Lido sailor Suzy Galen was very excited about Saturday's racing. "Not only was I always in the hunt during the races, but I also found my crew's sandwich in the cubby and ate it. Great sailing and free food. I can't wait till the Twilight Barbeques!" Crew Paul M could not be reached for comment but it is generally regarded that skipping a few meals won't harm him at all.

...continued next page

Regardless of the champion crew, the gold-plated boat, intergalactic titles in Etchells and Santana 20s, whatever was responsible for the victory, watch out Lido sailors, the Golison era is here!

Theloneiu P. Bilgewater

Author's note: thanks PM for the photos, and SR and MR for the dirt. If you'd like to unsubscribe, sorry, Lido sailing is a lifetime affliction.



Golison/Nygren pictured above literally taking the food from the Ryans, food left to them by their grandfather, and Lido pioneer, Roscoe O. Butcher. Club officer Jeff Merrill looks on, seemingly condoning the heist.



Phoebe Staff used food to train her father John. "Here Dad, good Dad. You can have a another PB&J if you'd just roll a little bit harder." (By the way, this 13 year-old finished 4th in the A fleet. If it wasn't for her father running her into the buoys, she would have even done better. Watch out world!)

christmas party

The annual Christmas party is just around the corner.

Please mark your calendars for Sunday, December 13 at 4 pm and call the front office to make your reservations.

You won't want to miss this year's event. The cost is only

\$18 for adults and \$8 for children under 12. It includes Kelly's famous Prime Rib & Turkey dinner and all the fixings.

The day will start with holiday crafts for the kids from 4:00 to 6:00, a photo with Santa at 5:00 and dinner at 6:00.

If you are interested in volunteering for this event, call Dawn McKenna to offer your services.

Hop on your reindeer and make your reservations now.

Dawn McKenna

turkey day morning

John Massey photos



What can happen in 2 hours Turkey Day morning...including rain ... a full service club!!!!



eight bells

It has been a difficult few weeks for ABYC. We have lost a number of beloved members. Jeanne Reid's Celebration of Life will be held at ABYC at 12:00 noon on Saturday the 5th of December. A Celebration of Life for Evelyn Flam will be held at Long Beach Yacht Club on Friday, January 8th. Langdon Parrill passed away on November 22nd. Arrangements will be announced when received.

new year's
eve

Stay Home on NEW YEARS EVE?

NO, NO, NO, NO WAY

COME TO THE CLUB, ABYC OF COURSE!!

Here's the deal!!!



Only \$5.00 each adult - kids under 16 free

BRING YOUR FAVORITE HORS D'OEUVRE TO SHARE

A TABLE GAME GOOD FOR ALL AGES

THEN HAVE FUN-EAT, DRINK AND BE MERRY

Starts at 8:00PM

Bring a couple of your favorite CDs
so we can dance, listen, enjoy



Adam will be bartender again this year
Charge drinks to your account or pay cash



RSVP to:

Dan & Norma Clapp

714/840-2902 or normaclappnd@yahoo.com

or abyc.julissa@gmail.com

a junior perspective


I was so excited for the Turkey Regatta because I wanted to win a pie. There were lots of sailors at the Race which made me realize I had to get a good score. I saw a bunch a familiar people there. The morning of the first day it rained and everyone's boat had water in it. After the sun cleared up there wasn't any wind so I didn't do good. After the first day I was in 6th with a 2nd, 8th, and 9th place. Since moving up to C1 it's been harder to move into Bs. Everyone had the Turkey dinner at ABYC; it was delicious.

The second day there was little wind then it picked up for half a race. I raced a little better then the first day but over all I stayed in the same place. When we came in and derigged we had left-over Turkey dinner. We waited until all the protests were over and they started the awards. After the C2s and the C3s they announced the C1s, which I was in. I was one place away from getting a pie. Because of the wind being low, trying to win the pie was hard, but this made the Regatta my favorite.

Kai Jensen

Note: Kai is a 12 year old Junior sabot sailor and was asked to give his perspective on Turkey Day.

hails from the fleets

 Efficiency reigned on Saturday, November 8, the day scheduled for a fleet regatta for the Alamos Bay Etchells fleet. Fleet Captain Jerry Montgomery—no stranger he to reading calendars—noted that Long Beach Yacht Club was holding their Holiday Invitational Regatta and saw that one-designs were invited, so he got to work: he polled the fleet and convinced them to sail with LBYC—which club hosts us for the Charity Regatta—and LBYC added Etchells to the online registration (LBYC uses the same registration program ABYC uses). And we were in! Five boats signed up and four raced.

The original thought was that there'd be one or more windward-leeward races and a longer, random-leg race, but the RC opted for Plan B. It turned out to be a twelve-and-a-half mile marathon inside and outside the Breakwater—not your usual Etchells fare, but fun nonetheless. At the end of the day Jerry was the winner over Tom Corkett; John Chapman came in third. Gordon Dudley had to pull out and did not finish, and Chris Ericksen was the fifth—and qualifying—entry but did not make it to the line. By the way, there were seven boats altogether in the regatta, and six were all or in part skippered by ABYC members.

There may be a repeat of this in December. There is a fleet regatta scheduled for Saturday, December 5, but LBYC's Holiday Invitational Regatta—same format as the November regatta—is set for Sunday, December 6. As of SOU'WESTER deadline no decision had been made on whether or not the fleet would delay a day and sail along, but tune in next month to see.

The very next weekend San Diego Yacht Club hosted their monthly One Design Weekend and a total of 24—that's right, 24—Etchells were there. Our own Bruce Golison came out on top, ahead of past Star world champions Vince Brun and Eric Doyle; fleet member and former ABYC member Argyle Campbell was sixth and Doug McLean was also racing.

ABYC's Turkey Day Invitational Regatta is to be sailed after this article goes "on the spike;" it is not certain if the Etchells will establish. Check it out next month.

Chris Ericksen

Lido 14 Fleet 6- Christmas and 50th Anniversary Celebration!!

Lido Fleet 6 is going to have a party on Saturday, December 19th at ABYC to celebrate the holiday season and our 50th anniversary. This is also the night of the Naples Boat Parade, so we will be taking a break in the festivities to sneak a look. We will be giving out our annual Lido awards and have decided this year to bring back some of the "fun" older awards that have been part of the fleet in the past. We are sending out a special invitation to all the Lido sailors of the past to come join us and share their memories with the current members. The first ever Fleet 6 Captain from 1959, Dale Berkhiser, will be joining us to say a few words and share his stories about the first meeting in his house to form our fleet. We will have a special commemorative glass to mark this 50 year milestone, We will have a complete dinner available for a \$16.00 and of course, there will be a gift for the kids to open. Please contact me at espotman@aol.com if you are interested in attending this event.

Ed Spotskey Lido Fleet 6 Captain





Vann Wilson Wins 2009 ABYC Laser Fleet Championship

Combining scores for both finishing place and participation in *Laser* races at ABYC, we crown **Vann Wilson** as our 2009 ABYC *Laser* Fleet Champion. This honor means Vann has the opportunity to represent the ABYC *Laser* Fleet and race in the 2010 ABYC Club Championship Regatta and vie for the coveted yard parking space. Following Vann with the second highest point total is **Cameron Summers** who has the opportunity to join Vann and represent the *Laser* Fleet and race in the 2010 Club Championship Regatta. Rounding out the top five scoring racers in the fleet champion chase are; **Garrett Brown, Chris Raab** and **Jay Golison**.

In our *Laser Radial* fleet, the top scoring racer is **Jack Jorgensen** followed by **Nicholas Odegard**; however, the Radial fleet was just short of turning out enough racers to qualify for the Club Championship this year. Congratulations to all!

The ABYC *Laser* Fleet Champion is determined by totaling points for finishing place and participation in ABYC races, including participation as a race volunteer in the fleet's yearly hosted regatta. We have a full schedule of races for both Full-Rig and *Radials* scheduled in 2010, including the *Laser* Masters North American Championship, so competition for the 2010 championship will prove tough indeed. Come join us for great competition and camaraderie!

Long Beach Yacht Club Hosting Laser Races in Alamitos Bay

A new development for the winter season is a series of *Laser* Fun Races hosted by Long Beach Yacht Club (LBYC). The races are held once per month with the next races set for Sunday December 20 starting at 1:00PM. There is a five dollar (\$5) entry fee which includes hot soup afterwards at LBYC.

There was a nice turn out of ABYC *Laser* racers for the inaugural event in November, so this series can be a nice way for both beginning and experienced *Laser* sailors to polish their boat handling skills in the off season.

For more information and to sign-up for the December races, contact Whit Batchelor LBYC Sailing Director (562) 598-9401 Ext. 115 jrsailing@lbyc.org Cell: (619) 813-9759

Steven Smith, ABYC Laser Fleet Co-Captain

*Rich Roberts photos
underthesunphotos.com*



The Fleet to be in!

The Cal 20 Fleet Halloween Regatta was a huge success!!!! Many said it was like a "Mini Nationals!" Fifteen Boats showed up to the line on this light and breezy day. Skippers brought wives, sons, and daughters to race and enjoy the Halloween Regatta. **Lee Smith** clad his Black Sou' Wester while **Mike Schoettle** and **Russ Barto** wore mustache disguises and safari hats. It was kinda spooky on the water with the wind and two postponements, we wondered when we start??? But the warm October stillness picked up and we were all off the line before too long. As the day wore on, the wind began to build race after race. Due to such a large Cal 20 turnout, trophies went five deep. The Halloween Regatta Champions were: First Place, **Mike Van Dyke/Jared Morford**, Second Place, **Mike Wood/Ron Wood**, Third Place, **Keith Ives/Chuck Stevens**, Fourth Place, **Stu Robertson/Russell Robertson**, and Fifth Place, **Dan Bates**

The Cal 20 Fleet hosted the General Meeting November 20th. Russ Boudreau, Principal Coastal Engineer Moffatt & Nichol gave a very interesting, colorful and controversial presentation on the reconfiguration of the Breakwater. The General Meeting was so well attended; we had over 100 members that we almost ran out of food. Enriques Restaurant catered a delicious Mexican Buffet for everyone.

The Turkey Day Regatta began with light rain; many people said this could be Portland or Seattle, reminiscent of November Pacific Northwest morning. As the day wore on the skies cleared and made way for a fluky light-air day. A record nineteen boats showed up to the line for a fantastic Cal 20 turnout, the best in many years!!! The tension and competition was fierce, certainly as exciting as any "Nationals", with three races on Saturday and an additional three races on Sunday. The excitement built as we closed in on the last two races on Sunday, **The Ives/Stevens Team** looked like they might have it wrapped up with three bullets, but things shifted a bit, and **Team Flam, Barney** and **Steve** battled it out

to win the Regatta. This Regatta was filled with much sentiment and emotion for **Barney** and **Steve** who raced this one for **Evelyn**, who passed away recently. It was a First Place Finish for a first place wife, mother, grandmother and Cal 20 Sailor, we are grateful for all she has done for the Flam Family and our ABYC Family!!!



Barney and Steve sailing for their favorite Cal 20 sailor

...continued next page

hails from the fleets

...from page 14

The Cal 20 Turkey Day Trophies went five deep. The Champions were: First place, **Barney/Steve Flam**, (receiving both, The Arkie Hauck Cal 20 Perpetual and the Traditional Turkey Trophy), Second Place, **Keith Ives/ Chuck Stevens**, Third Place, **Stuart Robertson/Russell Robertson**, Fourth Place, **Scott Birnberg/ Randy Smith** and **Murphy Birnberg**, Fifth Place, **Mike Wood/Ron Wood**.

The Cal 20 Fun Run will be Saturday, December 12th with our holiday party immediately following.

December 26th we will be back out there for Boxing Day!!!

Patty Nash, Fleet Captain



Robin and Mark Townsend rounding the weather mark



Chuck Clay looking intense rounding the weather mark



KEEL BOAT FLEET ON WATCH

The November meeting was terrific and a record crowd came with their funny hats to ward off the evil spirits of Friday the 13th. Micky Beland took home the grand prize for a great 'Jester' hat. Joe Riddick had a super film on the Wedge at Newport Jetty this past July with waves around 15 feet and breaking very close to the beach. As the surfers say 'awesome'!

The up coming Christmas party's games were on the agenda as was the reminder to bring hors d'oeuvres suitable for the evening. The date of the Christmas party is Friday, December 11th and Bob Chubb will send out his blue reminder cards several days before and I will also send an e-mail reminder if I have your e-mail address.

It is our fleet's turn to be on the serving line for the dinner at the ABYC general meeting in January. If you can volunteer for the dinner serving line contact Joe Riddick or Judy Mathias. Chris Ericksen will give his narration of the history and geography of Alamitos Bay. If you have never listened to Chris talk about this subject you are in for a great evening.

Friday, January 8th, is our next Keel Boat Fleet meeting. The dinner at the meeting will be our usual potluck. Bring enough for 8 and a serving utensil.

Evelyn Flam was one of those special persons that light up your life. We will all miss her. I did drop off the "Cal 20" cards that were signed last meeting and I am sure Barney, Steve and family appreciate your thoughts.

George C.



The month of November saw the Senior Sabots back out in the light and but enjoyable winds for their monthly fleet race. Three races brought a fabulous first place to Mary Riddick. John Ellis was right behind her with a second place. Many thanks go to our RC, Steve Kuritz, and his mighty crew consisting of Jinx Ellis and Isabelle Lounsberry, (thanks to the last minute rescue Isabelle!) After the races, dinner was provided by the ever inspiring ABYC Chef, Jesus, delicious beef stew, salad, plus some lemon bars were enjoyed. Sheila Eberly was thanked for her year of service as Fleet Captain and was appreciated with a gift card to West Marine. "a little something for the sabot" THANKS, Sheila!

Plans are in place for the Sabot/Keelboat fleet Christmas Party to be held on December 11th. Friends and prospective sabot members are invited to come on down to the club and see why sabot sailing as an adult of ANY age is just plain FUN! Congratulations 1st Place SCWSA Men's Division winner Lee Berlinger

2nd Place SCWSA Men's Division winner Fred Stevens

5th Place SCWSA Men's Division winner John Ellis!

Dianne Gonzales



Alamitos Bay Yacht Club

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more turkey day

Rich Roberts photos
underthesunphotos.com
Ed Spotskey photo boat captain



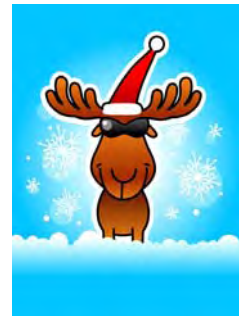
Carolyn Smith of Newport Harbor YC dominated the Sabot A fleet



J.P. Barnes and Kristen Stipanov finished fifth in the 29ers

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Sunday, December 13 at 4:00 pm



- *Gifts for the Children*
- *Pictures with Santa*
- *Your favorite Christmas Carol Sing-a-long*
- *Crafts and fun for kids of all ages and*
- *Real Prime Rib & Turkey dinner*

**In order for your child to receive a gift from Santa, you must RSVP by December 9.
Call the front desk at (562) 434-9955**

Adults \$18 & Children under 12 are \$8

**For those that RSVP after the 9th or show up at the door, the cost will be
\$25 for Adults and \$15 for Children**