



ALBATROSS

Ancient Mariners Sailing Society
Est. 1975

Half-Pint Race Sails Saturday

MEETINGS

- Saturday, 5 December. Silver Strand Beach, South Bay. Half-Pint-o'-Rum Race starts at approximately noon, from beach & anchor.
- Friday, 11 December. AMSS Annual Meeting, Awards Night and Commodore's Ball. San Diego Yacht Club. No Host Cocktails starting at 6:00PM. Please see the **Program Announcement**, pg.4
- Saturday, 19 December, Ancient Mariners Board Transition Meeting. Dave and Kathy Easter's, 552 Fern Glen, La Jolla. 6-ish, please
- Friday, 25 December. Merry Christmas
- Friday 1 January. New Years Day Sail



Last Year's Starting Lineup, Before the Gun

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One of the favorite (since 1974) Ancient Mariners events is scheduled for this Saturday, 5 December—the Half Pint-o'-Rum Race. This race is open to Ancient Mariner Boats and invited guests. The entry fee is a fifth of premium rum that will be decanted into the AMSS keg. The Race Committee has great latitude to assess penalties as well as time awards for exceptional feats of seamanship, near collisions, gaudy attire and other such things. Be forewarned that poor quality rum entries will be penalized and could cause adverse handicap adjustments.

The race begins off the beach southeast of the Navy Sailing Club along the bay side of the Silver Strand in South Bay. Boats in the Traditional Format (Beach Start) classes anchor off the beach with sails furled. Please check www.amss.us if you have not received an e-mail with race instructions, etc. The owners come ashore for the Skipper's Meeting on the beach. At this time, the entry fee is ...cont'd, pg.5

Editor's Corner: Happy New Year!

One of the best ashore gatherings we will have had for a long time will be on Friday, 11 December - the Ancient Mariners Annual Meeting, Awards Ceremony and Commodore's Ball. Please join us at the San Diego Yacht Club at 6:00 PM for cocktails, followed by a delicious holiday dinner and a little entertainment. See page 4 for more details. Your RSVP, if not already sent, should be submitted immediately!

Many of us look forward to the Half-Pint-o'-Rum Race every December, more than any other race or regatta. This original race was the foundation of the club thirty-five years

ago, and the tradition has continued unbroken through all those years. Pages 1 and 5 contain some more information, and your entry forms and releases are now overdue. Save postage, and send in your reservations for the Annual Meeting and your 2010 membership dues along with the Half-Pint Race Entry and Release forms. You will save a huge amount of follow up calls and repeated dues invoicing on the part of next year's board and officers if you'll (please!) send in those items directly, with all due haste. Also, please see the race instructions on the AMSS website in case you missed the e-mail invitation sent earlier.

We will be announcing a new Board of Directors and Officers at the Annual Meeting, and there will be a few changes in the masthead above from here on out. We owe all of these fine people and many other volunteers great thanks for all they do to support our excellent venue of meetings, special programs, parties, races and regattas throughout the year. A superb schedule of events and races is shaping up for 2010, starting off with a January presentation by Johnny Smullen. In March, we have plans for a joint meeting of Ancient Mariners and Maritime Museum staff and volunteers aboard the **Berkeley**, where the President of the International Yacht Restoration School (IYRS), Terry Nathan, will speak.

So, shake out your party clothes and half-pint o' rum gear; the shows are about to begin. Join all your friends over the holidays for these joyous events, stay safe, and make plans for another year with all the best activities that the Ancient Mariners Sailing Society delivers to so many. Since we've just yesterday had our first measurable rain in San Diego for almost half a year, let's count that as an omen for good things to come in 2010. To all, Happy Holidays, and Best Wishes for a wonderful New Year. - *Mele Kalikimaka—Dave Easter*

2009 Officers & Board Members

Commodore	Marcia Hilmen	619 222-1281
Vice Commodore 1	Peter Hysten	858 245-3017
Vice Commodore 2	Johnny Smullen	619 758-9198
Port Captain	Bruce Anderson	858 454-4051
Secretary	Janet Callow	619 699-2581
Treasurer	Deb Dominici	619 294-2244
Race Chair	Doug Jones	619 993-9295
At Large	John Driscoll	619 222-0325
At Large	Jack Giubilato	619 871-9264
At Large	Ann Kinner	619 223-8989

December Flag Boat – *Benchmark*

Benchmark is a modified 30 Square Meter built in Sydney in 1930, now owned by Carl and Elissa Koerner. Her specifications are: LOA 39', Beam 7', Draft 6.5'. The hull is constructed of Huon Pine (Native to Tasmania) and Mahogany. The deck is plywood, and the cabin Mahogany.

The Koerners purchased **Benchmark** in late 2005 in Brisbane, Australia. She was in a sad state and they had to do some quick repairs just to ship her. **Benchmark** was shipped to Ensenada, Mexico in 2006 and Carl then sailed her to Long Beach, Catalina Island and back down to San Diego. She was sailed for a couple of years with the hull leaking badly and when a large enough pump could not be found a full hull restoration was accomplished at Koehler Kraft.



Carl Standing Up the Rig



Benchmark Coming out of the barn at Koehler's

The boat has been replanked from the keel to above the waterline. All of the frames were broken so most were replaced with laminated purple heart and the rest were laminated and repaired. The cabin and deck were stripped back to bare wood and refinished. The rig was removed and stripped back and refinished, and all the running rigging was replaced. The engine was removed.

The work on the re-build was performed by CF Koehler, the staff at Koehler Kraft, Victor J Marolda and Carl Koerner. The Koerners wish to thank Victor J. Marolda for the hundreds of tireless hours he spent helping restore the yacht.

Benchmark will be sailing the Half-Pint-o'-Rum Race this weekend.



ANCIENT MARINERS SAILING SOCIETY

**** Special Program Announcement****

Annual Meeting, Awards Ceremony & Commodore's Ball

Friday, 11 December, San Diego Yacht Club, 6:00 PM

So far, we've had a very promising return of RSVP invitations for the December Annual Meeting and Party. This is the third year in which we've expanded the Annual Meeting to include a festive evening of drinks, dinner and the award ceremonies. If you have not returned your RSVP invitations for yourself, your crew, family and friends, please take the time to do so now. The seating is limited; don't miss this outstanding evening. Tickets are \$45.00 per person all inclusive.

The program for the event is as follows:

No Host Cocktails	6:00 PM
Dinner Served	7:15 PM
Dessert Served	8:00 PM
2010 Board & Officers Election Results	7:45 PM
Awards Presentation	8:15 PM



The award presentations will include the 2009 20 Guinea Cup Series (1st, 2nd, and 3rd for both the Short and Long Courses) and the Perpetual Trophies for each class. The 2009 Luders 16 Perpetual will also be awarded. The 2009 Half-Pint sails the weekend before our party, and awards will be made for 1st, 2nd and 3rd in each of three classes: Racing, Cruising and Sailing. A new Half-Pint-o'-Rum Racing Class Perpetual Trophy has been donated by Staff Commodore Greg Stewart, with the assistance of Doug Jones and Jack Swendsen). It is a very bulky prize, featuring of a windlass built by Herreshoff Manufacturing Company for the 12 Meter boat **Mitena**. The significance, of course, is in the windlass itself, since this is our only race requiring starts from off the anchor.

Bayshots has prepared a large file of Ancient Mariner photographs shot during the past few years, and these will be presented on a large screen display during the evening. If you see one with your crew and boat that you can't go without, Darrall will be happy to assist you. Please see www.bayshots.com for an idea of what's available.



Half-Pint Race This Saturday, cont'd

...inspected (Pusser's or Black Seal will pass), and deposited into the keg. The starting blast sends the skippers back to their boats from the beach (rowing, paddling, walking on water, etc.), and after reaching their boats, the crew can set sails and weigh anchor. The finish is on the beach next to the Shelter Island launch ramp, across the street from the Silvergate Yacht Club. A member of the crew must row or swim ashore, with tot cup on person, report to the Race Committee present and swig some rum from the keg. That deed completed, the yacht's finish time is recorded.

The race is followed by a raft-up in La Playa, where some of the finest rum cocktails will be served. Crews may discuss their racing performance at this party, but outright bragging or brawling is discouraged. Trophies for the Racing, Cruising and Sailing classes are awarded at the December Annual Meeting, after the results are properly adjudicated by the Race Committee, including handicap adjustments for good deeds and/or misbehavior. Don't miss this great race! If you need a tow down to the start, look for an AMSS boat departing Shelter Island or heading down the bay.



20 Guinea Cup #7 Race Results

2009_GC_Results.xls

2009 G-Cup - Results
GC #7 Nov. 7, 2009

2009 GC Results R7

Long Course
Distance
Start Time
Scratch Boat

Foxrot
13.00
12:00:00
72

ancient mariners



sailing society

Short Course
Distance
Start Time
Scratch Boat

Foxrot
6.50
12:00:00
210

Boat	Hand. SPM	Allowance SPM	Allowance H M S	Allowance H:M:S	Finish H:M:S	Elapsed H:M:S	Corrected Time H:M:S	Place CL	Points CL
Long Course									
Chimaera (P)	83	143	0 2 23	0:02:23	15:10:20	3:10:20	3:07:57	1	1
Sprig	124	676	0 11 16	0:11:16	15:42:00	3:42:00	3:30:44	2	2
Frolic	148	988	0 16 28	0:16:28	15:51:13	3:51:13	3:34:45	3	3
Pacifica	112	520	0 8 40	0:08:40	16:03:27	4:03:27	3:54:47	4	4
Altair	175	1339	0 22 19	0:22:19	16:26:00	4:26:00	4:03:41	5	5
Sally	72	0	0 0 0	0:00:00	DNF	#VALUE!	#VALUE!	6	6
Short Course									
Windley	290	520	0 8 40	0:08:40	14:03:00	2:03:00	1:54:20	1	1
Pilot	315	683	0 11 23	0:11:23	14:53:18	2:53:18	2:41:55	2	2
Old Glory	210	0	0 0 0	0:00:00	15:12:00	3:12:00	3:12:00	3	3
L-16 Cup									
Windley	290	520	0 8 40	0:08:40	14:03:00	2:03:00	1:54:20	1	1

Note: DNS = last place + 2 points, DNF = last place + 1 point
(P) Denotes Provisional Handicap

2009 Maritime Museum Annual Sail

The San Diego Maritime Museum sailed two of their vessels in this year's Annual Sail, the **HMS Surprise** and the **Californian**. Following her recent drydocking for the application of the high-tech Ce-RamKote coating below her waterline, the **Star of India** is still completing deckwork forward, but will no doubt join the Annual Sail again in the year ahead. Many Ancient Mariners are also San Diego Maritime Museum members,



Photo Courtesy Johnny and Thersa Smullen

and we're looking forward to a joint meeting aboard the **Berkeley** later this Winter (now scheduled for March), with a program to be presented by Mr. Terry Nathan, President of the International Yacht Restoration School & Museum of Yachting (IYRS, Newport, RI).

Welcome Aboard!

It has been a while since we recognized new Ancient Mariners members in this newsletter, so here we have an opportunity to "Welcome Aboard" several new Regular and Flag members. Please show all due courtesy and honors to these fine folks, who we look forward to meeting at any and all events shoreside and afloat. Dennis Kenneally (MGEM, Ret.) and his wife Lois frequently crew aboard **Old Glory**, the Caulkins 50 AMSS Flag vessel owned by Flag member Dan McKinnon. David O'Brien and Paula Cordeiro sail their 1965 Cheoy Lee **Colibri** from the Southwestern Yacht Club. Thaddeous Blanchard has joined as a Flag member with the gaff ketch **S/V Cloudia**, an 85' Colin Archer designed rescue vessel built in Sagwag, Norway by Henrik Lagen in 1934. **Cloudia** has circumnavigated twice and was in the Disney movie "Shipwrecked" (1971). **Cloudia** is currently engaged an extensive retrofit. Ed and Kay Dean are new Regular members, and we're happy to see them join. George and Tina Morgan hail from Omaha, NE, and are also joining as Regular members. Paul and Susan Mitchell returned from a decades-long circumnavigation last year, and have been quite active in the club since returning to the San Diego area. Paul served as the Commodore of the Ancient Mariners Sailing Society in 1980. Many of you enjoyed their program last month, "The Story of **White Cloud**," the Alden schooner in which they departed San Diego in 1982 for extensive cruising in Mexico, South America and the South Pacific. Many thanks to each of you for joining our ranks!

Retrospective: the 1991 San Diego-Maui Race

Tom Jackson forwarded this piece by Donnel Tate, reporting on the 1991 Ancient Mariner's San Diego to Maui Race. The first (1983) San Diego-Maui Race Plaque is being restored, and will be placed on view in the AMSS Exhibit at the San Diego Maritime Museum shortly. Here, thanks to Tom and Donnell are some memories of an AMSS ocean race:

"This year's fourth Ancient Mariner's Classic Yacht Race from San Diego to Maui was probably one of the closest Trans-Pacific yacht races ever held. After 15 days of sailing, it came down to a drag race between the yachts **Caprice**, a 50 foot Lapworth sloop, and **Rowena**, a 49 foot Rhodes sloop,



Rowena on San Francisco Bay, Photo Courtesy Diane Beeston

with less than 12 miles to the finish line. At the start, Skipper David Lenschmidt sailed **Caprice** on a more direct Northern route, while Skipper Tom Jackson headed **Rowena** South, going for more wind and boat speed. **Caprice** sailed the 2,250 miles without seeing another boat, but as they neared Nakalele Point, they spotted **Rowena** just ahead of them.

Rowena was ahead by a few miles, but became stalled in light winds allowing **Caprice** to fill in the distance. Together they struggled with patchy light air, with both boats neck and neck as they neared the finish line. With drifter headsails set on both boats, **Caprice** being a lighter boat moved out ahead of **Rowena** with less than one mile to go. With a favored heading to the finish **Rowena** sailed right up to **Caprice** when the wind filled in at the last moment, but not soon enough to catch them. Only two minutes and twenty six seconds separated the boats at the finish. Even though **Caprice** was first-to-finish in elapsed time, **Rowena** finished ahead of **Caprice** on corrected time by over 15 hours. **Caprice** finished third on corrected time.'

Eventide, a 36 foot Lapworth sloop skippered by Bob Griffiths, won the race on corrected time with a 3 day handicap. **Eventide** was third to finish at 16 days, 19 hours, and 17 minutes. **Dauntless**, a 61 foot Alden schooner skippered by Paul Plotts, was fourth to finish in 16 days, 23 hours, 51 minutes. The final yacht to finish was **Molly Sue**, a 50 foot Kettenberg sloop skippered by Ron Bodeen in 17 days, 14 hours and 25 minutes."

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5 Half Pint Race
6	7	8	9	10	11 Annual Mtg.	12 Han-nukkah
13	14	15	16	17	18	19 Board Mtg.
20	21	22	23	24	25 Merry XMAS!	26 Boxing Day
27	28	29	30	31	1 New Year Sail	

UPCOMING EVENTS

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Not only is the sea unspoiled and without artificiality, there is a primeval quality, a purity surrounding its environment. Maybe you appreciate the sea because when you are lost upon its vastness your life is not all jammed up with the trivia, the meaningless detail, and the foolish stuff of civilization - Hal Roth

ANCIENT MARINERS

SAILING SOCIETY
EST. 1975WE'RE ON THE WEB! WWW.AMSS.USANCIENT MARINERS
SAILING SOCIETY
EST. 1975P.O. Box 6484
San Diego, CA 92166General Meetings: 1st Thursday of every
month, 7:30 PM @ San Diego Yacht ClubWeb: www.amss.us E-mail: info@amss.us

AMSS Ship-to-Ship VHF Common -Channel 68