



opening day 2010

From the waterfront at Opening Day 2010 Befitting our racing heritage, even the Friday dockside pre-party was announced with a proper Notice of Party issued well before the event that provided all the salient information for prospective partiers to make the decision whether or not to attend. Those in the know came and carefully followed the PI's (party instructions) and fortunately no protests were heard. Despite a very blustery Friday afternoon we had a great turnout of boats for the annual raft up in Basin 5. After the boats we securely moored, the keg was tapped, the burgers and sausages hit the grill and Opening Day weekend officially began. Many commented that we seemed to have more boats with their dress flags, burgees, officer flags and participation pennants flying than usual and it really made for a beautiful backdrop for the weekend's sensitivities. Many thanks to Steve Moffet, Pat McCormick, Nicole Peoples, Greg and Mary Montz, Ron and Elaine Wood, Don and Bobbie Hodges, George Caddle, Norma and Dan Clapp, Chas and Nancy Merrill, Steve Cole and Melinda, Chuck and Trish Clay, John and Georgia Merchant, Marty Bookwalter, Don and Chris Taugher, Bruce and Gail Conn, Wayne Noeker and Debbie, Merle and Kelly Asper, Ron and Carol Clanton, John and Lorraine Perone, Eric McClure, Tim Carter, Chris Ericksen and the Etchells Fleet, Geraldine Lampert, John Williams, Jim and Ellen Kirk, and Jorge Suarez for displaying their boats (OK, Jorge's was a hiking bench, but it was a particularly nice hiking bench) and hosting our Opening Day guests. As always, the waterfront stayed lively through out the day Saturday and ended with bang as the canon signaled the end of another beautiful Opening Day at ABYC. Special thanks to my dockmaster Pat McCormick for his help getting everyone settled in Friday.

Cheers,
S/C Jim Bateman



Stacy Massey photo

Past Commodores...all together now...."when I was Commodore"....



Jeff Merrill photo



Jeff Merrill photo

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save the date

Family Movie Night.....	June 4
Senior Sabot Nationals	June 11-13
Membership Meeting	June 18
Men's Day Regatta	June 19
Father's Day Barbecue	June 20
Junior Program Begins	June 21
Long Beach Race Week	June 25-27
4th of July Regatta	July 3

commodore's comments



If nothing else were to happen on my watch, I can at least claim that Opening Day Ceremonies were completed in 30 minutes. I salute Staff Commodores Nicole Peoples for orderly conduct of the ceremonies them selves and to Jim Bateman for chiding me the night before, at Happy Hour, to keep it short and stick to the script.

Having set 'stern the Southern California opening day events, we now dive head long into our 2010 sailing season. By publication of this June SouWester, Memorial Day Regatta will be in the book and Senior Sabot Nationals will be upon us followed by the Annual Men's Day Regatta. Those events are just for openers, as the end of the month is Long Beach Race Week with the huge Friday Nite Party taking place on our ABYC grounds. This party is always fun to attend. The sailors are fresh off the first day of competition, and full of excitement of how well they did. Or, on the other hand, they are full of energy and plans to fix what went wrong accompanied by a loud "We'll get 'em tomorrow and I'll have another beer, thank you very much." By the time the Saturday night party rolls around, the die is usually cast and reality has struck home.

The Summer Junior Sailing Program starts Monday, June 21st, and this year they are expanding the double handed to include the CFJ. This will be a benefit for our "teens" involved with High School Sailing. Our calendar shows the CFJ Nationals will be held at ABYC at the end of July. July will also field the Multihull Regatta and the second of our Holiday Series "4th of July Regatta" which will be one day of racing inside and out on Saturday the 3rd.

On a couple of sober notes, one of which is that we have had a pair accidents in the last few weeks, and as Commodore I admonish our membership to keep safety at the top of their list of priorities. Visits to our grounds due to a 911 call is something we all would rather do without. The other note is to advise the membership that our manager, Kelly Whitlow will be in sick bay due to surgery for hip replacement. We have a strong staff that will keep us on a steady course during Kelly's absence. ABYC Flag officers, board members, and treasurers will be looking on as well.

A weekly event that is overlooked by a majority of members is the increased popularity of the Friday evening Happy Hours. The Radio Control Sailboats are racing every Friday until it gets too dark and they retire to the second deck bar. The Movie night is going to take a path less traveled by offering up a film of a slightly different genre. To satisfy the whining of the avant-garde tastes of the Happy Hour "Regulars", ABYC will screen "YOUNG FRANKENSTEIN". It will be a funny night to watch our sillier members anticipate their favorite scene and mouth the much anticipated "one liner" that will set them off in convulsions of laughter. This will be way too good to miss.

And last but not least, I can say that Ukuleles are catching on; Wednesday nights after Lido-14 twilights and most Happy Hour nights when we get singers as well. It ain't karaoke but it sure is fun!

John Massey

manager's corner



Well...another Opening Day is under our belt, and the staff and I brace for an exciting, busy summer. Seems we just took down the Christmas decorations and now we're getting BBQ's ready for Memorial Day. Where do the days, months, years go?

As if coming out of hibernation, members are here at the club attempting to get the "winter" off their boats and prepare for another year of abyc sailing. Electric sanders, vacuums and good natured chatter coming from the east yard as a group of folks work to restore their "baby's" back to summer shape.

The staff and I are busy attempting to get the club in shape as well. This winter's rain really did take a toll on our yard, roof, lawn and equipment. The ocean environment is tough enough on everything here, but the unusual weather this year compounded the situation.

Speaking of the lawn...a huge thank you to Bob & Terry Bishop, John Perone and all the volunteers who have helped "bring the green" back to the grass. Opening Day was magnificent with the old eyesore fence down and our grass in great shape, made for a pretty amazing view.

Behind the scenes, a few of the projects your small but mighty staff is working on:

- Patching and sealing the cracks and holes in the yard
- Never ending fine tuning of both hoists
- Sand and repaint 2nd floor deck
- Replace both handrails on ramp
- Clean and repair Committee Boats
- Create new menu for Galley

It's also time to start thinking about our great Friday Night Happy Hour. The days are getting longer, and those priceless sunsets will be looming large in the near future. If you haven't been down on a Friday night for awhile, grab a buddy

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and come down and experience the social side of ABYC. We always have a nice array of finger food, sometimes a live band, but always the best view in town. Our mixologist Reggie and Tyrone will greet you with a smile and your favorite beverage. ABYC and summer evenings...it really doesn't get any better than that.

On a final and sad note, we lost another member recently Mr. Vern Peterson. One of the kindest, gentle men I have had the privilege of meeting here at the club. Vern was never at the club without poking his head into my office and greeting me with a thumbs up, smile and a "how's it going"? Happy trails to you Vern, until we meet again.

Kelly Whitlow

laser racks update

Laser Rack Update: Secure spar storage is complete on the Laser Rack. Secure lockable storage for all 54 Laser rack spaces is in place. Spar storage consists of a shorter PVC tube about 9' long for boom storage next to a longer PVC tube (about 13' long) that accommodates both the upper and lower sections for 4.7, Radial and Full Rig masts. The mast sections need to be 'nested' with top section inside the bottom section, top end in first, and put away into the storage tube. A pin that slides through both tubes can be locked in place to provide lockable security for stored spars. Some larger locks won't work but smaller locks or locks with a longer hasp work fine.

Now would be a great time to come down to the club to CLEARLY MARK YOUR SPARS AND OTHER GEAR, put your spars away in the assigned spot and bring a lock to lock them up.

Doug Jorgensen



Sou'Wester DEADLINE

June 20, 2010 is the deadline for the July 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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We are still moving along (vertically!) with our elevator and restroom remodel project. There have been some very positive developments in the last month and important decisions have been made by our committed to allow our busy architect to fill in the details and continue with final evaluations. Once we establish more specific plans we will get our contractors lined up and City of Long Beach approval and be underway! Still too early to predict when the first phase (and most fun) begins...demolition.

With Twilights happening and the weather getting nicer we are seeing a lot more activity down at the club. Come on down, the sailing is great and our facility is in top shape. We have re-done much of the heavy use tarmac with a new surface to make trailer rolling a bit easier. If you need an excuse to break away from work then come down for a twilight dinner and check out the viewing stand at the end of Basin 5 (where the scoring shack used to be) and come soak in the view along the lawn by the flag pole in the patio and see our slowly escalating flower blooms in the seawall rocks – it's lovely!

Our "Rail-Rider" program is completely filled up; in fact we now have a waiting list. Fear not if you have missed out. I am doing everything I can to thin out our waiting lists and help members get their boats in the yard. Balancing this with our own fleet of over a dozen whaler and junior trailers that need a place to park and keeping in mind that we need to have room for construction equipment when our major renovations keeps me awake at night, but I am happy to report that we seem to continually figure out creative ways to maximize accommodations.

The Board of Directors has just voted to enact FLAT RATE standardized billing in the West (dinghy yard) for all trailer spaces. You will see your new rate (\$65.00 a month) on your June statement. Additionally, we have raised the rate for Lasers in vertical racks to \$25.00 a month, matching the top row rate for our horizontal racks. The vertical Laser rack days are numbered...we are concerned with user safety and structural age of the components. Thank you all for your support and understanding with this undertaking, this is going to make our accounting and yard management much more efficient.

Details are still being worked out on how we can next tackle the keel boat rows. I can guarantee you that there will be some boat shuffling coming up as we match boats and trailers to yard spaces to optimize our storage AND to correctly bill people by the space, not the boat. Same-space billing will provide one rate each for 20', 25' and 30' keelboat spaces is still being worked out. 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!). So far every member who has talked to me about this has been extremely supportive and many thought that was what we were already doing.

Sail lockers are available for rental! It is \$5 a month for a single and \$10 for a double. As summer approached we see this fill up so call the office to reserve one today! "Friendly" reminder – **we are cutting the locks in early June** and moving gear to Lost and Found for all locker poachers – please double check that the club has your correct name and account with matching locker number if you are currently using a locker.

If you are one of "those" members who used to hang your spare sailboat mast along the lockers your spars have been impounded and locked atop our containers in the east yard. We will probably call in a marine salvage company in July to sell them off if they are not claimed, we don't want to do this, please come remove your spars and take them home.

One early measure that will most likely already be in place by the time you read this (we are holding off until after Memorial Day) is that we are going to make an effort to group keelboats by size and type (the Coronado 25s together, the Cal 25's together, the Etchells 22's together, etc.). This is the way we have tried to set things up, but over the years as positions open up and the next guy on the waiting list takes a spot we get a bit out of whack. With the new standardized rates we have the perfect opportunity to RESET the layout to make it easier for all boats to get in and out of their spaces. I am also going to be re-positioning based on active sailing use. I am sure that this will create a bit of heart burn for some members who have been in such and such a space for thirty years. It is not my intent to upset you; I am trying to do what is best for the entire membership. Nobody "owns" the space where they are parked and I'll be consulting with the various keel boat fleet captains to help me fairly redistribute any boats that are moved.

One recent unfortunate incident in the yard has also helped further this agenda item. One of our well know and active Cal 20 members was maneuvering into his space after twilight racing and in the dusk while making a wide turn with his hands on the mule handle slice right into a Laser mast that was protruding into the aisle. This has led to an understanding that when we jockey our trailers in and out of the yard spaces we should try to match up similar sized boats so that the visibility and dimensions are easier to negotiate. Cal 20s with stern over tongue will be grouped alongside each other and then we will line up Cal 20s with bow over tongue together to make it easier and safer. We are also looking into our lighting throughout the yard.

Sunny day's increases activity at the club and one of our biggest annual challenges is having parking for everyone. Please make sure you have an ABYC burgee sticker on your windscreen and leave your car unlocked with the keys in view so that we can move cars around when needed. If you have to lock your car please clear this with the office in advance and leave a note on your dash board so we know what you are up to.

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Memorial Day heralded the beginning of our Summer sailing season and soon the Junior Summer program will start up. There are lots of events on the calendar, check out www.abyc.org to see our calendar of events and include them in your schedule. Also, this year the one day Fourth of July regatta is going to be a series of fleet races for Bay and Harbor classes – not a pursuit race – so dust off your sails, wax you hull and sign up today.

It's not too early for me to start thinking about next year when I will be commodore and on that note I am looking for volunteers who are interested in helping as committee chairpersons. I'm also starting to fill in events for the 2011 calendar so please let me know if you have something to include!

Drop what you are doing and come down for a sail!

If you have any questions or ideas about our yard or buildings please email me jeff.merrill@nordhavn.com (put "ABYC" in the subject line) or call me on my cell phone 949.355.4950. Thank you and see you at the club!

Jeff Merrill

rearview



Opening Day was held on Saturday May 1. What a great day. Starting with the club championship battled out by three teams. The Snipe team won in very close sailing. The Great ABYC Raft-up that began on Friday night went on all day. Saturday afternoon the Opening Day Ceremony was one of the highlights of the opening day season with all of the pomp and circumstance that any opening day would be proud of and all within 30 minutes. A Champagne reception was held afterwards. Then back to the parties at the Great ABYC Raft-up, which went on into the evening. Opening Day was a fun event and we had compliments from most of the visiting yacht clubs.

Mother's Day Brunch was held on May 9. This was another traditional event that ABYC holds every year. We do this to honor all of our Mothers. Like Easter Brunch, Mother's Day is a fun time to spend with the family. This year was no exception. Our turn out was lower than expected but the food was exceptional. Most people stayed into the afternoon having a lot of fun.

On May 29th the Cal 20 Fleet hosted the Memorial Day Regatta. Patty Nash put on an interesting evening of fun for this event with Party Jones. Dinner, music and cocktails were great. Everyone seemed to have a good time.

Up coming events

Family Movie Night will be on June 4 at 6:30 pm. This movie will break the tradition of "G" rated movies. We will be showing Hook. This is a PG movie so it may not be a movie for the very young. I felt that we needed to change it up a little. We will return to a "G" movie in July.

Senior Weekend June 11, we will start off the weekend with the Senior Sabot measurement on Friday June 11. Then that night we will have Adult Movie Night (no not that kind of movie). We will have dinner and a movie. There will be a \$5.00 dinner and Young Frankenstein showing either on the patio or on the second story of the club (weather permitting). Yes the bar will be open.

General Membership Meeting June 18, the Lido Fleet has the responsibility for this event and it should be a good one. They have a speaker from the Long Beach Aquarium. This will be an interesting event. We will also have an up date on the upcoming construction. Be there to find out the latest. Dinner will be at 1830 meeting at 1900 hours.

Father's Day June 20, the day after Men's Day, we will have steak cooking afternoon with DAD. This is a good time to tell DAD that he is appreciated. We will begin about 1:00 pm and have games and cocktails. Glenn Selvin will be the chair for this event and look to the weekly reader for more details.

Long Beach Race Week June 25, we have the Friday night party. This has been one of the biggest events at ABYC. The bar will be in full swing with a band for the night. Come join in the fun whether you are racing or not.

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



fleet captain's log



Nice weather has set in, and folks have been getting ready for sailing this summer. Bob Bishop has led teams rebuilding the bay scoring shack (now observation platform), and modifying the patio. The Race Equipment trailer was sorted out for spring spruce up, and a few more whalers were serviced. Latham Bell has been fixing up junior trailers, and the fleets have started twilights. The Lido fleet has even shamed me into refurbishing my boat *m&m's*. I'll be out there with you all soon.

Unfortunately we have a bit of sad business in the passing of Vern Peterson. Vern, along with George Caddle, have spent years taking care of *Patience* and making sure she was always available, despite the sometimes ham fisted antics of those of us that had to take the boat out. With the boat being parked right outside the patio, Vern and George's dedication was always apparent as the boat is always in good shape. Our condolences to Bobbie and the family.

Patience will see a changing of the guard soon, as George is handing over chief caretaker duty to Chris Erickson. I can't say enough about George's work, and I hope we will continue to live up to the example he set.

I have a little unfinished business from last year when I was tasked with helping the junior program. At that time we refurbished the junior room, adding lighting and whiteboards to make it a multi-purpose instruction and meeting room. One thing that we left for later was decoration. I am happy to say that thanks to Rich Roberts' photos, and Gordon Dudley's work in getting a mounting system, the room is now adorned with over 40 stunning pictures of our junior, and youth sailors in Sabots, at CISA clinics, and junior championships.

We still have a bit of work to do on furniture, but the room looks sharper, and is a nice reminder of what is so much fun about sailing here. Cheers guys!

See you around the Club

Mike Baumann

from the pages of history

I often look for recurring themes in the *SOU'WESTER's* of old, but this month we were presented with an eclectic mix of topics in the pages of history.

THIRTY YEARS AGO:

The duties of the Commodore of ABYC have always been broadly defined; according to the *SOU'WESTER* of June, 1980, the term "head man" took on a new meaning that year. Among the tasks taken on that year by Commodore Gary Winterrowd (besides painting the arm of the large hoist, as reported previously in this column) was spending "nearly six hours trying to unclog the main sewer on the Friday night of the Olympic Classes Regatta." As he said in his "Commodore's Comments," "Heads and showers backed up in the Clubhouse and Quarterdeck" just after the sailors returned from racing; after running "265 feet of snake and digging up half the flower beds, the problem was solved."

OCR in 1990 was not-so-well attended, a situation explained by the Commodore in referring to an historic fact many of us forget: the US would "not be attending the Summer Games." For those of you too young to remember, the US boycotted the 1980 Summer Olympics that were held in the Soviet Union over the invasion of Afghanistan by the USSR in late 1979. The cover of the *SOU'WESTER*, however, showed that there were Stars in the regatta; it must have been blowing, too, as the boats have well-bent masts and very open leeches on their mains.

The other big news for the late spring of 1980 was the increase of ABYC's monthly dues from \$20.00 to \$25.00, effective the first of July. Five buck a month may not seem like much, but it was a twenty-five per cent increase, and the first one ABYC had declared in eight years. The additional income would go to pay for termite treatment and some other "extraordinary expenses already expended and some anticipated."

It's always fun to read current names in old results: among the winners of the 1980 Memorial Day Regatta were Mark Golison (Laser), Tom Newton, Jr. and Robin Lounsberry (Senior Sabot), Keith Dodson and Chris Raab (Snipe.) Summer hours were to kick in on June 17; the Clubhouse would be open until ten o'clock at night Tuesday through Thursday and on Sunday and until midnight on Friday and Saturday. ABYC juniors were advancing up the ladder to sail in the USYRU Junior Championships for the Sears, Bemis and Smythe trophies; ABYC teams and sailors won the local quarterfinals at King Harbor YC in May and were off to the area semi-finals at Mission Bay in July, the last step on the road to the finals at the Cleveland Yachting Club in August.

TWENTY YEARS AGO:

CISA—the California International Sailing Association—was the front-page story in the *SOU'WESTER* of June, 1990. The cover photo showed Lasers beating past the yacht club out the channel for a day of practice in the Clinic that had been held in April. The centerspread of the newsletter featured a report and photos of the Clinic; featured in the latter were

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ABYC's own Allison Jolly, fresh from her 1988 Olympic gold medal in 470 in Korea, and John Bertrand, the 1984 Finn silver medalist in Long Beach (Allison was coaching the Laser II sailors and John spent a day with the Lasers). Nearly 100 sailors from across the United States and from Canada were on hand and sailed in Laser, Laser II, CFJ and Europe dinghies.

Since PATIENCE was new, the Board approved a series of Friday-evening "Happy Hour Cruises:" forty-five minute jaunts around Alamitos Bay in the new boat. Up to fifteen members and guests could come down on a space-available, first-come, first-served basis for the trip. Several were scheduled for a night, as long as there was interest (memory serves that there wasn't much interest and the program was shelved after a few weeks).

The inserts in the SOU'WESTER for June, 1990, were newsworthy. In addition to the Fourth of July Regatta NOR there was a flyer inviting folks to come to the Fourth of July dinner and "see what the English have done with the Fourth of July" (ABYC Fleet Captain Mark Townsend, a Briton, was the event chair), another for the Keel Boat Fleet's 8th Annual John Hand Perpetual Inverted Start Picnic Race and a sheet touting the 1990 ABYC Catalina Cruise. But the real gem was a reproduction of the regatta notice for the Alamitos Bay Labor Day Invitational Regatta held on Sunday and Monday, September 6 and 7, 1936. In her column, "From the Pages of History," ABYC Club Historian Ann Exley reported that the regatta had been co-hosted by ABYC and the Leeway Sailing Club with the assistance of LBRC (I think that was the Long Beach Recreation Commission). The entry fee was fifty cents; invited classes were the International Skimmer, Rainbow and Skimmerette, both 16' Restricted and 13' Restricted (which I think were handicap divisions) and PDQ (a one-design). The trophy presentation was to be held at the "Municipal Golf Course"—Recreation Park Golf Course, today—on Monday, Labor Day evening, in conjunction with a dinner.

Among the new members pictured in the SOU'WESTER was Todd Smith; then a Snipe sailor, he had formerly raced Prindles and Tornados and worked as an engineer with Hughes Aircraft in El Segundo. ABYC "Golf Fleet" member Vern Peterson, playing with Clif Mathias and Tom Newton, Senior, at El Dorado, shot a hole-in-one on the 225-yard ninth hole; it was not his first ace—it was his second—and Clif was with Vern for the first one, too...long-sleeved Rugby shirts in red-and-white, blue-and-white and green-and-white were among the offerings at the ABYC Boatique in June of 1990; you could also see sweatshirts in red, white and navy embroidered with the club burgee and "ABYC" on the front...

TEN YEARS AGO:

ABYC's Opening Day in 2000 was a gala event, according to reports in the SOU'WESTER of June of that year. Commodore Jim Morford declared it "wonderful" in his "Commodore's Comments" and singled out Jerry Montgomery for organizing the ceremonies and Maggie Waterman for organizing the morning's brunch. Laser sailors Chris Raab and Bob Falk, representing ABYC's Olympic Classes Fleet, won the Club Championship Regatta with two firsts and a second. The Etchells Fleet took part, too: three boats (Montgomery, Moffett and Carter/Ericksen) were in the water and the fleet served up "sausages and franks for the mob" under the direction of Tim Carter with the assistance of Dave Myers.

Eleven teams were vying for the Etchells Fleet Championship that year. The team of Larry Harvey and Stan Gibbs were off to an early lead, but not a strong one: Doug Jorgensen and Steve Moffett each were only one point behind in the high-point series. The fleet was looking forward to sailing the Seal Beach Yacht Club Pop Top Regatta; the first series had started but there were no results. And Stacy Jackson was a two-boat owner: he'd just acquired USA531 from Ed Feo and was selling USA143 as a "fixer-upper."

ABYC's Juniors were getting ready for summer. A number of them, including Geoff Bateman, Garrett Brown and Andrew McDade, worked Spring Spruce Up on the Junior boats, and several more raced in the Club Championship; in fact, the team of Freddie Stevens and Jon Bell came in second on a tie-breaker ahead of the Senior Sabot team of Tom Newton, Jr., and Brian Brown. Junior Rear Commodore Mara Bell was coordinating a work day on the club-owned Sabots in preparation for their use in the summer program.

ABYC's Men's Day would be held in June; according to the flyer, "any man caught wearing inappropriate attire (too dressed up)" would be festooned in "old t-shirts, loud socks and wigs" and the trophies would be awarded by "girls in bikinis," guaranteeing that they would be "graciously accepted even if they are stupid." ABYC would be working with the United States Sailing Center in Long Beach to host one of the US SAILING Junior Olympics regattas that summer; more than 200 boats were expected. Among new members shown receiving burgees in the two-page centerspread included catamaran sailors Dan DeLave and Tom DeLong and Cal 40 sailor Wendy Siegel; Jim MacLeod was Membership Chairman that year.

Chris Ericksen, Club Historian

2009 stag cruise recap

Jim Bateman did not write this for public consumption so I edited in a small way. He actually wrote this for future Stag Cruise Officials to make it easier to run. I think everyone will enjoy and those that were there will remember the events fondly.

Attendees:

Merle Asper and Jim Bateman

Eric, Bruce and Tracy Conn

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Lee Berlinger, John Ellis, Bob Liget
 Brent Carey and Brian
 Rob Rice and Eddie, Fred, John, Dennis, Brad, Kurt
 David Stotler and Ron Clanton
 Mike Wood, Tim Carter, Tom and Brian
 Dan Clapp, Stu Robinson and Damon Kunkle
 Glenn Selvin and Ken Reiff
 Bob Little, Bob Little and Bob Little
 Jim Grubbs and Son
 Paco and David
 Bill McDannel, Peter Troin and Dave
 Chuck Hardin
 Tom Ramsey and Jerry Montgomery
 Robert McKenna and Christopher Scott



Summary:

Chuck went over early Thursday morning in warm air and flat seas. The Conns arrived next, followed by Merle and me at around 2:30. It was about 80 degrees and the water temperature was about 70 degrees. We were all in the water immediately and hung out on Merle's boat drinking beers. Thursday evening was perfect with the bbq off the boat.

Friday we headed down to Two Harbors for breakfast and a walk out to Cat Harbor. By the time we got back around noon there were several more boats arriving and by about 3PM we had a pretty good crowd. At around 5 I got four people together and we went over to the Boy Scout base and picked up our dinner. We started the (one bag) BBQ at about 5:30 and by 6 had the burgers going. We had a great dinner with double, double bacon, chili-cheese burgers, potato and pesto salads. Lot's of beer consumption but rather light on the booze. The Heinekens, Modelos and Newcastles went fast (Jim goes on to describe what drink people enjoyed the most and what to bring next year). I think the food and the sun slowed people down. We also had some boat issues (we use people's whalers to ferry supplies and people) with only Merle and Robs' whalers working. Merle didn't go down to the isthmus Friday, only Rob and his peeps.

Bruce's whaler was down. A small group hung out until about 9:30. We had a late visit from a Corsair SC who chatted with Merle and I until about 10 when we shut down camp.

Saturday was another beauty and people did their own thing (swim, paddle, and fun in the sun) until about 3 when the horse shoes started, 8 teams, small by previous years, but large enough for fun. People showed up for drinks around 6 and we went over with a group to the Boy Scout base and picked up the food. Dinner was going by about 6:30 or so. Everybody showed up for dinner and all seemed to enjoy it. The usual singing, dancing, and merriment broke out. After dinner the group started breaking up with about 20 or so hanging out and groups figuring out how to get down to Buccaneer days. Earlier in the day the Harbor master came through inquiring about interest in shore boat service and a shore boat did come by around 9 and I think made a return trip at about 1:00. I'd say about 15 or so went down.

Early Sunday morning the wind started really picking up. Glenn and Ken lost their sabot during the night and there was a lot of banging around. Chuck called me at about 6:30 and said he was leaving and heading for Angels Gate on this 18' outrage. He called me back in about an hour when he cleared Angels Gate without incident. We went ashore about 9 and picked up the breakfast that was already cooked. We fed about 30 people with a few staying on their boats or bugging out early (we skipped the trophy presentation). Clean up went quickly with so much less to pack up (previous years we cooked our own and had a load of utensils and equipment). We loaded up from the dock while the surf and wind was building, landing was tough. Merle's whaler had already semi swamped in the surf line earlier.

We left last at about 10:45 in a strong westerly (20 or more knots). A little tricky dropping the mooring but we talked it though and executed without a problem. The trip back was rough with big seas (15 to 20 reported at the buoys) and high winds (30-40 gusts). Big boat did fine. The whaler came close a couple of times to flipping but pulled out and did fine. It sounded like lots of carnage on the radio and the Coast Guard was busy. It took about an hour and 45 to get back (normally an hour and 15, the first time in my life I tried not to surf).

Friday Dinner: Burger Bash

Saturday Dinner: Steak, baked potatoes, corn and salads

Sunday breakfast: Cinnamon French toast, sausage and fresh berries

Jim Bateman

This year will be great as always. Make sure to get your ride and kit together. Keep your powder dry and prepare for action!

Merle Asper

2010 Stag Cruise - October 2 & 3 - Be there!!

membership report

The following report details the membership activity for the month of May
ABYC welcomes the following new members who have been approved for membership by the board at the May meeting. Please look around for new faces and extend a warm welcome to them.

Bruce Johnston	Regular	Sponsor	Vann Wilson
Levi Capaci	Regular	Sponsor	Scott Meyer
Fred Stevens IV	Regular	Sponsor	Fred Stevens III
Mark Olsen	Regular	Sponsor	Steve Rosenberg
Owen Gurich	Junior	Sponsor	Stacey Gibbs
Cameron Ela	Junior	Sponsor	Teri Bishop

We say farewell to the following members and wish them well in their future endeavors

Paul and Yvonne Galvez
Joseph and Hideko O'Reilly
Spencer Snook

30 Day Posting

The following members have been approved by the board of directors for 30 day posting

Don Crumrine	Regular	Sponsor	Eric Chadwick
Connie Kaminsky	Regular	Sponsor	Jeff Merrill
Ben Leibowitz	Regular	Sponsor	Vann Wilson
Jamie McGee	Regular	Sponsor	Nicole Peoples
Phillip Solomon	Regular	Sponsor	Bruce Golison
Katheleen Weisample	Regular	Sponsor	Robin Townsend
Michael Bradley	Yachting	Sponsor	Merle Asper

Anchor Waitlist

Don Wilson
Lee Berlinger
Dave Ellis
Richard Bell
Michael Cahan

Please stay posted for a special event to welcome all of our new members.

Robin Townsend
(562)433-4366
Robinmst7@hotmail.com

mother's day 2010

A sunny Sunday morning greeted the many families that came and enjoyed the club's long standing tradition of our Mothers Day Brunch. All the Mothers were greeted with a See's chocolate candy and a ribboned package of wildflower seeds. I hope to see some pictures of those wild flowers growing in their gardens!

As always, Kelly and his team came through with a sumptuous feast that included a Roast Beef carving station, the beef was delicious! We were also treated to turkey, Belgian waffles, scrambled eggs, lox and bagels, scalloped potatoes and much more! The chocolate fountain was put into action again this year with strawberries, pretzels and marshmallows for dipping. Complimentary champagne and mimosas were served by the Commodore and a few of his supporting Staff Commodores. They were kept very busy!

A very special treat this year was the harpist that provided the perfect background music. Leah Cecil, a former student of Sue McDannel, was a wonderful addition to this year's brunch. If you would like to include her in one of your events, contact Sue or myself for her information, she was a treat!

None of this would have happened without the volunteers that ABYC is so famous for. A big thank you goes out to the following people for all their time and hard work. Sue and Bill McDannel, Jon, Kathy and Savannah Robinson, Nita Hardin, Ron and Elaine Wood, Lynne and Mike Falconer, Geoff and Jim Bateman, Betty, Mike, Glenn and Kevin Baumann. What a great crew, thank you all so much!

An extra thank you must go to our wonderful club manager and staff. There was a wedding at the club the night before Mothers Day Brunch. Some staff had to work late and come in very early in order to make our Mothers day a great success. I truly don't know how they do it, but they pull it off every time. Thank you one and all!

I hope all the mothers that attended had a wonderful, memorable Mothers Day!
Diane Bateman

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. **We still have a lot of openings available in our beginner program, so please spread the word around to those you know who may be interested.** The parent orientation meeting for the program will be Thursday June 17th at 5:30pm upstairs in the ABYC banquet hall. Email abyc.jrprogram@gmail.com with questions pertaining to the summer program.

2010 Instructor Staff Announced!

This year's staff boasts an astounding average of 10 years experience coaching and a net coaching experience of 115 years. Wow, I truly am a dinosaur! We are so excited and lucky to have a very strong veteran staff with mostly returning coaches and a few excellent additions including two 470 sailors who have both staged Olympic campaigns for their countries of the United States and Norway. Please read on to get acquainted with the instructors you'll see around this summer!

Brad Schaupeter - Junior Sailing Director

HOME TOWN: Grosse Pointe, Michigan

SCHOOL: Indiana University c/o 2002, Majors: Computer Information Systems, Business Process Management, and Operations Management, with minors in Music and Spanish, and a specialization in the Foreign Dimension.

SAILING EXPERIENCE: Brad has been the director of the ABYC Junior Sailing Program for six years and has been coaching/directing junior sailing programs in Michigan and California for 12 years. In his racing prime, he was ranked 15th nationally in Laser Radials. He is a Level 2 certified US Sailing Instructor, in training to be a US Sailing Judge, and is certified as a US Sailing Level 1 Instructor Trainer. He is also a musician/singer/songwriter for his band, *Brad Shaw & The Silent Partner* and was awarded Los Angeles Music Awards Singer/Songwriter of the Year. www.myspace.com/thesilentpartner

Sarah Ryan - Assistant Junior Sailing Director / Sea Urchin/ Intro to Sailing Instructor

HOMETOWN: Long Beach, CA.

SCHOOL: Biola University, Major: Elementary Education and minors in History and Biblical Studies.

SAILING EXPERIENCE: Sarah grew up sailing at Leeway Sailing Center and was the ABF women's champion from 2001-2003. Currently she races Lido 14's with her younger brother (Mark Ryan). She was the recipient of the Betty Schock Memorial Perpetual for being the top female skipper at Class Championships, 2008. This is Sarah's sixth year coaching and third year as Assistant Director at ABYC.

Eric Nix - Laser Race Coach

HOMETOWN: Grosse Pointe, Michigan

SCHOOL: St. Mary's College of Maryland

SAILING EXPERIENCE: Eric began racing sailboats at age 10 in Grosse Pointe, Michigan. Starting in FJs, he later began sailing Laser full rigs at age 12 at Bayview Yacht Club in Detroit. As a high school student Eric placed top 10 at the High School Singlehanded Nationals, won the Midwest under 21 Singlehanded Championship, placed top 15 at the Canadian Laser Nationals, and was a nationally ranked heavyweight rower.

Eric later went on to sail for St. Mary's College of Maryland's Varsity Team, where he represented the Sea Hawks in numerous single and double handed nationally ranking inter-sectionals. He won the Atlantic Coast Collegiate Singlehanded Championship his freshman year, placed top 20 in the 125 boat US Laser Nationals and top 30 in the 200 boat CORK Laser event. He was also invited to Olympic Development Trainings and has trained with members of the US and Argentinian Olympic teams.

Eric's no-nonsense coaching style has helped his junior sailors to go on to win Collegiate National Championships as well as berths on the US Olympic Team. He currently lives in Colorado and works at a charter school as a teacher's aid. This is Eric's second year as Laser coach at ABYC and his 13th year coaching.

Lauren Sinclair – Double Handed Race Coach & Intermediate Sabot Instructor

HOMETOWN: Grosse Pointe, Michigan

SCHOOL: University of Southern Florida, Major: Political Science

SAILING EXPERIENCE: Lauren started sailing at the Detroit Yacht Club crewing FJ's and eventually helming 420's. She was accepted to the University of South Florida and recruited to be on their women's varsity sailing team where she crewed in the Coed A Division and helmed the B Division for the Women's team. While on the team she was voted a 'Sailor to Watch' by the periodical *Sailing World*, Rookie of the Year, as well as being the only Freshman ever to earn their Varsity Letter. After she graduated, she was asked to be a part of a fully funded Olympic Campaign as a crew in the 470. Since then she has competed in a multitude of international regattas including the Olympic Trials, two World Championships and over seven stops on the World Cup tour.

She has worked with some of the best coaches in the world during her Olympic Campaign, including double-medalists Kevin Burnham and Morgan Reeser, Gold Medalist and World Champion Bunny Warren, World Champion Petri Leskinen as well as Elizabeth Kratzig and David Hughes. She was also briefly coached by sailing director Brad Schaupeter at Detroit Yacht Club.

Lina Stromquist – Double Handed Race Coach / C2 Sabot Race Coach & Beginner Sabot Instructor

HOMETOWN: Vabraton, Norway (currently resides in Southampton, England)

SCHOOL: Southampton Solent University, Major: Criminal Investigation and Psychology

SAILING EXPERIENCE: Lina started sailing in the optimist when she was 6 years old, where she went to three Nordic championships and sailed in the elite group for the Norwegian sailing federation. In 2002, at 14 years old, she started sailing

...continued next page

Europe dinghies and was selected for the Norwegian Olympic squad in 2003. She staged an Olympic campaign in 470's from 2006 to 2008 when she started school at Southampton Solent University where she is the team racing captain for the university and is currently competing on the team racing circuit as well as competing in all other University sailing events. This is Lina's first year at ABYC and her seventh year coaching.

Mark Gaudio – A Sabot Race Coach

HOMETOWN: Newport Beach, CA

SAILING EXPERIENCE: Mark is a Level 2 US Sailing certified instructor and has won national titles in six different one design sailboats. Among these are 15 national championships in the Naples Sabot in four divisions, four national championships in Lido 14's, and four national championships in Cal 20's. He has coached with us for several years as a clinician and will be joining us for his first full summer program this year.

Chuck Ullman – B/C1 Sabot Race Coach & Intermediate Sabot Instructor

HOMETOWN: Newport Beach, CA

SCHOOL: St. Mary's College of Maryland c/o 2007, Major: Political Science

SAILING EXPERIENCE: Chuck was a skipper for the St. Mary's sailing team for four years and participated in the University Match Racing Worlds, 2004 in Italy. He has also competed in numerous national and international events including the Junior Olympics, various National and North American Championships. He is currently a collegiate coach for Chapman University and getting his teaching credentials. This is Chuck's fourth year at ABYC and his eighth year coaching overall.

Ian Paice – B/C1 Sabot Race Coach & Laser Race Coach

HOMETOWN: Long Beach, CA

SCHOOL: Boston University

SAILING EXPERIENCE: Ian has sailed competitively in Sabots, FJ's, Lasers and keel boats. Ian grew up sailing out of Long Beach Yacht club where he won the ABF championship in 2004. He is also a very accomplished match racer and will be competing in the Governor's Cup for the third time this summer. He is now a member of the Boston University sailing team and will be a sophomore in the college of Arts and Sciences next year. This will be Ian's third year coaching at ABYC.

Bradley Schoch – C2 Sabot Race Coach & Beginner Sabot Instructor

HOMETOWN: Huntington Beach, CA

SCHOOL: Cal State University – Monterey Bay, Major: Computer Science

SAILING EXPERIENCE: Bradley has directed / coached programs for 8 years and is extremely professional as an instructor. Noted for having his lifejacket on before he goes to work until after he gets home, Bradley's highest concern is always safety. The sailors enjoy his structured yet easy going coaching style. He is captain for the CSU-Monterey Bay Collegiate sailing team and has spent much of his sailing career in the Naples Sabot, Lasers, Lido 14's and CFJ's.

Graham Bell – C2/C3 Sabot Race Coach & Beginner Sabot Instructor

HOMETOWN: Long Beach, CA

SCHOOL: Santa Clara University, Major: Finance

SAILING EXPERIENCE: Graham is a coach that went on hiatus for a few years and is back again to join us one more time. Known for being the staff comic relief and his uncanny fun factor with the kids, Graham's reunion is very welcome. He has spent his sailing career sailing Naples Sabots, Lasers, and FJ's. He recently graduated from Santa Clara University with a major in finance. This will be Graham's fourth year coaching at ABYC.

Laura Newton – C3 Sabot Race Coach & Sea Urchins / Intro to Sailing Instructor

HOMETOWN: Long Beach

SCHOOL: California State University of Long Beach

Major: Marketing

SAILING EXPERIENCE: Laura has been sailing at ABYC for over ten years now, starting with Sea Urchins and through her final year as a junior sailor. She has spent much of her time on the water in Naples Sabots, Laser Radials, CFJ's and C420's and has competed on the National level in 420's, FJ's and Laser Radials at regattas such as Orange Bowl, Radial Nationals, and C420 Nationals. She served on the Junior Board for multiple years and plans on transferring to Chapman University next Spring to pursue a degree in Advertising & Public Relations. Laura coaches year-round at ABYC and this will be her fourth summer on the staff.

Samantha Gebb - Beginner Sabot Instructor

HOMETOWN: Long Beach

SCHOOL: Wilson High School / Princeton University

SAILING EXPERIENCE: Samantha has sailed in the ABYC junior program for the past 8 years in Sabots, Laser Radials, and 420's. She placed 8th and 4th in the Bemis Double-Handed National Championship the past two years and won the most recent Orange Bowl in 420's amidst many other outstanding finishes in 420's and FJ's. She has recently been accepted into Youth Champs for the first time along with skipper Jack Jorgensen. She is valedictorian of her high school and will be attending Princeton University in the fall. Sam is also a very talented dancer competing on a national level. This will be her second year coaching for ABYC.

Latham Bell - Intro to Sailing Instructor

HOME TOWN: Long Beach, Ca

SAILING EXPERIENCE: Latham has extensive experience in sailing Sabots, Lido's, FJ's, Lasers, IOR's, One-Ton 70's, Stars, Echells, and is a three time Cal 20 National Champion tactician. Latham is also a Level 2 US Sailing instructor and a senior US Sailing judge. When not on the water racing, coaching, or judging, you can find Latham in the classroom, as Latham is an elementary school teacher. We are grateful and excited to have Latham volunteering his time and energy to helping coach our younger sailors!

4th of July Regatta

Fourth of July Regatta (on July 3rd) – Fleet Racing this year!

ABYC invites all sailors to come join us and celebrate the Fourth of July weekend with a festive one day regatta in Long Beach.

This year we are returning to fleet racing (hopefully three races) with classes in the harbor and the bay.

The regatta will be held on Saturday, July 3rd and is a quick and easy one day regatta. Please go to the ABYC.org website to view the NOR and SI details.

Following the racing we will have a bargain priced burger bash with corn on the cob and apple pie – a slice of America for all to enjoy. Race your boat on Saturday and then relax and enjoy the summer beach weather on Sunday.

Please take advantage of our online registration to sign up and be sure to mark your calendar to come out for a day of sailing.

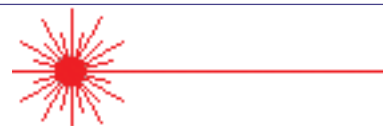
The ABYC juniors (with help from parents and “the usual suspects”) are in charge of this regatta and look forward to a fun day with a large turn out!

If you would like to help out by volunteering please contact me by email – sailorelle@gmail.com

Thank you!

Elle Merrill – Regatta Chairperson

hails from the fleets



ABYC Laser Fleet Hosts 2010 Multihull Regatta

The annual ABYC **Multihull Regatta July 24-25** will be hosted by the ABYC Laser Fleet. Seeing an increase of multihull activity at ABYC following the *F-18* North American Championship at ABYC last fall and anticipating the *F-18* Worlds at ABYC in 2012, we look for the fleet to grow larger. Like last year, the 2010 Multihull Regatta is a “Points Regatta” for *Hobie 16*'s that will be scored on the *Hobie* National Ranking System depending on how they finish. This should also be a big draw.

Following last year's example, we will direct all *Cats* to launch at ABYC, keeping the fleet together and centering the social activities and Saturday Burger Bash at ABYC. If you are interested in helping run this event and seeing the swift *Cats* in action, please contact Steven Smith smith_c_s@sbcglobal.net or Jorge Suarez jorgesuarez@yahoo.com

Laser Fleet Champs Compete for ABYC Club Championship

May Day 2010 offered up perfect sailing conditions for our ABYC Laser Fleet representatives to compete in the ABYC Club Championship regatta. **Cameron Summers** and **Garrett Brown** finished mid-fleet against a tough group of wily ABYC veterans and juniors. Cameron and Garrett each took the helm during three races contested in *Lido 14*'s, generously volunteered by ABYC *Lido* Fleet members, launched and rigged by **Ed Spotskey** and his cadre of volunteers. Mark rounding's and finishes were tight as the fleet sailed triangle, windward-leeward courses in the Bay.

Capping the last race was a large flotilla of decorated yachts filling the Bay for a Seal Beach Y.C. boat parade and unfortunately it looked like a couple of our competitors had to dodge a few of the floating merry-makers on the last leg of race three. All in all, however, a wonderful series! Many thanks to the *Lido 14* fleet as well as PRO **Jorge Suarez** and race committee volunteers; **Martyn Bookwalter**, **Tina Edwards**, **John Merrill** and **Kevin Baumann**.

ABYC Laser Racers Compete in U.S. SAILING “O’Day” Qualifier

ABYC Laser racers placed well in the recent Area J Qualifier for the U.S. SAILING Singlehanded Championship Regatta hosted by Mission Bay YC in San Diego. The winner of this qualifying event is invited to compete in the U.S. SAILING Singlehanded Championship Regatta for the O'Day trophy this summer, hosted by the Pensacola Yacht Club in Florida. A new twist this year has men competing for the Singlehanded Championship in full-rig *Lasers*, while women compete for a separate Singlehanded Championship in *Laser Radials*.

Chris Raab placed third in the Area J regatta and pending ABYC member, **Ben Leibowitz** placed fourth. Though the race winner qualifies for the *Championship*, in past years places in the *Championship* have opened, allowing racers placing well in the *Qualifier* to compete for the *Championship*. If places open for **Chris** or **Ben**, we'll report on the results later this summer.

Laser Fleet Practice Day

Continuing our series of Laser Fleet Practice Days; **Jim & Ellen Kirk**, new ABYC and Laser Fleet member, **Bruce Johnston**, as well as our friend and photographer from Cal YC, Peter Drasnin conducted a series of races off Seal Beach Sunday May 2nd. Peter brought his *Laser* and was ready to race, but generously loaned his boat to an ABYC newcomer, Edan Kfir (a *Laser* Junior National Champion from Israel...wow the ABYC Laser group is getting competitive!), for the day. We guess he was having too much fun taking pictures. To see all the pictures Peter did take, go to: <http://sail4sc.smugmug.com/Boats>

Jim and Ellen report they hosted nine *Lasers* and one *Laser Radial* for seven races in light easterly and southerly breezes. Top finisher for the day was ABYC's **Chuck Tripp**. Also participating in some of the races was ABYC's **Sumeet Patel** as well as pending new members; **Rob Coutts** and **Ben Leibowitz**. We are also encouraged for future race participation and ABYC membership growth, by a father/son team and six guest *Laser* sailors who raced.

Our fleet races continue with one on **June 20th** and two in **July**, the **11th** and **18th**. These practice days –in addition to regular ABYC Holiday Regattas- are good opportunities for beginner as well as seasoned *Laser* sailors to have a fun day

hails from the fleets

on the water. For you racers 35 years and older, they are also good tune-ups for the **2010 Laser Masters North American Championship hosted by ABYC August 13-15.**

How the Laser Came to be, Part Two

For readers who read Part One in the May *Sou'Wester*, here is Part Two of an interview with designer of the *Laser* describing how the boat was conceived and designed. This is the interview by **Rob Kothe, *Sail-World.com***, extracted from a website forwarded to me by the ever observant and considerate **Rich Roberts**.

This is part two of the in depth interview ***Sail-World*** recently did with now 80 year old **Bruce Kirby**, the Canadian born Olympic Finn sailor who designed the *Laser* in 1969, in collaboration with Montreal based industrial designer and boat builder **Ian Bruce**. 40 years on, the number of *Lasers* built is closing on 200,000.

Kirby continues: The *Laser* started with a phone conversation in 1969. I was here in Connecticut and Ian Bruce called me from Montreal. He was an industrial designer before he was a boat builder and he had a contract to do a bunch of things for an Outdoor Equipment Company, and one of the things they wanted was a car-topper sailboat.

So he called me and said 'how about doing a car-top sail boat for these people?' He'd warned me that it might never happen and they might not go ahead with it. While we were talking on the phone, I was doing a sketch on a piece of yellow legal paper. But then I went to the drawing board and did a proper naval architectural design process with displacement. I decided on a water line displacement with one 185 pound person on board and did all the normal numbers on prismatic coefficient and the sail area displacement ratio and that type of thing. A lot of people say the boat was designed on a napkin; the fact is it was designed on Mylar drafting paper on a drawing board in the proper way.

The working name for the boat, which seemed to work for a car-topper, was the Weekender. We couldn't think of a name that seemed appropriate to the boat; but that was much later. This sketch thing happened in October of 1969, and then these people who thought they wanted the car-topper decided not to go ahead with that. I had a note to Ian, someplace, saying hang onto that little boat design I sent you because it might make us a buck some day...I was 'sort of kidding'.

About a year later; I was editor of *Sailing World* for ten years, or *Yacht Racing* back in those days; *Yacht Racing* decided to have a regatta for boats costing under \$1000 and we called it the America's Teacup regatta. It was held at the Playboy Club on Lake Geneva in Wisconsin and that was colourful.

When the magazine decided to have this regatta I called Ian and said 'remember that little boat I did for you last year? Could you build one because this Teacup Regatta would be a perfect way to introduce it if we have any interest in doing anything with the design?' He already had a little boat builder shop because he was building my Mark 3 International 14 at the time on the side. So he said 'yeah, we can give it a whirl', and he got the first boat built just days before the regatta.

He headed for Wisconsin from Montreal and he picked up **Hans Fogh** in Toronto along the way, and Hans had the sail with him. The sail had never been on the mast and the mast, I don't think, had ever been in the boat. I flew out to the Playboy Club and met them there and we stuck together on the beach. The first time the boat ever sailed was in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin.

Hans Fogh sailed it. Ian and I were both Finn sailors and we both weighed about 195 pounds. Hans was about 160 and at that time and we thought a little boat like this requires a lighter person. It was very fortunate because it turned out to be an exceptionally light air series and Hans, as a sailmaker, was exactly the right guy to sail it. He recognized right away that the boat had too much weather helm, and there were two or three other little things as well.

He re-cut the sail that night at **Buddy Melges** loft after the first day's racing, and then he sailed it the next day and it was better; but then the regatta flunked out a bit because of lack of wind. But we did end up being tied for first in the performance class. It was another little boat from California that did quite well, a thing called a *Wind Surfer*, and we thought it might have a future too.

That's where it all began and that was October of 1970. It was obvious that we had something pretty good on our hands so we worked very hard. Ian was the point man because he was a builder in Montreal. Hans and I had our input and a few other people who were sailors and friends of Ian's sailed the boat, including at least one woman, to see how much sail we should put on the boat and what cross section of people might be able to sail it. We ended up with exactly the same sail area that I'd started with originally, but we moved the mast forward. Ian did most of this work because in those days we could hardly afford a phone call, let alone an aeroplane trip to Montreal. It took about a month and he worked very hard; it was a major contribution to the whole project.

I've designed about 65 boats and you always have to work closely with the builder. Ian was one of the easiest builders that I've worked with because he's a damn good sailor himself and we'd known each other for years; and Hans too. Hans had sailed Finns and Ian and I both sailed Finns so the whole thing was very fortuitous and the result speaks for itself.

Sail-World: How did the boat get called a Laser?

Ian found the name.

I did finally fly up to Montreal because we knew we had 'a tiger by the tail' so it was worth spending a few bucks. Hans was there and so was Ian and we all sailed the boat. Luckily we had a weekend with quite a variety of wind conditions; we even had some sleet during the last day. It was quite late in the year – I think it was November of 1970 – and that night we were at the Royal St Lawrence Yacht Club. Ian asked a young lad there who was a 14 sailor and a science student at McGill University 'have you got any ideas for a name? We've got this boat ready to be produced and we don't have a name for it yet. Weekender was the only name we had and none of us really thought that was the right name.

This young lad said 'why don't you call it something scientific the young people will identify with? And Ian said 'do you mean something like **Laser**?' And the kid said 'yeah, that would be a great name'. Ian yelled down the table at me 'how about **Laser**?' And I said 'yeah that sounds pretty good'.

And so it was the **Laser**...

Steven Smith, ABYC Laser Fleet Co-Captain

hails from the fleets



The Fleet to Be In!

Three Class Champs showed up to the line, April 18th, for our Fleet One Championship. It was a ferocious battle and an especially exciting regatta! The super fast Moths flew between our Cal 20s, Etchells and Lasers. **Chuck Clay & Mike Burch** sailed consistently with 1,2,1 and finished as the **Fleet One Champions**, receiving both, **The Richard L. Russell Perpetual and the Fleet One Championship Trophy!!! Jennifer Kuritz**, did a fabulous job of organizing the regatta; Cal 20s, Etchells, Lasers & Moths! **Results were:**

1st Place	Chuck Clay/Mike Burch	Veintiseis
2nd Place	Mike Wood/Ron Wood	Lickety Split
3rd Place	Mark Barnard/Patty Nash	Waka Waka

The weather was just gorgeous for our second fleet race of the year which was held May 16th. **The Rustigians** were in full force with **Team Horton, Matt Rustigian/Mike Ryan** finishing in **First Place**. **Dave**, our PRO, **Barb** and **Erin Rustigian** ran a great day of racing for both Etchells and Cal 20 Fleets.

Wet Wednesdays are in full swing as of this article, **The Rubber Dog Team, Keith Ives/Chuck Stevens** is leading the pack. Speaking of Wet Wednesdays, a huge thank you for everyone's assistance on the hoist. Most recently, **Mark Townsend** and **Chris Ericksen**, still clad in their business attire, operated the hoist, making sure we all got out of the water before it was too dark. These gentlemen could not be out on the race course, due to business demands, but they are **First Place Finishers!!!**

The So Cal Championship is scheduled for the week of July 11th at CBYC. The Class Championship will be held in Cabrillo Beach the following week, July 16 through 18th. The Juniors' Championship will be held July 15th. This should prove to be an exciting and challenging venue!!!

Patty Nash, Cal 20 Fleet Captain



Chuck Clay and Mike Burch in winning form!



Jennifer Kuritz, Regatta Chair, Patty Nash, Fleet Captain and Chuck Clay, Cal 20 Fleet One Champ



Mark Gaudio, Latham Bell looking intense...

E **M**ay marks the just-past-halfway point of the Alamitos Bay Etchells Fleet 18 Fleet Championship Series for 2010. We began in February at the Midwinter Regatta and will finish up with a fleet regatta in September. And the pecking order is setting up in a predictable way.

The last regatta in the series was a fleet regatta held on a brisk day in May. The Rustigian family—father Dave, mother Barbara and daughter-in-law Erin—ran the four races for five Etchells and two Cal 20s. There was bright sunshine and the breeze built to near-summertime levels. And the racing was closer than the results showed: often the boats rounded the marks overlapped or nearly so.

Tom Corkett was steady and fast in both light and heavy, scoring three firsts and a second. The “steady” part was key, as the next two players struggled a bit: Tim Carter and Chris Ericksen hit a starting mark in one race and had a badly snarled halyard during a takedown in another while Don Burdge and Jim Barber managed a good-enough spinnaker rap to miss an entire race. At the end of the day, the results looked like this:

OWNER	SAIL NO.	RACE 1	RACE 2	RACE 3	RACE 4	TOTALS
Tom Corkett	USA889	1	1	2	1	5
Carter/Ericksen	USA491	3	4	1	3	11
Barber/Burdge/Newsome	USA126	2	5	DNS/6	2	15
Jerry Montgomery	USA792	5	2	3	5	15
John Chapman	USA1002	4	3	4	4	15

This regatta rearranged the standings for the Fleet Championship Series. The 2009 champions—Don Burdge, Jim Barber and Bob Newsome—took the lead in the series, which is scored as a high-point series with 25 per cent (rounded up) of the scores discarded. Past champion Tom Corkett moved into a close second ahead of Argyle Campbell, who held the lead on the strength of a dominating Midwinter Regatta. The series standings look like this:

...continued next page

hails from the fleets

...from page 14

OWNER	SAIL NO.	TOTALS
Barber/Burdge/Newsome	USA126	34
Tom Corkett	USA889	31
Argyle Campbell	USA1229	29
Carter/Ericksen	USA491	27
Hardenbergh/Frost	USA669	25
Jerry Montgomery	USA792	23
John Chapman	USA1002	20
Rich Vaught	USA821	4
Dudley/Powell	USA531	2



The Fleet Championship Series takes a short hiatus until the next one-day fleet regatta on July 10. The fleet may be sailing in the ABYC Memorial Day Regatta, but possibly not in enough numbers to get a start of their own; the one-day ABYC Fourth of July Regatta will also intervene, one week before the fleet regatta.

Separately, ABYC has been invited to take part in The Balboa Challenge regatta at Newport Harbor Yacht Club in August; among the clubs sending Etchells teams to sail against the host NHYC for the historic Balboa Challenge Trophy include Balboa Yacht Club, California Yacht Club and The San Francisco Yacht Club. And both Bruce Golison and Doug McLean will be among the ABYC members competing in the Etchells North Americans at San Diego Yacht Club in June, a warm-up both for the class and the yacht club for the 2011 Etchells Worlds to be hosted by SDYC. Best of luck to the ABYC members in all these events.

Chris Ericksen



Senior Sabots have been enjoying quite a month. We have been using our May Twilights to tune up for National's June 12th and 13th. (registration at ABYC.org) The weather on Thursday evenings has been quite good to us. Fair winds and blue skies prevailed.

Seniors still need help. Any able bodied, or not so able bodied person's wishing to have a good time and get out on Thursday evenings, or our Sunday monthly, please give me a call. 562-430-7318. This year we are in desperate need of volunteers on the whaler and barge. We will even through in dinner!

Opening Day was a blast. First off, the Fleet Captain and crew, Brian Brown represented the Sabot Fleet in the Fleet Championship Regatta. In spite of complete "rust" we went out on the water and surprised ourselves with our amazing speed and agility (laugh) The third race was the best. We drew a lido that had made it through the first two races just fine. To our complete amazement we found ourselves ahead of the entire fleet though out the course. We were going to be FIRST! Well, on the second to very last tack to the finish, our ever so trusty boat decided to shed it's main, with about a third of it landing in my lap. This was truly the *thrill of victory, agony of defeat* race! Despite it all we finished all the races of the day placing somewhere in the middle!

Following the Fleet Regatta, we toasted and enjoyed munchies aboard "Patience" which was the designated boat to represent the Sabot/Keelboat Fleets. Opening Ceremonies followed on the patio.

Sunday, May 2nd was canceled at the dock as the winds gradually increased in their intensity, gusting to 18 knots at times. We were sorry to go home as otherwise it was a beautiful day!

Dianne Gonzales

SAVE THE DATE . . . Aarrgh!



Avast, me Hearties, thar' be Pirates on the Horizon!



~PIRATES OF THE PENINSULA~

Saturday, September 4

**Annual Labor Day Regatta
and Swashbuckling Entertainment!**



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Long Beach, California 90803

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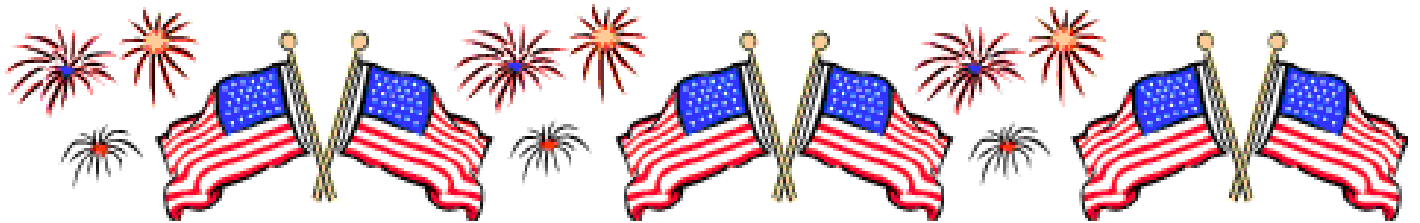
thanks from *Patience*

PATIENCE SAYS THANKS TO ALL THE VOLUNTEERS AND GOOD BYE TO VERN

Many thanks to all the volunteers who worked so hard on Patience on Spruce Up Day. John Ellis, Judy Mathias, John and Loraine Perone, Don Wilson, Sheila Eberly, Bobby and Don Hodges, Al Nelson, Mary Riddick and Maggie did our Race Committee Boat proud. Vern would have been so happy with the results, Patience is ready for the 2010 racing season.

And now a farewell to our friend and Patience R.C. boat partner. He was a true gentleman from the "Greatest Generation" I am proud to have known him and been of his generation.

Semper Fidelis, George



Fourth of July Regatta And Burger Bash

Saturday, July 3rd 2010

Hamburgers, Hot dogs, Corn on the Cob and Apple Pie!

Barbeque begin at 4:30 (or as soon as all racers return)

Burger Bash reservations \$10.00 for Adults, \$6.00 for Kids 10 and under

Please make reservations by calling

ABYC at (562) 434-9955

By Wednesday, June 30th

\$15.00 at the door

Pete Melvin and Nat Shaver have won US SAILING's 2010 U.S. Multihull Championship for the Hobie Alter Cup in Houston. Pete is now the second ABYC member to have won the Alter Cup twice: John Williams is also a two-time winner. Jeff Newsome has also won the Alter Cup. Pete and Nat topped a 20-boat fleet that included no fewer than five teams that were all or in part made up of ABYC members.

Chris Ericksen

Melvin and Shaver Hold on to Win U.S. Multihull Championship

SHOREACRES, Texas (May 25, 2010) – Through four days of racing and nine races complete, the team of Pete Melvin (Huntington Beach, Calif.) and Nat Shaver (Long Beach, Calif.) have won US SAILING's 2010 U.S. Multihull Championship, hosted by the Houston Yacht Club. Melvin and Shaver had a lead after each day of racing throughout the event.

Their fourth place finish in Thursday's lone race was good enough to keep the hard charging team of Greg Thomas (Temecula, Calif.) and Jacques Bernier (San Marcos, Calif.) at bay. Thomas and Bernier made it close by posting a bullet today. They also finished first and third yesterday. Melvin and Shaver had a five point lead entering today's racing, and held on to win the championship by two points.

Shaver and Melvin were sailing together for the first time.

"Our plan was to race consistently," Melvin said. "There were so many good teams, the courses were short, and we were using the same boats."

Michael Easton (Lexington, Ma.) and Tripp Burd (Marblehead, Ma.) moved up a spot from fourth to third by finishing second today. Meanwhile, 2008 USMC Champion, Alex Shafer (Clermont, Fla.) and his teammate Nigel Pitt (Hartwell, Ga.) dropped to fourth. Olli Jason (Oldsmar, Fla.) and Patrick Gilles (Madison, Wisc.) had another solid performance. They finished third in today's race and fifth overall. Two-time winners of the event and defending champions, John Casey (Longwood, Fla.) and John Williams (Long Beach, Calif.) finished the championship in sixth place. Winds were blowing at approximately five knots today on the calm waters of Galveston Bay.

A former national champion in the 420 and 470 classes, Melvin picked up catamaran sailing in the late 1980s. He won the 1988 Olympic Trials in the Tornado class. Soon after, he sailed in the ProSail professional sailing circuit in 1989 and won the Hobie 21 series.

"I always admired these boats, and eventually I got one," mentioned Melvin. "It was a revelation at first. These boats are demanding and fast. I think it's one of the better ends of the sport you can be in."

This event is sponsored by Rolex Watch U.S.A., Dry Creek Vineyard, and Hobie Polarized Sunglasses. The C2 F-18s are provided by our official suppliers at Australian High Performance Catamarans and Fun in the Sun Services.

Jake Fish

US SAILING Communications Manager

For more information on the U.S. Multihull Championship, visit the event website at <http://championships.ussailing.org/Adult/USMHChampionship.htm>.

vern peterson memorial

Thank you

We would like to thank everyone for their kind thoughts and wishes during this difficult time. Your friendship and support has comforted all of us.

A "Celebration of Life" memorial for Vern Peterson will be held at Alamitos Bay Yacht Club on Wednesday, July 7th at 1:30 P.M.

Bobbie, Eric, Melinda and family

opening day 2010 photos

Bruce Wassen photos



Ken Reiff photo



Ken Reiff photo

