



sabot junior nationals

Rob Rice photos

Connor Kelter from Newport Harbor Yacht Club is the new Naples Sabot Junior Champion crowned after four days of very competitive racing in Alamitos Bay. Kate Rakelly of Mission Bay Yacht Club took home a handful of awards finishing second overall, winning first female, winning the Flight Selection Series and will also have her name etched onto the Hal Brown perpetual for the lowest combined score during the event (with no throw out) counting all races sailed in the elimination and championships series.

ABYC was well represented by placing eight sailors in the Gold fleet and we had two of our finest score in the top ten. Robert Rice finished 5th and Riley Gibbs was 6th overall including an impressive first place finish in race two. Other Gold fleet sailors from ABYC were Marissa Golison, Melissa Shadden, Jacob Rosenberg, Brian MacLean, Sawyer Gibbs and Steven Hopkins. Please see Junior Director Brad Schaupter's detailed report on how all of our sailors fared.



Every four years ABYC hosts this incredibly large event and planning began last year during the 2008 championships at Mission Bay. Hosting 188 sailors and their families is nothing new for ABYC, but each regatta has its' own set of challenges in coordinating so many moving parts that the logistics can appear a bit daunting, this regatta proved no exception. Jon Robinson and I agreed last summer to co-chair the event and we divided our responsibilities at the waterline – Jon managed everything on the water and I took on the shore side of things. Each separate team conducted planning meetings to gear up and “walk through” the event. Great ideas were offered and all were implemented... We are both extremely pleased with how the event was received and the hours of planning spread out over many months of meetings, phone calls and emails resulted in an unqualified success – clearly due to the true heroes of this event, the ABYC volunteers!



It is difficult to describe in words how proud I am of ABYC, our staff and our incredible volunteers. This regatta is all about the sailors and I have yet to hear any complaints from them, only glowing praise. The compliments and enthusiastic thanks our volunteers received all week long have spilled over into the aftermath and kudos to all involved for an impressive effort on

all fronts. With nearly 100 volunteers (children and adults) the ratio of one support person to every two sailors was a perfect match to balance all of the details and every individual volunteer made huge contributions –all were polite, helpful and eager to please. I should also note that we had the help of many non-ABYC members from other clubs who graciously

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save the date

Family Movie Night	September 4
Labor Day Regatta	September 5-6
Formula 18 Nationals	September 8-13
Annual Meeting & Election	September 18
Adopt-A-Beach	September 19
Charity Regatta	September 27
Stag Cruise	October 2-4
I-14 Nationals	October 2-4
Scoring 101	October 10
Long Beach Marathon	October 11

commodore's comments



September! The best month of the year! Warm and beautiful are the words that come to mind. The kids are going back to school and there are many new beginnings. Hey kids (if you are reading this and find it interesting!) have a great time in school and remember these are very special times in your lives. Enjoy every minute of it and don't ever forget about your summer at ABYC! We made every effort to make your experience both informative and fun. Sorry, but your turn will be here in 20+ years!

August was very momentous! I am just going to mention the biggest events: Catalina Island Cruise and Sabot Nationals.

The Catalina Island Cruise was another wonderful event. Very well attended and the participation was outstanding. Pat McCormick and Mary Montz went all out. I am not going to mention the crew because I fear leaving out somebody's name. Meals and happy hours were a culinary delight complete with a *Hors d'oeuvres* (yes I checked the spelling!) contest and I must say all of the treats were wonderful (no, I am not being political!) The Kids had games ashore and I understand they ran amok and had a wonderful time. The adults had Cocktail parties sponsored by none other than our favorites: Nicole Peoples Moffat (Stacie Conn, too!) and Tom Ramsey. Beautiful boats with a flair for hospitality! We received a first class tour of the USC (go Trojans!) Wrigley Marine Facility, including a class on micro biology, a class on the hyperbolic chamber, a marine biology 101 class, and a small visit from a buffalo! When all is said and done; how can you beat that? Don't try! Make sure you are there next year! Pat McCormick is again in charge!

Sabot Nationals went off with a bang! Thanks Jeff Merrill and Jon Robinson. Superstars! I could go on and on, but just let me say this; planning and implementation were second to none. When I say the Club is in great hands when these guys are part of the team, I mean it. Here is another thing that I was very happy to see; a whole new crop of fresh, super capable, volunteers springing up. I think a whole new group of families and individuals saw how much fun it is to run a regatta! A bunch of Moms and Dads were present to participate in one of the premier events of the season and they liked it! We have opened a new chapter in the book of ABYC and it is a good read! Go ABYC!

September has a lot of things going on! All the usual (there is always something interesting going on) but including Labor Day Regatta, Formula 18 Nationals, and our annual meeting where the new board members are announced and you get a presentation of our financial strengths. Please make sure to vote for your board members. They need your support and you need very strong people in these positions.

September marks an interesting time for me. It is the last full month of my Commodore year! Let's make it the best one!

Do not ever forget; Go ABYC!

Merle

manager's corner



Saturday August 22, 2009, just after 9:00am, dark sky threatening a summer rain, and the club, for the first time in months is quiet.

With the Junior Summer Program over and the hugely successful Sabot Jr. Nationals wrapped up, you can almost hear the club take a sigh of relief. A glance at the August calendar really tells the story of just how busy we've been this summer. Out of the thirty-one days, there was something going on at the club for twenty-six of those days.

The staff and I now dive into the task of getting the club ready for the next wave of Regatta's, meetings, parties and of course, the holidays.

The good news is, abyc IS that busy. In a day when private clubs are struggling to maintain, much less grow membership, abyc is healthy, solvent and holding its own in the toughest economy many of us have ever seen.

Things are not quite as cheery in the golf side of private club management. As a member of Club Managers Association of America, I receive several periodicals lamenting the challenge to keep the doors open of several exclusive country clubs. Dwindling membership, increased dues and raising cost have forced some clubs to open their doors to the public. A move that certainly has the attention of the members in good standing that joined private clubs for that exact reason. NO Public. Quite a dilemma, with fewer members playing less golf (CEO's and VP's actually had to go back to work) clubs are forced to look at alternative revenue streams. Opening the doors to public play on selective days is one option being reviewed. The jury is still out on the effectiveness of that move.

So...don't be mistaken, when I talk about how busy this club is, that's a GOOD thing.

August 9th marked my third anniversary of employment here at abyc. Where that time is gone is anybody's guess, but I will tell you, I've enjoyed every moment of my short tenure at this fabulous club. No, I still don't sail, don't fully

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comprehend Regatta scoring, and the language of sailing is still...well foreign. Unfortunately there is not a "Rosetta Stone" for sailing lingo I could get my hands on. But hopefully in the three years, I've listened, and learned to what's important to you, our cherished members.

Our goal has been, and will continue to be to always have the club be in the best possible condition, have all the equipment in the best working order, present decent affordable food, create a safe, family oriented environment and treat every member with the utmost respect.

Thanks for a great three years; I look forward to several more.

Sail on Sail on Sailors.

Kelly Whitlow

vice commodore's notes



For this article, if I were to launch into one of my depressing grouchy monologues, I would be denying all of you and myself the opportunity to acknowledge the grand success of the second week of August activities here at ABYC.

One of the pleasures of going through the Flags at ABYC, is the on going contact with the marvelous cadre of volunteers that make things happen at our club. My most recent experiences were the Junior Sabot Nationals and the Family Cruise. Were I to attempt to describe the efforts of each volunteer, this column would read like a Thesaurus of superlatives. But none of these adjectives could accurately describe the under current of enthusiasm prevailing in these events.

This is the whole idea of why a club such as ours exists. It truly is the coming together of folks that have a common love which in our case is sailing. We all know of, and in some cases, are members of clubs and organizations that display far more polish and circumstance than ABYC. But I think one would be hard pressed to find such a gang that is so willing to help one another, be it pulling boats out of the water, busing our own tables, or to even stop to reach down to pick up a piece of trash in the yard while cold and in some cases dripping wet on their way to a warm shower.

ABYC's business year runs from October to October and we are on the eve of elections for the new year. These candidates are willing to volunteer their time to the club. That said, there are many, many others, behind the scenes who, when asked, step forward, to turn a hand for the sake of this club. I genuine believe this ethic of helping one another harkens back to the early years when we still launched off the sand at the other end of the bay. We all turned to, at the call, to launch or retrieve heavy wooden boats on sand dollies. That's how we got to go sailing. Though boats have changed, for the most part, from wood to fiberglass and the sand dollies have given away to cranes or launch ramps, the underlying and cohesive current of volunteering has stood the passage of time, and holds true to this day.

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In these paragraphs, the path on which I want to lead you is for you to look about you and see all the the things we do in our club, and be prepared to include yourself in the fun. A renewed thrust in racing is on the horizon. Over the past few years, events and other tasks have been planned and executed by groups often referred to as the "Old Guard" or "Usual Gang of Suspects". These members are the kernel of the diverse knowledge that exists in our club. They will be the instructors for a new swell of volunteers that will keep ABYC as the sharp tip of the sword in the management of small one design sailboat racing. And we are going to be busy doing it. There will be so much schooling you must take care not to drop your pencil lest you miss something. Classes will be initiated so each of us can develop skills: Scoring, Timers, Flags, Judges, Principal Race Officers (PRO's). Classes will be conducted off the water in Regatta Management, Computer Registration, Care and Feeding of Equipment as well as Contestants. On the water classes in Mark Set Boat Operations and Driver Training. The Chairman of Race Management will be Mark Townsend.

For events ashore, we are expanding the Social Action Committee headed by Sue McDannell. In the past years, Sue has actively or passively been involved in each of the major social productions. Added this coming year, will be member assignments to designated chairs for specific events. And, somehow, in the midst of all this, a musical jam session gang will surface, and we are starting with ukuleles. This will be a fun year!

John Massey

rearview



Summer is setting and we're back to school – but what a fun run we have had and the good part about living in So. Cal. is that summer weather is here year round interrupted by the occasional cold front or rain pelting, so keep those warm thoughts baking and come down to go sailing at least once every month...why? Because you can!

In between business trips to China and Florida I was involved as co-chair in a pretty cool sailing regatta hosted by our club. Like the swallows returning to Capistrano, the Naples Sabots return to Alamitos Bay (every four years, and more Olympic in proportions) and this summer it was our turn to host the junior national championships. If you came down during the event you know how busy we were and you also know how great ABYC performed. We had the entire event orchestrated and planned so that the nearly 200 families who participated all had a great time and the sailors were treated to ABYC's legendary race committee work out on the water. A big THANK YOU to all of the

volunteers- an average of one volunteer for every two sailors (see more coverage in other parts of the Sou'Wester). Jon Robinson and I will be sponsoring a "thank you dessert" after the heavy appetizers on Friday night September 25th – come on down for a slide show recap and then stay for CLUB ABYC where Flight 6875 will rock you into the night.

The Isthmus Family Cruise was a great success, again and we are just finalizing dates for next summer. This event is gaining momentum and a BIG thank to Mary Montz and Pat McCormick for putting this on. Everyone had a great time. See more details and photos elsewhere in this issue.

Family Movie Night continues to dazzle kids of all ages and last months feature, our first Blue Ray promotion was "Bee Movie". The picture and sound are incredible and if we weren't imagining things there are dozens of confirmed reports of a costumed adult in Bee attire, perhaps looking for his honey? "Cars" will have already played by the time this S'W edition posts and for October we have "Finding Nemo" (anyone going to wear a clown fish costume?) then we will have our final showing of the year in November with the sailing film "Morning Light". Lots of families are making FMN a great excuse to come down to the club, get a bite, grab a cold one and then flake out on the couches and enjoy a feature with all of the comforts of home and with all of your sailing pals. If you haven't attended, give it a shot. The kids are enthralled and content, no running around outside – parents can watch or mingle quietly in the bar, and everyone has been fantastic with clean up at the end of the show- within minutes the floor is swept, the trash is cleaned out and we all head home thinking about what we're going to have for breakfast at the galley on Saturday morning.



Labor Day regatta is happening after we go to press, but I can report that the Pirates of the Peninsula Saturday night dinner and extravaganza planning has been extraordinary! You cannot walk into the club or go to the bathroom without seeing the very clever promotions prepared by Lori van Skyhock – she even attended the August ABYC general membership meeting in pirate wear to promote the Saturday pirate theme dinner. There was a pirate piñata hanging in the bar and even commodore Asper was into being a scurvy buccaneer wearing a pirate hat and gold ear ring as he conducted the meeting.

The Social Advisory Committee is having our first ever "Annual Planning Meeting" on September 23rd to outline the chairpersons for the events in 2010 and get our volunteer promotional machine cranked up. We will be pricing the events and a heavy emphasis will be on "training" members to make reservations in advance so that we can better plan with table set up, food purchasing, etc. If you would like to know more please call me or Sue McDannel and we invite anyone who is interested to attend the September meeting we have plenty of fun parties to plan and are always looking for more people to participate with the SAC (Social Advisory Committee).

Come on down and enjoy ABYC, maybe that Indian summer thing will give us a few more July weekends? See you at the club!

Jeff Merrill, Mobile 949.355.4950

fleet captain's log



Summer is coming to a close and the Twilights are ending. The never say die Lido's will continue to the end of September, with a fun cruise of the bay called Lido de Luna. This event is a fun event and we will have towboats available if the wind is uncooperative.

The Multihull regatta, which was held on July 25, & 26 was a complete success. We hosted 31 boats in four classes. A burger bash was held on Saturday night and every one seemed to have a lot of fun. ABYC dominated the regatta winning 3 of the four classes (we did not compete in one class). Congratulations go to Pete Melvin, Craig Yandow and Jeff Newsome for winning the F-18, A Cat, and Hobie 16 classes respectively.

August 10 – 13 ABYC hosted the Naples Sabot Junior Championship. Jeff Merrill and I were the co-chairs for this regatta and it was a big one. We had 189 junior sailors enter with 187 sailing the regatta. On Monday August 10, 140 sailors sailed against each other for some 94 spots in the championship. At the end of that day 46 pre-qualified sailors and the 94 who made the qualification moved on to the Flight Selection round. Upon completion of the second day the sailors were divided into Gold, Silver, Bronze, and Iron fleets. The third and fourth days the sailors sailed for honors in their respective fleets. Connor Keltor from NHYC won Gold. Kate Rakelly from MBYC was best girl finishing in second place only 4 points out of first place. Robert Rice finished 5th place and Riley Gibbs in 6th place both of ABYC in the trophies. In silver fleet Savannah Robinson won the 5th place trophy. This has been one of ABYC's best championship regattas with many of our younger sailors in the Trophies and also many high up in the standings in their respective fleets. Congratulations to all.

Those who do not qualify were immediately entered in the Cove Cup Regatta. The Cove Cup is a series of 3 one-day regattas with trophies for each day. In the past this has been a fun event in which the kids really liked. This year the kids took this regatta to a new level. I have never seen such energy on the start line. ABYC took high honors in each of the one-day regattas. On Tuesday Dana Boudreau took first with Alan Peoples in second place. On Wednesday Bradley Clinton took first and Dana Boudreau took third. On Thursday Dana Boudreau took second, Bradley Clinton took fourth and Alan Peoples took fifth. These are our up and coming sailors and our future. Congratulations to all you who sailed in these regattas.

I would like to thank my co-chair Jeff Merrill and all of the over 100 volunteers that help make this regatta one of the best Junior Sabot Championships that we have had in memorable history. ABYC really was able to shine with great volunteers, innovative organizational concepts, great meals and fun activities for the kids. We received rave reviews for this event and it will be the template for future championships. I would like to thank all of the membership of ABYC who with our which we could not put on a regatta of this magnitude and their consideration and patience with our juniors.

We are looking forward to Labor Day regatta, which over the years has become the second largest ABYC regatta. The racing will be intense as well as the fun at the pirate event. This will be a huge event and you can look forward to many of the pirates from ABYC to come out for the party.

The weekend after Labor Day regatta is the F-18 North Americans. There will be approximately 20-30 F-18 multihulls. This will be a great event, do come join in the fun.

The fleet is generally in good shape. We are working the whalers as they always need some TLC but this is normal for a fleet as large as ours. Whaler 5 is now in the water and is used extensively in the Junior Naples Sabot Championships and she performed perfectly. Whaler 2 is next on the addenda and hopefully be in the water for Turkey Day. Patience is just purrrrrrring along. We are in the middle of our on season for regattas and summer program and the boats are holding up well.

I would like to take this chance to thank the Alamitos Bay Yacht Club membership for the opportunity to be apart of the board of directors. The opportunity to work with the Juniors my first year on the board and as your Fleet Captain this past year. This has been an honor and privilege. I hope to continue serving you. Thank You.

There is a lot going on. Come down to the club and Join in the fun.

See you around the Club

Jon Robinson

patience is rescued

Many thanks to Chris Peoples for solving the electrical problems on Patience. The inverter went belly up during L.B. Race Week and it was great to have Chris fix the problem as it avoided a costly replacement. Chris also rigged a temporary loud speaker system as Patience was used as a Protest room during the Junior Sabot Nationals.

Many thanks,

Vern and George

computer scoring

Come learn how to score sailboat races. If you have wanted to be involved but not found your niche yet, Whalers too wet, Patience rolls too much, then you need to learn how to computer score sailboat races. Mark your calendar October 10th from 9am to 11am
Mark Townsend



from the pages of history

The ABYC summer junior program is the focus of our club in midsummer, and has been for over a generation; in fact, several generations of members have participated in one way or another. And the summer junior program is the tie that binds together SOU'WESTER's past and present.

THIRTY YEARS AGO:

Todd Merrill and Karen Gregory were the head instructors for ABYC's summer junior program in 1979, and a photograph of the two of them graced the cover of the September SOU'WESTER for that year. In his article inside the newsletter, Todd said that he and Karen "had such a good time we can hardly believe where the summer has gone." In addition to weekly races and the regular on-the-water instruction, the program that summer included field trips to North Sails, Sails by Watts and Phoenix Boat Works.

Even after the junior program was done, ABYC was an incredibly busy place. In his "Commodore's Comments," David Crockett reported on two major events held back-to-back at ABYC in August, two weeks' worth of International 14 racing (both the International Team Racing Championship and the first-ever World Championship Regatta) and the Sabot Junior Nationals. Dave reported that "the competitors went away raving about the hospitality, weather and racing" at the I-14 events and that 155 kids at the Sabot regatta made this a "major undertaking" but that "ABYC's staff and volunteers were up to the job."

Dave's comments on this bear repeating in full, for they are as true today as they were three decades ago. "I wish more of our members could be around and see how much enjoyment these competitors from so many varied areas receive from being associated with an event at our club," he wrote. "It makes all the work worthwhile. The I-14 trophy presentations were a perfect example: the warmth and camaraderie displayed between the competitors, and their obvious appreciation of their hosts, our committee people and our members was very gratifying."

The good news was tempered by a report on the passing of Richard L. Russell, who served three separate terms as ABYC Commodore (in 1936, 1940 and 1953). At the time of his death he was Fleet Captain of Coronado 25 Fleet Three, and a two-page tribute from the fleet was printed. Also reported was the retirement of Helen Potter, who retired from the ABYC office after thirteen years of service.

John Shadden, then ABYC Snipe fleet champion, won the Snipe Junior Nationals in Florida while Mike Segerblom finished fifth; Grant Hill "wound up with a broken mast and a lot of free time". Keith Dodson won the Senior Sabot Fleet Championship ahead of Tom Newton, Jr.; third-place Betsy Ogilby won the Ed Phillips Trophy for best finish of a sailor over 40...the annual Installation Dinner would feature a "sit-down" dinner of butterflied chicken breast in sherry sauce, mushroom caps, rice, in-season vegetables, salad and dessert, all for \$12.00 per person...

TWENTY YEARS AGO:

"ABYC's Class of '89"—well, some of them, anyway—were pictured on the cover of the SOU'WESTER for September, 1989. Jim Otis was chief instructor, and it looks like he was joined by Mark Barnard, Stacy Conn, Jonathan Greening and Scott Muench as instructors; not all the kids on the cover were identifiable—at least I didn't remember them all—but I did pick out Christian Kofahl making a face as the photo was taken. There were more photos inside but no article, although Commodore Mike McMahon mentioned the awards dinner in his "Commodore's Comments."

ABYC's annual Men's Day was run for the first time as a club event (before it had been run by the Sabotiers) and was a great success under the direction of Laura Caley. The theme was "OZ Plus 50," as the date was almost exactly fifty years to the day of the release of the film, "The Wizard of OZ." In keeping with the theme, the ABYC lobby featured a tornado and a "Surrender, Sailors" sign near a yellow-brick road, all the handiwork of Claudia Dodson; dinner was a "Kansas-style meal of pot roast and potatoes, corn and corn bread, salad and (of course) apple pie." The skit featured the usual characters (although the Wicked Witch of the West was a real-estate salesperson, if memory serves) and a surprise ending: instead of portraying Dorothy, Rear Commodore Dick Caley appeared as "Lady of the Bay" in the guise of Auntie Em.

The ABYC Etchells Fleet—and members Ed Feo, Jr., and Pat McCormick, in particular—had a busy and successful summer: the duo won the 1989 Etchells PCC's at ABYC with Jeff Merrill as crew, and the trio matched up again to be the top-finishing ABYC Etchells team at the 1989 Etchells Worlds in San Diego, placing 13th out of 57 boats. Chuck Kober also participated in the Worlds, with son Booeey and Steve Moffet as crew; sprinkled among the boats were ABYC members Stan Gibbs, John Weiss and Steven and Ron Rosenberg, the latter crewing on the winning boat helmed by Larry Klein.

Reported was the passing in August of Staff Commodore C. Roy Conn; a memorial service had been held at ABYC, and the family asked that donations be made in his name to the City of Hope or to the ABYC Patience Fund...the annual Lido fleet birthday dinner was held, and the usual "Funny Trophies" were passed out; Chris Ericksen was awarded the "Foot in the Mouth" trophy "for some obscure (but probably deserved) reason" while Stu Robertson was declared the "Scourge of the Bay"—or "S.O.B."—"on general principle"...Ann Exley, in her "From the Pages of History" column, reported on a meeting for "younger members of ABYC" and the election of a "rear commodore in charge of junior activities" to be held on August 24, 1934; "And so the first Junior Program at ABYC got under way," she concluded...

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TEN YEARS AGO:

The cover photo for the September, 1999, SOU'WESTER featured nine of the ten ABYC Juniors who qualified for the Sabot Junior Championship finals; they included Derek Belisle, Sean Belisle, Graham Bell, Daniel Henry, Alden Knowles, Gavin Knowles, Christopher McNaboe, Sarah McNaboe and Freddie Stevens (Dustin Delgado also qualified but missed the photo). The inside story reported that Freddy did best among the ABYC contingent, finishing 17th in the Gold Flight. Another winner was Andrew McDade, who was awarded the Jessica Uniack Memorial Sportsmanship Trophy, and was pictured with past winners (and cousins) Allison and Mara Bell.

ABYC Juniors were lauded for other events as well. Freddy Stevens with Jamie DeWolfe won the Lido Junior Nationals while Jon and Graham Bell, Stephen Swank with Chris Clevenger and Geoff Bateman with Andrew McDade rounded out the ABYC contingent at that regatta. Payson Infelise was on fire in the CFJ class, winning the Junior Olympics at California Yacht Club with Christina Feo as crew; he also sailed the CFJ Nationals at Southwestern YC with Bernadette McKeever as crew, but his finishing place was not reported.

Chuck Kober and John Weiss were leading the Etchells Fleet Championship Series in 1999, with Doug Jorgensen and Bryan Warren hard on their heels; the Larry Harvey/Stan Gibbs and Tim Carter/Chris Ericksen teams were tied for third place in the high-point standings. The fleet also hosted the 1999 Etchells PCC's in August, which was after the SOU'WESTER deadline but before publication; Latham Bell had been slated to serve as PRO and Marc Schryer as Chief Judge, interestingly enough

ABYC also hosted the NACRA 5.8 and Prindle 19 NA's as a joint regatta that summer, with Barney and Steve Flam serving as PRO's, and the Cal 20 Class Championship, wherein Barney and Steve served as co-chairmen with Mark Townsend as PRO...several ABYC teams went to Mission Bay for the Snipe Nationals; of particular note was the winning of the Wells Trophy for the consolation division by the team of Keith, Caley and Cory Dodson in "The Old Gray Mare"...the ABYC Board announced a membership drive running from September through November, 1999; the membership-transfer fee would be waived for Regular Memberships during that time.

Chris Ericksen, Club Historian

membership meeting

Proving that ABYC sailors are not one dimensional, Alex Vaught, instructor for the Junior Sailing program, and junior member, totally engaged the audience at the August General Membership meeting. In his presentation Alex (affectionately known by his many of his friends as "Cubby") relayed his experience hiking 300 miles of the Pacific Crest Trail in 34 days. In addition to the scenic slides shown, he also brought the equipment he took in his quest to be "light and fast!"

Alex encouraged ABYC members to get out there and try a trek such as he did because, "After the first week it is really easy." And, he observed, "It really makes you think about how little you need to survive, and what's really important in life." ABYC is very proud that we have such outstanding young members!

Sue McDannel

Sue McDannel photo



Alex (Cubby) Vaught presents at the August membership meeting.

abyc transpackers

A number of ABYC members were part of this year's TRANSPAC RACE to Hawaii. The highest finishing boat with ABYC members was OEX that was crewed by Randy Smith, Peter Frazier, Bobby Frazier, Doug McLean, and Chuck Clay. Other ABYC members racing were Eric Chadwick (J WORLD); Scott Atwood (MIGHTY TONGAROA); Eric Conn (ROY'S CHASCH MER, winner of the first Hawaiian boat trophy); Steve Moffett and Pat Mc Cormick (FREE RANGE CHICKEN); Mike Van Dyke (MAGNITUDE); Tom Corkett (MIRAGE); Dave Johnson, Eric Mc Clure, John Latiolait, Gabe Ferramola and Dave Robertson (PARANOIA); Bob Lane, Keith Ives, and Jarred Morford (MEDICINE MAN, winner of the Unlimited Division).

Helping with the race management of TRANSPAC were Jerry Montgomery who helped on the Race Committee signal boat for the start and was on the Protest Committee in Honolulu and Mark Townsend, Robin Townsend, Jon Lounsberry and Chuck Hardin who brought one of the ABYC whalers to the start area and served as Course Marshall helping to keep the spectator boats clear of the start area.

This year's race established a new elapsed time record with the 100 foot ALFA ROMEO slicing more than a day off the record and two TP 52s (SAMBA PA TI and FLASH) coming in first and second in corrected time.

Question: Is the weather changing or are boats getting faster?

Jerry Montgomery

pitched in and instantly bonded with the rest of our team. All of this contributed to keep the ABYC brand flying high and mighty from the top of our yard arm. More than once I was told this was the best Sabot Nationals that particular person had ever attended. Jon and I will highlight our volunteers in a separate article.

Several new and many old ideas were put into play that really helped keep the event running smoothly. Starting with online registration using Regatta Network, a comprehensive set of instructions was posted on our website with everything from the expected SI's and NOR to a regatta store front for ordering lunches, dinners and merchandise, to a hospitality guide of local businesses. All of these documents are archived and available for future event organizers to study and improve upon.



Our "patented" meet and greet street hand out of parking passes and reserved parking lot for volunteers helped set the tone each morning as sailors, parents, coaches and volunteers arrived. Vehicles towing trailers unhitched outside the gate – no cars were allowed in the yard. We encouraged all arriving sailors to store their sabots on their trailer overnight and most sailors brought their own dollies. No sabots were allowed to "sleep" in the keel boat or dinghy yard. Our parking lot was littered with 8' prams and we squeezed them all in with plenty of elbow room for each contestant to rig.

The volunteer desk outside the front office ran like clockwork – questions were answered, directions provided and each volunteer was welcomed and assignments for the day confirmed. Judges and other VIPs were presented an "adult goody bag" as thanks for their efforts.

The Quarterdeck (directions guided by red arrows taped to the walkway) was set up with an impressive traffic flow and skirted tables befitting an event of this stature which really dressed up the room (including a display of all of the perpetual trophies being sailed for so that the sailors could whet their appetites). We had incredible signage around to reduce confusion and help sailors and their parents navigate easily through our check-in procedures. Sailors could only gain admittance to Registration with a completed measurement form and our measurement crew was set up by the sea wall with their own check-in table to help each contestant swiftly complete any outstanding measurement details that needed to be signed off. Once admitted to Registration each sailor had their name, sail number and yacht club confirmed and were handed a sign off form to indicate that they successfully completed each step of the process. (Good training for responsibility and accountability and we did not have any after the fact requests for missing out on something). Entry verification, goody bag distribution (great stuff), race packets (SI's with course chart in a Ziploc, etc.), INSA questions and sales, merchandise orders (hats, t-shirts and sweatshirts), lunch and dinner orders, etc. were all stations each sailor signed off on and once "official" a regatta wrist band was attached and it was time to enjoy the sailing.



The measurement team had a perfectly executed flow with multiple stations to check each piece of equipment and parents were amazed with our precision in handling so many sailors so quickly.

All coaches were required to register in advance and we limited each yacht club to one coach boat. Each coach boat had to be staffed by coaches from more than one yacht club.



We had an official photographer boat and showed the day's racing photos in slide show format at the end of the day.

The yellow "No Cars beyond this point" line was re-dubbed the "No Parent Zone" and only wrist banded volunteers and competitors were given access during launching and haul out. Each yacht club color coded their dollies and they were stacked in groups by yacht club near the ramp.

Out on the water we had a "penned" off area for the racers and this boundary kept the coaches off the course (essentially a "no-coaching zone" in the racing waters). We had course marshals in whalers to guide non-race traffic around the course and no outside boats interfered with the racers.

All ABYC club support boats were clean and ready for action, no small feat when you consider the summer junior program ended Friday and we started set up on Saturday. Marks, anchors, and all other important regatta equipment was prepared and in fine working order.

...continued next page

more junior sabot nationals

...from page 8

We borrowed a large floating dock from the City of Long Beach which was tied off the stern of Chamois anchored between the two finish lines and the top 5 sailors had to check in for equipment inspection and any sailors wishing to file protests filled out the forms on the water with the guidance of an official judge so that no shore side "influence" could be inserted into the proceedings.

There were two finish lines and a four mark course so that we could run two sets of races consecutively with minimum overlap of racers from the different fleets. Each finish line had two anchored scoring boats to insure we jotted down every sail number as sailors completed each race.



When sailors returned to the basin at the end of each day they were met by a traffic controller in a whaler anchored 20 yards from the ramp who sent each new arrival to one end of the docks and this made sure there was no "cutting" and that sailors were pulled out in the order they returned. Upon landing at the dock a volunteer grabbed the painter and instructed the racer to remove their rudder, then each racer handled the painter of the sailor following them in line as sabots filtered to the ramp in a smooth, orderly process. Dollies were delivered to the ramp per request by the sailor's yacht club and volunteers helped them pull out and roll up the ramp. (One day we hauled all sailors out of the water in under 30 minutes!).

We were under "water rationing" measures which meant you could only use a handful of hoses and they were manned by volunteers. Off limits hose bibs were capped off and we filled huge clean tubs with fresh water for dunking of rudders and leeboards.

Sailors were instructed to return their flight ribbons to the volunteer snack table by the large hoist and exchanged that days ribbon for a post race snack – ice cream, root beer floats, etc. This "bribe" was incredibly successful in keeping our ribbon supply intact.

Our sail measurement tables were moved out to the yellow line on the tarmac so that retuning racers could roll their sails on a dry surface at a comfortable height which saved the lawn and keep the traffic flow moving.

We also set up a Nurse/First Aid station by the yellow line and I was surprised with the amount of activity. Lots of foot splinters were addressed and we attended to both kids and adults who got scraped up during the event. We provided donut holes to competitors for the first two days, conveniently located next to free coffee by the nurse's station

Skippers meetings were conducted each morning and broadcast from the second floor balcony overlooking the patio. We also rented tables and chairs and set up the entire patio and flag pole lawn with comfortable seating and borrowed many EZ-Up tents from our volunteers to provide shade.

Race results and event notices were posted on the glass sliding doors of the Quarter deck and our protest room and scoring room were secured from paparazzi. We even used the saloon of Patience as one protest meeting room.

After the qualification series determined which 140 sailors would be racing in Gold, Silver, Iron and Bronze we also ran a separate regatta, the "Cove Cup" for sailors who entered but did not qualify and we sailed the old bay barge and some whalers down to the Leeway end of the bay to hold three one day regattas, each with four races and trophies each night.

Our famous and well established race management side of things on the water has been perfected over the years and the competitors on the water were treated to a first class event. The wind cooperated and the on water race committee team work was flawless.

Scoring of flights is complicated and time consuming, the daily results took some time to post, but were always accurate and done as swiftly as possible. We had great support in the scoring room from our seasoned veterans and many new faces have shown interest in this important aspect of running a regatta.

Trash cans were spread out and the beach gates were open for spectators to watch. The western basin sea wall became a preferred perch and many pairs of binoculars were staring out from the scoring shack. Upstairs on the second deck breeze way tables and chairs were set up for additional viewing. On the water spectating was prohibited – no boards, kayaks, whalers or other floating craft were allowed and I am not aware of any violations from over anxious parents trying to get a closer look.

The galley did a booming business and we set up the outside patio bar late each afternoon to help quench all adult thirst needs.



...continued page 10

Lunches were by order and distributed under a tent in the barbeque area. Each day every volunteer got a free lunch with consisted of a Togo's sandwich, chips, fruit, bottled water and home baked treat (prepared upstairs in the ABYC kitchen the night before). Coaches and parents signed up as well and we covered most of the volunteer lunch expense by the extra sales to competitors and their support people.

We had the ABYC team dinner Monday night upstairs on the second deck and filled the place. Tuesday night we partnered with Long Beach Yacht Club to host a pool party and burger bash. Wednesday we had a Casa Sanchez restaurant Mexican dinner and had a DJ spinning tunes in the patio. The evenings after racing were fun and relaxing for all on hand and the food was delicious.

A really cool event logo was developed and t-shirts, sweatshirts and hats were available for purchase. We also prepared several posters which outlined the schedule of events and displayed them around the club.

We developed a hospitality list with local hotels, restaurants, urgent care facilities and other conveniences which could be a standard for future events at ABYC to emulate.

Our sponsors included Ullman Sails and North Sails who each donated a new sail which were awarded to lucky raffle participants who stayed for the awards ceremony upstairs on Thursday night. Kaenon sunglasses provided many prizes including a brand new pair of sunglasses as awards to the five flight division winners during qualifying. Sailing Pro Shop had their van on site to sell gear and other sponsors included Gill, Billings Hardware, Quantum Sails, Z-Blok sunscreen, West Marine, Lowe's and Dr. Mark Garlington. Banners were hung along the patio fence, please patronize our sponsors and thank them for their support!

I was worried that we would inconvenience our Wet Wednesday and Thursday night keel boat racers, but they were able to launch and sail without any issue. Thanks again to the senior sabots and Lidos who took the week off from twilights, it was hard to predict the exact impact that close to 200 sabots would have, but in retrospect we probably could have kept everyone sailing, a lesson learned for next time.

We had the stereo speakers upstairs playing satellite music from Classic Vinyl – a big hit for everyone and a great soundtrack for the regatta.

The ABYC staff was spectacular throughout the event. We developed a list of tasks for them by the hour each day (from cleaning the restrooms each morning to locking the beach gates each night) and the "can-do" attitude from each staff member was noticed by all in attendance.

Trophy presentation and the famous raffle were held upstairs on Thursday and every sailor in attendance went home with a prize. Hot dogs were served and after the INSA annual meeting was conducted we handed out over two dozen trophies and over 180 raffle prizes. As you can imagine that took bit of time, but we cleared out by about 6:30 that evening. The move out of trailers went without a hitch (couldn't resist) and as far as I know everyone made it home safely.

The day after, Friday, saw a core group of volunteers come to put things back in place around the club house and yard and clean up anything left over. When I left Friday you would never know what had happened during the previous hectic days, my hat is off to all of the volunteers who pitched in every day to make sure we were successful and that effort contributed to a quick clean up after the regatta.

We are still working out the detail of our income and expenses, but my early projections show that ABYC actually made a little money (and that doesn't count galley or bar income).

One area which I overlooked was the press side of things, each day was so busy and our usual reporters were not available, but the Press Telegram did come down one day and published some photos of the Cove Cup. I believe word of mouth from this event will give us plenty of recognition buzz for a job well done.

In closing, this event was a treat to organize. I'm sure I have missed some of our other innovative ideas, but I think by now you get the point and both Jon and I would be happy to help any future event organizers with their planning – the cool thing is that ALL of our ideas worked. Mostly because each volunteer chair took their role seriously and after asking a few questions up front for direction ran with their individual tasks, managed their group and all succeeded beyond my wildest dreams. The individual volunteers who filled out the committees could not have been more professional, hospitable or accommodating. This regatta will be remembered for years to come, not only by the sailors and families, but also by all who were involved. Jon Robinson and I are hosting a dessert thank you party between appetizers and Club ABYC on Friday September 25th, please come down and celebrate with us. We hope to have a slide show rolling and wish to thank each one of you in person again. Great job ABYC!

Jeff Merrill



the bay clogger

(junior sailing)

Rob Rice photos

Hello ABYC members! The Junior Sailing Summer Program has come to a close with some really great moments along the way. The program culminated with the 2009 Sabot Nationals hosted at ABYC this year. We had a record 47 sailors from ABYC attempt to qualify for the regatta (34 of whom qualified), which is a record for us. We were so very proud of all of our sailors in this gigantic 188 boat regatta, but some of the high points included two of our star sailors Rob Rice and Riley Gibbs finishing 5th and 6th overall in the Gold Fleet. Sailors in the past who have placed top 10 at this regatta have many times gone on to become All American Collegiate sailors or more. Additionally, the competition this year included last year's sabot nationals champion as well as several top 5 finishers from the past three years. Needless to say, the competition was grueling.

With the starts as early as 11 AM, the wind provided shifter and lighter conditions which was surprisingly difficult for our sailors as they typically practice more in the afternoon. They fought through it and did well overall as we saw 8 students qualify for Gold Fleet, 8 qualified for Silver Fleet, 8 in Bronze, and 10 in Iron. We also had 11 students compete



in the "Cove Cup" held by Leeway Sailing Center. We saw Bradley Clinton, Dana Boudreau, and Alan Peoples all place in the top 2 on at least one of the three days. Savannah Robinson also grabbed a top five trophy in Silver Fleet. Overall our sailors did fantastically and we are so proud of all of them!

While Sabot Nationals was going on, Jack Jorgensen and Samantha Gebb traveled across country to compete in the Bemis Double-Handed National Championship. They qualified for the event at this year's Junior Olympics held in Newport by winning the event outright with seven first place and two second place finishes. They started out the Bemis Championship in similar fashion leading the event after day one. But two OCS races on the second day had them fighting an uphill battle after that and they ended up finishing a very respectable 4th place overall for the regatta. Great job guys on being one of the top 420 teams in the country!



We are now embarking on the 2009 Fall Program. Enrollment forms are available online at our junior website on www.fleetracing.net. Sign up now to assure a space in the program. Thanks so much to all our amazing parent volunteers this summer and we will see you this fall!

Brad Schaupter, ABYC Jr. Sailing Director

a junior perspective

Nationals, I am so glad that I am pre-qualified. No pressure, so I volunteered to help with registration. Registration was really fun because I was able to see all of my teammates and friend that I have made over the last 5 years. This may be my last Junior Naples Sabot Championship regatta and I was going to enjoy it. The racing is fun but what is more fun is seeing the friends that I have from this sport. The fact that I do not see these people everyday makes it more special.

As for the racing, we could have used more air. The flight selection day was light and I was at a disadvantage. I spent most of my time in the middle of the boat trying to make my boat go as fast as possible. By the end of the day I had qualified in silver. The first day of the championship series started out very light and my first race was a disaster. The second race the wind freshened. I finished in the upper third of the fleet. Great, lets go in for lunch. After lunch the wind had filled in and I was in my element. I started in top three and lead the whole race. In the second race I was in fifth place going into the last leg when every one went left, I went right. I passed 3 boats and finished second. Not a bad first day. The second day was light but I was able to finish in the top third of the fleet. By the time the regatta was completed I was in fifth place and have a trophy that I display proudly.

More than the racing was the fun that I had with my friend at the social events. We had great evening events. The first night was the team dinner, the second night was the pool party and the third night was the Mexican dinner and DJ dance. We had fun at all of these events. Even with all of the fun that I had with my friends, the best part of the regatta was that when we got off the water we had treats waiting for us. The best was the root beer float.

This had been the best Sabot regatta that I have ever raced. I would like to thank all of the volunteers both on and off the water, they really made a difference. ABYC has got to be the best place to race.

Savannah Robinson

catalina cruise 2009

Merle Asper & Pat McCormick Photos

Over 50 ABYC members and friends had a fun filled weekend at Two Harbors, Catalina August 14 – 16. Before I get into the details, I would like to thank my cruise co-chair, Mary Montz for all of her work preparing to make this an enjoyable cruise for all. The weekend started Friday afternoon with the arrival of the much anticipated supply ships bringing grog and other necessary supplies. The Tempest, Varea', and St. Somewhere were quickly emptied and supplies portered ashore with help from Greg Montz, Doyle Spencer, and Steve Moffett. The beach head was established, drinks iced down, and the ABYC Bar was opened with bartenders Mary Ellen Barlow and Pat McCormick mixing "pain killers" for those who dared. Next on the busy agenda was the hors d'oeuvres contest. Norma



Clapp, last year's winner, was the head judge. Kelly Higgins, Steve Moffett's daughter, won with Coconut Tempura Shrimp just edging out Norma Kober's Curried Pizza. Winning this year's contest "qualifies" Kelly to be the judge next year. Thanks to all those who allowed us to sample their delicious appetizers. Dinner Friday night was hot dogs and hamburgers with all the trimmings. A campfire capped off the evening.



Saturday morning 30 members "dingy pooled" over to the USC Wrigley Center for a very informative and educational tour. Highlights were a presentation on and a peek inside the hyperbaric chamber, a video on buffalo repatriation, a presentation by Keegan Bell of the Catalina Conservancy, and a visit to their sea life touch tanks. Everyone, including long time

Catalina visitors learned something new. Saturday afternoon we had a treasure hunt for 8 junior pirates ashore while Nicole Peoples Moffett and Stacey Conn on the Resolution and Tom Ramsey on the Encore hosted members for cocktails and snacks on the water. Thank you very much for your hospitality! Saturday evening we had barbequed chicken with garlic mashed potatoes for dinner. Left over grog and supplies were given away after dinner and a camp fire again closed out the evening. Co- chairmen Mary Montz and Pat McCormick would like to thank all those who helped out with moving supplies and clean up duties, especially Amanda, Ashley, and Ryan. Next years dates have already been inked in August 20, 21, and 22. Please mark it on your calendar. If you have any feed back, positive or negative, please send an email to Pat McCormick. This is your cruise and we want to make it enjoyable for all.



Pat McCormick



420 world Championship

At the conclusion of the 420 World Championship in Athens last year I wrote an article describing the event. I included in this article, that it was such an amazing learning experience but that next year I wanted to come home with a medal...and that is exactly what Caitlin and I did. The World Championship commenced July 30th at Fraglia Yacht Club in Riva del Garda. Thirty countries were represented with 84 teams competing.

We trained in Garda for three weeks prior to the Worlds so when the first day of the Championship came we were excited to race because we knew that we were prepared for the event and it was now our opportunity to show everyone that we were going to be tough competitors.

Lake Garda is a special place to sail. Steep rock faces and beautiful mountains surround the lake. Almost every morning there would be a light gradient breeze from the North at the yacht club, which had the potential to be a 15 to 20 knot breeze out on the racecourse. Then, sometime between 11:00 and 1:00 the northerly breeze would die as the land heated up and the Southerly breeze, which is called the "Ora", would fill in. Depending on how hot it was on land this breeze direction could be anything from 5 to 25 knots. We in fact would often have huge velocity changes within one race when the breeze was out of the South. Although Lake Garda has the potential to have perfect breeze, during the 420 World Championship there were a few weather systems that came through which left us sailing sometimes as early as 8:00 in the morning and other times just managing to finish the last race of the day as the sun was setting over the mountains.



Overall the Championship was a really an amazing event for us with great sailing and good competition in a beautiful venue. I would like to give a special thanks to all of the ABYC members who supported my 420 campaign this summer! It wouldn't have been possible without all of you and I really appreciate it! Caitlin and I were really proud to represent the US and our Yacht Clubs on the podium.

If you are interested in more detail about our 420 campaign this summer and photos of the venue, I have posted a full report on the Worlds and several blogs about our summer sailing on our team website at: <http://www.cleverpig.org/BolgerBeavers/>.

Sydney Bolger



Caitlin (left) and Sydney with medals and trophy.

member news

Jack Jorgensen and Samantha Gebb took fourth in the U.S. Sailing Junior Sailing Championship Doublehanded Division for the F. Gregg Bemis trophy, five points out of the third medal position; they carded two first-place finishes but had to carry an OCS into the final standings.

Chris Ericksen

charity Regatta

By now you have all received the Charity Regatta Notice of Race. It seems it was not long ago when this community service event started - it truly was 23 years ago and so many children and their families have been helped by your continued support of this regatta and all the related events by each participating club. Sunday, September 27th is the big day of racing, silent auction, drawing, Burger Bash and trophy presentation. I hope many of you will choose to participate in one or more of the events.

There are some beautiful Perpetual Trophies that will be presented as well as the Class Trophies. The child artist who's drawing was selected by the CR Committee will be presented his original drawing framed and of course he will be introduced to the audience. It's really fun to see the artist look around at so many people wearing T-Shirts with his art work silk screened on them.

I hope you will join the celebration of this 23rd Yacht Clubs of Long Beach Charity Regatta, Sunday, September 27, 2009. Join your friends in supporting a sport we all love, and making life better for the children and families whom the Children's Clinic serve.

Norma Clapp, ABYC Representative

Sou'Wester DEADLINE

Sept 19, 2009 is the deadline
for the October Sou'Wester.

hails from the fleets

Mark & Sarah Ryan photos

L¹⁴

Lido Fleet Six Under Investigation

Local officials have been investigating the ongoing activities of Lido Fleet Six as well as the Lido Class Association, probing for gang-related activity and possible conspiracy charges. Preliminary reports indicate that every Wednesday evening, an abnormal number of these 14-foot sailboats, as many as twenty five at a time, have been gathering on the otherwise tranquil waters of Alamitos Bay. Amid the discharge of air horns and the showing of flags, possibly gang colors, these Lidos have participated in excessive displays of speed, much to the jealousy of other sailing fleets. At sunset, the entire Fleet Six reconvenes in barely lawful assemblage on ABYC property, imbibing and recanting somewhat fictionalized tales of the evening's activities. It appears that within the Lido gang, the consumption of malted beverage is the way that all on-the-water conflicts are resolved.

These activities would have gone unnoticed except that Fleet Six has been recruiting heavily among ABYC's youth, reaching as young as six years-old when Bobby Little served as the PRO one Wednesday night. His megaphone-enhanced shouts of "Mark and Sarah Ryan, you win again!" caused a near riot among the more senior Lido sailors. Authorities are also looking closely at John Makielski, age 13, who is implicated in the disappearance of his father. John has taken over the helm of infamous Lido 6277, flames and all, with Alex Westland, age 13 as new crew. John's father has not been seen since and the worst is feared: he might be crewing on a Cal 20. Marissa Golison, age 13, was spotted one Wednesday, but she has not resurfaced. It is believed that stress of Lido competition proved too much for her father. Jacob Rosenberg, age 11, Brian MacLean, age 13, Rob Rice, age 12, Johnny B, age 12, Mila and Davis Bakker, ages 12 and 14, Riley Gibbs, age 12, Kyler, age 16, are all believed to be active gang members. Shockingly, recruits now include children as young as Saylor Little, age 4, ("Daddy, I'm getting sick. Stop rocking the boat."). Many of these same children may have been spotted at the dubiously named "2009 Lido Junior National Championships" hosted right at ABYC, August 29th. Ostensibly a sailing regatta, it serves as little more than a recruiting vehicle for young sailors into the Fleet Six life style. Fleet Six members donate their racing yachts to these unsuspecting children in an attempt to swell the future ranks of Lido'ers. Lido sailing has now become a multigenerational problem.



Stu Robertson...still at large

Sailors from other classes have been afraid to associate with the Lido sailors, not wishing to run with such a fast crowd. Consequently, Fleet Six has sent teams out to connect with other Lido Fleets in what authorities believe is an attempt to monopolize sailing nationwide. Nine teams representing the Fleet Six gang showed up in July at the High Sierra Regatta, virtually holding the other thirty seven Lido teams hostage. Gang leader Stu Robertson and Erin Batchelor won with a 1-1-3 and Mark and Sarah Ryan were right behind with a 2-3-1. August featured the national gathering of forty seven Lidos in San Diego's Mission Bay. Robertson/Batchelor demolished all other contenders with 2-1-2-1-1-3. Ryan/Ryan upheld Fleet Six honors with a third place, 3-25(OCS)-2-5-7-5-1. Not only did Stu Robertson display his prowess on the water as the repeat class champ, but he was elected class President during a secret convening of Lido elders. The details of the election ceremony are sketchy but it somehow involved a highly ritualized enchilada dinner.

Fleet Six considers the Class Championships a mere warm-up to their Wet Wednesday activities. Despite repeated attempts by authorities to crack down, rumors abound that these activities, Wet Wednesday Lido Racing, will continue throughout the month of September. As Jesus has been ordered to shut down the grill to discourage the Lido sailors, fleet members plan to sacrifice cows and pigs on the yacht club barbecue and imbibe in nefarious libations after their waterside activities. Authorities are nervous that many non-Lido sailors have quietly asked about borrowing Lidos for Wet Wednesday, and somehow these interlopers are welcome and always seem to be accommodated with a boat.

Thelonius P Bilgewater



Fleet Sixers are showing off their gang colors (fleet six shirts.)



Newest recruit 94th generation Lido sailor), Joshua Ryan age 3 days, already sporting his Kaenon sunglasses...this gang is out of control!

hails from the fleets



KEEL BOAT FLEET ON WATCH

The fall season of the year always seems to me the best of the year. We still are enjoying great weather and outdoor activities but the overall pace slows down just a bit. There is more time to remember the great times of the past summer, more time to finish those projects and most important, time to see old friends. And all those friends will hopefully be at the Keel Boat Fleet meeting and picnic dinner, Friday, September 11 for the first meeting of the Fleet's 2009/2010 calendar year.

Joe Riddick and Judy Mathias will once more be in charge assisted by Bob Chubb, (mailers), Maggie Caddle, (treasurer), and myself writing the column for the Sou'Wester. The 'duo' of Joe and Judy has been ever faithful for many years leading the Fleet. But there is no doubt that they need help if the Fleet is going to continue in its present form. One of the ways some one could help is being in charge of our Fleet duties for the January ABYC general meeting. This entails getting a program, (usually a speaker), and arranging for servers on the chow line. I think the main thing we could all do is tell Joe and Judy that we would be willing to help the Fleet.

Back to the picnic meeting and what to bring. We will have the barbecue going so bring your entrée for the bar cue plus a side dish, (and serving spoon), to share. As the picnic is in the quarter deck bring your own libation. Also bring your tales of the adventures you had this past summer.

Dues are due as this is the first meeting of the Fleets' calendar year. Please bring \$10 to the meeting or send it to Margaret Caddle. Checks should be made out to Keel Boat Club.

See you at the meeting,
George C.



We began the month of August with our monthly race on the second. The day began with light, shifting winds which continued to build throughout the day. It was some exciting racing with the lead changing with every race, with Sheila taking a first on the first race, Bob had a first place in the second race, and Fred took a first in the third race. We had eleven sailors on the Bay. Fred Stevens, Sr. took first place overall with 6 points. Jane McNaboe was second overall with 8 points and Lee Berlinger was third overall with 13 points. There was a three-way tie for fourth place, all with 14 points between John Ellis, Sheila Eberly, and Bob Ware. Thank you to our great race committee of Carl Eberly, Jinx Ellis, Carol Reynolds, Steve Kuritz, Jerry McNaboe, and Joe Riddick.

August 6th was our first Twilight race of the month. Duncan Harrison came up with an interesting course that threw off most of the fleet! It really showed who had checked their course chart and who was running on blind instinct. The course included marker "D" that is not usually rounded last on the standard chart. Some racers not only missed marker "D" on the first lap, but also missed it on the second lap of the course! Then, just to see if they had learned their lesson, Duncan ran the same course for the second race. To the race committee's amusement, some racers still eliminated marker "D"! That has come to be called our "Senior Moments Race". Thanks to our faithful race committee of Duncan, Jinx, Jan, Joe, Don and Uncle Jimmy.

The Junior Sabots ruled the bay on the second week of August so we skipped our Twilight race that week. The last two weeks of August are our final Twilight races for the summer. Hope to see all you Senior Sabot sailors out sailing.

Sunday, September 13 is our next monthly race and dinner. Coming up in October is Ladies Day on the 18th which also includes a Men's Class and the Halloween Regatta on October 25, hosted by the Senior Sabot and Keel Boat Fleets. We will be looking for help on that. Come and join us for more fun at the club for those upcoming regattas.

Sheila Eberly, Fleet Captain



The Nirvana II Radio Controlled (RC) Fleet continues to race each Friday night at ABYC from 5:30 p.m. until sunset. Please note that Friday, October 30th will be the last RC Fleet race because daylight savings time will end that weekend on Sunday, November 1st.

Many volunteers make our Friday night events a success, but ABYC member Bob Sherwood and family have gone "above and beyond" to make our events enjoyable for everyone. For example, he shows-up early to set the orange colored markers in the basin for our two-lap races while the rest of us are running late. Bob has also purchased miniature trophies with "1st RC Fleet" labels, and they are awarded each Friday night to the overall first place winner. Also, the members of the RC Fleet enjoy listening to his custom made 1-minute countdown timer to keep all of us honest during the starts. The timer is followed by great music from his I-POD that we enjoy listening to while racing. Furthermore, the RC Fleet would like to recognize Bob Sherwood and his son for their "Pirates of the Caribbean" best themed boat design for 2009. Great-job Bob. All of us appreciate you.

The RC Fleet welcomes all Nirvana II boats owners (old and new) to the Friday night events. If you need help setting-up your new boat, or if you have a mechanical problem that needs fixing just come to the launch ramp at 5:30 p.m. We look forward to seeing you there. Let's go "racin' in the basin".

Damon Kunkle, RC Fleet Captain



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late breaking news

ABYC member Mike Martin and crew Jeff Nelson win 505 Worlds!

*Rich Roberts photo
Dennis Surtees photo boat captain*

Mother Nature gave Mike Martin the 18 knots of wind he asked for and he and crew Jeff Nelson took care of the rest of their business Saturday to win the 2009 SAP 505 World Championship with an artistic runaway performance. And they earned it. Their climactic 46-second victory mirrored their earlier mastery of the cold, strong winds that



New 505 World champions Mike Martin (l.) and Jeff Nelson exchange congratulations at the finish line

San Francisco promised but surprisingly substituted with its apparent two days of summer near the end of the week, momentarily taking them off their game.

Earlier, they used one of their discards when they broke their mast in the mud of the shallow Berkeley Circle in the East Bay while running a close second to Mike Holt and crew Carl Smit, had to swallow a 12th place when the breeze turned light and tricky and then needed to recharge their winning form to beat off the bid of Mike Holt and Carl Smit convincingly over the last two days.

Rich Roberts

ABYC Independent Junior member Chris Barnard was the highest-placing American sailor at the recently completed Laser Radial Worlds in Japan, finishing fifth.
Chris Ericksen

stag cruise...there



October 2-4 at Corsair YC, Emerald Bay , Catalina

You're coming to Stag Cruise this year. To save time, we've already answered the most common excuses why you can't. We've been around. We know better. They won't work.

- **I'm just too busy. I have responsibilities. ABSURD!** Come on, you know you're not that important and God knows you're not responsible!
- **My wife won't let me go. REDICULOUS.** We talked to her last night and she's heading for Vegas that weekend. You are free to go. .
- **I've got commitments to the kids. A LIE!** We checked. Since mom's going to Vegas they need you out of the house so they can have their own party. You can take them to Legoland some other weekend.
- **I can't afford it. PERPOSTEROUS!** You can't find more bang for the buck. And, hey, like your wife says, " it's only money".
- **I've heard that things get pretty wild. OUTRAGEOUS!** Jeepers, we're just going to Catalina. It's not like we're going to Vegas with your wife!
- **I don't have a ride. NOT A PROBLEM .** Just ask. We'll set you up.
- **I won't have fun. IMPOSSIBLE!** It can't happen. Remember, this is Stag Cruise, your wife's not there.

Don't fight it, do it. Life is too short to let opportunities like our Stag Cruise pass you by. It's been a tough year. You deserve a few days on the island with your buddies.

So sign up now. Just send me an email with your plans, questions or comments. We'll get right back to you. james.e.bateman@gmail.com

If I don't hear from you, Merle and I will likely show up at your front door and stay until you agree to do the right thing and sign up. It's for your own good.

Sincerely,
Your 2009 Stag Cruise Organizing Authority
S/c Bateman and Cmdre. Asper

PS. Just kidding wives. We know you're really going to Cabo.

