



# ALBATROSS

A N C I E N T   M A R I N E R S   S A I L I N G  
S O C I E T Y  
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## The McNish Classic: 30<sup>th</sup> Race Marks End of an Era

### MEETINGS

- Thursday, 6 September, 7:30 PM, aboard *Berkeley*, Maritime Museum of San Diego. AMSS General Meeting. Ray Ashley presents "Origin of the Ship."
- Friday, 7 September, Richard Henry Dana Charity Regatta, Dana Point Yacht Club
- Saturday, 15 September, 1200, Buoy #17—20 Guinea Cup Race #5
- AMSS Board of Directors Meeting, Thursday, 20 September, 7:30 PM, SWYC
- Saturday, 22 September—Glorietta Bay Cruise (tentative, depending on interest shown)



Don Greene's *Elusive II*—photo courtesy 2007 Land Speed Productions

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The McNish Classic Race has been one of the most popular classic wooden boat regattas on the West Coast for thirty years straight. Dick McNish originally founded the race in 1977, seeking a competition where traditional yachts designed before 1952 could compete together. This year the air was light, and blowing from the South—so this was the first time that the finishing leg of the 17 mile triangular course off the Channel Islands was to windward. Don Greene's *Elusive II* won his weight in Mumm's champagne (the McNish tradition) for first overall, including the Strathmore Cup. Hosted by the Pacific Corinthian Yacht Club, the annual competition draws entrants from far up and down the coast. Two of our own stalwart Ancient Mariners came away with honors. C.F. Koehler's *Sally* took fastest elapsed time (3h, 6m), while Doug Jones' *Pacifica* won the Yawls...cont'd pg. 4

## From the Helm: It's September, Let the Fun Begin!

August was a busy month for most of us, and towards the end of the month we had a real San Diego heat wave. Staff Commodore and Race Chair Greg Stewart presented an outstanding program at our August General Meeting on the 6 Meter Worlds, where he sailed with Doug Peterson on **Bob Kat II** at Cowes, UK. They placed a very impressive sixth in the Classic division, with nearly thirty boats competing in that division for the series. Thank you for the show, Greg; the photos were great!

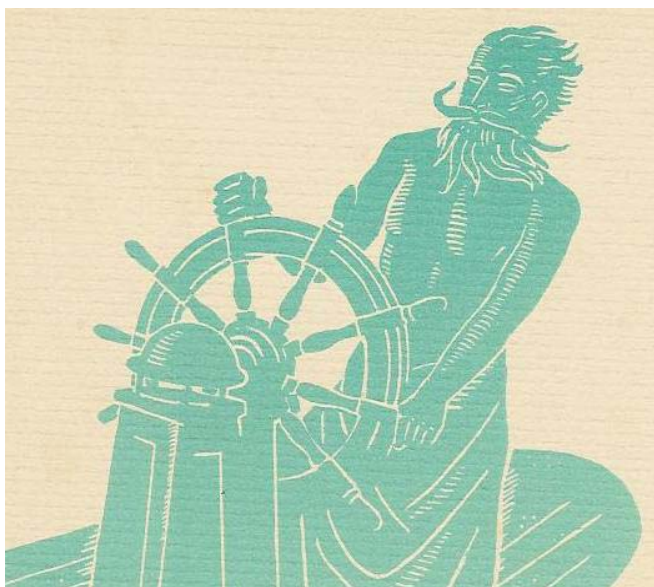
It's nearing that time of the time of year when we'll ask our members to propose nominations for our 2008 Ancient Mariners Officers and Board of Directors. Please give some careful thought to this opportunity to nominate and elect some of our friends who may not have served previously, and who might be willing to spend a little extra time to the great benefit of our club and all of our activities.

The Commodore's Cup was sailed on Sunday, 26 August, and most were very pleased with a new course that took us outside of the bay for a little while, out to Buoy #1. The start was a near calm, but a breeze came up and actually hardened all afternoon so that the last leg was sometimes tough going. The Commodore's Barbeque followed directly at the San Diego Yacht Club. The barbeque was well attended and a great way to end up a fine day of sailing. Sorry, but the race results are unavailable for this issue of the Albatross.

There's much information in this issue about our busy race and events schedule. Please expect an e-mail **\*\*Program Announcement\*\*** in the next few days about Thursday's General Meeting aboard the **Berkeley**, where one of our favorite speakers (Ray Ashley) covers his latest European expedition - "The Origin of the Ship." Also, a hearty "Welcome Aboard!" to Gregg and Leslie Hovey, our newest members who enjoy classic wooden boats and flying. Please introduce yourselves at our upcoming events. Once this heat wave subsides, we'll be ready for Fall and Winter. Aloha! — Dave

### Officers & Board Members

Commodore & Albatross Editor	Dave Easter	858 551 4340
Vice Commodore	Deb Dominici	619 294-2244
Secretary	Janet Callow	619 699-2581
Treasurer	Marcia Hilmen	619 222-1281
Port Captain	Jerry Newton	619 222-1281
Membership	Johnny Smullen	619 758-9198
Race Chair & Programs	Greg Stewart	619 723-3078
Merchandise	Heather Smith	619 847-9699
At Large	Doug Jones	619 993-9295



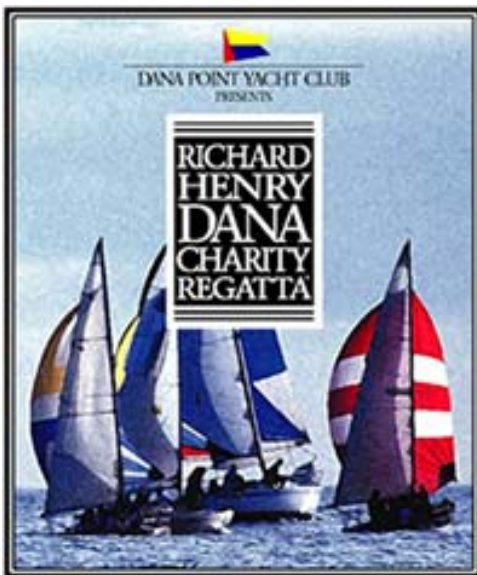
## Azora Gets Her Feet Wet

Ancient Mariner Bruce Anderson heaved a sigh of relief (or maybe shed a joyful tear) on Friday, 24 August, as the long-awaited relaunch of his restored Kettenburg PC (#35, **Azora**) was completed at Koehler's yard. **Azora** is now looking very smart at her new slip in San Diego, where she'll soak up some salt water for the first time in 5 years. Bruce reports: "She took on less than a quart on launch day, and it was slowing up. Apparently, we will not bail the bilge, we will dust it. She'll tighten up until November, when the mast, rig and sails go on." So, here she goes for *another* seventy years..



*Azora, in the Slings*

## Three Races on the Slate



Three races are on the horizon, and we're hoping to see active participation by AMSS boats and crews. First, the 2007 Richard Henry Dana Charity Regatta kicks off on Friday, 7 September, with a "Wooden Hull Race Down the Coast." The race starts at Newport Beach, at 1400, with a finish at Dana Point, approximately coinciding with the planned arrival of the Tall Ships. On Saturday, 8 September, wooden hull yachts will have one random leg race selected by the Race Committee. Please contact Graham Forsyth, Regatta Chair, 949 584-3683, or see [www.dpyc.org](http://www.dpyc.org).

The Ancient Mariners 20 Guinea Cup Series continues with the fifth race scheduled for Saturday, 15 September. Please rendezvous with us at

Buoy #17 for the start at noon; there will be only two more 20 Guinea Cup races sailed in 2007 after this one. You'll need some points to gather up those trophies in December, so come on out!

Peter Hylan, AMSS Staff Commodore and SWYC Race Chair for the SD-to-Ensenada International Yacht Race, along with our friends at the Southwestern Yacht Club are urging our participation in the 2007 race. This race will be sailed on 5 October, and will offer a great time at either end for all the yachts and crews. Please contact Peter or Lynne Eddy at the SWYC, or see [www.southwesternyc.org](http://www.southwesternyc.org) for further information, notice of race, entry forms, sailing instructions, etc.



## 30<sup>th</sup> Mc Nish Classic (cont'd)

...Dick McNish, now eighty, is stepping down from his namesake race and this marks the end of an important era for classic yacht racing on the West Coast. However, he will continue to sail **Cheerio II**, a Shock boat once owned by Errol Flynn and built by Fellows and Stewart in 1931. Previous winners:

1978 Freedom	1989 Man O'War	1999 Distant Star
1979 Vignette II	1990 Dharma	2000 Charity
1980 South Pacific	1991 Man O'War	2001 Windsong
1981 Hatsukoi	1992 Adios	2002 Pacifica
1982 Windfall	1993 Encore	2003 Foxenn
1983 Felisi	1994 Vignette II	2004 Vignette II
1985 Undine	1995 Gold Eagle	2005 Miramar
1986 Moorea	1996 Charity	2006 Silvan
1987 Survivor	1997 Gold Eagle	2007 Elusive II
1988 Pirate	1998 Charity	



*Cheerio II* during the 2007 Mc Nish Classic

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## 8<sup>th</sup> Maritime Heritage Conference San Diego, October 9 – 12

Plans are proceeding ahead for the Ancient Mariners to participate in the Eighth Maritime Heritage Conference, to be held in San Diego, October 9 – 12, 2007. The conference chair is Dr. Raymond E. Ashley, Executive Director of the Maritime Museum of San Diego. The AMSS will be presenting a panel session aboard the **Berkeley**, Thursday, 11 October, 8:00—9:15: "San Diego Ancient Mariners Sailing Society: A Living Museum of Vessels from the Golden Age of Yacht Design."

In addition, AMSS has been invited to bring a few of our yachts to the Embarcadero for display and boarding by the conference attendees. The MMSD Ships Operations Officer has made plans to accommodate two to three of our vessels alongside and forward of the **Medea** for the afternoon of Friday, 11 October. Tentatively, **Freedom**, **Pacifica** and one or two other AMSS yachts are planning to moor at the museum for this program.

The Maritime Museum is providing a block of special AMSS tickets that will allow any six of our members, Flag or Regular, to attend any of the more than seventy panels and the presentation of two hundred papers during the course of the Conference. Please see [www.sdmaritime.com](http://www.sdmaritime.com) and refer to the Conference Program to select any of these events which you wish to attend. Administrative procedures for obtaining the AMSS passes will be communicated in messages or **\*\*Program Announcements\*\*** to all club members in September. The Maritime Heritage Conference is a triennial international event designed specifically for those interested in maritime culture, history, and heritage. Please take advantage of this unique conference by attending the panel discussions of your choice!

## 2007 Lake Tahoe Concours d'Elegance

The 35<sup>th</sup> annual Lake Tahoe Concours d'Elegance was produced by the Tahoe Yacht Club Foundation, attracting many thousands of visitors during August to the Sierra Boat Company Marina, Carnelian Bay, CA. This year's theme was "Celebrating Boats of the '30s." The United States Post Office staged a special program during the opening day ceremony, celebrating the issuance of the "Vintage Mahogany Speedboats" or "Woody" first class commemorative stamps. Four boats are featured by the stamps, each produced by a different builder, and all of which were on display at the show: **Frolic**, 1915 Hutchinson; **Dispatch**, 1931 Garwood; **Thunderbird**, 1939 Hacker Craft; and **Duckers**, 1954 Chris Craft. In all, there were 95 boats on display in the water. For those of you receiving this issue of Albatross via snail mail, enjoy your woody stamp!



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*Hornet, at Rest—photo by D. Easter*

Each year there are a few surprise entries that are simply breathtaking, often arriving as unknown boats that have been carefully restored under wraps, and made ready for a grand debut at the show. This year, it was the historic boat **Hornet**. Owner Bill Hutchens has been restoring the boat for three years, but claims it feels more like thirty. **Hornet's** original owner was Henry Kaiser. It was a 28' stepped hull hydroplane built by Garwood, which was converted by Howard Hughes with a custom aluminum

deck to become half boat-half airplane. It's powered by a Packard V-12 aircraft engine. At rest or underway, it looks like an amphibious batmobile. Notice the high-finned stern, and the marine version of straight-through "lake pipe" exhausts just above the waterline, either side.

Finally, I can't resist showing "Riva Row," a favorite gathering of these fine Italian craft at the show each year. I'm working on a Tahoe Concours d'Elegance program to present along with a video at a future General Meeting, either this year or next. —Dave



*Two Riva Aquaramas—photo by D. Easter*

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	
2	3	4	5	6 Gen. Mtg.	7 DPYC Charity	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15 20 G Cup #5
16	17	18	19	20 BOD	21	22 G-Bay
23/30	24	25	26	27	28	29

### UPCOMING EVENTS

- Thursday, 6 September, aboard Berkeley, Maritime Museum of San Diego. AMSS General Meeting. Bar opens at 6:00; program begins at 7:30—Ray Ashley’s “Origin of the Ship.”
- Saturday, 15 September, 1200, Buoy #17—20 Guine Cup Race #5.
- AMSS Board of Directors Meeting, Thursday, 20 September, 7:30PM, SWYC.

56' ex-Seiner/Troller. Sierra Madre (ex-Tarantino Sr.), designed by Ed Monk, built by Makela Bros, monel fastened. Single Detroit 8V-71, extremely reliable. Ex-commercial fishing vessel, transitioned for cruising, this is a go-anywhere vessel. Easy to handle with lots of new upgrades. See Wooden Boat #171. \$90K Contact Tom Jackson, 858 454-5459



For Sale: \$22.5 K. 30 Square Meter **Vanja VI**. 1944 Reimers Design, Builder Benot Plym. LOA 43'. Beam 7.01'. Draft 4.5'. LWL 27.8'. Displacement #7314. Ballast #4386. Contact Deb Dominici, or Doug Jones, 619 294-2244



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P.O. Box 6484  
San Diego, CA 92166

General Meetings: 1st Thursday of every month, 7:00 PM @ Southwestern Yacht Club

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

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