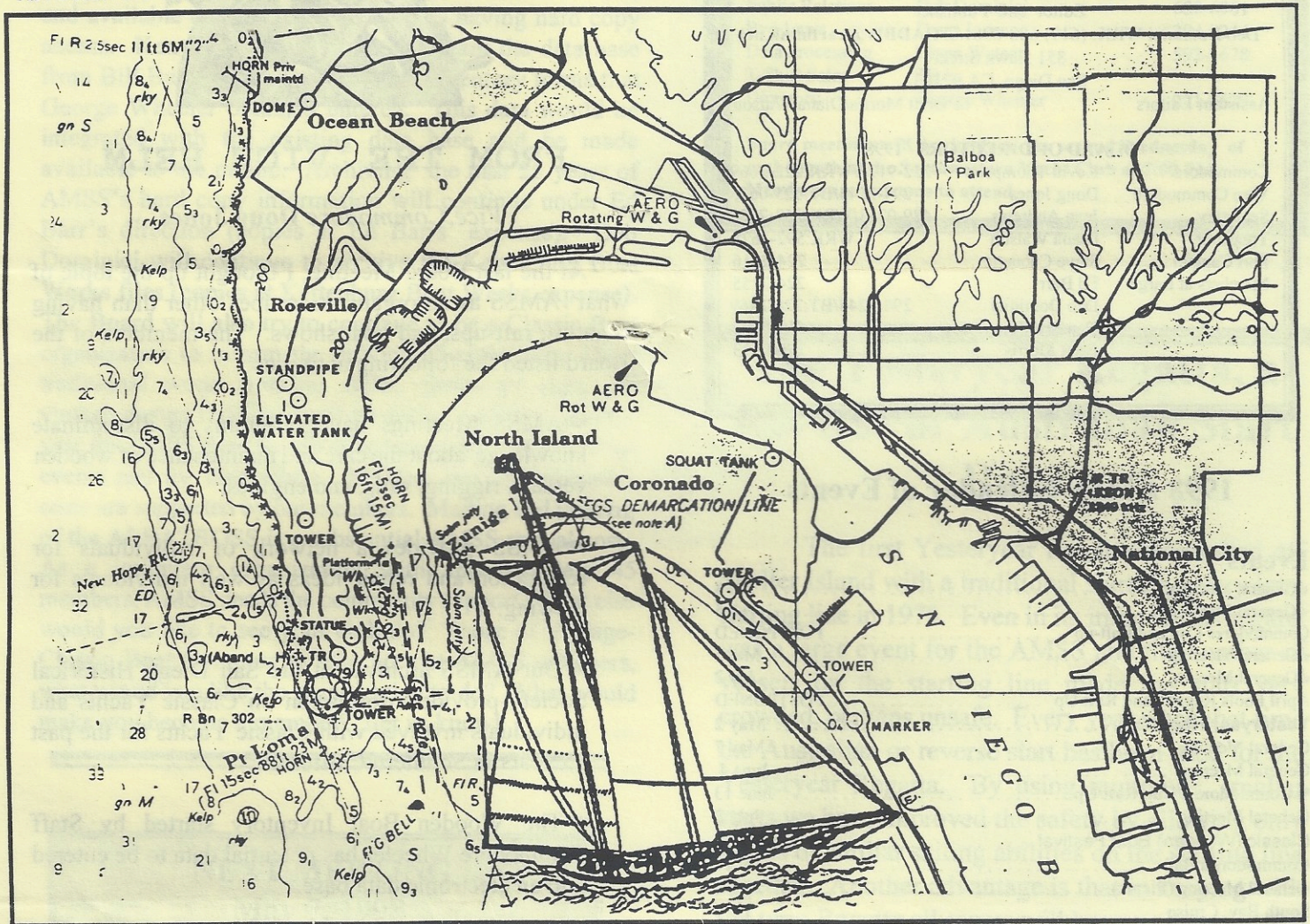


ALBATROSS

ANCIENT MARINERS SAILING SOCIETY

Volume 24, Number 5

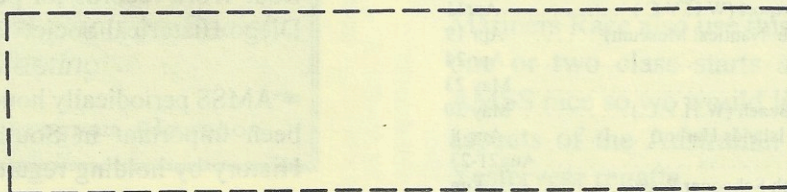
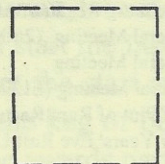
MAY 1998



ANCIENT MARINERS SAILING SOCIETY

P.O. Box 6484

San Diego, California 92166



**The Albatross is the official publication of
the Ancient Mariners Sailing Society.**

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 6484, San Diego, CA 92166
AMSS Ship-to-Ship VHF Common - Channel 68
General Meetings: First Thursday of every month at:
Southwestern Yacht Club, 2702 Qualtrough St., San Diego.

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS - 1998

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	Ken Spaulding	553-7526
	Brett Morris	276-9413



FROM THE VICE HELM

Vice Commodore Doug Jones

At the last Board Meeting, I brought up the topic of what AMSS as an organization does other than having regattas, raft-ups, and boat shows. The members of the Board listed the following activities:

- ☛ AMSS Meetings have programs to disseminate knowledge about the care and maintenance of wooden vessels, rigging, sails, and engines.

- ☛ AMSS provides a network of individuals for restoration and repair ideas as well individuals for crewing.

- ☛ Our AMSS archives at the San Diego Historical Society provide information on Classic Yachts and individuals involved with Classic Yachts for the past 25 years in Southern California.

- ☛ The Wooden Boat Inventory started by Staff Commodore Wheeler has potential data to be entered into an electronic data base.

- ☛ The existing electronic data base of our members since 1991 started by Diana Watson and Rod Latimer and updated by Deb Dominici since 1995 has useful information and is used to create the Membership Directory.

- ☛ AMSS is doing archival copying the Kettenburg Boat Work records for permanent storage at the San Diego Historical Society at SWYC.

- ☛ AMSS periodically honors the individuals who have been important in Southern California's Yachting History by holding regattas and other events in their name. By such endeavors, AMSS has educated the

1998 AMSS Calendar of Events

Events

√General Meeting	Jan 8
√General Meeting	Feb 5
Commodores Cup and Raft-up	POSTPONED
√General Meeting	Mar 5
√General Meeting	Apr 2
April Fools Regatta and Raft Up	POSTPONED
Yesteryear Regatta	May 2
General Meeting	May 7
General Meeting	June 4
☛Commodore's Cup/Raft Up	June 13
General Meeting	July 2
Classic (Wooden) Boat Festival	July 11/12
Commodore's Ball	July 11
General Meeting (Picnic)	Aug 6
South Bay Cruise	TBA
General Meeting	Sept 3
Kettenburg Regatta/Raft-Up/Beach Party	Sept. 19
General Meeting (2nd Thurs) NOMINATIONS	Oct 8
General Meeting	Nov 5
General Meeting (ELECTIONS)	Dec 3
Half Pint of Rum Race	Dec 5
New Years' Eve Raft Up - La Playa	Dec 31

OTHER ORGANIZATION'S EVENTS

√Kona Kai's American Schooner Cup	Apr 4/5
√Wild Goose Chase, San Pedro to Newport (W.H.Y.C.)	Apr 11
√Heritage Regatta- Show (Newport Hb. Nautical Museum)	Apr 19
Newport - Ensenada Race	Apr 24
Master Mariner's Race	May 23
Eric Erickson Oil Island Race, Long Beach (W.H.Y.C.)	May 30
McNish Classic Yacht Race (Channel Islands Harbor)	Aug 8
Bishop Rock Race (SDYC)	Aug 21-23
Nautical Heritage Society - Long Beach Schooner Race	Aug
W.H.Y.C. vs AMSS	Sept 26-27
S.W.Y.C. Ensenada Race	Oct 2

public who these people are and what these individuals have contributed.

• In the past, AMSS members have been involved in creating a Traditional Maritime/Vocational Center at the Naval Training Center.

The consensus of the Board, after discussing our past contributions, was to focus on getting our data base current and available electronically as well as having hard copy access. Ken Spaulding will try to obtain the data base from Bill Buel that had some of the inventory forms that George Wheeler obtained entered. This data would be integrated with the existing data base and be made available to the public. Archiving the past 25 years of AMSS's hard copy information will continue under Ed Barr's direction (copies at Ed Barr's expense). Deb Dominici will continue to archive the Kettenburg Boat Works files (copies at Kettenburg Boat Works expense). The Board will also try to continue to be a Classic Boat organization to inform the public and enthusiasts about traditional wood working skills, traditional rigs, and vintage design (both sail and power). The fifty dollars a year for AMSS dues go towards these goals. Most of our events pay for themselves. Mailing and administrative costs are supported by our members. Mailing and printing of the ALBATROSS is a substantial AMSS annual cost. As a volunteer organization with approximately 45 members, AMSS needs the community support. What else would you like to see your club do? Those of Vintage-Classical Boat Community who are not AMSS members, what would you like the organization to do? What would make you become a member? Let us know!

NEXT MEETING

May 7, 1998

7:30 P.M.

Southwestern Yacht Club

A COAST GUARD PRESENTATION

Come find out what the Coast Guard is doing and what their future plans are!

Rusty White, Nautical Heritage Society, will be at our June Meeting!

S/C JIM SUTTER, Program Director

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Membership	Steve Caouette	224-7816
Handicap	Bill Clark	542-1229
	Jerry Newton	222-1281
Race	Doug Jones	294-2244
Cruising	Steve Caouette	224-7816
Program Director	Jim Sutter	972-1963
Trophies	Doug Graves/Ted Stearns	226-3446/287-4125
Historical	Ed Barr	224-7255
Public Relations	Deb Dominici	688-6961
Bye-Laws	Doug Jones	294-2244
Data Processing	Diana Watson	592-1678
T-Shirt Sales	TBA	
Directory	George Wheeler	271-8629

Board meetings will be held on the second Wednesday of each month at the Southwestern Yacht Club at 7:00 PM. Members are welcome to attend.

The Yesteryear Regatta, a Reverse or Australian Start Race

The first Yesteryear Regatta was sailed off Shelter Island with a traditional start on a very long starting line in 1975. Even in its infancy this regatta was a large event for the AMSS and the number of vessels on the starting line made the start very crowded, perhaps unsafe. Every year since that time the Australian or reverse start has been used for the Yesteryear Regatta. By using numerous, smaller starts we have improved the safety by allowing only yachts of similar sailing abilities on the starting line together. Another advantage is that in keeping with the term Regatta all racers will have a chance to see all other entrants as the faster yachts are forced to sail through the fleet. In a traditional start the faster A Class racers would only be seen at the start and would have an unfair advantage at the keg of beer before the slower classes arrived at the awards party. Other large races in our area such as the Rum Race Series and the Long Beach (Schooner Assn.) Ancient Mariners Race also use this type of start. Traditional one or two class starts are used for every other AMSS race so we would like to describe the unique aspects of the Australian start as it applies to the Yesteryear regatta.

In traditional start races the elapsed time is corrected using a handicap allowance to give a corrected time which determines the order of finish. In a reverse start race the handicap allowance is calculated from the handicaps prior to the race and is given as the starting time. The order of finish becomes the order that the boats will actually be placed within their respective classes. In the Yesteryear Regatta the entire long course fleet is racing together for perpetual trophies such as first to finish and first on corrected time and so all racers must be handicapped to one standard, in this case to the slowest not fastest yacht. For calculational purposes we use an arbitrary handicap of 500 and the first starting time as noon. To generate the starting time for *COMANCHE* we subtract her handicap from 500 and multiply by the race length to get her time correction, thus $500 - 120 = 380 \text{ sec/mi} \times 12.25 \text{ mi} = 4,655 \text{ sec}$ or 77 min and 35 seconds. *COMANCHE*'s start time is then about 12 noon plus 1 hour and 18 min or 13:20 (with a time correction of +2 minutes), and all other start times are generated in the same manner. In order to generate correct start times and thus an equal chance to compete for the overall trophies the racer must start on the time dictated by their individual handicap.

The classes for the Yesteryear Regatta have evolved to group vessels of similar characteristics and performance together to give the closest possible class competition. The classes are currently: Classic Racing A, handicaps ~0-150, Classic Racing B, handicaps ~150-200, (marconi) Sloops and Cutters, handicaps 200-600, (marconi) Ketches and Yawls all handicaps, Gaffers all handicaps, Schooners all handicaps, and Short course classics all handicaps. The A class racing fleet is generally composed of 8, 9, and 10 meter sloops, Cal 32s and PCCs and generally represent fast class boats or offshore racers. The B racing class is represented by the inshore racers or smaller class boats such as 5.5 and 6 meter sloops, K-38 sloops and PCs. The Sloops and Cutters are represented by cruising sloops generally of handicaps over 200. The gaffers are grouped together due to the similar sailing characteristics of their rigs. Likewise the Schooners are grouped together due to the special sailing characteristics of that rig. The Short course classics are smaller,

possibly undecked traditional yachts. These classes have generally grouped yachts of similar handicaps and thus sailing characteristics together. An exception to this is the schooner class which can group vessels of widely different performance and thus have racers in the very first start (eg. *GERALDINE*) and in the last start (eg. *KELPIE*).

The boundaries of these classes are not fixed or in any way absolute and there have been examples of marconi ketches and yawls in Classic Racing A. Examples of this are *PACIFICA*, *OSPREY*, and *OLINKA*. These yachts all have handicaps under 150 and thus could race either Classic A or marconi Ketches and Yawls. As the majority of our ketches and yawls rate between 170 and 400 the previously mentioned yachts have found it more competitive in the Classic A fleet and have been allowed to race in that class. It must be noted that the start times of these yachts are dictated by their handicap and not by class. Their start times would be the same if they were competing in the Ketches and Yawls class or in Classic racing A.

We hope that this brief description of the Yesteryear Regatta helps the membership understand the decision making by the race committee with respect to the Yesteryear Regatta. No handicap assignments or class groupings within this race are made arbitrarily and, in fact, all decisions involve considerable discussion.

Respectfully yours the AMSS 1998 Yesteryear Regatta Race committee: Doug Jones, Deb Dominici, Rod Latimer, Diana Watson, and Jerry Newton. Trophy Makers: Doug Graves and Ted Stearns.

******* YESTERYEAR REGATTA
HANDICAP QUESTIONS AND
CONCERNS NEED TO BE IN WRITING
AND HANDED TO RACE CHAIRMAN
DOUG JONES BEFORE APRIL 26,
1998*******

RESPONSE FROM OLIN J. STEPHENS II

PHOTOS FROM AMSS PAST ACTIVITIES

Doug Jones and Deb Dominici invited Olin Stephens to join AMSS for the Yesteryear Regatta and invited him to sail on PACIFICA. Here is his response:

3 April, 1998

Dear Deb Dominici,

I have just returned from California to find your FAX of 26 March. I am complimented and appreciative of your birthday message with details of the Yesteryear Regatta and I know it would be fun to join you.

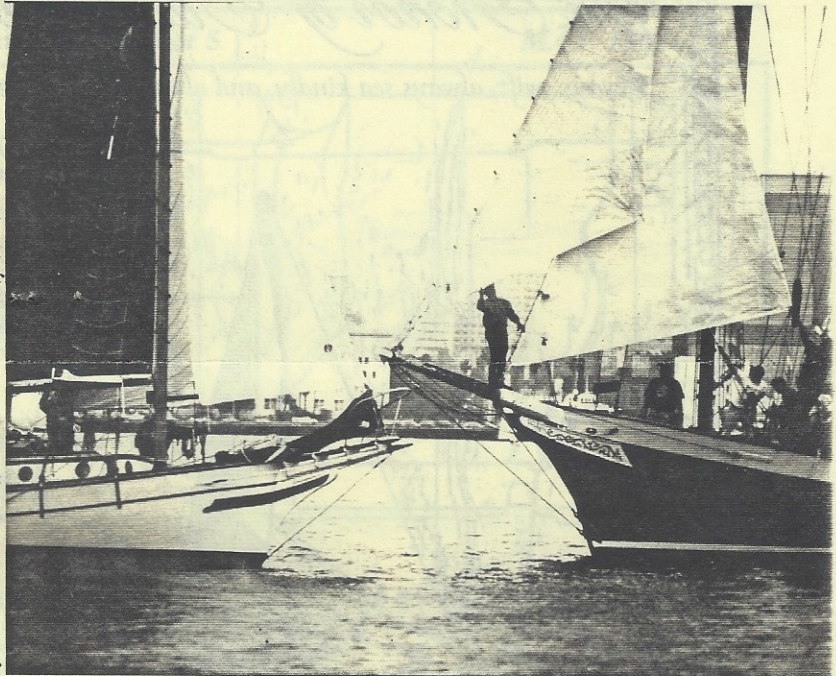
I did, indeed enjoy seeing PACIFICA, and I have enjoyed, now a number of times, seeing some earlier designs still well kept up or nicely restored. That has been a real pleasure which I hope will continue.

However having just returned and more or less committeted myself to another visit in June I'm afraid that just too much travel would be involved if I were to return in May. I hope therefore that you will "take the will for the deed" and that you will understand.

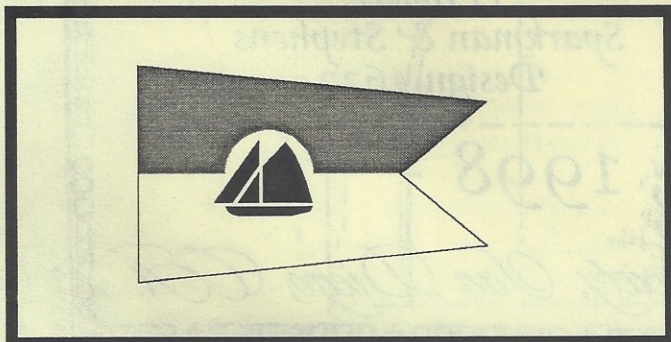
Sincerely,
Olin Stephens

Please come out and join PACIFICA and SUNDANCE for the Yesteryear Regatta in celebrating Sparkman and Stephens designed yachts and Olin Stephens 90th Birthday! Music at awards ceremony at SWYC is the Trinidad Steal Drum Band!

1995 Yesteryear



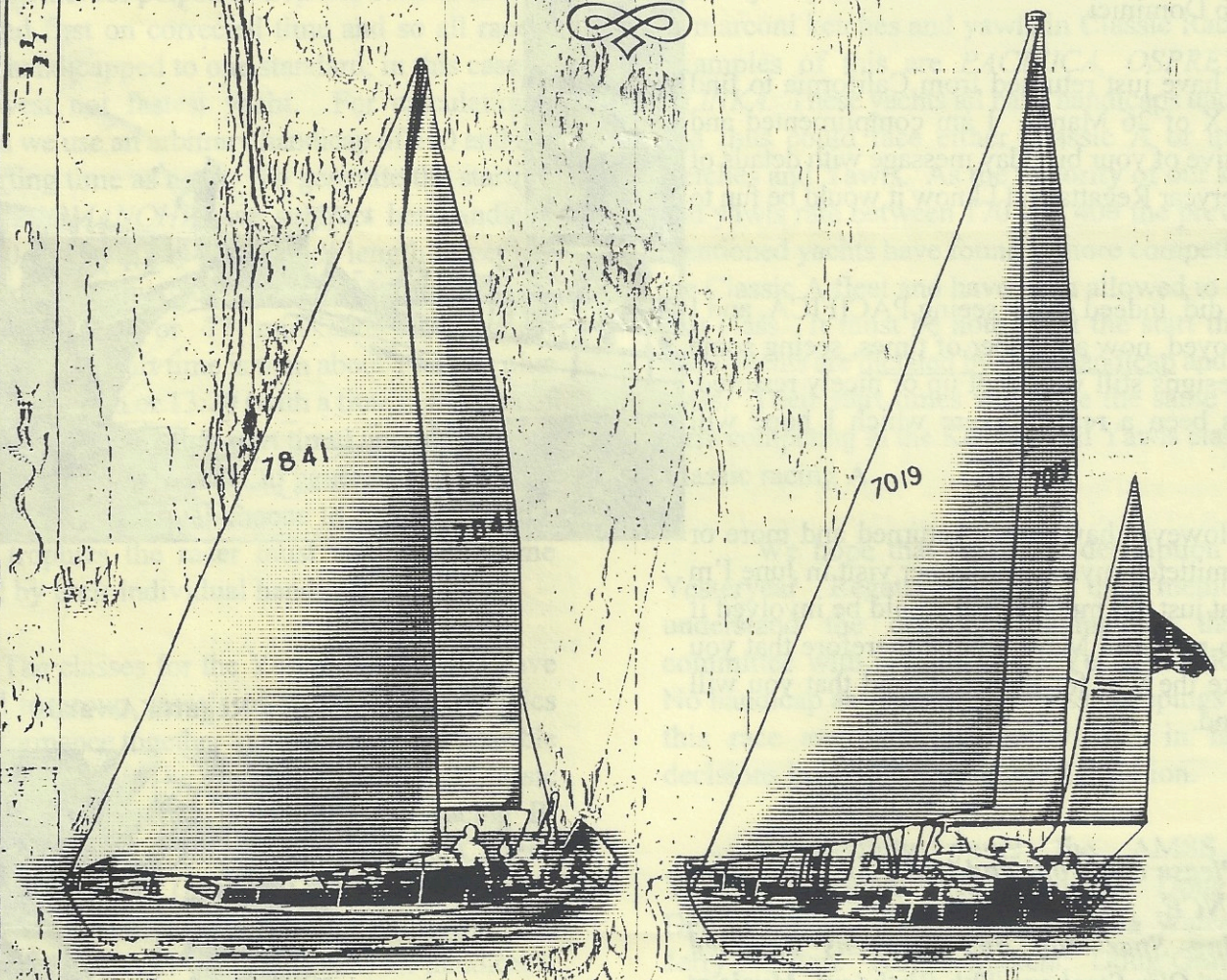
1997 Kettenburg Regatta Awards



24th Annual Yesteryear Regatta

In Honor of Olin Stephens' 90th Birthday

"Always swift, always sea kindly, and always of great beauty." - Eric Swenson, referring to S&S boats.



"Surdance"

AMSS Flagship
Sparkman & Stephens
Design #1738

"Pacifica"

(Eroida)
Sparkman & Stephens
Design #622

- May 2nd, 1998 -

Ancient Mariners Sailing Society, San Diego, CA.

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For information call: Doug Jones, 294-2244