

ALBATROSS

Ancient Mariners Sailing Society
Est. 1975

FROM THE HELM

Welcome to 2015 and our reinvigorated *Albatross* publication.

I am reminded of what John Driscoll said, about a year ago, when he assumed the helm as AMSS Commodore, regarding his intentions as AMSS Commodore. He said that he didn't want to fundamentally change anything that AMSS did. All that he wanted to do was tweak things a little bit, here and there. Little did we all know, but John planned a year of AMSS events that encouraged participation and celebrated AMSS's 40th Anniversary in grand style. Well, well. That formula serve us quite nicely! Indeed, looking back on 2014, AMSS enjoyed a spectacular year of classic boating events, both on and off the water. Please join me in congratulating AMSS's newest Staff Commodore, John Driscoll, on account of his effective stewardship of our fine Club in 2014. John's personal efforts, together with the efforts of all of the other officers, board members and AMSS volunteers, made for quite a memorable year.

For 2015, AMSS members can expect much the same approach. We are planning just a few more of those little tweaks here and there. The first tweak is the return to a monthly publication schedule for the *Albatross*. Look to receive a copy by email every month throughout the year, sometime around the 25th of the month. The entire AMSS board is committed to contributing material and timely production of our monthly newsletter.

We have a number of exciting on-the-water events planned for 2015. These include the 20 Guinea Cup race series. We expect continued keen interest in this casual race format in 2015. Mid-way through the year, three significant regatta events will fill our late Spring/early Summer calendar during the customary seasonal break in the 20 Guinea Cup race series. They are: the 41st Annual Yesteryear Regatta (May 9); AMSS Commodore's Cup Race (June 6); and the Kettenburg and Classic Yacht Regatta (June 26 - 28). We are committed to each of these regattas as hallmark AMSS regatta events in 2015. Which brings us to another planned tweak: the 2015 Commodore's Cup Race will feature a post-race raft-up and Summer BBQ at Koehler Kraft Boatyard. Details about each of these regatta events will follow in coming issues of the *Albatross* and at upcoming monthly general meetings.



Captain and crew of *Freedom* celebrate the finish of a well sailed race in the 2014 Half Pint of Rum Race. *Freedom* finished 1st in Racing Class B - just a mere five seconds ahead of *Frolic*! [Photo by AMSS Member Roger Stewart]

(Report continues on page 3)

To preserve and promote interest in sail and power vessels of ancient vintage.

RACE COMMITTEE REPORT-JANUARY, 2015

We had an excellent turnout for the 2014 Half Pint of Rum Race with 15 sail entries. CF Kohler won Racing Class A on his 10 Meter, *Sally*. Dave Easter took first in Racing Class B by a mere five seconds on corrected time sailing aboard *Freedom*. They showed us how focus and concentration pay off. The sailing class was won by *Zest*, an entry by Steve and Heather Brownsea, with a corrected time that was second best in the entire fleet and only four seconds behind *Sally*. Once again... concentration.

The 2015 Guinea Cup Series will kick off on February 7. It is a spinnaker race. Coming at the tail end of the winter season, this race is often sailed in a cool, fresh breeze so be prepared for a long course.

Rendezvous, a K-50 will be the Race Committee boat this season. She will be flying the AMSS burgee and the Race Committee flag and will be in the starting area around 1130. At approximately 1140, she will come up on channel 68 to announce the course and a placard with the race course will be visible on the boat. The start will be at 1200, GPS time. Horns will be sounded at 10 minutes and 5 minutes prior to the start.

Everyone will keep their own elapsed time and send it by e-mail to jpbuser@cox.net. We would like to post the results as early as possible so kindly send in your results in a timely fashion, hopefully before the end of the race day.

There will be an after race party after each event. The party for the February race will be held at the Brigantine on Shelter Island. These parties will always be held at local establishments and prizes in the form of gift certificates will be given out to the first place skipper (corrected time) after each race at the gathering venue. The suggested arrival time for the February 7 after party is 1600.

We encourage everyone to race and come to the after race party. These races are meant to be fun and are a wonderful way to show that our classic boats can still perform on the race course. There are seven races in the series with two throw-aways covering the February-November months. This gives everyone almost a year of excitement and the hope of bringing home a chunk of silver at the year end Commodore's Ball.

Safe racing to all,

John Buser
Race Committee Chairman

2015 AMSS RACE CALENDAR

February 7	20 Guinea Cup Race #1 (All Sails)
March 7	20 Guinea Cup Race #2 (All Sails)
April 4	Aprils Fools/ Guinea Cup Race #3 (All Sails)
May 9	41st Annual Yesteryear Regatta
June 6	Commodore's Cup Race
June 26 - 28	Kettenburg & Classic Yacht Regatta
August 8	20 Guinea Cup Race #1 (Non-Spin)
September 12	20 Guinea Cup Race #1 (Non-Spin)
October 10	20 Guinea Cup Race #1 (All Sails)
November 14	20 Guinea Cup Race #1 (All Sails)
December 12	Half Pint of Rum Race

2014 HALF PINT OF RUM RACE RESULTS

RACING CLASS A:

PLACE	YACHT	ELAPSED TIME	CORRECTED TIME
1st Place	<i>Sally</i>	1:24:39	1:23:44
2nd Place	<i>Chimaera</i>	1:26:50	1:26:50
3rd Place	<i>Sprig</i>	1:40:14	1:38:52

RACING CLASS B:

PLACE	YACHT	ELAPSED TIME	CORRECTED TIME
1st Place	<i>Freedom</i>	1:49:59	1:31:55
2nd Place	<i>Frolic</i>	1:42:55	1:32:00
3rd Place	<i>Woody</i>	1:40:45	1:34:11
4th Place	<i>Rendezvous</i>	1:50:10	1:36:00
5th Place	<i>Sea Witch</i>	2:56:16	2:01:09
6th Place	<i>Spitfire</i>	2:16:20	2:04:46
7th Place	<i>Maid of Kent</i>	3:13:55	2:18:48

SAILING CLASS:

PLACE	YACHT	ELAPSED TIME	CORRECTED TIME
1st Place	<i>Zest</i>	1:23:48	1:23:48
2nd Place	<i>LaCucaracha</i>	1:26:59	1:26:59
3rd Place	<i>Blue Chip</i>	1:33:15	1:33:15
4th Place	<i>Zephyr</i>	1:52:13	1:34:01
5th Place	<i>Elusive</i>	1:53:14	1:35:02

FROM THE HELM (Continued from Page 1):

Thanks also to the tireless efforts of our venerable Program Director, Greg Stewart, the planning for our 2015 general program events is nearly completed. Greg has by now assembled a number of excellent programs for 2015.

By the time that this report is written, our January program is already in the books. Lifelong racing sailor from Newport Beach, CA, Hank Thayer, regaled AMSS members with an amazing photo montage assembled from the W.C. Sawyer nautical photo collection. W.C. Sawyer was the Staff Photographer for Pacific Coast Yachting Magazine between 1920 and 1940. His photos captured numerous famous classic racing boats during this period. The same photos also captured Southern California venues we all well know today, from San Diego to Santa Barbara, absent the visual effect of the past 70 to 90 years of continuous coastal development. Thayer conveyed command of a vast, impressive knowledge of the boats, historical events and venues captured by the photos. We had a good night.

We are well on our way. In 2015, if we improve on our 2014 experiences with a little tweaking, here and there, well then, we should all expect to have quite another great year. That alone is a good enough reason for each of us, and all of us, to timely renew our dues. Given the entertainment value of AMSS membership, there is positively no a better way to invest \$50! So, go ahead. Let's just do it.

Cheers,

Christopher R. Barclay
2015 AMSS Commodore

The Editor's Bunk

With the start of our 41st year, we are shifting to a new format for the *Albatross* and encourage everyone to look to our on-line postings for information about the fleet, our events and articles of interest to all of us. Starting with this issue we will be sending the *Albatross* out around the 25th of each month, primarily by e-mail. Each month we'll have brief comments from the Helm, results of recent events and a quick summary of coming programs.

We still get bounce-backs for addresses that have filters, or are not correct in our roster, so please make sure you've included mailcall@amss.us in your approved senders list. All members are invited, make that encouraged, to offer submissions of articles, pictures, quotes, even letters to the Editor. Send doggerel of all kinds to the same email address: mailcall@amss.us.

Our ancient fleet is moving into the 21st Century -- do come along with us!

~Ann Kinner, Editor

February General Meeting Announcement

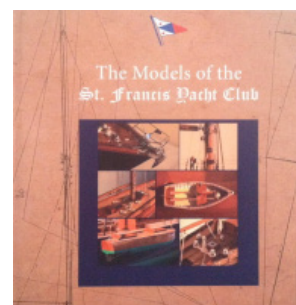
The Models of the St. Francis Yacht Club

When: Thursday February 5th, 2015

Where: Southwestern Yacht Club

Time: 7:30 pm

The 2015 AMSS program season continues with a photo presentation of "The Models of the St. Francis Yacht Club" by R.C. Keefe. R.C. has a wealth of experience and knowledge on all things yachting on the Bay and will have a number of good stories to complement the photos of the models.



R.C. Keefe is the Historian of the St. Francis Yacht Club and has been instrumental in procuring the impressive collection of full models that grace the St. Francis Clubhouse. R.C. and others at St. Francis just finished compiling this book that catalogs the impressive collection of full models of club member yachts well known on the west coast.

Guests and Prospective AMSS Members WELCOME!

2015 AMSS PROGRAM CALENDAR

February 5th	<i>Models of St. Francis Yacht Club</i>	SWYC
March 5th	<i>Tatoosh 2014 Summer Cruise</i>	SWYC
April 2nd	<i>2014 Dorade Med Racing</i>	SWYC
May 7th	<i>Martha: ReFit & Sea of Cortez Cruise</i>	SWYC
June 4th	<i>Alaska Eagle Voyage to So. Georgia Is.</i>	SWYC
July 2nd	[No Meeting Scheduled]	
August 7th	<i>AMSS Summer BBQ</i>	OMC
September 3rd	<i>Naval Base Field Trip</i>	SWYC
October 1st	TBA	TBD
November 5th	TBA	TBD
December 16th	<i>AGM & Commodore's Ball</i>	SWYC



[Photos by AMSS Member Roger Stewart]

Left: Heading into the beach at Shelter Island, *Frolic* launches her "swimmer" as she prepares to finish the 2014 Half Pint of Rum Race. *Frolic* sailed in Racing Class B and earned a 2nd Place finish on corrected time, just five seconds from 1st Place.

Right: 2014 Half Pint of Rum Race race chairman Johnny Smullen on the bridge of the committee boat, scouring the water for entry fees. The 2014 Half Pint of Rum Race was our long-time AMSS Race Chairman's last official race as AMSS Race Chairman. Well, at least for the time being. In 2014, Johnny found that he was having so much fun with his responsibility as Web-master for our newly redesigned website, that he invited John Buser to step up as AMSS's newly minted Race Chair. Score that a win-win for AMSS.

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Below: A pre-race strategy session convenes on *Sally* before the start of the 2014 Half Pint of Rum Race. Whatever was said must have mattered. *Sally* earned 1st place honors in Racing Class A.



WE'RE ON THE WEB! WWW.AMSS.US

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EST. 1975

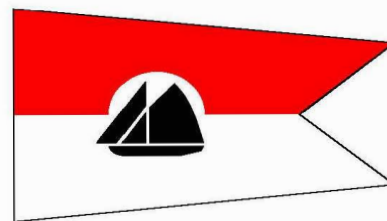
P.O. Box 6484
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General Meetings: 1st Thursday of every month,
7:30 PM @ Southwestern Yacht Club

E-mail: mailcall@amss.us

AMSS Ship-to-Ship VHF Common - Channel 68

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