



ALBATROSS

Ancient Mariners Sailing Society
Est. 1975

2009 20 Guinea Cup #2

MEETINGS

- Thursday, 2 April General Meeting, San Diego Yacht Club, 7:30 PM, Spinnaker Room. Billy Fox presents his program on "Marine Surveying." All friends and guests are welcome.
- San Diego Schooner Cup, Saturday, 4 April, 12:00
- Saturday, 11 April, Ancient Mariners April Fools Race, 12:00 noon start. Please note the date change!
- Thursday, 16 April, AMSS Board of Directors Meeting, Fiddlers Cove, Shelter Island Drive, 7:30 PM. (Drinks and Dinner at the restaurant beforehand). All Hands are welcome to attend...



Spitfire, 1st in 20 Guinea Cup #2 Race (Long Course), inbound with *Altair* in chase
(-photo courtesy Dave Easter)

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The 2009 20 Guinea Cup Race #2 brought out a fine fleet of eleven boats, sailing in gorgeous weather. ***Spitfire*** took honors for the Long Course, and ***Maid of Kent*** was first in the Short Course (Echo). ***Sally*** sailed the course; but a rigging snag required some fast action on the part of the crew, causing a DNS. Nevertheless, spinnakers were raised by many boats, making a grand show inbound to the bay. ***Pacifica*** claimed 2nd and ***Frolic*** came in 3rd for the Long Course. The two Luders 16s, ***Windley*** and ***Zephyr*** were 2nd and 3rd in the Short Course. The schooner ***Mischief*** was sporting her new Ulmann sails, with nary a wrinkle and hauling crisply throughout the race. The Race Results are posted on page 6...

Editor's Corner: April Fools!

It's feeling more like Summer than Spring here, and it looks just like that out on the water, too. Kathy and I just planted a big bunch of vegetables, etc. in our community garden up the street. Dockside, though, things are going to be busy in April. First, The San Diego Schooner Cup Race is set for this Saturday, 4 April. Consequently, the AMSS board has agreed to change the date for the April Fools Race. **NOTE:** the April Fools Race will sail a week later than usual, the 2nd Saturday of April, that is 11 April. Both races will start at 12:00 noon.

2009 Officers & Board Members

Commodore	Marcia Hilmen	619 222-1281
Vice Commodore 1	Peter Hylan	619 336-6667
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

This issue reports the results of the 20 Guinea Cup #2 sailed on 7 March (please see page 6). **Frolic** is our featured "boat of the month," Jack Swendsen's second full restoration of the famed Navy Luders yawls. **Frolic** is now owned in partnership by Jack, his wife Cheryl Tensley, and Deb Dominici, and hails from the Southwestern Yacht Club. This month's General Meeting will be especially interesting and worthwhile for all who now own, or may own a boat or two in the future. Billy Fox, National Association of Marine Surveyors, will present a program outlining his work as a marine surveyor, with special emphasis on some common and unusual findings that may pertain to the types of classic wooden boats that comprise our main interest. There's a ****Program Announcement**** describing Billy's agenda in some more detail on pg. 4.

As usual, the details for the Schooner Cup Race are just falling into place during these last few days before the race. We had ten schooners competing in this year's race as of earlier this morning, and I just got word of number eleven as I'm going to print with this issue of the Albatross. So we'll probably see about fifteen schooners in the race this Saturday; Shelter Island will be an ideal vantage point if you can't get out on the water. The Silver Gate Yacht Club is hosting the race this year, with the assistance of the Ancient Mariners (Bravo Zulus



to Jerry Newton and Bruce Anderson!). Please remember that everyone's welcome to attend the monthly AMSS board meetings, as well as the General Meetings. This month's board meeting will be at Fiddlers Cove, Thursday, 16 April at 7:30. If you can offer some volunteer help with the Yesteryear Regatta (remember British Prime Minister Winston Churchill's observation—"never have so many owed so much to so few..."), please come to the board meeting.

Aloha-Dave Easter

February Flag Boat – *Frolic*

Frolic (NA #5) is Jack Swendsen's **second** major restoration of the great Navy Luders Yawls originally designed for a competitive contract awarded to Luders in the 1930s by the U.S. Naval Academy's sailing fleet. After the first three were built, the Navy decided upon a fleet numbering an even dozen boats, so additional yards were put to work to build them. **Frolic** was built by the Southcoast Boatyard in Maine in the late 1930s.

Flirt (NA #9), Swendsen's first Luders restoration, was

built at the Hinckley yard in the same timeframe. Now, it is likely that Jack is one of the most knowledgeable and proficient boatwrights regarding the pre-war Navy Luders Yawls.

In the 1960s, both **Flirt** and **Frolic** had been released from the Naval Academy, and were delivered to the Navy Sailing Club in San Diego along with two other sisterships, **Alert** and **Resolute**. **Flirt** had been waiting for a new steward and owner at Bill Clark's Boatyard (now Doug Jones' Traditional Boatworks) since 1976. Clark was one of the founding members of the Ancient Mariners Sailing Society. By 1990, Bill Clark had also acquired **Frolic** at auction, making a pair of these fine yachts ready to be brought back into service.

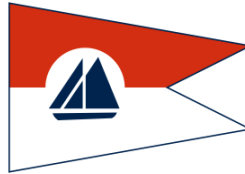
Swendsen completed a five year restoration, re-launching **Flirt** in 1995. Jack eventually bought **Frolic**, and proceeded with an intense 18-month rebuild encompassing major hull work, a new teak deck, and the construction of a magnificent spruce mast and rigging.

Nowadays, **Frolic** is supported by a partnership of Jack, his wife Cheryl Tensley, and AMSS Staff Commodore Deb Dominici. Jack credits much of the recent success of **Frolic** to Deb, long a dedicated advocate of yacht restoration. **Frolic's** revival involved two significant changes. First, Ancient Mariner Dennis Conner had suggested to Jack that "the mizzen on that boat is just a brake." So, Jack converted to a sloop rig. Second, Ancient Mariner Doug Peterson recommended some major changes below the waterline, including a change from the standard keel-hung rudder to a skeg configuration, also permitting a folding propeller in a clear slipstream. As a result, **Frolic** now consistently outsails her yawl-rigged sisterships; Jack states that **Frolic** is easier to steer on all points of sail, and tracks more smoothly in all conditions.



Cheryl cheering from the stern as *Frolic* overtakes *Maid of Kent* during the 20 Guinea Cup #2 Race this year. Point Loma is in the background

—photo courtesy Dave Easter

ancient mariners*sailing society*

** Program Announcement **

“Marine Surveying,” by Ancient Mariner and Marine Surveyor Billy Fox, San Diego Yacht Club, 2 April, 7:30 PM

Billy Fox is associated with Frank K. Wyatt, Marine Surveyor Inc. Marine surveyors have specialized knowledge of marine facilities, vessels and equipment and conduct inspections and render reports concerning conditions found and opinions relative to those conditions. Billy’s program on “Marine Surveying” will cover a brief history of his local experience with the Maritime Museum of San Diego, HSNA, and commercial fishing and recreational boating industries. The slide presentation will address both common and unusual findings that can be found in a marine survey, and includes a discussion of “What you can look out for to stay ahead of the survey curve.” A sampling of problems and reports discovered on unique vessels will also be presented in a question—answer session. Perhaps the most interesting part of the program will be related to the picture displayed below, and left. Billy has said he’ll explain the picture to us and while it remains a mystery for now, I can guess we’ll be quite amused.



Please join us at the San Diego Yacht Club this Thursday, 2 April. Many of us will come early, before the meeting, to enjoy an evening meal and drinks. “Happy Hour” for Ancient Mariners is before the show, in the San Diego Yacht Club bar area, or in the dining areas. The General Meeting will be held in the Spinnaker Room. We hope to see you there! Please bring your friends and guests.

San Diego Schooner Cup Race: Saturday, 4 April

The Silver Gate Yacht Club is hosting the annual San Diego Schooner Cup Race on Saturday, 4 April, with the support of the Ancient Mariners Sailing Society (kudos to Ancient Mariners Bruce Anderson and Jerry Newton, who have put in long hours to make this famous race happen again this year, just as they did in 2008 when it was folded into our Yesteryear Regatta). Taylor Coffroth, Jo Ann Sedgwick and Tony Jeske have been pulling things together at the Silver Gate



Yacht Club. The Skipper's Meeting and Breakfast will be at Silver Gate, 2091 Shelter Island Drive, from 8:00—9:00 AM. The start will sound at 12:00 noon. The course is tentatively set for a start and finish off Tom Hamm's Lighthouse at the Western end of Harbor Island, with an outbound leg to Buoy #1 (or, that may change to become closer in, perhaps Buoys #7 & #8). In any case, Shelter Island Drive along the Northern side of the bay channel will be a good place from which to view the race. Photo boats from SGYC and Bayshots will be out to shoot the race. If you're sailing as a spectator, caution is urged to give fair way to the competitors at all times (i.e., this may be a gnarly bunch, and if you get in the way, stand by to duck monkey fists, grappling hooks and other hard things thrown your way).

SCHOONER	OWNER, SKIPPER
<i>Maid of Kent</i>	Jerry Newton
<i>Mischief</i>	Jack Giubilato
<i>Witchcraft</i>	Brian Eichenlaub
<i>Merrymaid</i>	Don Koch
<i>Lady Galadriel</i>	Paul Sims
<i>Scrimshaw</i>	Dennis Doust
<i>Shine On</i>	Bart Ziegler
<i>Allure</i>	Guy Folsom
<i>Get Back Loretta</i>	
<i>Shearwater</i>	Ned McMahon
<i>Amazing Grace</i>	
<i>Skookum III</i>	Perc Jones

As of Monday, 30 March, we have the following entries (see the table to port), with several more expected: Following the race, there will be a party and Schooner Cup Awards presentation at the Silver Gate Yacht Club. If you have not seen the Schooner Cup (pictured above), it's worth a visit to the club just to see this enormous trophy, which may stand nearly five feet tall. Many thanks are due to all who took part in the planning, organization, mailings and hospitality (including guest slips and docks) from kind folks too numerous to mention here. It will be a rare spectacle, don't miss this race! Next year we'll be looking for **Californian**, **Lynx** and other "tallships," and it's not too late to count the **America** out this weekend-Troy?



2009 20 Guinea Cup #2 Race Results

Yacht, Handicap SPM	Allowance SPM	Allowance H:M:S	Finish H:M:S	Elapsed Time	Corrected Time	Place, Points CL
Long Course (Echo), Distance 10.60, Start Time 12:00:00, Scratch Bpat 72						
Spitfire, 170	1039	0:17:19	13:51:50	1:51:50	1:34:31	1
Pacifica, 112	424	0:07:04	13:42:12	1:42:12	1:35:08	2
Frolic, 148	806	0:13:26	13:50:50	1:50:50	1:37:24	3
Sprig, 124	551	0:09:11	13:51:00	1:51:00	1:41:49	4
Altair, 175	1092	0:18:12	14:27:27	2:12:27	1:54:15	5
Sally, 72	0	0:00:00	DNS			6
Short Course (Echo), Distance 5.30, Start Time 12:00:00, Scratch Boat 195						
Maid of Kent, 450	1352	0:22:32	13:20:50	1:20:50	0:58:15	1
Windley, 290	504	0:08:23	13:06:45	1:06:45	0:58:22	2
Zephyr, 290	504	0:08:23	13:07:15	1:07:15	0:58:52	3
Mischief, 225	159	0:02:39	13:02:55	1:02:55	1:00:16	4
Pilot, 310	610	0:10:09	13:14:23	1:14:23	1:04:14	5
Luders 16 Cup						
Windley, 290	504	0:08:23	13:06:45	1:06:45	0:58:22	1
Zephyr, 290	504	0:08:23	13:07:15	1:07:15	0:58:52	2



The Little Sail That Could

Does anyone recognize this Gollywobbler? If you do, you probably were a Long Course Boat Sailing the Guinea Cup Race #2 on 7 March, on your second run around the course. The sail belongs to *Maid of Kent's* racing inventory. We were on a broad reach to the final mark, thinking time was not on our side (but with a rating of 450, that was the wrong idea). So, schooner skipper Jerry Newton decides to fly this sail. We weren't too enthusiastic about how the results would play out on this race. Well, by putting this "little sail that could" up just in time, we gained enough speed to take honors for the Short Course that day, besting *Windley* (2nd) by a scarce 9 seconds on corrected time. Then, we had another beer, and a bottle of wine back in the slip. Just goes to show you...Nice Day!

Scuttlebutt

- Here's a new idea: If you haven't been to an Ancient Mariners Board Meeting, why not join us on Thursday, 16 April at Fiddlers Cove, on Shelter Island Drive? First, you couldn't find a more agreeable bunch, working hard to keep all of our races and events scheduled, supported and executed in fine fashion. We have a two page checklist for all the items that need to be accomplished for the 2009 Yesteryear Regatta, and could use just a little bit of time from some willing AMSS members at large to help us with the details. Of course, you have the opportunity to make your wishes and recommendations known, and throw in your two cents on possibly important issues under discussion. Come a little early, join us in the "back room," and order up a good Fiddlers Cove dinner and a drink or two.
- While doing some online research for the featured "boat of the month," the Navy Luders **Frolic**, a document was discovered that has caused the Handicap and Race Committees some concern. There's a rumor that these committees wish to know if any of **Frolic's** partners have had access to the U.S. Navy's version of how to sail these yachts. To wit: United States Naval Academy 44 Foot Luders Yawl Standard Operating Procedures, DIVPRODEVINST 3120.2, 9 January, 1986. A Navy acronym specialist has decoded DIVPRODEVINST for us: "Division for Professional Development and Instruction." There's talk that the board might consider a request to the owners of Frolic to sign an affidavit that they will now and forever refuse to consult this document, in order to avoid any unfair advantages in future AMSS racing. This document lives on at: <http://www.navypaxsail.com>. Jack, Cheryl and Deb—"No Peeking, OK?"

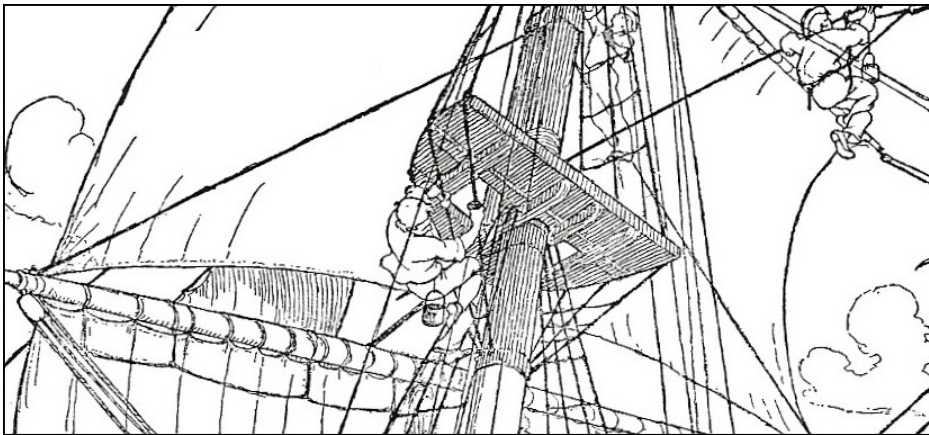
National Sailing Hall of Fame

There's a new, major organizational development based in Annapolis aimed at a very special mission to build the National Sailing Hall of Fame. This endeavor has some eminent and very active supporters, and a ground momentum established which assures its ultimate success. Two of our well known Ancient Mariners are on the Honorary Advisory Board of the NSHOF: Dennis Conner and Halsey Herreshoff, and Walter Cronkite is the Chairman. The Herreshoff Maritime Museum has established early ties to this important, forward looking enterprise. Many of the goals of NSHOF align nicely with the purpose of our own organization, and there will be opportunities in the future to establish very worthwhile ties and communications from America's finest city on the Left Coast. Please take some time to review the website: www.nationalsailinghalloffame.org. In particular, click on Information/News and download a copy of the National Sailing Hall of Fame Brochure (pdf file). You are sure to appreciate what this document presents, "I guarantee it." Spread the word!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 General Mtg.	3	4 Schooner Cup Race	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11 April-Fools Race
12	13	14	15	16 Board Mtg.	17	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Thursday, 2 April General Meeting, San Diego Yacht Club, 7:30 PM, Spinnaker Room. Billy Fox presents his program on "Marine Surveying." All friends and guests are welcome.
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- Saturday, 9 May, 2009 Yesteryear Regatta (This is it—the BIG ONE)



An Old Saying: "One hand for the ship, one hand for yourself."

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

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