



# ALBATROSS

Ancient Mariners Sailing Society  
Est. 1975

## 2009 20 Guinea Cup #1

### MEETINGS

- Thursday, 5 March General Meeting, "San Diego Waterfront—Through the Eyes of a Child," Jim Bregante, San Diego Yacht Club, 7:30 PM. Friends and Guests are most welcome!
- Saturday, 7 March, 2009 20 Guinea Cup Race #2, Buoy #17, 12:00 noon start. All Sails Permitted!
- Thursday, 19 March, AMSS Board of Directors Meeting, Fiddlers Cove, Shelter Island Drive, 7:30 PM. (Drinks and Dinner at the restaurant beforehand). All Hands welcome to attend...



John Driscoll's *Chimaera* places 1st in 20 Guinea Cup #1 Race  
(this photo from the Half Pint Race, however—photo courtesy Gretchen Dorian)

The 2009 20 Guinea Cup Race #1 underscored the number of fair weather sailors we seem to have in this part of the world. A total of five (!) competitors showed for the start, with alternating rain showers and spots of sun just before the noon gun. All of the competitors sailed the Short Course (i.e., one lap): **Chimaera**, **Frolic**, **Windley**, **Zephyr** and **Freedom**. Actually, the scenery overhead was unusually captivating during the whole race. Most of the time, there were dark foreboding clouds and showers to the South, and backing the city, while quick bands of sun and rain came West to East in our part of the Bay (Course Delta).

Even with the weather, the breeze was relaxed at an average of about 5-7 knots, and variable at times. So, **Chimaera** was able to make very good speed in light conditions (Long Course boats take note). **Windley** and **Zephyr's** perennial duel started off this year with Brad skirting ahead of Jano by a little less than a minute at the finish. **Freedom** needed more wind, but all aboard had a fine time anyway. At least those that raced may find the low points results useful later on in the series. Please see the Race Results on page 5...

### THIS ISSUE

- 2009 20 Guinea Cup Series, pgs. 1, 6.
- Editor's Corner, pg. 2
- January "Feature" Boat: **Zephyr**, pg. 3.
- \*\*Program Announcement\*\* General Meeting, pg. 4.
- Dan Brown's San Diego Bay Tidal Currents Charts, pg. 5.
- 20 Guinea Cup #1 Race Results, pg. 6.
- Scuttlebutt, pg. 7.
- Farewell, pg. 7.
- February 2009 Calendar, pg. 8.

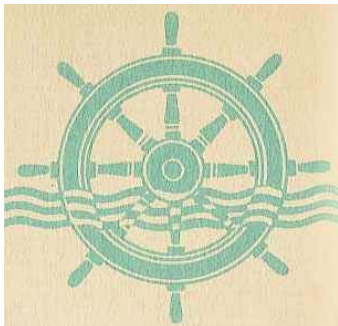
## Editor's Corner: March Already...

It's hard to believe that March is here. Yes, we've had a few wet fronts in February, more high clouds and drizzle, and some very nice warm days as well. As I'm pulling this issue together, it's certainly one of the best days so far—more like Summer than Spring. Good weekend to get some things done on the boat. So I'll meet all you Ancient Mariners down on the docks, as soon as I can put enough dribble into this issue to make it "good enough."

The second 20 Guinea Cup is coming up next weekend, Saturday, 7 March, 1200 at Buoy #17. Were hoping to see a few more boats out there this time. February's 20 Guinea Cup fleet was wee, indeed, (i.e., could be counted on one hand) so that those who raced may at least have shed some points already. Remember, your best 5 of 7 races counts for the series. March's race will permit all sails, so repack those spinnakers sometime soon.

Hornblower yachts, some of the long range fleet and the **America** continue whalewatching excursions through March, so you might take your boat out for a last look at this year's southbound migration of the Grays. Don't forget some good friends, a thermos of coffee or hot chocolate if it's on the cool side (plus Irish whisky and whipped cream). Starting with this issue, I'm going to use a page per month as the General Meeting **\*\*Program Announcement\*\*** that you may have previously received as a separate e-mail attachment. So, those who still live in the stone age will receive their Albatross via snail mail as usual, with that month's **\*\*Program Announcement\*\*** now an integral part of the newsletter. Of course, those with e-mail can forward the Albatross pdf file for wider dissemination at will, to friends and others who may wish to read it.

This issue reports the results of the 20 Guinea Cup #1 sailed in February. Secretary (ed. - *par excellence*) Janet Callow's **Zephyr** is our "boat of the month." Please remember that everyone's welcome to attend the monthly AMSS board meetings, as well as the General Meetings. In particular, we can use a little volunteer support for some races and events coming up later this year. We hope to see you at the San Diego Yacht Club next Thursday, when we'll have a special program by Jim Bregante, a pictorial journey of the San Diego waterfront from the 1930s through more modern times. Aloha! — *Dave Easter*



### 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

## February Flag Boat – *Zephyr*

**Zephyr:** “The West wind; a mild breeze ...” a perfect name for my Luders 16, a name almost as old as the West wind. The Luders 16 is a 26 foot sloop displacing 3200 pounds. It doesn’t take much to get this boat moving, but *OH MY* what a handful in a stiff breeze.

The Luders 16 was designed by Bill Luders of Luders Marine Construction Company in Stamford Connecticut. Bill and his father, Alfred, designed the boat to look like a miniature 6 meter with a classic sheer line, long graceful ends, a tall mast, and a short boom. The hull construction is 5 layers of 1/8 inch mahogany laid diagonally and glued. L16 modifications in 1944 resulted in a shorter cabin, two deadlights instead of three, and a longer cockpit.

In 1945, Luders began shipping hulls to South Coast Company of Newport Beach. South Coast finished the boats with an outboard motor well.

**Zephyr**, built in 1949, is sail number 168 and has a builder’s plaque from South Coast Company. I purchased **Zephyr** sight unseen. Carl Eichenlaub and ten of my closest friends drove the good yacht

**Cadenza**, up to Newport Beach and towed the boat home to San Diego. The previous owner’s last words to me were: “sail it, don’t fix it.” I sailed the boat until the cabin lifted off the deck under the pressure of the jib sheet and the coaming split in half and went by the wayside. The deck seemed to be the consistency of Swiss cheese. Carl and Brian Eichenlaub and I replaced the deck up at his house on Point Loma. Jerry Michael took out the outboard well and built a new cabin, cockpit, and floors. He also replaced keel boots and repaired about 20 feet along the garboard. **Zephyr** is a fine sailing boat and has won her fair share of trophies. She’s

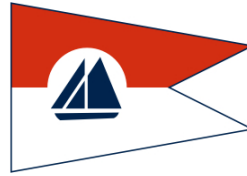
a member of the Ancient Mariners Sailing Society and also the Luders 16 International Association. The Association started in Chicago, dating back to 1948. To this day Chicago has a very active L16 fleet. Brad Smith, owner of the L16 **Windley**, and I sailed in the International races in Chicago and will continue to race in any upcoming Association event. Other active Luders fleets can be found in Maine and New Orleans. —*Janet Callow*



Waiting For the Gun, Half Pint 'o'Rum Race 2008  
—photo courtesy Mary Hildebrandt



Trimmed Just Fine, Janet and Carl Eichenlaub  
—Courtesy Shelly Ward

*ancient mariners**sailing society*

## **\*\* Program Announcement\*\***

**San Diego Waterfront :Through the Eyes of a Child— AMSS**  
**General Meeting Thursday, 5 March, SDYC, 7:30 PM**



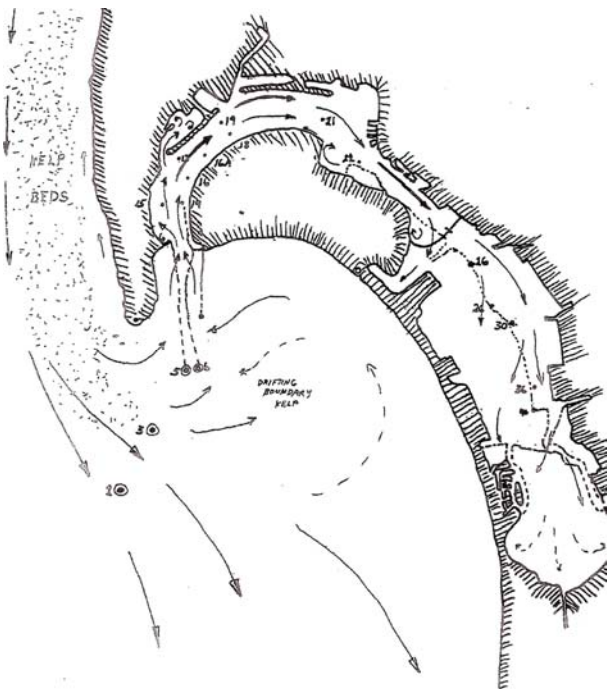
An historical journey along the waterfront and vicinity from the 1930's to present, narrated by Jim Bregante, a native San Diegan, Docent for the San Diego Maritime Museum and board member of the Italian Historical Society of San Diego. Jim shares his experience of growing up on the waterfront and Little Italy via a PowerPoint presentation, featuring pictures from historical and family archives, depicting his family's start in the fishing industry, his experiences on the waterfront as a youth and life in Little Italy. This journey is offered as a community service to acquaint audiences with the rich history and romance of our beautiful waterfront and of Little Italy. Please join us at the San Diego Yacht Club this Thursday. Many of us will come early, before the meeting, to enjoy an evening meal and drinks. That is, "Happy Hour" for Ancient Mariners...See you there!

## Dan Brown's San Diego Tidal Currents

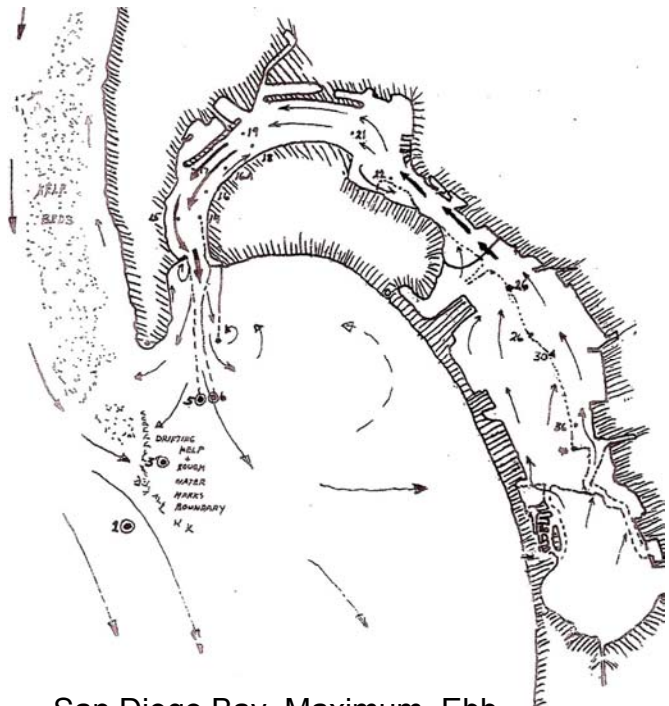
Just for those of you who missed this great handout at Seabreeze (i.e., the February General Meeting), we have reproduced Dan Brown's San Diego Tidal Currents Charts here. The AMSS website also includes Dan's Southern California Coastal Current Pattern Charts. Many thanks to Dan for the following:

The ebb and flood (see below) tidal currents affect operations in the bay and out to the end of the jetty at the entrance. The tidal current charts show the flow directions you would encounter "most of the time" at the time of maximum flow. Since this flow is turbulent, there are many small-scale eddies. These are short-lived fluctuations both in time and strength and are impossible to show on a practical basis. The sailor wants to know where would the most favorable currents be found. As the current weakens, eddies disappear, so that only the main flow remains. You can determine the time of maximum strength from tide tables. In general, the strength is greatest on the outside of a turn in the bay, or in an area of restricted flow such as Ballast Point or the 10th Ave. terminal area.

While the charts give you a guide to where you would most likely find a favorable current, there is no substitute for onboard observation. Your GPS speed over the ground vs. your speed through the water as shown by your speedometer is the best modern way. You should also observe which way boats are streaming at anchor off Shelter Island, which way the kelp is streaming off the channel buoys, and look for long lines of drifting kelp which mark the boundaries of currents of different speeds.



San Diego Bay, Maximum Flood



San Diego Bay, Maximum Ebb



## 2009 20 Guinea Cup #1 Race Results

Yacht, Handicap SPM	Allowance SPM	Allowance H:M:S	Finish H:M:S	Elapsed Time	Corrected Time	Place
<b>Short Course (Delta), Distance 5.30, Start Time 12:00:00</b>						
<b>Chimaera, 83</b>	0	0:00:00	13:04:48	0:34:48	0:34:48	1 (Long Course?)
<b>Frolic, 148</b>	345	0:05:45	13:14:50	0:44:50	0:39:05	2 (Long Course?)
<b>Windley, 290</b>	504	0:08:23	13:20:10	0:50:10	0:41:47	1 (Short Course)
<b>Zephyr, 290</b>	504	0:08:23	13:21:00	0:51:00	0:42:37	2 (Short Course)
<b>Freedom, 195</b>	0	0:00:00	13:19:52	0:49:52	0:49:52	3 (Short Course)
<b>L-16 Cup</b>						
<b>Windley, 290</b>	504	0:08:23	13:20:10	0:50:10	0:41:47	1
<b>Zephyr, 290</b>	504	0:08:23	13:21:00	0:51:00	0:42:37	2

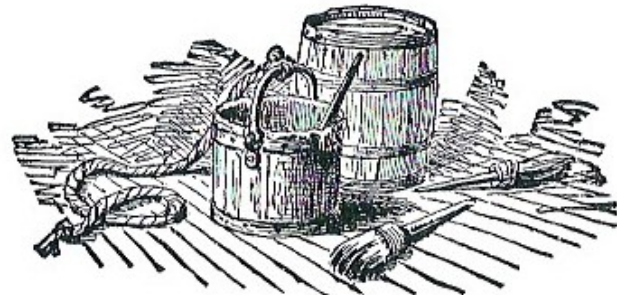


Bos'n, Spice, Mary, Winston and their friends hijack *Freedom* for a Dog Day Cruise

-Courtesy Pam Braun

## Scuttlebutt\*

- Beginning about now, Commodore Hilmen and others will be shaking trees looking for volunteers to help with various races and events coming up this Spring and Summer. In particular, we're looking for help with the 2009 Yesteryear Regatta trophies, and the Yesteryear Raffle. Please offer to pitch in, it will be fun, and we need your help!
- Ray Ashley, President of the San Diego Maritime Museum, is beginning a celestial navigation course, that will be nowhere near as humdrum as one taught by a run-of-the-mill professor. Coming from Ray, you can count on lots of lore, meaningful background and historical insight related to the advancement of celestial navigation through the ages. Ten Tuesday evenings from 3 March, and on through mid May — including a **Californian** sail to practice sighting skills. All proceeds go to building the **San Salvador**, Cabrillo's flagship, which will be starting soon at Spanish Landing. See [www.sdmaritime.org](http://www.sdmaritime.org), adult education programs.
- Dave Easter has tickets to visit the San Diego Aircraft Carrier Museum, **USS Midway**, *gratis* for Ancient Mariners. Just contact Dave, and make plans to grab a few tickets. You can easily spend nearly an entire day on the ship and it has become the most popular attraction on any waterfront, with just under a million visitors per year. Even rainy days are a good bet, because there are tons of interesting things to see below decks. [deaster1@san.rr.com](mailto:deaster1@san.rr.com), or 858 551 4340.



\*The Scuttlebutt was the cask held available for fresh water, and sailing crew would frequently pass ship's news, rumors and gossip standing around the Scuttlebutt.

## Farewell, Tom Fitzgerald, 1938—2009

One beloved Ancient Mariner has crossed the bar recently. Sadly, Thomas Patrick Fitzgerald passed away on 19 February, 2009. Tom was a well known sight aboard his Herreshoff Rozinante Ketch **Gem**. Surely, he, **Gem** and his many friends were regulars at Koehler's San Diego Wooden Boat Festival for many years running. He always had a broad grin offshore and on the water, aboard **Gem**, or crewing on anyone else's boat. Tom was an avid sailor, a world traveler, storyteller and devout Catholic. Tom had retired from the Navy in 1982 after serving almost three decades in nuclear submarines and ships. His obituary in the San Diego Union read: "knot to worry, we are certain he will be sailing with St. Peter." Farewell, Tom.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5 General Mtg.	6	7 Guinea Cup #2
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19 Board Mtg.	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Thursday, 5 March General Meeting, "San Diego Waterfront—Through the Eyes of a Child," Jim Bregante, San Diego Yacht Club, 7:30 PM (6:00PM Dinner & Drinks Beforehand)
- Saturday, 7 March, 2009 20 Guinea Cup Race #2, Buoy #17, 12:00 noon start.
- Thursday, 19 March, AMSS Board of Directors Meeting, Fiddlers Cove, Shelter Island Drive, 7:30 PM. (Drinks and Dinner at the restaurant beforehand, All Hands welcome).
- Saturday, 4 April: April Fool's Race and San Diego Schooner Cup Race. Schooner Cup course from Tom Hamm's Lighthouse, to Channel Buoy #1, and back. April Fools Race starting at the Channel Buoy #17, to Mission Bay Breakwater. Overnight Raftup, Mariners Cove.

### General Requirements for Running Rigging:

Main Halyard-twice the height of the mast, plus distance to winch, and ten feet for tail

Headsail Halyard- twice the length of the headstay, plus distance to winch, and ten feet for tail

Headsail Sheets-  $1 \frac{1}{4}$  to  $1 \frac{1}{2}$  times the boat length

Spinnaker Sheets- $2 \frac{1}{2}$  times the length of the boat

Mainsheet-depends on the arrangement, blocks, where attached, etc. Measure in place.



## ANCIENT MARINERS



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P.O. Box 6484  
San Diego, CA 92166

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

Web: [www.amss.us](http://www.amss.us) E-mail: [info@amss.us](mailto:info@amss.us)

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