



ALBATROSS

Ancient Mariners Sailing Society
Est. 1975

Olin Stephens' Winter Visit to San Diego

MEETINGS

- AMSS General Meeting
Thursday, 5 April, 7:30
PM: Double Feature:
Rolex Sailing Videos,
preceded by an early
matinee (5:30 PM) of the
classic—I Sailed to Tahiti
with an All-Girl Crew
- AMSS Board Meeting,
SWYC, Thursday, 19
April, 7:30 PM
- Buoy #17, Saturday, 7
April, 12:00 noon—April
Fools Race, with raft-up
and trophy presentations
at Mariners Cove, Mission
Bay.

THIS ISSUE

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A great friend of the Ancient Mariners came to visit us once again, for his annual Winter Visit to San Diego. This year, Olin Stephens was accompanied by his friend Rusty Abramson, a character in her own right and citizen of New York City. This pair set the pace for a week of fun-filled events on and off the water here in early March.



Olin and Rusty—photo by Maggie Walton

Many generous, hospitable people and organizations contributed to the week's agenda, including Craig Mueller (three days of sailing aboard **Brushfire**, an aircraft charter to visit Borrego Springs, and travel arrangements); Doug Jones, Deb Dominici and Ginny Jones (a fabulous 60th Birthday Party for **Pacifica**); Frank Taliaferro (a Maiden Drive in his 1922 Rolls Royce with "skiff" coachwork designed by Olin ...see pg. 2..., and a tour of the Evans Car Collection); Steve Rock (Fiddler's Green Post-Race Party); Dave and Kathy Easter (tours of La Jolla and the Scripps Institute Aquarium); and the Maritime Museum of San Diego (a Farewell Reception aboard the steam yacht **Medea**). Staff Commodore Greg Stewart organized the agenda, and cared for all of us during Olin's visit.

Always on the move, Olin has planned a trip to Europe this Summer. Bon Voyage, Olin, and we're looking forward to your visit next year!

From the Helm: Spring is Sprung

Once again, we've been honored with a Winter Visit by the eminent Olin Stephens, accompanied this year by his delightful friend Rusty Abramson. While we may not doubt Olin's wisdom in escaping New England's weather for our sunnier shores, it is also a rare pleasure to enjoy his contagious brand of joie de vivre. No doubt, we will remember his annual visits with that sentiment in mind.

Doug Jones' work on *Pacifica* has introduced some new, higher standards of craftsmanship and methods that may become very important to the evolving culture of classic yacht restoration, both here and abroad. *Pacifica's* 60th Birthday Party, which many of us attended last month at the Southwestern Yacht Club, marked not just a fine day, but a milestone that we hope all such famous boats will enjoy, wherever they may be found.

OK, sports fans—the Ancient Mariners April Fools Race is near, scheduled to sail on Saturday, 7 April. The racing classes are: "Racing," boats with handicaps under 200, and "Cruising," boats with handicaps above 200. Start is 1200 at Buoy #17, with Warning and Preparatory blasts at 1150 and 1155. The finish line is between the Mission Bay Breakwaters. The race is open to all AMSS boats, including those which do not qualify as flag boats, and accepted guests. Each yacht is instructed to bring a "trophy," which will be awarded to that boat which has finished immediately ahead, based on corrected time. Awards will be presented at the raft-up in Mariners Cove, just after the race.

We have a relatively relaxed program set for this month's General Meeting, Thursday, 5 April at the Southwestern Yacht Club, 7:30 PM. Rolex has produced a collection of sailing videos, and we'll take a spot vote to choose which two we'll view at the meeting. For those who treasure the B-Grade classics, we'll have an early matinee showing of the full length feature film I Sailed to Tahiti with an All-Girl Crew (Gardner McKay, Edy Williams), also starring the Valli's yacht *Eolo* (next page), starting at 5:30 PM. Door prize, membership cards and burgee presentations to follow. See you there! Aloha — Dave

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Race Chair & Programs	Greg Stewart	619 723-3078
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At Large	Doug Jones	619 993-9295



Olin at the wheel (or helm?). Frank Taliaferro is nervous, this man certainly has no license to drive. Greg Stewart is in the back seat, taking notes...

Welcome Aboard!

Well, the Ancient Mariner's club seems to be in great shape, if new memberships are any gauge. Or, perhaps our Membership Chair is excelling in some behind the scenes recruiting, although we're sure the reputable Johnny Smullen would not stoop to shanghai tactics. We announced Frank and Cindi Valli (***Eolo***) in the last issue, but this month we have a photo to show (see right). Tom Nelson has joined as a flag member (***Revenge***); his 1951 Kettenburg 38 is hull #9, and previously sailed as ***Shadowfox*** at the SDYC. Our local Luders 16 owners have succeeded

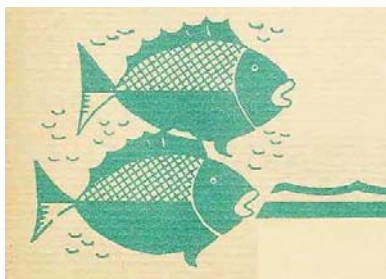


Frank and Cindi Valli's *Eolo*, at ease



Tom Nelson's *Revenge*

in enlisting the owners of ***Clipper***, the Chicago-based Luders 16, hull #22, built in 1945, to join our club. We are pleased to welcome William and Rachel Simpson, and hope they will have an opportunity to sail aboard sisterships ***Zephyr***, ***Windley*** or ***Jalapeno*** on their next visit to San Diego. Trevor Bazeley has joined, and sails the boat he designed in 1986, and built to completion in 1991 in Vancouver, Canada—the 42' cutter ***Dindingwe*** (currently hailing from Marina Del Ray). Ian Storer has signed on as a regular member, and sails the 139' replica of the 1850 schooner yacht ***America***, currently operating from the San Diego Marriot. In keeping with our good customs and tradition, please accord all due courtesies to these new members, as they meet with us ashore and afloat in the months to come. Welcome Aboard!



With the spring come the long days of scraping, sanding, painting, more sanding, and painting again. This "sea fever" that drives us to such hard work is in our blood and cannot be denied — Norman L. Skene, (*Skene's Elements of Yacht Design*)

Yesteryear Regatta Just Around the Corner!

San Diego Bay will offer a spectacular sight on Saturday afternoon, May 12th, as a large fleet of classic sailboats compete in the Ancient Mariners 33rd annual “Yesteryear Regatta.” This regatta was originally organized in 1975 by classic boat enthusiasts Bill Clark, Doug Smith and Bob Spriggs, who founded the Ancient Mariners Sailing Society with the mission.... “To preserve and promote interest in sail or power vessels of ancient vintage or classic design.”

Classic sailboats from ports ranging up and down the West Coast typically gather for this Regatta, and compete in six classes. The types of boats racing usually range from daysailors through ocean racing yachts and large gaff rigged schooners. The best viewing locations ashore are from Harbor Island, Shelter Island, Point Loma and the downtown Embarcadero.



Inbound to the Embarcadero, in an Earlier Yesteryear Regatta—photo by Shelly Ward

The race begins at noon with a staged start, also known as a “pursuit style start”, where slower boats start first, followed by the faster larger yachts. The course proceeds seaward from the start to marks abreast of the tip of Point Loma, turns around back into the Bay towards the downtown Embarcadero, and finishes off Harbor Island. At the finish line, most of the boats converge at about the same time, leading to some exciting, down-to-the-wire crossing duels.

The Southwestern Yacht Club (SWYC) will provide facilities and a Race Committee to manage the race. The post-race party will be staged at SWYC intermingled with the awards presentation and our very popular raffle of nautical prizes. Interested participants are invited to attend the Ancient Mariners General Meeting at the Southwestern Yacht Club on Thursday, May 10th at 7:30pm where additional race information will be available. The Yesteryear Regatta is the premier classic boat regatta sailed every year in Southern California. Please visit our website, www.amss.us, or contact Race Chair Greg Stewart at nmyd.cts.com.

I can't wait for the oil wells to run dry, for the last gob of black, sticky muck to come oozing out of some remote well. Then the glory of sail will return—Tristan Jones



20 Guinea Cup '07: Race #2 Results

20 Guinea Cup #2 was sailed on 10 March, with another fine show at the line, including Olin Stephens aboard Craig Mueller's **Brushfire**, the Long Course scratch boat.. It was an outstanding day, with a decent breeze and blue skies. Then, Greg Stewart's **Sprig** sailed a bit too well, but what can you do? Although there were some DNFs, of the two Luders Naval Academy boats, **Frolic's** new sloop rig seemed to gain ground steadily against **Flirt's** standard yawl rig on all points of sail. **Brushfire**, **Cathleen** and **Sally** finished 2-3-4, respectively, with corrected times spanning only just over half a minute.

Yacht, Handicap SPM	Allowance SPM	Allowance H:M:S	Finish H:M:S	Elapsed Time	Corrected Time	Place
Long Course (Bravo), Distance 12.8, Start Time 12:00:00, Scratch Boat 70						
Sprig, 125	704	0:11:44	14:21:30	2:21:30	2:09:46	1
Brushfire, 70	0	0:00:00	14:11:05	2:11:05	2:11:05	2
Cathleen, 140	896	0:14:56	14:26:20	2:26:20	2:11:24	3
Sally, 75	64	0:01:04	14:12:43	2:12:43	2:11:39	4
Pacifica, 110	512	0:08:32	14:24:57	2:24:57	2:16:25	5
Altair, 160	1152	0:19:12	14:40:40	2:40:40	2:21:28	6
Taroa, 165	1216	0:20:16	14:45:36	2:45:36	2:25:20	7
Benchmark, 165	1216	0:20:16	15:23:00	3:23:00	3:02:44	8
Woody, 158	1126	0:18:46	DNF			
Freedom, 175	1344	0:22:24	DNF			
Flirt, 160	1152	0:19:12	DNF			
Frolic, 150	1024	0:17:04	DNF			
Short Course (Bravo), Distance 6.4, Start Time 12:00:00, Scratch Boat 255						
Zephyr, 270	96	0:01:36	13:36:00	1:36:00	1:34:24	1
Pilot, 255	0	0:00:00	13:37:04	1:37:04	1:37:04	2
Windley, 270	96	0:01:36	13:39:00	1:39:00	1:37:24	3
Caprifol, 275	128	0:02:08	?			?
Jalapeno, 270	96	0:01:36	DNS			5
Maid of Kent, 450	1248	0:20:48	DNS			5
L-16 Cup						
Zephyr, 270	0	0:01:36	13:36:00	1:36:00	1:34:24	1
Windley, 270	0	0:01:36	13:39:00	1:39:00	1:37:24	2
Jalapeno, 270	0	0:01:36	DNS			4

April 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5 Double Feature!	6	7 April Fools Race
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19 BOD Mtg.	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

UPCOMING EVENTS

- General Meeting, Thursday, 5 April 7:30 PM. Double Feature—Early Matinee at 5:30 PM, General Meeting and Rolex Sailing Videos at 7:30 PM.
- Thursday, 19 April. Board of Directors Meeting, 7:30 PM, SWYC.
- April Fools Race, Starting at Buoy #17, noon, 7 April. Warning Horn at 11:50, start at 12:00. Use Race Instructions as posted, or contact Staff Commodore Greg Stewart, nmyd@cts.com, 619 224-6347.



Happy Birthday, *Pacific!*



Doug Jones, Ginny Jones & Olin Stephens

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P.O. Box 6484
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General Meetings: 1st Thursday of every month, 7:00 PM @ Southwestern Yacht Club

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