

Sou' Wester



December 2010

turkey day regatta 2010

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Rich Roberts photos



Day 1

Turkey Day sailors gobble up the wind and rain

In a place that revels in year-round sailing, the only people on the water Saturday were there with a purpose: Alamitos Bay Yacht Club's annual Turkey Day Regatta.

They had the lumpy seas and 60 degrees all to themselves, and more of the same wet and windy early season storm stuff is expected to blow in from the Pacific when the tradition of more than half a century winds up Sunday.

Bring it on, say some 350 sailors of all ages on 228 boats in 19 classes, who when the rain passed through in the early afternoon were bathed in bright sunshine filtered through dazzling and towering white fluffy clouds.

Then they all warmed up and dried out with a turkey dinner hosted by ABYC.

Competitors include several Southern Californians listed earlier this month among 55 members of the 2011 US Sailing Development Team: Paris and Hans Henken of Coronado, Connor Kelter and Kieran Chung of Newport Beach, Georgie Ryan of San Diego and Marly Isler of La Jolla.

Chung, sailing a Laser Radial in the event's largest class, won two of his three races and scored second in the other but remained in a dogfight with Matthew Morris of San Diego (2-1-1), with Annie Rossi from Cabrillo Beach YC and Stephen Long of Santa Barbara sharing third place with 13 points each.

The competition is being run on two courses on the outer harbor and another inside for the smallest boats: Lido 14s and Naples Sabots.

Rain or whatever, racing will resume at noon Sunday, conditions permitting. All classes are scheduled for a total of six races.



Weather or not, they're out racing for turkeys in Long Beach



Diversity of the ABYC Turkey Day fleet shows when Zach Maxam's Moth meets Jeff Ives' Cal 20

Day 2

Big breeze a blast for some, overkill for others

A brisk westerly breeze chased the rain out of town, chilled sailors to the bone and knocked down some of their boats, but it all made Sunday special for those who like their on the extreme side.

"I had a blast," Jimmy Madigan from Newport Harbor YC exulted after winning the Naples Sabot A championship in the Alamitos Bay Yacht Club's annual Turkey Day Regatta in a two-boat battle with Jack Ryan of San Diego.

Between them, the two 14-year-olds won five of their class's six races and seemed ready for more, while some of their shivering peers

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save the date

Tree Trimming	December 3
Naples Boat Parade	December 11
Christmas Party	December 12
Boxing Day Regatta	December 26
Rose Bowl Regatta	January 8-9
Membership Meeting	January 21
Club ABYC	January 28



The year 2010 has just about gone with the wind as we have enjoyed a boat load of activities at ABYC in November and December and we will be knee deep into the Holidays when this issue of the Sou'Wester arrives in your mailbox.

The November General Membership found us introducing some new ABYC members whom I expect we will be hearing a lot more about in the coming years and was capped off with our first annual "Champions Celebration" where over 150 people enjoyed a tasty catered Hawaiian dinner as we acknowledged those ABYC sailors who have won championships during this calendar year while sailing under the ABYC burgee. The **Burgee Award** winners were excited to be recognized in front of so many fellow members and the aggregate accumulation of championships and seeing so many of the trophies and sailors all gathered in one room was not only impressive, but I'm sure served as both a prideful experience for all members and a great motivator for all of our racers. Amongst the shiny hardware featured at the front table we had two US Sailing Championship trophies on display – the Alter Cup Multihull trophy won by **Pete Melvin** and **Nat Shaver** and the Bemis Youth Double Handed cup won by **Jack Jorgensen** and **Samantha Gebb**. I would like to personally thank **Toni Morford** for preparing all of the award certificates and **Sue McDannel** for organizing the dinner and managing the online reservation system that worked so well. **Patty Nash** and the Cal 20 fleet did a wonderful job of setting the tropical theme including Tiki torches and floral table decorations.

The following weekend we held another impressive Turkey Day Regatta. Once again ABYC stepped up under the regatta leadership of V/C **Jon Robinson** and R/C **Mike Baumann** plus the club side arrangements with too hip manager **Kelly Whitlow** jumping right back onto the fray after convalescing the past 6 weeks from hip surgery and was assisted by **Sue McDannel** and our normal legion of volunteers. Over 200 boat entries and 300 dinners served make Turkey Day an annual can't miss event for sailors from nearly all of the US western states. The rain bursts and wind gusts made things very interesting and tricky. After greeting arriving guests and members while handing out parking passes I rigged my Lido 14 and went out racing with Pam – we had a competitive weekend going until one tack on Sunday where I couldn't release the mainsheet in time and soon placed both of us in the drink. I'd forgotten how much water a Lido can hold- they take a long time to bail out! ABYC hosted another wonderful event and everyone I talked to is looking forward to coming back next year both as competitors and volunteers. A special thank you to all of the volunteers and our club staff for keeping everything running so smoothly.

Before I leave Turkey Day I would like to repeat something that I mentioned during the trophy presentation Sunday night. While announcing the Lido 14 A class I recounted a very impressive display of sportsmanship that happened right in our bay. **Stu Robertson** and **Mike Anctil** were many boat lengths in front on the push to the finish line of a three leg W- L course when they sailed upon a turtled Lido B and asked if they needed help. The crew said yes so **Stu** and **Mike** abandoned their lead to come to the rescue and insure a happy ending for the B sailors. During the awards I stated that **Stu Robertson** has won so many races that he couldn't possibly remember them all, but I'm sure he will never forget the memory of making a rescue while in first place and to me that is a wonderful example of sportsmanship – the room gave a spirited round of applause to our heroes. And speaking of happy endings **Stu and Mike** went on to win the Lido A class in Turkey Day.

With Turkey Day over our long anticipated remodel project has commenced. You will notice some changes the next time you are at ABYC and again, please check in with **Kelly Whitlow** before going on a tour so that he can safely guide you through the construction debris. Not knowing exactly how far along we will be on any given day we are moving forward with all of our planned social activities in December, but they may be a bit more challenging in years past.

Time is running out to invite your long lost ABYC former member friends back into the fold. The "We Want You Back" membership drive appears to have found a half dozen takers, which is a very nice achievement. We will jump into the New Year with a construction promotion to attract new members during our remodel so please get the word out to your sailing friends that we would love to invite them to join our club and there are some great savings incentives if they act now. There are ABYC membership application packets at the office, the same forms are available on our website and if you have any questions or want some help getting a new member signed up please contact membership Director **Jim Grubbs**.

Go to our website to see all of the events scheduled for December – there are holiday parties, the trees in the bay will be lit up at night and the festive holiday season is made even more enjoyable by spending time with your ABYC friends at the club. The Boxing Day regatta on December 26th wraps up our impressive racing events schedule for 2010 – please sign up and get one more sail in. ABYC rolls right into the New Year with the Rose Bowl Regatta in January kicking things off. Come on down to ABYC (make sure your boat is secure and dry) and check our online calendar for the latest updates on events and activities. Come on down and use your membership to enjoy all of the magic that happens at the end of the peninsula. I encourage everyone to make ABYC a priority in your resolutions for 2011

We are very close to putting the finishing touches on our online membership roster. We did not print a yearbook/roster in 2010 and we hope to remedy that very soon with a very easy to use password protected membership section on our website where you can update your own account information and print out the membership directory as a PDF. Once this first phase

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is up and running we will be migrating all of the trophy photos, historical archives, bylaws and other sections of the old style yearbook – phase two - to www.abyc.org

The new Board of Directors has met to organize our approach for 2011. One housekeeping item that was approved is a Membership dues increase effective January 1, 2011. The Board is tasked with raising dues incrementally each year so that don't ever have to have a huge increase at any one point in time. We are raising the dues for Independent Junior Members 10% and all other Membership categories will be raised a modest 3%. I would also like to point out that for 2010 we held our prices and we're not predicting that the recession is over, but we need to get our Membership numbers up and insure all activities at least break even to increase revenue as our costs have also risen. I think I can speak for ALL Members and say that ABYC is still an incredible bargain and that our facilities, food services, storage, entertainment, events and regattas provide more value than any other yacht club on the west coast. You will be getting a formal letter announcing the dues change from me in your December billing.

On behalf of my wife **Pam** and our teenagers **Elle and Jonn**, the Merrill's wish everyone a peaceful holiday spent with family and send our most optimistic hopes to you all for a prosperous 2011.

As we continue up the first leg of the race to October, 2011 we have covered the fleet, located the weather mark and tacked onto the layline. There is just the right amount of weather helm on the SS ABYC! Thank you all for pitching in - whether you are trimming sails, hiking out or calling the wind it takes a team effort to be a successful crew. We should be able to make a nice clean rounding next month.

I am available by cell phone 949.355.4950 and email jeffcmerrill@gmail.com and always welcome your ideas and suggestions. Thank you! "ABYC is the place to BE"

Jeff Merrill

Boxing Day Regatta

December 26th

Be there!!



Sou'Wester DEADLINE

December 18, 2010 is the deadline for the Jnauary 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.

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vice



The east yard is cleaned out and full of construction containers. We have now broken ground for the construction project to remodel the bathrooms and elevator installation. All four of the bathrooms are out of service but the new bathrooms are pretty nice. We will be in demolition mode until mid December. The electrical will be on and off during the month of December to facilitate service upgrades and new sub-panels. The reconstruction will begin around Christmas or before with rough plumbing and electrical. As the construction progresses the bathrooms will take shape with tile and toilets, sinks, and cabinets.

The elevator demolition will begin after the first of the year, hopefully after Rose Bowl Regatta. The demolition, construction and installation of the elevator will take about 6 weeks. The elevator shaft area will be enclosed during events with plywood to prevent people from falling into the construction. The whole project is projected to be completed by mid March but it may extend to the end of March.

The yard is in great shape with all of the boats in their proper places. There are a few places in the yard up for rent and I am contacting those on the list to fill those spots. Be ready when I call to offer you a spot in the yard.

We have experience our first rain and those of you who have boats in the yard need to winterize your boat. Sabots need to be flipped up side down, Lasers need to be covered or inverted, centerboard boats and keelboats need their drains open. Come down to the club and check your boats, be ready to empty the water out of your boat.

The rail rider program is still alive. The spaces which were a premium during the summer are now more affordable. We have several spots available so call the office and get your boat on the rail. After January 1, spaces will have an even lower rate since we are under construction. This rate will be for January through March and will \$255 for the three months (a real deal). The fee is due in advance of January 1.

The house is in good shape. The grounds look as good as they ever have with a new set of three palm trees in front of the patio. Come down to the club the view is spectacular. The second story deck needs to be sanded and painted and I have it on the list of things to do. There is some paint touch-up inside the club but nothing major. We will repair it when we reach that part of the construction.

Looking to the future, I will continue to monitor the yard, enforce the yard rules and make the yard and house more secure. My mission this year is to institute more security measures in the yard. These will include barcodes for boats and entry security systems for entry gates.

Jon Robinson

rear



I hope you are all got warm and dry after our Turkey Day Regatta. The conditions were actually pretty good for racing, and the dinner could not be beat. Thanks to our staff, Jon Robinson, Sue McDannel, the SAC, and the Staff Commodores for serving up a hearty and much appreciated hot turkey dinner.

Christmas time is coming upon us, and we will be holding the ABYC Christmas Party on Sunday the 12th at 4 PM. Some of our favorites will be there, including Santa, with gifts for the kids, and the traditional Christmas Carol Sing-Along. The trend of offering online signup, and an early discount is continuing. (If you are reading this online, you have til the 5th to get the discount.)

From Betty, Glenn, Kevin, and myself, our family wishes you the happiest of holidays, and a wonderful 2011.

Mike Baumann

fleet captain's



We're already two regattas into the ABYC year. Halloween Regatta, hosted by the Senior Sabots, was a great event. Our fleet of race management boats all handled well until it came time to raise the anchor on Patience. The windlass wouldn't work. Mike Baumann and a strong friend of PRO Martyn Bookwalter were able to huff it up and it has since been repaired. A bigger test of all our equipment is Turkey Day Regatta. It was run with two circles outside and one inside. The good news is that all our equipment worked beautifully (and we only lost one whip mark from racing boat colliding with it). We did have a few issues with VHF radios on the inside course that were rectified on Sunday.

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Chris Ericksen and his Team Patience are doing a great job. Bob Anderson and Dave Kofhal were able to fix the windlass problem and are working on improvements to other parts of the electrical system. After Turkey Day, Team Patience and other volunteers gave Patience a good scrub and put her to bed with all her covers. I really appreciate the extra effort! I also want to thank Mike Baumann, Dave Myers and George Caddle for organizing all the equipment for Turkey Day. And, kudos to all the whaler operators at Turkey Day Regatta for pushing those heavy carts up the ramp during the extremely low tide. The effort was greatly appreciated after such a hard day on the water.

Also, Turkey Day Regatta was the début of Chris Ericksen's new boat Volunteer! Volunteer is a trawler similar to Patience and worked extremely well as the principal race boat on Bravo course. Sharon Pearson's scoring team loved being able to stay inside out of the wind and rain. The upper deck has great visibility from the race course and the modified equipment seemed to work very well. Hopefully, Chris will lend the club the use of Volunteer on a regular basis.

The bay barge painting project is underway. Our paint expert, Duncan Harrison, has advised on what type of paint to use and, if the weather would cooperate, we can complete the scrapping of the deck and begin the upgrade. Duncan has some good recommendations to fix-up the storage box and Steve Butler has donated another box for potential use on the barge. I am hopeful that we will get a few days of warm sunny weather and are able to complete this upgrade before Boxing Day Regatta.

The Moth Event was a success. The new growing fleet decided to ship via air freight to the Worlds in Australia, but the practice weekend went ahead. There was good breeze on Saturday so several races were run. Sunday, the wind shut-down so no racing. Martyn Bookwalter reported that it was great warm-up for the upcoming Moth Nationals this summer.

On the trophy front, the perpetuals were packed up to protect them during the construction at the club. There was some method to the packing madness, so we will be able to find the perpetuals for the upcoming regattas. Please contact Carol, Kellie or me for help finding them prior to the regatta weekend.

Jennifer Kuritz

from the pages of history

The cover art on the three editions of the SOU'WESTER reviewed this month could not have been more dissimilar—but all three were reflective of the times in which they appeared. The rest of the editions had much in common, otherwise, as you will see,

THIRTY YEARS AGO:

Cover photos were still fairly new when the SOU'WESTER for November, 1980, came out. It showed something quite unique: Sabots beating upwind toward Naples Island, with the flagpole of the Alamos Bay Marina office in the background flying a small-craft-advisory flag.

An article inside told the story. While it had been "a foggy, smoggy week" before the regatta in October, 1980, the morning of the regatta was sunny and warm, with a clear view of the mountains to the north. At eight o'clock there was already "a dilly of a wind," to quote PRO Sid Exley, blowing solidly from the north. One whaler had been set aside for the day; at nine o'clock a second one was launched, and by eleven o'clock there were three. "Some of the gals didn't even remove their boats from the car tops," the article continued, "others went out to turn back before leaving the Basin." It was evidently a dilly of a day, but ABYC gals did well: Judy Mathias was tops in the "B" fleet while Jean Frost was first in the "C's."

Langdon Parrill's first "Commodore's Comments" were predictably short and to the point. "Our goals for 1981," he said, "are to continue with the successful programs of our past Board and Officers, with a concentrated effort to increase participation in all sailing activities."

The 1980 Stag Cruise went to Isthmus Cove; there were 65 men in 21 boats, and twenty of the boats raced back. Well, twenty started; evidently only eight stuck it out for the duration. It was a long, slow, close race: after 26 miles and seven hours—seven hours—the first four boats finished within one minute of each other, and the eight boats that did finish came in within twenty minutes of each other.

And in the "some things never change" department: The Club Manager was planning a new tack to solve an old problem: he reported that, "if hoses are not coiled and faucets shut off (after use), all hoses will be removed and user will be forced to bring their own or check one out from the maintenance shop"...a boxed and boldface notice reported that some of the membership-information cards had not been returned and the Yearbook was going to press, presumably with some incorrect information...Rear Commodore Dick Landes was serving as Regatta Chair for Turkey Day and expected "a large turnout" so encouraged all to "show up a little early and be patient with the congestion in the yard".

TWENTY YEARS AGO:

The cover photo of the November, 1990, SOU'WESTER showed several of the incoming officers and directors posing with their flags of office. Among those shown was your Club Historian, then the incoming Rear Commodore, wearing the then-current ABYC burgee necktie. At first I thought, how I wish I still had that necktie; then I thought, how I wish I still had that waistline.

The winners of several of the club's special awards were listed. Long-time Club Photographer Peter Gales was presented the Ted Matson Memorial Service Award; Jonathan Greening received both the Ann and Sid Exley junior Travel Trophy and the Don L. Adams Memorial Trophy for Outstanding Junior; and Pease Glaser was recipient of the Sidney T. Exley Trophy, the Commodore's Award.

Two of the inserts in the SOU'WESTER deserve some mention. The ABYC Christmas Party flyer announced that adult admission was five bucks but that children under twelve were free; on the other hand, members attending whose names started with A through L were asked to bring a finger dessert for a dozen people while those whose names started with M through Z were asked to bring an appetizer for the same number. And a clever flyer showed a fortune teller identified as incoming roster chair Judy Mathias asking, "Are you sure THIS is the best way to get roster information from our members?" as well as a representation of a serene Mona Lisa, identified as outgoing roster chair Sharon Pearson, replied, "Yes, dear...I'm sure."

There was late-breaking news from the United States Yacht Racing Union (USYRU) Annual General Meeting: Chuck Kober had been presented the Nathanael G. Herreshoff Trophy, the organization's "most prestigious award" given for "an outstanding contribution to the sport of sailing in this country" while Margie Brown was elected a Vice President of USYRU.

Over \$9,000 was raised and more than 200 boats participated in the fourth annual Yacht Clubs of Long Beach Charity Regatta; the proceeds went to The Children's Clinic...Reciprocal Moorings Chairman Clif Mathias reported that yachts from a dozen different clubs visited ABYC during the summer, including one each from the Royal Vancouver Yacht Club and the Lafayette Yacht Club of Indiana; nine more had come in after Labor Day...Bob Anderson, Race Management Committee chairman, reported that the entry fee for Bay classes was being increased to eight bucks and to twelve dollars for Ocean classes.

TEN YEARS AGO:

The cover art for the SOU'WESTER of November, 2000, showed a balance-beam "Olympic scale;" four duffel bags marked "1984," "1988," "1992" and "1996" was shown being outweighed by a medal marked "2000." The legend over all explained this: it said, "Congratulations, Pease!" The cartoon was a celebration of the fact that, after four unsuccessful attempts, ABYC's Pease Glaser had come home from Sydney, Australia with an Olympic medal.

The 2000 Ladies' Day Regatta was held on "a beautiful October day," according to the report from Rear Commodore John Merchant. San Diego YC women took the top spots in the "A" division, but ABYC's Pinky Green, winner in the "B" fleet, was the best overall performer among ABYC women and was awarded the Christine Wagner Perpetual. Mark Townsend led the race committee. There were a total of 27 competitors, 16 women and 11 men, at Ladies' Day.

Both births and deaths were reported. Mike and Marilyn McMahan rejoiced in the birth of their first grandchild (as did great grandmother Mary Matson), Michael Allen Tannehill. And the yacht-club community noted the passing of two long-time members, Harry Hutchinson and Henry Nash.

Fleet Captain Kevin Ellis reported that it took two to replace outgoing Race Management Committee chair Mark Townsend: Glenn Cox and Steve Flam had agreed to serve as co-chairs...Steve Moffett with Greg and Mary Montz as crew represented ABYC at the Balboa Cup Regatta in San Diego; they finished third, behind current Etchells World Champion Vince Brun representing the host San Diego YC and yacht designer Alan Andrews representing Balboa YC...among sailors participating in the US SAILING Championship of Champions Regatta was ABYC's Chris Raab; he finished third overall.

Chris Ericksen, Club Historian

Jeff Merrill photo

new palm trio

We have a new "Palm Trio" thanks to:
Bob and Terri Bishop
Ron and Elaine Wood
Greg and Mary Montz
Steve Moffett
Merle and Kelly Asper
Pat McCormick
Rich and Vicki Vaught



champions celebration

Tracy Conn photo

ABYC Commodores John Massey 2010 and Jeff Merrill 2011 are pleased to announce the following ABYC members are our 2010 **Burgee Award** winners. Certificates were presented at the November General Membership "Champions Celebration". Congratulations!

Steven Hopkins
Stu Robertson
Jacob Rosenberg
David Bassett-Parkins
Chuck Clay
Pete Melvin
Ed Feo
Oscar Krinsky
Robert Marcus
Pinky Greene

Robert Rice
Mandi Smith
John Williams
Matt McDermaid
Johnny Blumberg
Nat Shaver
Mary Riddick
Riley Gibbs
Steve Smith
Craig Yandow

Jeff McDermaid
Bruce Golison
Mark Ryan
Freddie Stevens
Sawyer Gibbs
Adam Elsharhawy
Rory Gaudio
Shannon Hughes
Dave Crockett

Jean Frost
Ken Frost
Sarah Ryan
Fred Stevens
Samantha Gebb
Jack Jorgensen
Vann Wilson
Kevin Taugher
Mike Van Dyke



facility update

If you're like me (hopefully the answer is NO) and you've been coming to ABYC for regattas, dinners and all sorts of events you've been hearing about potential upgrades to the club. There has been any number of presentations on elevators, restroom improvements and other changes. All the while I would think, OK, when?

Well, when is **NOW!** As of Monday, November 22nd construction has officially begun on 2 major projects;

1. Installation of an elevator
2. Complete remodeling of both the main and quarterdeck restrooms. Not only will the restrooms be modernized, ABYC's restrooms will now be ADA accessible.

There will be lots of communications in the coming days about what to expect. For now, please keep in mind the following dates and facts.

1. Monday, November 22nd, construction officially starts,
2. End of March, 2011, planned completion date.
3. While the restrooms are out of commission we're going to have 'porta potties' on site. But these aren't just any portable toilets, they are 1st Class; you won't be disappointed.
4. We're going to do our best to keep disruptions to a minimum during construction; however we know that there will be some inconveniences. Please bear with us, it'll be worth it.

PLEASE BE CAREFUL and WATCH OUR KIDS. Any of you who have had construction at home know well a construction site can be dangerous. We'll do our best, but please, this is not a time for kids to be unsupervised.

5. If you have questions please feel free to ask our fantastic club manager, Kelly Whitlow. He has all the info. That's it for right now. Stay tuned to updates posted in the Sou'Wester and the Weekly Reader.

Ken Reiff

the bay clogger (junior sailing)

Happy Thanksgiving everyone, from the ABYC Junior Sailing Program! It's been a fantastic year for junior sailing at ABYC and many achieved their goals and more and so it's fitting to be thankful for the good things that have happened over the year. We're also thankful for such a supporting parent staff and membership that has been the reason the junior program has excelled to the extents it has. On a more specific level, I'm very thankful for our Junior Advisory Board who has done everything from fundraising to fixing charter boats. In fact all of the fixed trailers, new dollies, new sabot racks, fixed and purchased power boats came from them and money you donated to the Junior Fund. Thank you so much to our JAB! They all are Latham Bell, Steve Bloemeke, Mark Golison (Chairman), Doug Jorgensen (Outgoing Chairman – thank you for your three years of outstanding service!) Bob Kirstine, Chas Merrill, John Massey, Jeff Merrill, Tom Newton, Lynda Peoples, Jon Robinson, and Marc Schryer. There have been so many additional people who helped fix charter boats and upgrade the equipment along the way and there is simply not enough space to list them all in this article, so with deepest gratitude, I extend a heartfelt thank you to all of you who gave your time, money, and love so these kids could enjoy a fantastic sport that will last their lifetime.

Happy Thanksgiving everyone and thank you for all you are and mean to our sailing program!

Turkey Day Regatta Wrap Up @ ABYC (Sabots, Lasers, & Radials)

We had 30 ABYC junior sailors compete in this year's Turkey Day Regatta despite a gloomy weather outlook on the weekend. The weather channel had this one pinned as Saturday morning starting with a dark and cloud covered sky. One member asked with a smile, "do you think it's going to rain today?" Two others nearby laughed as though to answer without saying an actual word, and just as their laughs predicted, it came pouring down 15 minutes later.

That's the thing about sailors though, they never seem to be too deterred by rain and some look at it as extra incentive to get geared up (probably because they knew they were going to get wet anyway). From a coach's perspective on the other hand, it doesn't really hold the same excitement factor, but after a couple of foul weather gear donations from Latham Bell, I trudged out to the laser course while Mark Gaudio, Chuck Ullman, and Sarah Ryan took hold of the sabots' bay course.

The day's weather started out very rough and wet but eased up as it rolled along. For our C3's that went out during the first race, it was almost as if they had entered into battle and many came back sad-faced and soaked to the dock 15 minutes later. We give them all the proper recognition they deserve for trying in the face of such adversity. For some of the C3's, they saw this as an opportunity and seized it pushing hard to make it through just the first race in hopes of lighter wind and less rain later on. They got what they hoped for and the eight sailors out of 18 total that made it through the first race ended up sailing the next two as well. This turned out to be a much more important decision than they had probably originally anticipated as Sunday's weather was not as rainy but a lot more windy. The race committee thought about it, hesitated, and then sent the C3's to the dock ending the regatta a bit early and in most cases, the sailors were ever so grateful. Particularly Ryan Schack, Erik Hou, and Matthew Wiberg who held 2nd, 3rd, and 4th overall after the first day. The decision meant they would keep their positions and help mom and dad out by bringing home some turkeys and pumpkin pies. Two other notables are Axel Stordahl and Brett Peoples who were two more of the eight that stayed out.

The story was similar for the C2, C1, and B fleets where we saw the regatta called early due to heavy winds on Sunday. Nearly all the sailors went out on Saturday in the case of these fleets, so wherever you were at the end of Saturday is where you finished overall. This helped some and hurt other's hopes of a comeback on Sunday. Some of those who were helped were Bryce Hatch (3rd in C2's), Peter Bishop (2nd in C1's), Rory Gaudio (1st in B's), Sawyer Gibbs (3rd in A's and tied for 2nd), Joseph Hou (4th in A's), and Richard Bell (5th in A's). Sawyer was our top finisher which is a remarkable feat for an 11 year old. Where was his brother Riley you ask?

Back out to the ocean course where the coaches proceeded to get soaked if not by rain, then by ocean splash. Riley Gibbs along with Jack Jorgensen both tried their hands at 29er's. Riley sailed with a coach from Coronado YC while Jack sailed with his crew Tucker Atterbury from Santa Barbara YC. Admittedly, it was cool watching the 29er's screaming across the course, but I could see the occasional fear in the face of the crews as they knew one wrong move meant a wet crash landing. In the end, Jack got 5th while Riley came in 8th in the 13 boat fleet.

In the Laser Radial fleet, we had numerous breakdowns. Steven Hopkins had a boom break and John McInerney had a mast break, but they both competed outstandingly well. Our laser sailors by nearly any description are very small for any type of heavy breeze and I admire them for coming out on a rainy and windy weekend. My advice for them had a lot to do with depowering the sail and hiking as long as they possibly could. As past coach Eric Nix used to say, "you have to change your relationship with pain to sail a laser." While I'm pretty sure none of our sailors fell in love with pain this past weekend, I did see them achieve goals by working through it as best as they could. 130 pound John McInerney (more affectionately referred to as J-Mac) beat three boats in the second race so we set a goal to beat 9 boats and focused on just keeping the boat as flat as possible upwind. He was in 20th out of 33 at the windward mark. His face was weary and his body looked tired, but he accomplished a great goal in the middle of 18 knot puffs. Similarly, Steven Hopkins showed that he has

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great potential in lasers as his finishes got continually better as the weekend went on. Using all borrowed equipment, Steven has sailed both of the Frost series regattas and is falling in the mid-fleet level; an outstanding feat for such a new laser sailor. Nick Odegard, was coming fresh off an outstanding performance in Mission Bay receiving a 2nd overall at the Jr. Laser Champs. He found the wind at this regatta a bit more challenging as he is also a light weight, however he definitely had moments of glory rounding the windward mark in the top 10 several times. The force is definitely strong in this one as his speed and hiking capabilities are up there with the best. 98% of his race is outstanding and all it is now is eliminating the small but critical mistakes that are keeping him out of the top 5.

Overall, our sailors did very well and an extra big congratulations goes out to them for braving the stormy conditions. Have a great Thanksgiving everyone and happy holidays!

For photos and complete results, visit: <http://www.abyc.org/event.cfm?id=400>

Brad Schaupter, ABYC Jr. Sailing



a junior perspective

Surviving Turkey Day

Break out your cold weather and rain gear! Turkey Day was all about surviving the elements. Saturday, it was raining off and on from the time we got to the club until we went home. The sabots sailed three races on Saturday during times of torrential down pour. It was fun to sail in the pouring rain! The wind as light for the first two races and picked up a little for the third race. We ended the day eating a turkey dinner and all the fixings upstairs. Sunday brought more rain, much cooler temperatures and lots more wind. All the sabots headed out to start their races, only to have the C2's and C3's sent back to the dock right away after several racers capsized. The C1's and B's got to stay out for a bit longer but never got a race off. The series ended with the three races from Saturday for the B and all C classes. The A's got to sail and finished all their races. I wish I was an A; I wanted to sail in the good breeze!

Alan Peoples - Sabot Sailor

This past weekend my crew, Tucker Atterbury, and I competed in the 29er class at the Turkey Day Regatta. Saturday's winds were very puffy and shifty making for difficult sailing. Sunday brought some fresh winds in the 15-20 knot range with some even larger puffs. The story of the weekend for me was when on Sunday we were doing some pre race jybes, and I jybed the boom way to late in the middle of one. The boom ended up swiping across the boat and hitting the very top of my ear, leaving it bloody and very swollen. Right after the boom hit me I fell into the water and the boat flipped. After this truly frazzling experience we still made it to the first race and ended up scoring a second! All in all this weekend was a great experience in some gnarly conditions, and helped me further improve on my 29er sailing.

Jack Jorgensen - Double Handed Sailor

Thanksgiving is a day to give thanks for what we have and cherish every moment in life, but for the Laser classes in the Turkey Day regatta I would have to admit this was not so true for us. Through the harsh and discouraging conditions the race committee managed to pull off a total of six races. Even though the first day we spent over an hour of racing, having to change locations three times to more sheltered areas behind the break wall due to the massive chop and surf as well as ice cold rain. This regatta proved to have a great turn out for the competitors having 22 Full Rigs and 33 Radial Lasers. For me the conditions overwhelmed, and prevented me from performing my true potential, but that is what sailing is all about...learning from our mistakes and pushing ourselves to the limit. ABYC had several equipment failures but we were not alone, several other competitors faced similar problems. For many, our focus had shifted from the race and into our own survival both mentally and physically. If the weather had calmed down to the normal Long Beach fall breeze, I would have been a little more thankful for the turn out of this regatta moving from 11th the first day to 16th the second day after being drained of every form of energy after enduring the down pour on the first day. I do have to admit there were still some amazing moments in sailing out there on the race course being able to witness a 20 foot Viper 640 almost capsizing out on the course (which was quickly averted) and the extreme reaches from the new course locations on the first day. This Turkey Day was truly an unforgettable experience.

Nicholas Odegard - Laser Sailor

staff christmas

You can't imagine the pleasure one experiences collecting and accounting for all the donations to the Staff Christmas Fund. This is to me, an exceedingly gratifying reaffirmation of the generosity and warmth of our membership for our ABYC staff that do so much for us.

I'm asked the question, "Is there still time to send in a donation and make it for Christmas?" The answer is yes. Though the mechanics of accrual, accounting, and depositing is time intensive, I can still make the collection target date. I am shooting for a target date of the Friday, December 17th which would allow distribution of checks to staff on Wednesday Dec 22nd. I realize some folks may miss that target date, but rest assured that even those donations received later will ultimately be distributed.

John Massey

membership report

Tracy Conn photos

The following new members received their burgees at the November Membership Meeting:



Amanda Kroeger receives her burgee from Ed Spotskey



Stephen and Linda Fuccillo with Commodore Jeff Merrill and Ed Spotskey



Robert and Terese Ivory with Jeff Merrill

target photo shoot

Jon Robinson photos

A catalog/commercial photo shoot was held in our basin for Target and the photos should appear on the cover of the Target Holiday Catalog and/or in a TV commercial. Watch for it!



more turkey day regatta

Rich Roberts photos

suffered disabling breakdowns or chose to check out early, concluding that there are too many nice days to sail in Southern California without punishing yourself for the pleasure.

Altogether there were about 350 sailors of all ages on 228 boats in 19 classes.

The air temperature was 60 degrees F., made mean by the breeze. On the outside courses inside the breakwater the wind from due west registered between 18 and 22 knots through the afternoon.

It was 15 knots inside the surrounding residential protection of Alamitos Bay, but the race committee considered that too heavy a challenge for the less seasoned youngsters in the three C-rated Sabot classes, who were sent back in for the day.

"It was nice having the course to ourselves," Ryan said. "I really like it windy."



A brisk breeze start for Sabots

Unfortunately, he drew a foul in the finale that led to a prolonged protest hearing and a disqualification that left him tied with Morris on 7 points. Morris won the tiebreaker by finishing ahead of Chung in the last race that he lost on the protest, even though the DSQ became his discard.

But it wasn't a total loss. Chung also was awarded a turkey.

Rich Roberts

richsail@earthlink.net



A Cat start on Brovo course



Stuart Robertson and crew Michael Ancil (2511) swept Sunday's Lido 14-A races to win the class

Madigan overcame a broken boom vang—the gear that holds his boom down level to keep the sail flat—to complete a string of finishes of three firsts, two seconds and a fourth he discarded.

"I'm not sure if it was windier on the ocean, but it was so much fun," he said.

Even some grownups agreed.

Dave Morse, won one of the first place turkey prizes sailing an uptech Viper 640 for ABYC with a crew of Ken Reiss and Glenn Selvin, said, "This time last year we spent half our time upside down. This was our first regatta in [strong] wind when we didn't mess up."

Kieran Chung of Newport Harbor YC lost a hard-luck battle to Matthew Morris of San Diego YC in Laser Radials, the largest class with 38 boats. Chung led Morris into the sixth and last race by one point with neither having a finish worse than second.



Kevin Taugher raced with his kids in Lido-B fleet

more turkey day regatta

Rich Roberts photos



What was that Moth doing with the Lidos and Sabots?



Jimmy Madigan (r.) edged Jack Ryan for the Sabot A title



Walter Johnson and crew Nikki Rambo were 3rd in Lido-A



29er start on Brovo course



ABYC Commodore Jeff Merrill and wife Pam recovered to finish 5th overall in the Lido 14-A class



The Big Red Bus transports competitors up and down the peninsula



Our parking lot taken over by boats.

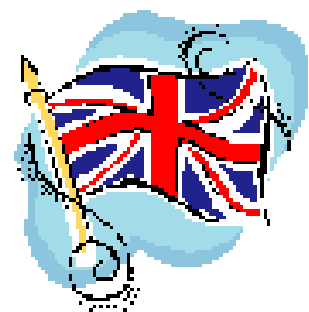


Lasers are not afraid of the rain



The crowd enjoying Turkey Day dinner.

**Boxing Day Regatta
December 26th
Be there!!**



hails from the fleets



Jorge Suarez is now **Laser District 25 Secretary**

The nexus of *Laser* racing in Southern California moves ever closer to ABYC (see Turkey Day Report below) with **Jorge Suarez** taking on the job of District 25 (Santa Barbara to San Diego) Secretary for the International *Laser* Class Association North America. *Laser* racing is poised to grow even larger in Southern California and at ABYC with Jorge's energy and experience racing *Lasers* in the U.S.A. and abroad applied to the District Secretary job. Jorge takes over from our prior, long-serving District Secretary and friend of ABYC, Nils Andersson from Mission Bay YC. Congratulations Jorge!

In addition to his District Secretary duties, and to my pleasure, Jorge will continue as ABYC *Laser* Fleet Co-Captain.

2010 ABYC Halloween Regatta

Nine *Laser* racers showed up to race in the 2010 ABYC Halloween Regatta. ABYC's **Nigel Morris** reported the racing was postponed briefly awaiting breeze, but eventually the full-rigs and *Radials* started together which worked out nicely in breezes of 3-5 which built to 6-8 knots for the last races. Taking first place in the *Laser* fleet was ABYC's **Eugenio Cingolani**, followed by **Nigel** and **Ed Feo**, also from ABYC. In the *Radial* fleet, ABYC's **Nicholas Odegard** was first followed by Austen Boyce from Newport Harbor YC, then **Nigel Lipps** and **Claire Paice** both also from ABYC.

2010 Turkey Day Regatta

For *Lasers* and *Laser Radials* the 2010 ABYC Turkey Day Regatta was contested in, what we here in Southern California would consider, "frostbite" conditions. Those would be air temperatures in the very low 60's and force four and five winds with accompanying seas. Despite arriving racers facing leaden overcast skies, wind, rain and a forecast of more of the same, our turn-out of *Lasers* (22) was the same as 2009 and only six fewer *Radials* (33) than last year.

With Turkey Day attracting 228 boats in 19 classes, races were contested on two separate courses with *Lasers* set to race in the ocean outside the Long Beach Harbor breakwater just south of Seal Beach. Expecting our Race Committee boat to be in this area, the fleet sailed out into a wicked wind and current induced sea-state in force-four winds and occasional rain showers. Many soon realized our committee boat had moved northwest to an area inside the breakwater and set our race course there. We learned later this was done as a precaution to our race committee, as the aforementioned sea-state made it impossible for our race committee members to stand on the committee boat fly-bridge and conduct the races. No matter, as conditions even inside the breakwater were still challenging. Though the waves were smaller, the breeze was "on", light to moderate rain showers passed throughout the day and we encountered much more kelp than we usually see in these waters making frequent centerboard and rudder checks mandatory.

In our first race, *Radials* followed *Lasers* on a once around windward-leeward course. Followed is the right word as all but two *Lasers* (**Vann Wilson** and John Staff) and all *Radials* sailed to and around the wrong windward mark. This resulted in all but two *Lasers* being either DSQ or RAF in the first race. Since all *Radials* did the same thing, no one did or could protest, so results stood for race one.

Race two was a repeat of race one but with everyone sailing the right course, while the last race of the day was twice around the windward leeward course. After three races John Staff from California YC was in first place. Despite missing race two due to a balky tiller extension hook-up, sailing the correct course in race one and placing first in race three, ABYC's **Vann Wilson** was in second. With everyone else being able to drop their race one result, the standings at the end of day two were to be anyone's guess. In the *Radial* fleet, Matthew Morris from San Diego YC and Kieran Chung—member of the 2011 US SAILING Development Team- from Newport Harbor YC, traded first and second place all day leaving Kieran in first by a nose.

After a cold wet day on the water, sailors were happy to consume the Saturday night Turkey Dinner included in their entry fee. Those added calories would be welcome for day two.

Sunday dawned clear, breezy and a bit cooler with the promise of more of the same conditions we saw Saturday. The race committee set us up to race in the same area inside the breakwater. It seemed, however, they gave us a slightly shorter start line as the *Laser* fleet featured a number of individual recalls and the *Radials* did have one general recall. Thankfully, the kelp we saw Saturday was largely gone on Sunday. Winds did range between 18 to 22 knots, so we saw a number of capsizes and even one dismasting. Actually, wonderful conditions which I'm sure most everyone reveled in...

It was nice to see *Laser* Masters come to the fore as **Vann Wilson** clinched the regatta on Sunday with two bullets and a fourth, followed by younger racers Olin Paine from Mission Bay YC (MBYC), Michael Bradley from Long Beach YC and another *Laser* Master, Dave Leuck also from MBYC. John Staff rounded out the top five. Other racers from ABYC competing were; **Nigel Morris** and **Sumeet Patel**.

Over in the *Radial* fleet, Matthew Morris and Kieran Chung traded first and second places for the last three races, however, Kieran came out on the losing end of a protest in race three. Despite Kieran using that result as a throw out, Matthew won the tiebreaker. Following Kieran in third was Stephen Long from Santa Barbara YC, with Chris Vilicich and Annie Rossi from Cabrillo Beach YC rounding out the top five. Top placer from ABYC was your author squeaking into the top ten. Also competing from ABYC in order were; **Nicholas Odegard**, **Bruce Johnston**, **Steven Hopkins** and **John McInerney**.

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Despite challenging weather conditions and big crowds, Turkey Day was an unqualified success for the *Laser* and *Radial* fleets! Our thanks go out to the race organizers, all the volunteers and ABYC staff for a wonderful weekend!

Vann Wilson Repeats as ABYC Laser Fleet Champion

Though tied on points with **Jorge Suarez** for the 2010 ABYC *Laser* Fleet Championship, Jorge yielded the tie breaker based on **Vann's** Turkey Day performance and the fact Jorge will be PRO for the 2011 ABYC Club Championship which we hope will see Vann competing for our fleet's honor. *Laser* racers following in order are; **Ben Leibowitz**, **Cameron Summers** and **Nigel Morris**. In our *Laser Radial* fleet, **Nicholas Odegard** earned the most points followed by **Bruce Johnston**.

Stephen Smith, Laser Co-Fleet Captain



The Fleet to Be In!

The 2010 Turkey Day regatta was an interesting one to say the least. As the boats left the dock on Saturday, the rain came down hard. Throughout the day the weather was unpredictable. Other than rain, we had chop, lumps, lots of wind, light wind and even some sun. Sunday the wind was really blowing with gusts up to 20 mph. Eight boats sailed on Saturday and five battled it out on Sunday. Thanks for racing everyone!

Results:

1. Keith Ives and Chuck Stevens – Rubber Dog
2. Erin Rustigan and Chuck Clay- Horton
3. Jeff Ives and Phil Soma- Bravura

Keep the fleet alive!!!!

Dan Bates and Jeff Ives



KEEL BOAT FLEET ON WATCH

Just a reminder that the Keel Boat Fleet is sponsoring the ABYC January 21, General Meeting so please try to attend and support our Fleet. Judy Mathias has lined up a speaker who will tell us all about GPS. Norma and Dan Clapp are again putting on the 'New Year's Eve Party' and it's a lot of fun and yet low key. Cost is \$5 a person for 14 years of age and up, 13 and under free. Please bring a hors d'oeuvre to share. Lots of games, good friends to reminisce with and of course cheering the New Year in from different parts of the country. The fun starts at 7 PM.

Calendar for the rest of 2011

January 14, Friday Potluck Dinner Meeting. In charge - Mary and Joe Riddick. Special Note: wear a shirt or article of clothing that has something to do with sailing in your past.

February, TBA Armchair Theater Cruise. In charge – Judy Mathias and Carol Reynolds

March 11, Friday Potluck Dinner Meeting. In charge – Susan and Ron Long

April 29, Friday Dinner/Cruise Shoreline Yacht Club. In charge – Maggie and George Caddle

May 13, Friday Potluck Dinner Meeting. In charge – Carol Reynolds and Bobbie Peterson

July 9, Saturday Pineblock Regatta – Patio Barbeque. In charge - Norma and Dan Clapp. Note: same date as Barbeque series races (share patio for barbeque)

September 23, Friday Patio Barbeque Meeting. In charge – none as yet

November 12, Saturday Potluck Dinner Meeting. In charge – none as yet

December 9, Friday Christmas Party Keelboat/Sr. Sabots. In charge – Judy Mathias and Carol Reynolds

George



The Sabotiers, together with the Keelboat Fleet were the hosts the Halloween Regatta. We had 95 boats participating, great costumes and nice weather.

November 6 was our Senior Sabot Sunday with 5 participants. Lee Berlinger, Bob Liger and Dale Berkihiser ran the races with Jerry McNaboe helping in the whaler. This month's chocolate bars were awarded to Jane McNaboe, 1st, Bobby Ware 2nd.

We did not manage to get enough entries for the annual Turkey Day Regatta (probably due to the rain), but the Senior Sabots were well represented as volunteers on the Bay Barge, in whalers, on the race committee boats, on the protest committee, and in parking management. Thank you everyone!

Our Sabotier/Keelboat Fleet Holiday Party will be held on December 10.

Jane McNaboe



Alamitos Bay Yacht Club
 7201 East Ocean Boulevard
 Long Beach, California 90803

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abyc outhouses

We have first class outdoor plumbing for our members and guests, you will be amazed at the level of sophistication our newfangled port-a-potties possess. Vice Commodore "Jon" has promised that these thrones should hold up to anything our members wish to deliver. This is not your grandpa's outhouse!

See Facilities Update article on page 7 giving details and a construction schedule.



A.B.Y.C. CHRISTMAS PARTY 2010

SEAS THE MOMENT...

Sunday, December 12, 2010
 4:00 pm

**Pictures with Santa
 Gifts for the Children
 Christmas Carol Sing-a-long**

Dinner to include:
 Prime Rib, Turkey, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans
 and of course dessert

Early Bird Price:
 Adults \$18.00
 Children \$10.00
 (10 and under)



**Please make your advanced online reservations
 by December 5th, 2010
www.abyc.org**

After December 5th: Adults \$25.00 & Children \$17.00

**Online reservations close Friday, December 10th
 at midnight**

*Please bring a new wrapped children's book for our collaborative ABYC donation
 to the Miller Children's Hospital of Long Beach*