



e e m a n n i n g r e g a t t a 2010

*Rich Roberts photo
underthesunphotos.com
Jim Bateman, photo boat
captain*



CFJ dinghies converge on the leeward gate in windup of the Manning Regatta

New kid from Connecticut on the sailing block

A flock of familiar names topped the winners' podium Sunday afternoon following the Southern California Yachting Association's annual E.E. Manning Regatta, organized and hosted by Alamitos Bay Yacht Club.

There were Nevin Snow and crew Marly Isler from San Diego in CFJs, Mark Gaudio from Newport Beach in Naples Sabots, Stu Robertson from Huntington Beach in Lido 14s and Ben Leibowitz from Connecticut—who from where?—in Lasers.

Leibowitz, 19, likely will soon become better known after defeating a strong group of locals with two firsts and four seconds in the two-day small boat classic that dates to 1935 and this time drew 174 sailors in 120 boats in five classes, all of 15 feet or less. He's going to love it here.

"It's beautiful, absolutely beautiful," Leibowitz raved afterward. "The big plus is the ability to sail year-round."

He didn't plan to move cross-country just to sail, but when USC accepted his application to its business school the decision was made for him. Sailing was a bonus.

Light morning rain preceded both days of racing, generating a stiff chop with up to 15 knots of wind even on the Long Beach outer harbor inside the breakwater where the Lasers and CFJs sailed. The Lido 14s and Sabots sailed inside Alamitos Bay on smoother water but comparable breeze.

Leibowitz said, "I've been training here the last few weeks. It's really nice breeze. You have to stretch out the legs because it's kind of hard to get through the chop."



Newcomer Ben Leibowitz beat a strong field of Laser racers

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save the date

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commodore's comments



APRIL....Enter the month of Yacht Club Opening Day Ceremonies all around Southern California. Opening Day season is a challenge for your Flag Officers. Very well you may say to yourself, "All those Flag Officers have to do is dress up and show up." Now, I am here to testify "Not So". There are those who can corroborate my testimony, and if I may say so, they are a hearty breed. They have passed through the gauntlet of interminably long, dull and pompous ceremonies, exposed to copious quantities of mysterious food consumables that are vaguely recognizable as something you have tasted once being touted at the end of an aisle at Costco or Smart and Final, and out of courtesy, listened to hours of contrived boring conversation, all the while trying to look intelligent holding a plastic champagne flute from which the bottom was missing.

It does have its lighter moments mind you when you observe, like you, someone else's "Dress Whites" has a stain of melted dark chocolate from a favor left on a chair seat in the hot sun, or the reluctance to advise a Commodore at the dais to "XYZ" as you may be suffering from the same zipper affliction.

ABYC's Opening Day will be May First this year. Jim Bateman is heading the "Open Boat" raft up, so I urge you to sign on, as Jim has the skill to make a fun party out of the simplest of affairs. Also, the hotly contested "Fleet Championship" race will take place this year in Lido-14's. All you fleets, name your champion and enter. Note for all the new members. This race is for a year's use of the fleet Champion's Parking spot. So, you will witness a display of raw nerves and cut throat racing. And now, you can watch it from the recently refurbished observation platform at the end of the West bulkhead, thanks to the driving force Bob Bishop.

Last board meeting, Bill McDannel submitted a "Club Beautification" proposal, that in years back could not have been considered, but now was a possible. The proposal received unanimous approval, and within seventy two hours, Bob Bishop, armed with a drill motor, swaging tools and a Saws-all, removed an eye sore that the membership has endured for over forty years. The chain link fence is gone. The fresh open view is grand, and gives one the sense that we have been released from confinement at the honor farm for good behavior. Now, Terry Bishop has a whole new landscape venue for her gardening skills. (See photos on page 13)

Using gardening as a lead toward upcoming events, "SPRING SPRUCE UP" is close at hand. Set for April 24th, all ABYC members are asked to turn out for this annual duty, to organize and spiff up the club for Opening Day, and prepare us for the approaching summer sailing season. Junior Staff Commodore Merle Asper is the board liaison and is organizing projects. As in years past, members unable to attend, traditionally send a \$35 +/- donation. Prior to "SPRING SPRUCE UP" I urge owner's of boats stored in the yard to clear away the ravages of winter. This years rains will have filled many a bilge with water. No matter, be it a centerboard dinghy, sabot, or keel boat, mosquitos breed in these areas. Also, with the storm winds, many covers are in tatters, downed palm fronds and berries have stained cockpits, and make sure a cat has not dined on a pigeon beneath your boat cover. Also, check for termites, as this year they are very active.

Now, the good stuff. Thanks to Daylight Savings, twilight racing is up and running and weekend fleet racing are on the calendar. Check your fleet for times. April 8 through 11, CISA (California International Sailing Association) - <http://www.cisasailing.org/> will be on the club grounds. This is an intense, high level clinic. Space is limited. All applicants must be 13 years or older, a current member of US SAILING, and submit a resume for selection. If you have time available to volunteer for duties ashore, suggest you do so, you won't regret it. To quote the web site, "The program will consist of lectures and on-the-water drills including tactics, strategy, sail trim, boat speed, etc., together with information on what is important for developing a successful Olympic campaign." They aren't kidding. Oh! To be young again and campaigning at this level of competition. It is here, I had best note, that the very next weekend the International Moth Spring Invitational will be held at ABYC. I can't even imagine what a wild ride it must be on that hydrofoil critter.

ABYC's dedication to developing youth sailing continues with the board approval of our first "Junior Introduction to Sailing" seminar in cooperation with City of Long Beach Department of Parks and Recreation. The first date of three seminars is set for May fifteenth, with the following seminars to be July tenth, and September eleventh of this year. Volunteers are gathering to make each of these seminars a wonderful experience for these young folks.

Keep abreast of the ABYC Calendar and Events. Family movie night returns to the calendar. General Membership meetings are back up in attendance from the winter lull, and April will be no exception. As I understand, the topic will be about boat design of this year's America's cup winner. The speaker will begin after we induct nine new members into the club. Robin Townsend and Ed Spotsky are an amazing membership team.

To wrap this up, the board has selected and approved a bid to replace the main drive motor on the big hoist and re-align the boom pivot and bearings. On completion, launching keel boats should be easier swinging, and that gut wrenching sound of the motor and shafting should be a thing of the past.

And last but not least, Easter comes early this year. EASTER BRUNCH is the most well attended spring event we enjoy. Please make your reservations as early as possible. This is critical for planning seating, food, and Easter Bunny favors for the Egg Hunt. On that same thought, plan for Mother's day Brunch a month later.

Gads, I love this club
John Massey



The elevator and restroom committees have been conducting interviews with architects and we should make our selection very soon. With the hiring of our architectural team we will then move to the next phase which will be preparing drawings for construction bids from contractors. This committee is very well organized, keenly managed and making great progress. My best guess for ground breaking remains the same, some time in early July. As we make more progress and get closer to final decisions I will continue to update the membership.

April 1st (trick or treat?) all loose masts (masts not attached to a boat or in a proper storage rack) will be relocated to the East yard atop a container where they will be tagged, locked and impounded at a fee of \$30.00 a month. If you are keeping your mast on the sail lockers, hanging off the sabot or laser racks or tying off one of the fence walls then we will be spiriting your spars away.

I really don't want to do this, but if you have a loose mast and think we won't notice then you are only fooling yourself and it will be costly to retrieve your rig.

Our "Rail-Rider" program is already a huge success! As of this writing we have 8 of the 12 spots prepaid and those members who are bringing their boats to the rail are going to be able to take advantage of a full six months of summer sailing! "Rail-Riders" are all members on the waiting list and it is very likely that their yard spot will become available which will open up their rail rider spot. If you somehow missed out on this program in the initial offering, but would like to know more, please contact me and I will email you the program and application. This is not only going to benefit the club financially, but provide a huge convenience for the lucky dozen who get front row parking. Special thanks to Adam and Julissa for helping get this organized. Next time you are at ABYC take a look, the rates and "Rail-Rider" program details are posted in the glass case outside of the office. Ride on!

As part of organizing the "Rail-Rider" program I enjoyed calling and emailing everyone on the dinghy yard wait list. And during that process the yard waiting list was thinned out a bit and it really was shorter...until our Membership committee of Ed Spotskey and Robin Townsend brought in 9 new members and almost all of them jumped on the waiting list. (This is a great problem to have!). If you have a boat in the yard and aren't using it I really don't want to kick you out, but the yard rules do insist that all boats in the yard be used at least once every six months. I have finally found the super secret magic salt water activated litmus detector strips and now have the ability to determine if you have gone sailing...so *sail it or sell it*,

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Sou'Wester DEADLINE

April 17, 2010 is the deadline
for the May Sou'Wester.

Help us to Help you!

Please keep your e-mail address current
with merle@aspermail.com to receive all
of the weekly news and events. Thank you.

2009/10 OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

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we want active boats in the yard and have a number of members who have just joined and want to bring their boats home. With summer getting nearer we still want to push to get 30 more new members so please let Ed and Robin know the names of your friends whom you want to see join ABYC – the membership drive expires soon!

With every trailer and boat now properly tagged and stickered plus every member's boat bill accurate and general order in the yard restored we are now ready for the next phase in our yard management which is to switch our billing over to FLAT RATE fees for all trailer spaces in the yard. (No changes for the Laser and Sabot racks). Before you frown please take a breath and think about this. If you are in the dinghy yard why should it matter if you have a Laser or an I-14? Both boats are occupying the same amount of billable yard space. Isn't only fair that if you are using the same amount of yard space that you should be charged the same rate? Your Board of Directors is working on a proposal for same-space billing which will include one rate for the dinghy yard spaces and one rate each for 20', 25' and 30' keelboat spaces. The overall length of your boat AND trailer determine which space you fit in and therefore determines what size space you will be billed for (so, for example, if you have a Cal 20 on a 25' trailer that fits in a 25' space you will soon be paying for that extra long trailer!). This is not meant as a punishment; in fact, it is meant as an equalizer and has been discussed for years and has finally become a top priority. We all enjoy the convenience of keeping our boats at ABYC and your Board of Directors thinks it is high time that we charge by space, not by type of boat. The other huge benefit will be to our accounting department who will very easily be able to charge the correct amount for each yard trailer space.

The ABYC yard storage lockers are also in review. Fellow Board members Jim Grubbs and Ed Spotskey are looking at how we can more actively utilize the current locker areas. At present a small percentage of the lockers are actually rented out, mostly because they are really only large enough to store sabot gear in them. So we will keep some of the existing lockers (based on how many are actually being rented). How would you like to put Laser, Lido or Cal 20 gear in a larger sized locker? What about stowing your rolled up sails in a protected horizontal bin instead of carting them home each evening? If you have a keelboat in the basin wouldn't it be nice to have some decent space to keep large items so you don't have to lug them back and forth to your car? Bob Chubb is on the design team and has several preliminary designs for this committee to consider. If you have any suggestions please contact Ed and Jim.

Have you seen our new "heliport" at the end of the basin? There won't be any more "scoring" conducted in the scoring shack since the vintage plastic green swivel walls have come down and we now have a wonderful perch from which to enjoy the bay. The design matches our club house upper decks and it looks like it has always been there. Thanks to Merle Asper, Bob Bishop and others for tackling this project, it is a very nice improvement, just in time for summer.

Another thing you will notice you are next in the patio is the view. We have a new and improved view of the channel. What happened? Well, we tore down the chain link fence that paralleled the jetty and re-strung the sidewalk low railing for extra safety. The gate that was down by the ramp to *Patience* has been relocated just opposite the outside BBQ landing. This keeps a very nice and protected children's area (the playground equipment remains in tact) and will allow all of us to take better advantage of our waterfront. Thanks to Bill McDannel and Bob Bishop for doing the heavy lifting.

Looking forward to Easter Brunch, which will be days away if you are reading this online and past history if you are reading your mailed Sou'Wester. In either case it is/was a wonderful event and special thanks to the SAC and Sue McDannel for continuing another great ABYC family tradition!

Spring Spruce Up is April 24th, plan on coming down to the club to lend a hand for a couple hours to get everything ship shape for ABYC's Opening Day the following Saturday on May 1st (Mayday, Mayday!).

If you have any questions about your boat(s), trailer(s), dollies or other gear 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. I'd also be happy to discuss our restroom and elevator building projects if you wish. Most importantly finish up any varnishing, painting or gel coat work. Thank you and see you at the club!

Jeff Merrill

rear view



The March General Membership Meeting was a real event. The emerging Moth Fleet gave a talk on the smallest high performance boat on the water. This exciting boat is at the forefront of the high performance boats with a wing foil keel. We will be seeing more of these boats in the near future.

OCR had its usual Steak Out. This is one of the best dinners if you like beef. The cook your own and discussion around the barbeque was very stimulating. The steaks were wonderful. How can you beat a steak fresh off the grill and a baked potato?

If you missed our own Brad playing at Club ABYC, you missed a fun event. He played many of his original songs. He also played many other songs with his own spin. This was a very fun event.

Look for Family movie night on April 2nd. We will be showing a G rated movie with popcorn and soft drinks available for the kids. Remember this will be during a Friday night happy hour and you will see many adults as well as kids watching the movie. These have proven to be a lot of fun and we look forward to starting it up again. Watch for the movie title in the Weekly Reader.

...continued next page

Remember Easter Brunch on April 4th. The SAC is working hard to put on another great event. Brunch will include Champaign and Mimosas. We will have the traditional Easter Egg Hunt in the yard and the Easter Bunny will show up around 11:00 am. I think that you will find that this will be a fun event and you will be missing a great day at the club if you miss it.

On April 16 will be a special General Membership Meeting. The Juniors have asked Pete Melvin to speak about the Americas Cup challenge this past February. He will be speaking about the Americas Cup experience. This will be an exciting event and well worth attending. Don't Miss It!

April 24 is our annual Spring Spruce UP. This year will be lots of fun and you get a chance to see everyone that you missed over the winter. Come, have some fun and work off some of that great food that you consumed over the holidays.

April 30 Club ABYC, Squeeze Box will be entertaining us with their great music and rock'in beat.

Remember these April social event dates:

2th Bridge 7:00 pm

8th - 11th Cisa Clinic

9th Keelboat Fleet Potluck

19th General Membership Meeting

24th Spring Spruce.

30th Club ABYC.

Remember the Weekly Reader has all of the current events that are happening at the Club and it will include the latest information.

See you around the club

Jon Robinson, Rear Commodore

fleet captain's log



Nuts and Bolts

I would like to offer our thanks to Adam, Rick and Kelly for keeping our fleet of boats up to date. Stop by the yard and look at Whaler 2 (17 ft). Rick and Adam just finished a complete rebuild of the boat, and it looks great. Not ones to rest on their laurels, they have started work on our 13 ft. Whaler 1. In the mean time Kelly and Adam have set up a service deal with Avalon Marine for engine work. We are getting a great price, a preferred spot on their work queue, and they make house calls!

George and Vern have gotten Patience through her bi-annual yard date, and should be getting the topsides freshened up as you read this. Adam has helped in repairing the steering, which went out on, of course, a regatta day.

Next we will have to spruce up the bay barge a little to make it look as nice as the new scoring shack (or is it now the observation platform?) That Bob Bishop fixed up. We also have a few missing bay marks that Dave Meyers is working on replacing before the summer program and twilights.

See you all at opening day,

Mike

PS: Still looking for an engine donation for whaler 7 (17 ft). Anyone with an unwanted 40 to 70 HP?

from the pages of history

In days past, fleets of ABYC earned their stripes in three ways: they served as duty fleet for a club regatta; they managed a monthly club meeting; and they did projects around the club. The last chore was superseded in the late Eighties by the creation of Spring Spruce Up. Both of these activities appear in the pages of history.

THIRTY YEARS AGO:

There were both front-cover and rear-cover photos on the SOU'WESTER for April, 1980, and both seem to have been taken at the same activity...the Cal 20 fleet refurbishing the large hoist. The back cover showed Jack Cook standing on a ladder working on the column of the large hoist. "Members belonging to more than one fleet got volunteered for several work days," the caption read. "Jack was one such member working with the Keel Boats, Cal 20's and Sabots."

Not to be outdone, however, the cover showed a frightening view of the Commodore, Gary Winterrowd, sitting astride the large hoist at the very end the boom, connecting a wire to what appears to be the limit switch that keeps the cable from pulling the hook block into the sheaves. Such was the work members did thirty years ago, and such was the effort expended in service of our club by the Commodore. Well, at least the latter is still the case, even if we leave the more dangerous work to paid professionals.

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Evidently the project taken on by the Keel Boat Fleet was to repaint the widow's walk. Ronnie Cook, Jack's wife, was the fleet correspondent and reported "a special thanks to the Lido Fleet member who worked for an hour with us before he realized he was with the wrong group." Maybe the multiple responsibilities and this kind of confusion led to the creation of Spring Spruce Up a half-dozen or so years later.

The Club Manager had a very short piece about the condition of trailer tires: in contravention of rules, several trailers had tires so flat that they could not be moved; the Manager reminded members that the club has "an air compressor which will convert your tires from flat to fluffy in a matter of minutes". Kristen Fox was the big winner of a Junior Sabot regatta in March hosted by Long Beach Yacht Club: she got two firsts and a second in the "A" fleet...Jeff Jones, captain of ABYC's Windsurfer fleet, reported they sailed Midwinters down at Newport Harbor Yacht Club in "30-60 knot winds" that were so strong the race committee boat could not hold bottom.

TWENTY YEARS AGO:

Prior to 1990, ABYC ran races off a California 29 sedan named PATIENCE; the starting committee worked on the roof of the house while the scorers took finishes from the cockpit. A photo of PATIENCE captioned "A Final Tour of Duty" graced the cover of the SOU'WESTER of April, 1990; the "Commodore's Comments" inside reported that that a La Paz trawler had been purchased to replace the old boat, and this photo was a salute to the old girl's years of service.

The Commodore also commented on the issue of an elevator for the main building. Apparently one concern—other than the cost, of course—was that opening a building permit to install an elevator would lead to other unrelated changes required to bring the building up to then-current codes, including modifying the rest rooms; there was also some concern that the City of Long Beach might not approve such an installation. As I recall, there was serious conversation of installation of an open, outdoor lift adjacent to the southern corner of the building, right outside the back door to the upstairs Galley. What is evident, however, that these conversations did not lead to any action, leaving that work to a future generation of Directors.

The center spread of the SOU'WESTER was a photo montage of regatta activities. A start of Shock 35's at the Keelboat One-Design Regatta was pictured, as were the trophy winners for the SCYA Manning Regatta; included in the photo were Mike Sentovich, Robin Townsend, Peter Gales and Margaret Caddle, with Commodore Dick Caley, Staff Commodore Chuck Kober and SCYA officer Gene O'Connell also shown. There was a photo of PATIENCE steaming into the basin with the Race Committee flag flying. And a familiar face appeared, shown standing in Outrage, smoking his pipe.

The program for the April general-membership meeting was an overview of the activities of CISA, the California International Sailing Association, which organization had been for almost ten years running an Advanced Racing Clinic at ABYC at Eastertide; Staff Commodore Gary Winterrowd, then a CISA Director, and CISA President John Leslie would be the presenters...In a reference barely remembered today, but then very current, ABYC Chief Judge Margie E. Brown ended her appeal for volunteers for protest committee with the statement, "As Bartles and James say. 'Thank you for your support'"; I wonder how many of you remember where that came from...

TEN YEARS AGO:

From the Commodore's report in the SOU'WESTER for April, 2000, March of that year was very busy at ABYC. The month started out with a west coast qualifier for the upcoming Laser Olympic Trials, co-chaired by Sandy Toscan and Jeremy Laundergan; that was followed by the SCYA Manning Regatta, chaired by Don Reiman, and the Olympic Classes Regatta under the leadership of Dave Crockett and John Merchant. The fourth consecutive weekend of racing was filled with the end of the US SAILING Multihull Championship Regatta for the Hobbies Alter Cup, chaired by Commodore Jim Morford. Whew!

Storms caused a serious accident when an Etchells was partly filled with water that caused the boat to tip bow-down about the axle of the trailer; the trailer struck first and the boat slid forward on the trailer, causing major damage to the rudder. Commodore Morford used this event to remind members to check on their boats in the rainy season to prevent such things happening to them.

Ann Exley reported in her "From the Pages of History" column on an interesting event scheduled for April of 1963: a "Ladies' Day" for both singlehanded and crewed boats, both inside and outside. There were several special rules: if the helmsman was a man, he had to take orders from the woman skipper; the number of women aboard had to equal or exceed the number of men aboard; and time penalties would be assessed for "each sailor-like oath" uttered by the men aboard the boats. There was no penalty for such a oath uttered by a woman; presumably there would be none. Ann reports a sad outcome: while there was an "announcement of the race in three different papers, there's not a single line about the results of the race. We don't know if it was even held," she concluded.

Jerry Montgomery reported that he, Steve Moffett and Jim MacLeod raced in the Puerto Vallarta Race on three different boats; while in Mexico they ran into former ABYC members Jerry and Jan Tankersley, then on an extended Mexican cruise...a half-page ad appeared soliciting volunteers to work North Sails Race Week in June; positions were available not only on the water but also for such shoreside activities as registration and venue management...SOU'WESTER inserts touted the upcoming Spring Spruce Up and Easter Brunch, to be held on successive weekends in April; the fee for the latter event was eight bucks for adults and three bucks for children ten and under...

Chris Ericksen, Club Historian

the bay clogger (junior sailing)

ABYC SUMMER Jr. Program Sign Ups Now Available

The ABYC Junior Sailing Summer Program will commence on June 21st. The sign up forms for the award winning ABYC Junior Program are now uploaded online at <http://www.fleetracing.net> (click on the ABYC Jr. Program link) or you can pick up forms in the main office of ABYC. The program is open to children ages 5 to 18 with classes for every level of sailors in Sabots, Lasers, and 420's. Spread the word to those you know as word of mouth is our greatest advertiser. The parent orientation meeting for the afternoon racers will be Sunday March 14th at 5pm upstairs in the ABYC banquet hall. Email abyc.jrprogram@gmail.com with questions pertaining to the summer program.

Jack Jorgensen and Samantha Gebb take 4th Overall in the C420 Perry Series!

The Perry Series is four 2-day regattas with some of the best junior competitors in the country and even the world and it all takes place in Southern California. These events bring between 25 and 60 boats from up and down the coast. Many of the competitors go on to sail international championships during the summer and come back in the off season to sail the Perry Series. We are so proud to announce that Sophomore Jack Jorgensen and Senior Samantha Gebb have finished 4th overall in the competitive series! Their finishes for the regattas were 8th, 1st, 5th and a tie for 5th (the last regatta, Samantha was not able to attend and Jack sailed with a sailor from SBYC). Their final results placed them only behind three Seniors in high school. Jack now has two more years to compete at the top of one of the most competitive 420 fleets in the country. Congratulations to them both on an outstanding finish!

Spring Gold Cup Regatta Wrap Up – Rob Rice takes 3rd in the North Series!

We were very excited to take down 20 sailors to the Spring Gold Cup which had a record 125 sabots attend this year. The conditions were not quite as exciting however, averaging somewhere in the 5 mph range most of the weekend. The course was littered with moored boats including a 42 boat semicircle raft that looked like something out of "Water World". This forced the race committee to set up a course in the main channel of Balboa Bay which eventually brought a giant barge directly through the middle of the first race. After an emergency abandonment, the race committee finally decided to fight it out in the moorings. With the lack of wind and the moorings blocking most of it, there were some serious geographical decisions to be made. Go up the left channel next to the peninsula or head through deathlike moorings in hopes of finding wind on the right. It turned out that the left was posting gains more often than the right but it took most kids longer to figure it out. Fortunately several of our sailors figured it out first including Riley Gibbs, Steven Hopkins, Rob Rice, Johnny Blumberg, and Nigel Lipps. It paid off as each of these sailors gained at least 5 boats when they headed over that way on the A/B/C1 course. In the end Riley Gibbs got 3rd in the A's and Rob Rice got 4th while Steven Hopkins got 9th and comeback kid Sawyer Gibbs had an amazing second day grabbing 8th overall in the A's. With such a competitive fleet, it was really tremendous to have four of our sailors in the top 10! Rob Rice of course protected his 3rd place position in the overall North Series and closed in on 2nd place Conor Kelter, last year's Sabot National champ, just missing catching him!

On the C2/C3 course, we had a big group go and saw up and coming talent shining all over the place. They faced the same fluky wind but fortunately had many less moorings to deal with over in the Lido channel. They did however have a course that included 6 laps around a triangle! Fresh out of C3's, rising star Adam Elsharhawy found his way into the top 3 of the C2's finishing in 2nd the first day and pulling out a 3rd overall for the regatta! Sibling Nora Elsharhawy had a pretty great regatta as well as she found herself in 3rd in the C3's on day 1. She dropped a few spots on day 2 but showed great potential ready for a talent explosion like a volcano ready to burst!

Finally, we've been watching the talent developing in young Ryan Ayale and have simply been waiting for it to be realized in his results. This was his weekend as he was winning the C3's outright in his first day with a 1st, 2nd, 4th. He came on reasonably strong the second day but dropped one spot in the end. Regardless, in this large and competitive C3 fleet, we are excited to welcome Ryan into the C2's! Congratulations to all our sailors!

Brad Schaupter

pete melvin to speak

April General Membership Meeting - Presenting Oracle Design Team Member

Pete Melvin is the engineering partner in the renown US design firm of Morrelli & Melvin who designed landmark catamarans such as the America's Cup's only catamaran *Stars and Stripes* and Steve Fosset's record breaking monster catamaran *PlayStation*. He has been a champion sailboat racer since his youth and has won over 25 National Championships in a wide variety of dinghies, keelboats, and multi-hulls of all sizes. He has won three World Championships in the A Class Catamaran and competed in the 1988 Olympics sailing in the Tornado Class. He has been a crewmember on five WSSRC sanctioned World Records.

The ABYC Junior Fleet is honored to announce that our very own member, Pete Melvin will be discussing the 33rd America's Cup at the April Membership Meeting. Be sure to come to the Membership Evening and enjoy Pete's Presentation of this historic yachting event.

His coach is Rob Coutts from New Zealand, an older brother of Russell Coutts, the four-time America's Cup winner. But Leibowitz's competition—including veteran Laser racers Chuck Tripp, Vann Wilson, Jay Golison, Jorge Suarez and Chris Raab—also helped to push him over the weekend.

"The boat speed of some of those guys is awesome," he said. "I had to step it up a bit."

Snow and Isler, now both 16, also fired up to repeat last year's win in the CFJs, but this time their victory also earned them first place in the four-event Shadden Series for Southern Californians. They defeated the defending Shadden champion, Chris Segerblom, by winning their first four races and finishing fourth in the fifth to clinch it all with a race to spare.

Segerblom and crew Francesca Cappellini placed second. The complete final Shadden results will be posted on the SCYYRA website.



Will Boudreau was heads-up in the Sabot C fleet



Bruce Golison and crew Becky Nygren led Lido 14s for awhile

Snow is the son of world-class racer and sailmaker Chris Snow; Isler is the daughter of America's Cup veteran Peter Isler and two-time Olympic silver medalist JJ Fetter. Both are 16.

"I really liked it," said Isler. "The wind was great both days, even if it was a little cool."

Despite their success as a team, they'll again soon be rivals racing with the Cathedral and Francis Parker high school teams.

Gaudio, a successful veteran of boats large and small, blitzed the Naples Sabots with five consecutive wins and, like Snow and Isler, sat out the last race.

Robertson, with crew Michael Anctil, was uncharacteristically deep in the fleet after the first day as one of six boats that rounded the Sabot windward mark

instead of their own in the regatta's first race and subsequently took retired-after-finish (RAF) last-place scores. But that ultimately became their throwouts and they wound up in five of the top six places.

Only first-day leaders Bruce Golison and crew Becky Nygren stayed in the hunt and went into the final race tied with Robertson, who then finished third to his rival's sixth.

Rich Roberts



CFJs charge to the start line



Nevin Snow (l.) and crew Marly Isler repeated their CFJ victory



Connor Kelter and crew Esteban Forrer (8938) port-tacked the CFJ fleet in a Sunday start

more **manning**

The weather forecast for the weekend of the SCYA E.E. Manning Regatta called for rain and strong winds. Our Vice Commodore did his rain dance (as he did for Midwinter's) with much success, we had great wind and no rain during racing. Despite our weather worries, we had a strong entries with 44 CFJs, 16 Lasers, 18 Naples Sabots and 27 Sabot C's.

Strong winds from the South Southeast kept our PRO's Jerry Montgomery (outside) and Mark Schryer (inside) on their toes all weekend. On the outside courses, competition in the CFJ fleets was stiff for the E.E. Manning Perpetual and the fourth and final regatta for the Southern California Youth Yacht Racing Association Shadden Series. The first three places in the CFJs E.E. Manning Series were within four points by the end of six races. Third place was Adam Pokras and Nikki Obel of DRYC, 12 point; second place was Chris Segerblom and Francesca Cappellini of NHYC, 12 points and first place was Nevin Snow and Marly Isler of SDYC, 8 points. Snow/Isler was also winners of the Shadden Series.

The full rig Laser fleet also had tight races and results for the first three places within four points. Third place was Vann Wilson of ABYC with 12 points, second place was Chuck Tripp of ABYC with 11 point and first place was Ben Leibowitz of USC Sailing with 8 points. Rich Roberts reported that Ben Leibowitz is new to the area and a student at USC business school. (Perhaps we'll see Ben as a new member.)

In the bay, there were three fleets. The Lido 14's suffered from some confusion during the first race regarding which mark was the weather mark. Only six boats in the fleet sailed the correct course, but with one discard in the overall score this error did not have much impact on the overall results. Third place was Walter Johnson and Nikki Rambo of BYC with 16 points, second place was Bruce Golison and Becky Nygren of ABYC with 12 points and first place was Stu Robertson and Michael Anctil of ABYC with 9 points.

E.E. Manning is one of the few regattas of the year that Junior and Senior Sabots sail as one fleet. We had one father/son competition on the bay. Matt McDermaid won fourth place, just three points behind this father Jeff McDermaid. Third place Jeff McDermaid of ABYC has 20 points, second place Riley Gibbs of ABYC has 12 points and first place Mark Gaudio of BCYC had 5 points. Mark Gaudio was also the recipient of the Kober Perpetual Trophy. The second largest fleet was the Sabot C fleet. The C fleet struggled with the heavy gusty wind, but managed to complete five races of the series. Third place was Alan Peoples of ABYC with 17 points; second place was Taryn Anderson of NHYC with 15 points and Andrew "Drew" Mouacdie of BCYC with 12 points. Drew was awarded the Skimmer Trophy for winner of the second largest fleet.

I'd like to thank to Jerry Montgomery and Jeff Newsome the fleet captains of the duty fleets: Etchells and Multihull respectively. You both did a fantastic job organizing the volunteers! Also, many thanks to: Jim Morford, scoring, Latham Bell, judging, Dave Myers, race equipment; and Kelly Whitlow and the ABYC staff.

Jennifer Kuritz

membership **report**

ABYC Membership Drive Update

Thank you to everyone who sent Robin and me leads to pursue for new membership. We were able to post 8 "Regular" and 1 "Junior" in the first month of the drive which ends at the Memorial Day Regatta. In addition to this great start, we have multiple leads to follow and 3 others that we are waiting for sponsor letters. Let's keep the momentum moving forward by feeding Robin Townsend (robinmst7@hotmail.com) or myself (espotman@aol.com) any new potential members.

Ed Spotskey



New member Geraldine Lampert with Ed Spotskey and John Massey. (Merle Asper photo)

spring **spruce up**

Spring Spruce Up, April 24, 2010. This is an ABYC signature event. It will be fun for the whole family. We are a volunteer Club. We are very inexpensive because volunteers do a lot of the work. It is fun to volunteer for Spring Spruce Up. You get to make your Club look and work better. Some of your best friends will be present. WE provide tools, materials and a nice lunch (can you say keg!?!?!). See you then!

Go ABYC!

Merle

olympic classes regatta

If I had to describe this event in one word, **fun** would sum it up best. You should have seen the smile (all weekend) on Martyn Bookwalter's face during his first ever PRO duties. The radio background noises from Patience were filled with laughter. The sailors at the Saturday night BBQ were just "one big happy family". The land based group was thoroughly enjoying the new life at ABYC without the chain link fence. A good time had by all.

There was also some very competitive sailing on the water by the three classes. The Finn class actually ended in a three way tie which had to be determined by their third place finishes. Scott Mason ended up with his name on the Bixby Family Perpetual Trophy (Olympic torch) by winning the class. Our own Laser extraordinaire, Chris Raab will have his name inscribed on the Sidney T Exley Perpetual Trophy (which used to be given to the Flying Dutchman class). He simply ended the first day of sailing with four 'bullets' in a very competitive field.

We started Sunday morning with a call from the Marine Bureau asking us "if we had lost a boat named Blaze in the middle of the night". It was a Star the decided to untie itself from the dock and take a little 'midnight tour' of the harbor without hitting a thing. You should have seen the skippers face when we told him where we picked his boat up around 8:30 am. Anyway, it was an honor to have the Stars with us for the weekend. Skipper Eric Doyle with crew Rick Peters will proudly be placed upon the Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Andrews Perpetual Trophy as winner's of their Star class.

We had our first outdoor Trophy presentation of the season with the unobscured view of the steady parade of boats in the channel. Thank you to all the volunteers that made this event possible.

For a complete list of results, please check the ABYC website (www.abyc.org)
Ed Spotskey, Regatta Chair



Finn winners after a three way tie break. , Regatta Chair Ed Spotskey, Scott Mason, Eric Lidecis, Henry Sprague and Commodore John Massey



Scott Mason, Finn 1st place winner



Chris Raab, Finn 1st place winner



Eric Doyle with crew Rick Peters, Star 1st place winners



Visiting dignitaries, Ellie and Allen Kopp from Colorado, helped on Race Committee. (AKA Jon Lounsberry's grandkids.)

check the box

End of March update, 49 members now contribute to the ABYC Jr. Fund! THANK YOU to the long standing original 32 and the 17 members that have recently started contributing to the Jr. Fund. Without your support, the juniors would not have two beautifully refurbished trailers to use. They are now safe, road worthy and already in use! The next project includes the much-needed repairs to the Jr. whalers/trailers and the laser trailer. Our goal is to have everything ship shape and ready for summer. By the end of June, the JAB (Junior Advisory Board) would like to have a minimum of 150 members contributing to the Jr. Fund.

We are asking that each family participating in the Jr. Program partake in the Check the Box Campaign. Just like soccer, gymnastics, water polo or any other youth sport, fundraising is a must. There is a flyer inside the summer program packet that allows the club to add \$5.00 to your bill each month or you may donate the \$60.00 all at once. Please complete the form and send it in with your summer sailing application. Of course, any ABYC member can support the Jr. Fund. We welcome and appreciate the support. Those interested please contact me at the email address below and I will send you a form.

Stay tuned...next month the complete list of those members contributing to the fund and a list of all projects completed this year.

The ABYC Juniors and JAB thank you for your continued support.

Lynda Peoples, JAB Fundraising Chair

lloupeoples@verizon.net

picture this

At the annual October meeting of the Order of Staff Commodores new officers are elected and a new budget is voted on for the new year ahead. At this year's meeting Staff Commodore Nicole Peoples was elected President which means she will preside at the Opening Day ceremonies in May. The main duty of the group is to put on a good show for Opening Day. In addition we take on a few projects that would go unattended.

I opened my big mouth and suggested that we revamp the crooked commodores on the wall of the second deck by installing a system that would guarantee 'straightness' and give us ample room for future expansion. In about 2 seconds they appointed me to take on this project.

First off, there is no such system "off the shelf". Secondly, why not call "The Man Bob Chubb" for the answer? Bingo!! We were off to a workable start. Bob came up with a solution that keeps them straight and gives us room for 21 more years of commodores. Plus he made the system at little cost. The installation was complete with the help of Brian Holmes, SC John Merchant and myself while Tracy Conn scanned all the photos in order to make new prints of the ones that are badly faded as well as to have a back-up for all the photos in case of a total loss. The Club and the Staff Commodores graciously thank these capable and dedicated members for completion of this 'newly hung' project.

Ron Wood, Staff Commodore



Ron in full concentration mode



John Merchant "supervises" while Ron and Brian finish



Tracy Conn, Ron Wood, John Merchant, Brian Holmes and Bob Chubb in front of their completed project

bob and Teri bishop

John Massey photos

This is a quick reminder that Bob and Teri do a lot of things around the Club and they have been very busy! Check out all of the new landscaping and the projects listed below. Please enjoy the beauty of our Club and thank them when you see them!

"Tear down that wall Mr. Bishop!" Err,"tear down that fence... I mean!". Isn't that what Ronald Reagan said to Mr. Gorbachev 15 or 20 years ago? Nope, that is what the Board said to Bob Bishop last week at the Board meeting. Get down to the Club and see our new outlook on the Bay. No more view obstructed by a useless, rusty, 46 year old fence (I hope nobody ever calls me that!). Thanks go out to many people but especially Bob Bishop and Bill McDannel. Please give them Kudos when you see them!



OCR trophy table with no chainlink fence in background



New viewing platform

We have a new viewing platform! We had a problem with the Scoring Shack at the mouth of Basin 5. It was run down, a haven for miscreants, unused, and in desperate need of a face lift. For many years (20 or more) the board has discussed the problem and generally just kept it locked up and from falling down. Bob, Ted Flood, Dave Behr, Ron Wood, Ed Spotskey, others decided that it needed to be nicer, member accessible, and visible (so that nobody could hide up there and be up to no good). The board agreed. Bob Bishop took the lead and performed the lion's share of the job. We tore it down in one day and basically rebuilt it to a nice usable platform the next, all during the tsunami! Paint was harder to apply, but it turned out nicely.

Next time you are at the Club, take a moment and walk out to your new platform and enjoy the view of the bay. I foresee many more generations watching the action on the bay with much enjoyment. When

you are up there, please yell loudly "Thank You!" to Bob at his boat across the basin for getting it done! (If you can, do it late at night or early in the morning so that there is no other noises that would block the message and you know that he is over there!) Go ABYC!

Merle

moth fleet

Interested in joining the most exciting revolution occurring in sailing today? Want to skim effortlessly above the water? Want to be a part of the fastest growing, fun, competitive yet friendly, racing fleet in the US today?

If your answer to any of these is yes, then come join us in our ABYC Moth Demo day.....

The Moth fleet in ABYC is growing rapidly. We already have 6 active boats and our fleet is growing fast. On April 17th and 18th we will be holding our first ever Moth regatta at ABYC. Entrants include local boats as well as the Rolex Yachtsman of the Year, Bora Gulari, and the multiple medal wining McKee brothers.

On Friday 16th, (late afternoon) we will be holding a demonstration event where sailors with a genuine interest in joining the fleet can take a demo sail in a Moth. Full support and coaching will be provided as well as a representative from Bladerider, one of the major Moth manufacturers. All you need to do is turn up with your wetsuit and PFD. These boats are deceptively easy to sail for the average dinghy sailor, all you need is a modicum of athletic ability, and a go for it attitude. We will also show you how easy and quick they are to rig and launch single handedly at ABYC. As this will also be a practice day for the regatta, many Moth "pilots" will be around to answer your questions etc.

You may think these boats are for the young and the talented, but the average age of the top 2 sailors at the recent Dubai Worlds was 50!, and the "weekend warriors" are out having there competing, having fun and coming in with the biggest grins! Come and join us!

To sign up please email:

Mark Gaudio: gaudio@cox.net or Richard Davies: richarddaviesat@mac.com

If you'd like to discuss please call Richard on 805 410 2396 or see me at ABYC, I'm out Mothing most weekends.



abyc braves tsunami

Jeff Merrill photos

Mother Nature provided quite a spectacle for those of us hanging around the club on Saturday February 27th. We had all heard of the devastating earthquake in Chile and the Pacific Tsunami warnings. When something happens so far away it's hard to imagine it will affect you...but we had an amazing ebb and flood tidal flow show in the early afternoon.

Pat McCormick estimated that the tide was ripping out at 10 knots...and I think he might have underestimated that speed. All of 5 mile per hour speed cans that divide the channel were whisked out to sea...incredible, especially considering that it was low tide AND that they have 350 pounds of cement to secure them in place. (I have some video footage of one errant can setting sail) Lynda Peoples, Jim Grubbs, John Perone and others hopped up to the Widow's Walk for a view and you could see an incredible mid-bay river channeling fast moving water out to sea. Others lined the second deck, watching the water ebb...then go slack...then start to flood in.



The Tsunami arrived in the form of three small 1 foot waves, surely powerful, but not anywhere as devastating as the powerful forces that struck coastlines nearer the

epicenter. Kelly Whitlow and Adam Phelps also kept a steady view to sea with an eye on protecting our precious club house. A once in a lifetime event (I hope). Our thoughts and prayers go out to all of those unfortunate people who were not as lucky as us.

Jeff Merrill

spring spruce up

April 24, 2010. 8:00 AM

This is an ABYC signature event. It will be fun for the whole family. We are a volunteer Club. We are very inexpensive because volunteers do a lot of the work.

Spring Spruce Up is a blast! You get to make your Club look and work better. Some of your best friends will be present. We will provide coffee, donuts, tools, constructive tasks, materials and a nice lunch (can you say keg!?!?!). Don't worry we will not waste your time. See you then!

Go ABYC!

Merle Asper, Junior Staff Commodore

We need to know how many people will be participating so please fill out the form below and return it to our office:

Please return to office ASAP (with bill, or by fax; (562) 434-2267, or email; abyc.julissa@gmail.com)

() Count me in. I will be there; give me a rewarding job. Number of family members participating _____

() Sorry, I can't make it for a very good reason, but would like to help. Charge my account next month \$35.00 for supplies.

() I can't make it, but here is a check for \$35.00 to help buy supplies.

Member Signature

Member Number

Please print name

opening day

ABYC Opening Day is Saturday, May 1

If you have yet to RSVP for the Opening Day Basin 5 raft up on April 30- May 2, please return it now so our dock masters can come up with a mooring plan. If you want to bring your boat to the raft up but did not get an invitation, call Jim Bateman at 562.370.0125 or email at James.e.bateman@gmail.com.

All members are welcome to come to the Club on Friday night, April 30 to party with the host boats in Basin 5. The host boats will have beverages and appetizers....and a burger bash will be underway if the hors d'oeuvres on the boats don't fill you up...and the bar will be open if you can't get enough libations aboard the boats!

Come to the Club to have fun and celebrate the 84rd Annual ABYC Opening Day weekend!

Thanks,
Jim Bateman, Staff Commodore

Because of the raft up and related activities for Opening Day, the big hoist NOT be available Friday April 30, Saturday May 1st and Sunday morning May 2nd.

save the date

Catalina Cruise

Mark your calendars for August 20, 21, and 22 for the 2010 ABYC Catalina Cruise at Two Harbors. Last years' cruise was a big success with over 75 people and there is reason to believe this one will be even better. Let's shoot for 100 this year! Come a day or two before and stay a day or two after and make it a staycation.

Friday evening we will have an hors d'oeuvres contest judged by last years' winner Kelly Moffett Higgins. There will be happy hour and dinner both Friday and Saturday nights and, of course, open boat hospitality and children's activities on Saturday afternoon. The junior program and sabot nationals will be over and this would be a great way to end the summer before school starts. If you would like to help out or have any suggestions please call or email Pat McCormick 2010 Catalina Cruise Chairman.

Pat McCormick



IT'S DUCT TAPE!! HE PROBABLY
WAS A SAILOR!

hails from the fleets

...from page 11

L¹⁴



Other Fleets Race to Fleet Six's Side

It is generally known that Larry Ellison, winner of the America's Cup, got his start sailing "a little plastic boat called a Lido 14". He began Lido'ing during his school days at the University of California Yacht Club on San Francisco Bay and attributes that experience to his multi-billion dollar fortune, good looks and general joy of life.



The winners moments before they dropped their trophies, grabbed each in a group hug and burst out in a rousing rendition of Kumbayah.

Despite his indebtedness to the Lido Class, Mr. Ellison has ignored Fleet Six's repeated invitations to come sail on Alamitos Bay. Just two weeks ago he made a weak excuse about being somewhere out of the country, off the coast of Spain it is believed, partying with some Swiss friends. Last weekend, Larry claimed he was returning tableware to the San Diego Yacht Club, misplaced some years past.

Seeing Fleet Six's anguish at being snubbed, Lido sailors from around the world flocked to Alamitos Bay to comfort Fleet Six. From the factory, Steve Shupak, with Anne and Riley, Fleet Seven's Dave Carroll and Fleet Eight's Butch Michels, Tom and Karmen Estlow and Steve and Kristina Potter from Fleet Two, all hurried to be by Fleet Six's side. But the most generous of all was Kurt Wiese from Fleet 1, who hosted a Midwinter's clinic for all the sailors. With him was ABYC's own, John Papadopoulos (ed. note: Most people don't realize that Mr. Papadopoulos is a card-carrying member of ABYC and has full rights and privileges at the upstairs bar. His member number is P1256. Feel free to charge your drinks to his account).

"I love those guys in Fleet Six, so I thought I'd come up and help them with their sailing. We went over starts, buoy roundings, you know, the basics. I think they're starting to get it. I'll give some more lessons in a couple of weeks down at the WD Schock Regatta," Mr. Wiese said. Wiese/ Papadopoulos bested the 14 boat A Fleet with finishes of 2-3-(4)-1-2-1.

The heavy air conditions did cause havoc in the fleet. Mark and Sarah Ryan (3-5-2-3-1-4) literally had the numbers blown off their sails and their yacht eventually ended up shoaled on the yacht club lawn. Mark Ryan contended he was only trying to get his blade to operate properly. Those present knew that it was not an equipment problem, but getting his blade to stay deployed was really an issue of experience.

Walter "Big Johnson" 1-2-3-4-5-(8) also had problems with his blade, finding that once he had it put it away, he was having problems getting it out again. It cost him several positions at the last buoy rounding but he is looking forward to trying again.



The yacht formerly know as 4790 and Mark Ryan and shi shy centerboard

The worst equipment calamity struck Stu Robertson 4-1-1-2-(DNF)-10 of Fleet Two, when he failed to keep his mast up at all. "Honest, that's never happened to me before." Unlike Ryan, Robertson's equipment had operated perfectly well in the past but given the advanced years of Fleet Seven, hurried negotiations were begun with Pfizer Pharmaceuticals for fleet sponsorship. Medical staff will be standing by should the "upcoming" Pete Jefferson Regatta last more than four hours.

Lido love was best exhibited in the seven boat B Fleet, which was demolished by Eric Bakker and his son, Davis, 1-1-(4)-1-2-1. Not only was the crowd excited over their victory, but they were ecstatic to see Marcel and Jennifer Hughes out

...continued page 16

hails from the fleets

...from page 15

on the water again. As a bonus, while Kurt Wiese was giving his sailing clinic in the A Fleet, Margie Brown and Chuck Cover were kind enough to teach aquatic sports to the B fleet.

Later in the parking lot, Primary Race Officer Marc Shryer described how the event ended. "Stu's mast had fallen, Margie and Chuck were in the water, Bruce Wasson's and Walter Johnson's mustaches had blown off, Kurt's wife had been whisked away to shores unknown. I looked on land, and I saw that cats and dogs were lying down together. I looked out on the water and two 6000's were in the lead and as if he had made a deal with Beelzebub himself, one of them was Paul Makielski. I knew we were near the end times. I had to abandon." And with that bold action, Marc Shryer saved not only the Lido fleet but mankind itself from certain destruction



Stu and Mike Aencil dismasted. "Sweet" Sarah and "Twinkles" Rambo start a support group for Bonnie Robertson.

Marc made the right decision; with the wind whipping to 20 knots, the only person who could have kept a Lido down was Larry Ellison with his team of lawyers on the rail. But at the end of the day, the Aulde Mug is back in the US, the Lido class is bathed in love, and God is in his heaven, smiling down on that "little plastic boat called a Lido 14."

Thelonious P Bilgewater



Margie and Chuck with an award in their future and the Hughes family returns!



Marc Shryer describing his horror when he saw Makielski/Westland in the lead

hails from the fleets



First, a correction. In last month's SOU'WESTER we reported on the Super Bowl Regatta back in early February; there we said that the team on CAHOOTS led by Chris Wells and Dan Dooros got second and the team of Joe Markowitz and Bob Anderson were fourth. We evidently got that backwards. In explanation I can report that only one team raced with a mainsail that actually had the correct number on it, so it is easy to see how that mistake could have occurred. Please excuse my error.

Now, on to the big news. Argyle Campbell carded a perfect regatta—six wins in six races—to take the Angelita Trophy, win the 2010 Worlds Qualifier Series and take an early lead in the 2010 Fleet Championship Series. Second place went to the new co-owners of Ken Frost's USA663: the Hardenburgh brothers, all three of them. Jamie has sailed for years with Ken but has assembled a team with his two brothers—both who live out of town—in an effort to go the Etchells NA's in San Diego later this spring. They were pretty consistent after a first-race struggle, finishing right behind Argyle in four of the remaining five races.

Tim Carter and Chris Ericksen, who finished third overall, were among the boats that suffered equipment failures: theirs was a shredded mainsheet cover. Tom Corkett and his team had one, too; that it took them out of two races and relegated them to fourth place. Fifth place went to John Chapman, another breakage victim.

Don Burdge, 2009's Fleet Championship helmsman, and partner Bob Newsom, sailed only two races before other commitments took them away; they were sixth overall. Immediate past fleet captain Rich Vaught had what could have been a very bad failure—their backstay tackle carried away—that took them out of the regatta and into seventh place. Fleet Captain Jerry Montgomery entered but had a crew failure; he ended up sailing with John Chapman.

Here are the corrected Midwinter results, which vary slightly from those online:

| OWNER | SAIL NO. | RACE 1 | RACE 2 | RACE 3 | RACE 4 | RACE 5 | RACE 6 | TOT. |
|-----------------|----------|---------|---------|---------|--------|--------|---------|------|
| Campbell | USA1229 | (1) | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 5 |
| Hardenbergh's | USA669 | (5) | 2 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 12 |
| Carter/Ericksen | USA491 | 3 | 4 | (DNC-9) | 3 | 2 | 4 | 16 |
| Corkett | USA889 | 2 | (DNC-9) | DNC-9 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 21 |
| Chapman | USA1002 | 6 | 5 | 3 | 5 | 5 | (DNC-9) | 24 |
| Burdge/Newsome | USA126 | 7 | 3 | (DNC-9) | DNC-9 | DNC-9 | DNC-9 | 37 |
| Vaught | USA821 | 4 | (DNC-9) | DNC-9 | DNC-9 | DNC-9 | DNC-9 | 40 |
| Montgomery | USA792 | (DNC-9) | DNC-9 | DNC-9 | DNC-9 | DNC-9 | DNC-9 | 45 |

This is, by the way, also the order of standings in the 2010 Fleet Championship Series. That is scored as a high-point series and with 25 per cent (rounded up) of the scores discarded, so the points are different but the order is the same.

Thanks are due to all the Etchells fleet members, spouses and friends that turned out to run the SCYA Manning Regatta in early March, along with the Multihull Fleet. It is an essential part of life at ABYC that fleet members give up a regatta to do their duty for the club, and it was gratifying to see all the Etchells and multihullers out there.

The Fleet Championship Series continues in March with a fleet regatta on Sunday, March 28; the Cal 20's will be racing with us.

And this is the final notice: dues for the international and national class associations and the fleet are past due. Please step up and do the right thing: renew your membership in our fleet.

Chris Ericksen



C20 - Duty Fleet for Memorial Day Regatta



MEMORIAL DAY REGATTA, MAY 29TH-30TH
12:00 PM START
COOK YOUR OWN BARBECUE 5:00 PM
Adults \$13.00 Kids \$7.00
Exciting Entertainment By: SAJAMA!

hails from the fleets



The Fleet to Be In!

It was definitely a wild range of conditions for the Midwinter Regatta. Wind shifts of up to 90° made for challenging day Saturday. We were getting a little anxious on the water after multiple postponements do to the race committee needing to reset the line. After sailing three races, it looked like **the Woods'** might be leading the pack. Sunday, the winds really picked up with gusts up to 32 knots at times. Several boats choose not to sail with only a two person crew, with the predicted winds of 25+ knots. It was definitely a day for a three person crew. If not, it was rather difficult! **Mike and Ron Wood**, along with **Chris Wells** (on Sunday) sailed consistently; four firsts and one second, to round out the weekend as **Midwinter Champions!!! See results at abyc.org.**

The Cal 20 Fleet One Championship will be held April 18th with trophies following, yeah!!! The big winner will move on to compete in the Opening Day Club Championship representing the Cal 20 Fleet.

This year, Wet Wednesdays will begin May 5th. LBYC will offer four series instead of three. Our fleet measure day will be June 5th and 6th from 9:00AM on; sails will be measured July 2nd from 9:00AM on.

The Cal 20 Fleet Championship will be held this year at CBYC, July 16th-18th; with the Junior's Championship being held on July 15th. We are looking forward to a terrific turn out at CBYC!!!

Patty Nash, Cal 20 Fleet Captain



Lasers Race in the ABYC Manning Regatta

Lasers race at ABYC?...round up the usual suspects. So it was for a dozen *Laser* racers who braved what threatened to be cold, rainy weather on a March weekend for the S.C.Y.A. annual E.E. Manning Regatta. The usual suspects were a stalwart group of ABYC and frequent guest *Laser* racers plus a couple new faces.

Sailing out to the traditional ABYC race area, racers faced cool temps, partly cloudy skies and threats of rain and a fresh Force Four winds. *Lasers* shared the windward-leeward course with 42 CFJ's that started four minutes before us. This presented no problem most of the weekend, but in the second race, several CFJ General Recalls caused the **Lasers** to sail into the bulk of the CFJ fleet, creating quite a challenge at the leeward gate as well as dicey port-starboard situations upwind.

Setting the tone for the regatta, a trio from ABYC; **Vann Wilson, Chuck Tripp & Jay Golison** fought it out for the top four spots with newcomer Ben Leibowitz, newly arrived from the east coast.

Interviewed by Regatta Reporter **Rich Roberts**; "*Leibowitz, 19, likely will soon become better known after defeating a strong group of locals with two firsts and four seconds in the two-day small boat classic (Manning Regatta) that dates to 1935 and this time drew 174 sailors in 120 boats in five classes, all of 15 feet or less. He's going to love it here.*

"The boat speed of some of those guys is awesome," he said. "I had to step it up a bit."

Some of that "*boat speed*" was evident in race two when **Vann** uncharacteristically wandered off from the start line with mere minutes to go. By the time he realized his error we were minutes ahead; however, **Vann** did manage an impressive come back to finish the race in third.

Four more racers joined us Sunday for the last two of a six race series. We all enjoyed another sparkling day with snow capped mountains clearly visible to the north. The Force Four breeze of the previous day continued but the results did not vary between the top four racers. Finishing in order were Ben, **Chuck, Vann** and **Jay**, followed by Peter Drasnin from Westlake & Cal YC's rounding out the top five. In addition to racing, Peter attached a small camera to the bow-eye of his boat and shot a video on Sunday, available at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q8w8JqrHAiE>. Other ABYC racers finishing in order were; **Jorge Suarez**, your author, **Chris Raab** (racing only on Sunday, Chris still managed to finish second in the penultimate race) and **Garrett Brown**.

Lasers Compete in the ABYC Olympic Classes Regatta

ABYC racers comprised half the fleet of 15 *Lasers* signed up for the Olympic Classes Regatta (OCR) and one of our members won the regatta going away! No mean feat in the challenging conditions encountered on the ocean waters adjacent to the Seal Beach Pier.

The 2010 OCR was quite a contrast to the blow-out conditions of the 2009 OCR...

the mood of most racers was subdued as light morning breezes made sailing out the channel a chinch for *Star* boats but a slow challenge for *Lasers*. Despite light winds, the regatta started nearly on-time with *Stars*, *Finn*s and *Lasers* starting in order. Front row starts were paramount and clear air essential to keep your boat moving in the short, light chop and marginal

...continued next page

hiking conditions. On the downwind legs catching the small waves was a challenge, but if you did hook-up on one it did make a difference. Conditions also included fog which obscured the race area at times, but not enough for anyone to get lost. We were also treated to one race on a triangle windward-leeward course, but there was not enough breeze to get our boats planing.

Demonstrating his mastery of the conditions, ABYC's **Chris Raab** dominated the day with four straight bullets. Right behind **Chris** was Ben Leibowitz sailing his second regatta at ABYC. Of note, Ben was being coached, on the water, by Rob Coutts, the brother of famed pro sailor, Russell Coutts. Also in the hunt throughout the day, from ABYC were **Cameron Summers** who managed a second and two thirds and **Jim Kirk** who placed second in the shortened last race of the day.

According to reports, day two was much the same as Saturday, but the results did not change with **Chris** exchanging first and second place with Ben. **Cameron** and **Jim** both had third place finishes in the final two races. Other ABYC racers competing in order were; **Eugenio Cingolani** -who was taking a break from his Fellowship in Cardio-Thoracic surgery at LA's Cedars-Sinai Medical Center- **Sanjai Kohli, John Bergan, Ed Feo** and your author.

Steven Smith, ABYC Laser Fleet Co-Captain



KEEL BOAT FLEET ON WATCH

The March Keel Boat Fleet meeting was a great success thanks to an idea from Joe Riddick and all the wonderful 'pot luck' dishes from the members. Joe asked everyone to bring their oldest sailing trophy to the March meeting and old they were! All except one were 60 to 70 years old. The one exception was Norma Clapp's trophy that she won at the S.C.Y.A. Commodores race when she was Commodore of ABYC of which she was justifiably proud. Dan Clapp had a trophy from his earliest sailing days on a lake. The rest of the trophies were from Bob Chubb, Joe Riddick, Al Nelson and Maggie Caddle and were earned from Alamitos Bay when there were just as many mud flats as water with the exception of Al who earned his in the first years of the Alamitos Bay Marina revamp. The final winner was Maggie who had a trophy that was not recognized as a normal looking trophy. It seems in 1942 the local two clubs, (Leeway and ABYC), plus S.C.Y.A. gave out certificates instead of regular trophies as all metal went to win World War 2. The certificates stated that the amount that would have been spent on a trophy was given to the American Red Cross.

The ever popular Spring Cruise at Shoreline Yacht Club chaired by Bobbie and Vern Peterson will be on Friday, April 23. The Host Boat will again be Bobbie Hodges' 'Dixie Cat'. Bobbie and Don are great hosts and deserve many thanks for being so generous every year. Dock side cocktails start at 4:30 PM. Please bring your own libation, plastic glasses and small hors d'oeuvres. Dinner will at 6:00 PM at Shoreline Yacht Club. Please do not bring cocktails from the dock side party into the Shoreline Yacht Club clubhouse. This is a great party as you can come by boat or car.

The next and last Keel Boat Fleet meeting before the summer break will be Friday, May 14. This meeting is traditionally a bar be cue held in the ABYC patio. More on this as information is available.

George



March 14th saw yet another beautiful day out on the Bay. Five sailors experienced a pretty aggressive workout, as the winds became quite challenging for the two races after our lunch break. Luckily "overboards" or "breakdowns" occurred and we all made it ashore in time to enjoy the late afternoon on the patio, followed by a Chicken Chow Mein dinner prepared by ABYC's own chef, Jesus.

March marked the first of our four month. Fleet Championship Regatta. More of our Sr. Sabot members need to come out and get their boats out on the water as Spring is coming! Already we were happy to see daylight savings time start so early on the day of our fleet race! Joe Riddick gave us information about the Keelboat Cruise on April 23rd, at 4:30. Call Mary Riddick for more information and to RSVP.

Members circulated a card for Jerry Thompson, wishing him well in his recovery from a recent illness. Lee Berlinger reported on progress being made for Sabot Nationals in June. Mary Riddick reported on SCWSA, events and calendar.

Thank you to the Race Committee for March: Ray Gonzales PRO, Assistant Pro, Brian Gonzales. Whaler Duty: Joe Riddick and Don Wilson. Our volunteers are invaluable to us!

Trophies were awarded to:

| | |
|---------------|-----------|
| Mary Riddick | 1st place |
| Lee Berlinger | 2nd place |
| Chaz Merrill | 3rd place |

Dianne Gonzales



Alamitos Bay Yacht Club

7201 East Ocean Boulevard
Long Beach, California 90803

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Happy Birthday Patience!!

Join us for birthday cake and in singing Happy Birthday to Patience at the General Membership meeting on April 16th. She will be 20 years old in ABYC years.



ABYC's Mother's Day Brunch

Sunday May 9, 2010

10:00am - 1:00pm

Free gift for all Mothers

Great Food including Quiche, Waffles, carved Turkey and Roast Beef, Champagne Mimosas and much more

Adults \$20.00, Kids 3-10 \$10.00, Under 3 years old Free

Please RSVP to the office by May 2nd

562 434-9955

After May 2nd - Adults \$30.00 - Kids \$15.00

