



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

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 6484, Diego, CA 92166

AMSS Ship-to-Ship VHF Common - Channel 68

General Meetings: First Thursday of every month at the
Southwestern Yacht Club, 2702 Qualtrough St, San Diego

Editors: Diana Watson & Rod Latimer (619)287-9066

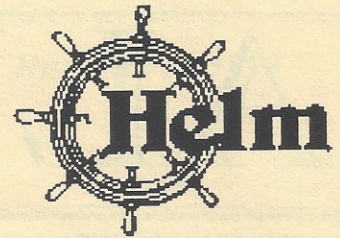
Board of Directors - 1993

<i>Commodore</i>	Deb Dominici	459-7353
<i>Vice Commodore</i>	Doug Smith	
<i>Secretary</i>	Jim Keitges	485-8711
<i>Treasurer</i>	Michael O'Brien	723-5739
<i>Port Captain</i>	Ed Barr	224-7255
<i>Members at Large</i>	Tom Jackson	456-6963
	Vern Koepsel	327-6633
	Doug Jones	222-0865
	Brian Farmer	658-0819
<i>Staff Commodore</i>	Rod Latimer	287-9066

1994 AMSS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

General Meeting	Jan 6
Commodores Cup & raft up	Jan 15
General Meeting	Feb 3
Jack and Jill Regatta	Feb 12
General Meeting	Mar 3
General Meeting	Apr 7
April Fools Regatta and Raft Up	Apr 2,3
General Meeting	May 5
Yesteryear Regatta	May 14
General Meeting	June 2
Roller Coaster Cruise - Mission Bay	June ?
PCC Championship/Kettenburg Regatta	June 25
Guadalupe Race/Freedom Cup	July 2
General Meeting	July 7
Commodore's Ball	???
General Meeting (Picnic)	Aug 4
Small Boat Messabout	Aug ?
Gorilla Rock Cruise - Los Coronados	Aug ?
General Meeting	Sept 1
Labor Day Cruise	Sept 3?
Petticoat Race	Sept 17
Iron Man Race	Sept 18
General Meeting (2nd Thurs)	Oct 13
Boat Show - CCYC	Oct 15
Homeward Bound Race	Oct 16
General Meeting (Nominations)	Nov 3
General Meeting (Elections)	Dec 1
Half Pint O'Rum Race	Dec 3
New Years' Eve Raftup - La Playa	Dec 31

From the



Happy New Year! I want to say thanks to all the people who worked so hard last year to keep Ancient Mariners going. Ancient Mariner Sailing Society events have made up some of my fondest memories and have been the most fun times that I have ever had. Numerous present and past members have helped me by conveying their knowledge and sharing their experiences regarding classical yacht restoration, maintenance, and sailing. For these reasons I have volunteered to be active in Ancient Mariners and accepted the job as Commodore.

I would like to invite all the members of the club to sail with me for the Commodore's Cup on January 15th. The race course will be the same as last year, around the Coronado Islands for the racing fleet and up to the Islands for the cruising fleet. We will start between San Diego Channel buoy #5 and the race committee boat. The race fleet will take the north island to port, the south island to port, and finish between the middle island and the south island. The cruising fleet will finish in the same place. Details and a chart of the course will be handed out at the next meeting. The raft up will be in La Playa and not out at the Islands.

As far as our main event, we will be having our 20th Annual Yesteryear Regatta this year in May. In remembrance of the first Yesteryear Regatta, we will have a raft up after the race and not have a party on land. We will have a Commodore's Ball in the early summer, but I have not locked a date for that event as yet. I hope to have an outside party at SWYC with a Rasta theme. See everyone at the next meeting!

*Deb Dominici
Commodore*

Southwestern Yacht Club

7:30 P.M. Thursday



January Meeting (6th):

Ed Barr will show slides and talk about his first sailing adventure at the age of 12, on the Schooner *Varuna*, sailing from Gloucester Mass. to San Diego. Also he has slides of *Bout* when she was single handed to Hawaii by her previous owner.

MEMBERSHIP PETITIONS

Yacht: *Saga*

Owners: Bob Hendrickson and Allan Niebrugge

Builder: Fellows & Stewart, Wilmington

Designer: Merle J. Davis

LOA: 44', LWL: 30', Beam: 9'6", Draft: 6'6".

Saga was launched in 1946 and is assumed to have been in Southern California ever since. This sloop's narrow beam, tall mast (66'), and advanced hull design make her a "fair" racer. Since purchasing *Saga* in October 1993, the new owners, Bob and Allan, have replaced the standing rigging and are trying to restore her to offshore cruising condition.

Saga is sponsored by Rod Latimer and Peter Benton.

Yacht: *Wooden Nickel*

Owners: Greg Potter

Construction: Wood

Builder: Greg Potter, 1975

Designer: John Barns, 1938

LOA: 19', LWL: 15', Beam: 6'6", Draft: 3 1/4'11".

Wooden Nickel is a wooden Lightning and is sponsored by Jim Sutter and Annie Kolls.

Yacht: *Amber Lee*

Owners: Brett and Vicki Seiders

Construction: Plywood

Builder: Allen Bingham, San Diego, 1962

Designer: Constantine Foltis, 1956

LOA: 34', LWL: 30', Beam: 9'3", Draft: 4'.

Amber Lee is a pilot house ketch and is sponsored by Dave Houser and Annie Kolls.

Yacht: *Ransom*

Owners: Keith and Lis Gerland

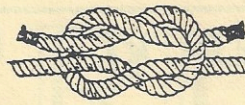
Construction: Mahogany

Builder: Kettenburg Boat Yard, 1958

Designer: George Kettenburg

LOA: 46'10", LWL: 40', Beam: 9'6", Draft: 7'.

Ransom is a PCC and is sponsored by Dick Winchip and Peter Benton.



PORT SIDE

by Ed Barr,
Port Captain

Eternal Vigilance - the key to safe passage:

Being a native of San Diego from birth over 60 years ago, and beginning my seafaring career at age six in a 12' clinker cat boat at the foot of Kellogg St. on Point Loma, I was very confident of my "local knowledge", necessary for safely piloting vessels in and out of San Diego Harbor. After forty years of practice in all manner of crafts, I was so self confident that I bordered on becoming an egotistical maritime snob!

Yet at 4:45pm, Sunday, February 15, 1981, as captain, I managed to sail the 83ft, 3 masted passenger carrying barquentine *California*, with 54 passengers and crew, on to the rocks next to the Point Loma Light House. The details of how one feels after wrecking and sinking the last passenger carrying 3 masted barquentine operating in the United States is not the purpose of this discussion. Suffice to say that such an event can ruin one's day. In fact it can possibly become a personal Albatross around one's neck for life!

Fortunately, no-one was injured, inspite of the fact that before abandoning ship in the 55° night time surf in peasoup fog, I discovered that 4 on board were non-swimmers, including half of my crew.

The point of my mistake that I wish to share with you is the big glitch in my "local knowledge". I assumed that when fog enshrouds the light house, the fog horn will sound....

Wrong!

The mechanism inside the lighthouse is controlled by a light beam on approximately a 180° bearing. If the light beam is broken within 3 miles of the lighthouse on the 180° bearing, a timer will prevent the start of the fog signals for 5 minutes. In my case the fog bank that ultimately overtook the *California* and surrounded the lighthouse was rapidly moving down the coast from La Jolla Point (a bearing of 320° from Point Loma). The foghorn did not start sounding until after 5 minutes of becoming enshrouded in fog. My lookouts were instructed to report to me the bearing of the Point Loma fog horn. By the time it sounded the ship was already in the breakers, crashing against the rocks.

So, be aware, sea room must never be shaved in reduced visibility and the fog horn may be heard when skies are clear, except on bearings near 180° from the lighthouse. And the horn may not sound at all if the fog bank approaches from the Northwest or Northeast. In any event, no signal will occur after total fog engulfment until 5 minutes have elapsed! My reliance on that fog signal was a major cause of me losing my ship. I did not know about the controlling systems inside that lighthouse. My big disaster day will have occurred 13 years ago next month - one never fully recovers from such an experience. In my book, "The Last Command of the Barquentine *California*", the dedication page reads: *To sailing masters and crews of vessels going to sea, in the hope that they may find value in the experiences of and lessons learned by another!*

At the next general meeting I will make available to members, 50 books free for the asking - with all good wishes for smooth and safe sailing in 1994 and beyond!

OTHER 1994 EVENTS

Billy Bones Race (Billy Bones)	Mar ?
Schooner Cup (KKYC)	Mar 26,27
Wooden Boat Center Festival (WBC)	Apr 9,10
Big Ensenada Race (NPYC)	April 22,23,24
Pacific Corinthian Classic (PCYC, Oxnard)	Aug 06
Ancient Mariners Regatta, Long Beach (WHYC)	Aug 28
Little Ensenada Race (SWYC)	Oct 7,8,9
Newport to Dana Point Race (WHYC)	Oct 22
Dana Cup - WHYC versus AMSS (WHYC)	Oct 23
Swap Meet - Sun Harbor Marina	Nov ?

SCUTTLEBUTT

Equatorial Pacific:

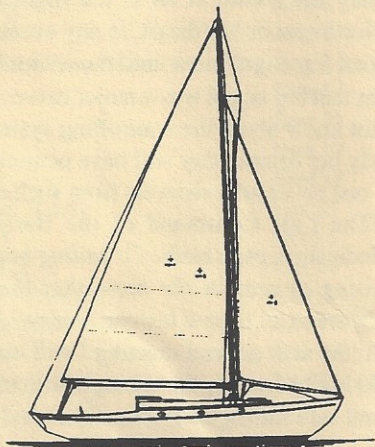
Vell I am sure you oll had a vonderful holiday season. Zorry I vas not daer to help celebrate. In lite of za situation allow me to fill you in on zome highlights of my voyage. It vent down zo fast, not unlike 2 kilos of grezey potato pancakes...Ha!

Ass most of yiu know, my 9.3 meter clipper, built from za original plans purchased at za 1946 Nurnburg trials' zwap meet, had just received her laast koat of brite orange bottom paint over her Mexican ironwood planks. (By za vey, vould dat not make for an interesting flag member application ya? Iron vs. Wood vs. Glass vs. Ferro....Ha!)

Being of za old world, provizining is never a problem in any port. Daer iz always plenty of kippers, fresh water, hopz unt yeast. Vonce undervay due south i.e. dat big port turn, I hunkered down in my big kokpit chair for some kool vesterlies and brite sunshine. Below decks my kat Puzy vas nestled in her vavorite siik gear hammock, vile za beam sea gently azzisted za fermentation of my private ale.

After an easy 2900+ nautical miles, it vas time to reprovision. Spotting ond unmarked harbour I doused za sails, fired up za BMW 4.8 liter and zsooted in to ond primitive bamboo/tvine dock, tieing off vis da help of zome very tall natives. Right away za communication vas a problem. After using many gestures and Puzy az puppet go between, trades vere made: riding crop ond big black bootz for zome rich local grain ond fresh pond vater. Zome 3 days later, oll of za smiling ond nodding vas giving me ond grand headache. It was obviously za right time to depart. Vith much cheering, smiling, ond more nodding Puzy and I disembarked. BMW purring at 19 knots ve headed out to ond calm balmy day at sea. Almost 114 nautical miles later ond six hours, two of vitch strapped to za head ond whiteknuckleing... never stop somewhere that translates to "Zveet Bonnana Peel" ond above all do not partake in local delicacies..., I smoked ond cigar, zet za autopilot/alarm, ond fell azleep vith Puzy in my lap. Da rest of my voyage to Darwin Islands vas smoot ond uneventful.

Here in za Galapagos, where Christmas vith za Iguanas brings new meaning to "Holiday Spirit". Deez big lizards are damn near catatonic. It was like Christmas at Eva Brohms vith her morphine! Ha! Zo I sit back, hook dropped in za lagoon, vith my favorite book "Midget Circus Stars of the Danube", Puzy in my lap ond drinking my ale through late vinter days ond nites....For now, Best Vishes, Helmut Von Schipper
Clipper "Vulpine"
(Brian Farmer)



Half Pint o' Rum Race - 1993

#	Boat Name	Skipper	Handicap	Elapsed Time	Corrected Time
<i>Racing Fleet</i>					
1	Sally	Koehler, C.F.	80	13:53:28	13:53:28
2	Freedom	Latimer	155	14:10:36	14:01:14
3	Comanche	Dominici	120	14:07:33	14:02:33
4	Dyad II	Tyler	160	14:40:37	14:30:37
5	Felisi	Smith, Doug	160	DNF	DNF
<i>Cruising Fleet</i>					
1	Wren	Jones, Doug	220	14:19:31	14:17:01
2	Hullabaloo II	Koehler, Tracy	255	14:31:20	14:24:28
3	Malabar Star	Koepsel	220	14:54:54	14:52:24
4	Toco	Clark	245	14:58:08	14:52:30
-	Patience	Not a member	200	15:03:27	15:03:27
5	Comber	Lynch	270	15:06:52	14:58:07
6	Woodrose	Houser	520	15:59:47	15:19:47
7	Revelee	Fossum	520	16:00:38	15:20:38
8	Maid of Kent	Newton	425	15:51:21	15:23:14
9	Beyond	Winchip	450	15:58:00	15:26:45
10	Balamar	Smith, George	400	16:02:57	15:37:57
11	Bluewater II	Benton	300	15:59:40	15:47:10
12	Amberlee		280	16:02:50	15:52:50
-	Hot Yot	Kolls	600	DNF	DNF

Sale Loft

Geraldine - a William Atkin Gaff Schooner, 27ft on deck : Professionally built in 1976; wood burning stove; Saab diesel; bottom and hull just painted.
Contact Allen Hodge, daytime 444-3147, evening 583-8065.

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Membership	Kevin Thompson	223-9123
Handicap	Bill Clark	542-1229
	Jerry Newton	222-1281
Race	-vacant-	
Cruising	-vacant-	
Trophies	-vacant-	
Historical	Jim Keitges	485-8711
Public Relations	Ann Kolls	569-5277
Bye-Laws	Dick Winchip	298-1732
Data Processing	Diana Watson	287-9066
T-Shirt Sales	-vacant-	
Swap Meets	-vacant-	

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