



ALBATROSS

Ancient Mariners Sailing Society
Est. 1975

Altair Wins 20 Guinea Cup #6

MEETINGS

- Thursday, 5 November, San Diego Yacht Club, 7:30 PM. The White Cloud Story by Paul and Susan Mitchell. Earlier for no host drinks and dinner. You, your friends and guests are welcome.
- Saturday, 7 November. 20 Guinea Cup Race #7. 12:00, Buoy # 17 Start. Last chance to improve your points for the December Awards!
- Thursday, 19 November AMSS Board Meeting, Fiddlers Green, Shelter Island, 7:30 PM. Earlier for Dinner.
- Thursday, 26 November, Thanksgiving Day!



Vice Commodore Smullen's Altair Heads Out

On Saturday, 10 October, **Altair** edged Staff Commodore Doug Jones' **Pacifica** by a total of 22 seconds in corrected time to place them 1st and 2nd, respectively, in the sixth 20 Guinea Cup #6 Race of 2009. One race remains this year, coming up soon on Saturday, 7 November. I awoke before dawn on GC #6 Race Day eager to drive down to the famous Chula Vista Marina Swap Meet. As the sun rose, I counted more Ancient Mariners at the Swap Meet than would sail later that day! I found the 20 Guinea Cup Race Chairman Jack Swendsen with a table full of his fine bronze fittings, and asked about the race. Jack had forgotten, and quickly called Doug Jones to enlist **Pacifica**...cont'd pg. 5

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Editor's Corner: The Holidays are Here!

Walking around the waterfront, my perception is that things are now quite hard for many. This economic crisis is certainly taking a heavy toll. The editors of several major maritime publications have registered the same thoughts, but with an upside message that I think is worth thinking about. Though not of our milieu, the mega-yacht market is losing the owners who are in it only to make a statement, and the focus is shifting to yacht owners who would rather spend time aboard underway than jetting in for the next ostentatious yacht meet. Similarly, and at a more down-to-earth level, those who love boats and the sea are not deterred, while the dabblers and uncommitted are turning elsewhere. That's a good thing; our friends and colleagues will henceforth be more often the "finest kind," in the best sense of that phrase.

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

The holidays are here, and are always a time to reflect, care and share. If anything, now is the time for our fraternity of traditional boat connoisseurs to draw more near, and take pride in a common cause through all times, thick or thin. Staff Commodore Greg Stewart recently addressed this theme as he observed that financial hardships come and go, but a run at the 6 Meter Worlds was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity not to be ignored. Many folks sailing those same 6 Meter boats thought likewise during the prewar Depression.

So, my prescription is to stay involved. Sail the boats; trim some sheets. The 20 Guinea Cup Silver is up for grabs on the last race this year, Saturday, 7 November. Competition in this seven-race series has seen its ups and downs this year, so go for it now! The Half-Pint-o'-Rum Race in December will see all the stalwarts out for fun, and the winners will be accorded their just rewards at this year's Annual Meeting in December. The Annual Meeting will be an event not to be missed. We'll gather together on Friday, 11 December at the San Diego Yacht Club for all the festivities. Surely by that time, all frowns will have been replaced by fine smiles and the certainty of good times to come, on and off the water.

You'll find all the latest news that fit to print in this issue, as usual. In particular, I encourage you to attend our November General Meeting, at which a pair of our most senior active Ancient Mariners, Paul and Susan Mitchell, will give an account of their quarter-century circumnavigation. Having returned to San Diego, their perspectives are bound to astound and impress you with a world few of us will have the opportunity to explore as they have.

Aloha-Dave

October Flag Boat – *Mischief*



Mischief is one of the Ancient Mariners schooner fleet, and a very smart and unique boat in

all respects. She was designed by the same William Roue' who produced Nova Scotia's ***Bluenose*** schooner. Ancient Mariner Board Member At Large Jack Giubilato acquired ***Mischief*** in 2004.

Mischief's construction was by builder Gary Wooden in Del Mar Heights, with the keel laid in 1966. Wooden traveled extensively back and forth to Nova Scotia to consult with Roue' before he passed away. He acquired plans from Roue's granddaughter, which are now in Jack's possession. Google "***Bluenose***" for extensive information related to ***Mischief's*** heritage, and also Mr. Roue'.

Stewart Smith purchased ***Mischief*** still unfinished and commissioned the schooner in the 1970s. The Sitka spruce mast was built on the East coast, and Smith completed the interior and cabin joinery. ***Mischief*** raced the San Diego Schooner Cup (a.k.a. Billy Bones) for more than a decade, based out of Fraser's and the Tonga landing. She won the 1993 Schooner Cup.

When Jack bought the boat, he replaced standing and running rigging, and had a new suit of sails made up by Tom Niebergall of Ullman Sails (he being one of very few in this area who can still produce these with the requisite handwork, and to the traditional standards). We all know that ***Mischief*** is a very slippery one now; Jack sailed her to victory in the 2008 Schooner Cup, and placed 3rd last year. The boat's specifications are: LOA 42', LWL 33', Beam 9'5", Draft 6'. She was built with laminated apitong frames, and the hull is carvel planked with traditional mahogany of 1 and 1/4 inch thickness. In 2008, Jack cruised the Channel Islands before and after the McNish Classic Race, and he's a regular in the annual Ancient Mariners Yesteryear Regattas.



Mischief Ghosting Along During an Ancient Mariners Half-Pint o' Rum Race photo courtesy Bob Greiser



ANCIENT MARINERS SAILING SOCIETY

**** Special Program Announcement****

The *White Cloud* Story

Thursday, 5 November, San Diego Yacht Club, 7:30 PM

Paul and Susan Mitchell owned their 1930 Alden schooner *White Cloud* for fourteen years, the last six of them cruising the Pacific. Their talk (for the AMSS November General Meeting) will cover *White Cloud's* colorful history, construction, rebuilding and outfitting in San Diego Bay between races, and adventures while cruising, leading up to her loss in the Coral Sea in 1988. On the way from Vanuatu to Australia she was knocked down by a rogue wave. After taking shelter behind South Bellona Reef while repairs were attempted, she slid gracefully beneath the sea in 80 feet of water with her flags flying and all her trophies still in place. *White Cloud* was a flag vessel of the Ancient Mariners and a notable racer in our fleet. She and her crew were



actively involved in the formative years of our club - and the center of memorable raft-ups. Paul served as Commodore of the AMSS in 1980. As a greatly skilled sail maker in the area, revered for his handwork by the traditional boat owners if not all of the area cruisers, in 1973 he started Sail Services in the loft now known as Ullman Sails, and later added Canvas Services. Leaving San Diego in November 1982 for an open-ended cruise to Mexico, Central America and the South Pacific, Paul and his wife Susan have maintained their ties to many friends here in San Diego. More about their cruising years can be found in a Latitude 38 article about them posted at www.elenoa.weebly.com. After completing a 26-year cruise (quarter-century!) that circumnavigated the world, they have returned to San Diego and AMSS once more. Please join us for the Mitchell's program this Thursday, 5 November at the San Diego Yacht Club. This meeting is, as always, open to the public and we encourage you to bring your family and friends. No-host bar and dinner services are available before the meeting, and you are welcome to come early to socialize before the meeting, which will be held in the Spinnaker Room beginning at 7:30 PM. It's rare that we have an opportunity from Ancient Mariners who have completed a circumnavigation, let alone an epic lasting a quarter century. See you there!

20 Guinea Cup # 6 Race Results, cont'd

...to serve as the starting boat. On the short course, the regulars **Zephyr**, **Pilot** and **Whisper** finished 1-2-3, in that order, although actually, **Zephyr** and **Pilot** split 1.5 points each because their corrected times (**Zephyr** rated 290) and (**Pilot** rated 315) calculated out exactly even at 1:19:30 for both boats! So, despite the fine weather, this race showed only a small handful of regular competitors out on the water. This month, a much larger fleet is expected out in the last chance to boost their points standings for the year. Remember - the 20 Guinea Cup Awards will be presented at this year's Annual Meeting and Awards Ceremony at the San Diego Yacht Club on Friday, 11 December. Come on out and play! :

2009_GC_Results.xls

2009 G-Cup - Results GC #6 Oct. 10, 2009

2009 GC Results R6

Long Course
Distance
Start Time
Scratch Boat

Delta
10.60
12:00:00
112

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Short Course
Distance
Start Time
Scratch Boat

Delta
5.30
12:00:00
290

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									
Altair	175	668	0 11 8	0:11:08	14:16:27	2:16:27	2:05:19	1	1
Pacifica	112	0	0 0 0	0:00:00	14:05:41	2:05:41	2:05:41	2	2
Short Course									
Zephyr	290	0	0 0 0	0:00:00	13:19:30	1:19:30	1:19:30	1	1.5
Pilot	315	133	0 2 13	0:02:13	13:21:43	1:21:43	1:19:30	2	1.5
Whisper	290	0	0 0 0	0:00:00	DNF	#VALUE!	#VALUE!	3	3
L-16 Cup									
Zephyr	290	0	0 0 0	0:00:00	13:19:30	1:19:30	1:19:30	1	1
Whisper	290	0	0 0 0	0:00:00	DNF	#VALUE!	#VALUE!	2	2

2009_GC_Results.xls

2009 G-Cup Series CURRENT POINTS - NO THROW-OUTS

2009 GC Series Results

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Boat	GC1	GC2	GC3	GC4	GC5	GC6	GC7	Total Points	Total Points w/ t/o	Overall Place
Date	02/07/2009	03/07/2009	06/06/2009	07/18/2009	09/18/2009	10/10/2009	11/07/2009			
Long Course										
Chimera	2s/2f	5s/5f	3s/3f	4s/4f	4s/4f	2s/2f		17		
Pacifica	1	7	3	1	1	4		21		
Altair	4	2	1	6	6	2		21		
Spiritfire	4	5	5	3	3	1		22		
Frolic	4	1	5	6	2	4		23		
Sprig	2	3	2	6	6	4		25		
Nirvana	4	4	5	2	6	4		28		
	4	7	5	4	4	4				
Short Course										
Zephyr	3s/3f	5s/5f	5s/5f	2s.2f	5s/5f	5s/5f		12		
Windley	2	3	2	2	1	1.5		16		
Pilot	1	2	3	4	2	4		22		
Maid of Kent	5	5	4	1	5	1.5		26		
Freedom	5	1	7	4	5	4		26		
Mischief	3	7	5	4	3	4		29		
Whisper	5	4	7	4	5	4		30		
Woody	5	7	7	4	5	2		26		
	5	7	1	4	5	4				
L-16 Cup										
Zephyr	2s/2f	2s/2f	2s/2f	1s/1f	2s/2f	2s/1f		8		
Windley	2	2	1	1	1	1		12		
Whisper	1	1	2	3	2	3		21		
	4	4	4	3	4	2				

Note: BOLD Italic denotes DNS & DNF, DNS = last place + 2 points, DNF = last place + 1 point

Note: Series Points based on the best (5) of (7) Events.

Scuttlebutt

- Nominations are in for this year's slate of AMSS Flag Officers and Board Members, and you'll be receiving a ballot by mail in the second week of November. Please complete your ballot according to the enclosed instructions, and return it in the postpaid return envelope. We look forward every year to recruiting new people to serve our club, and the fresh views and energy positively keep us going strong from year-to-year (34 years, that is, to date).
- The December Annual Meeting will be held on Friday, 11 December at the San Diego yacht Club. This is our premiere General Meeting of every year, and only recently have we started a venue including a dinner to accommodate all members and their guests in a somewhat more formal and festive setting than in days gone by. You'll find invitations to this grand party in your mailbox at about the same time as you'll receive your 2010 Officers and Board Members ballots. Please make your reservations as early as possible, and we hope to see you this year with your families and crews ready for a fine evening. The new 2010 AMSS Officers and Board Members will be introduced, and the Awards Ceremony for the 2009 20 Guinea Cup Series and the 2009 Half-Pint-o'-Rum Race will follow shortly after the dinner. Of course, a no-host bar will be available as well, with cocktails to be served beginning at 6:00 PM.

- Typically, the Maritime Museum of San Diego breaks out their sail fleet for an Annual Sail in November. Since the ***Star of India*** is yet recuperating from her extensive



Photo courtesy Maritime Museum of San Diego

- bottom work in drydock a few months ago, and finishing up some other needed repairs, she will not set sail this month. However, ***HMS Surprise*** and the ***Californian*** will shove off for daily sails on Saturday and Sunday, 21 and 22 November. Followers-on will probably be treated to the sight of some few gun battles, and these are always most entertaining at close range. Why not head out on those days for a look?

- Ed. Note: Just a reminder that I have always have on hand tickets for those interested in visiting the San Diego Aircraft Carrier Museum, ***USS Midway***. Often during the holiday season a missed connection, cancellation or changed plans leave you with some free time. E-mail me ASAP if you'd like to visit the ***USS Midway*** this season, with compliments of the museum: deaster1@san.rr.com



2009 Half-Pint-o'-Rum Race Coming Up!

The 2009 Half-Pint-o'-Rum Race will be sailed on Saturday, 5 December. Opinions are torn as to whether the Yester-year Regatta or the Half-Pint is the most favorite race every year. Certainly, there is keen interest on the part of all crews participating in the Half-Pint to have as much fun as possible. As most know, this race involves a running start off the Silver Strand beach in South Bay, skippers making it back to their boats by any feasible means (swimming, surfboard, kayak, dinghy, etc.). Anchors can be raised and sails hoisted only as the skipper reaches the boat. The finish, involving the debarkation of skippers off Shelter Island, is also entertaining. They must make land, approach the race officials and rum keg at the finish, and down a swig to be recorded as their official finish time. Plan now to join us in this great race!



*A Memorable Raft-Up After the Half Pint
photo courtesy Bob Greiser*

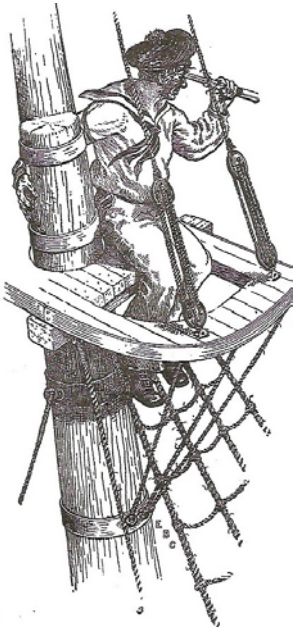


The word “anchor” comes from the Latin word anchora meaning bend or bent which certainly suggests the shape of an anchor. But you also “bend a line” to the anchor “ring” which then becomes the “anchor line” or “rode.” At the other end of that line you “make fast” or “belay” it to a “Samson post.” The tail of the line beyond the Sampson post is the “bitter end.” - Earl R. Hinz.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5 Gen Mtg.	6	7 20 G Cup Race
8	9	10	11	12	13	14 MMSD Sail
15 MMSD Sail	16	17	18	19 Board Mtg.	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 Turkey Day	27	28
29	30					

UPCOMING EVENTS

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- Saturday, 7 November. 20 Guinea Cup Race #7. 12:00, Buoy # 17 Start. Last chance to improve your points for the December Awards!
- Thursday, 19 November AMSS Board Meeting, Fiddlers Green, Shelter Island, 7:30 PM. Earlier for Dinner.
- Thursday, 26 November, Thanksgiving Day!



The fore-royal furl'd, | pause and | stand,
 Both feet on the yard, for a look around,
 With eyes that ache for a sight of the land,
 For we are homeward bound. -

Thomas Fleming Day

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General Meetings: 1st Thursday of every month, 7:30 PM @ San Diego Yacht Club

Web: www.amss.us E-mail: info@amss.us

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