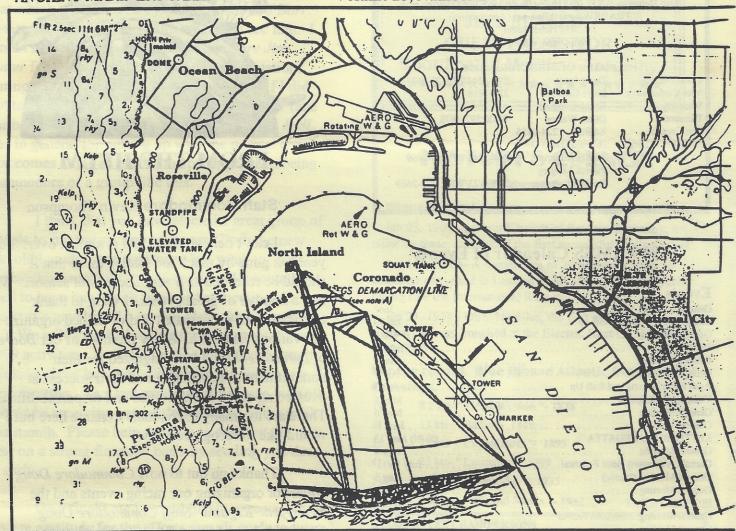
ALBATROSS

ANCIENT MARINERS SAILING SOCIETY

Volume 25, Number 1

JANUARY 1999



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.

Editor and Publisher Deb Dominici WRK: (619) 688-6961/AMSS.INFO@juno.com TRADBW@earthlink.net (Attachments) 851 Hawk Street

San Diego, CA 92103

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - 1998

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Patrick Langley

Kevin Thompson

222-9123/WRK:222-2669

1999 AMSS Calendar of Events

Events

General Meeting	Jan7
Commodores Cup and Raft-up	Jan 30
General Meeting	
JACK N JILL	♡♡♡♡Feb 13
General Meeting	Mar 4
General Meeting	
April Fools Regatta and Raft Up	Apr 3
Yesteryear Regatta	May 1
General Meeting	May 6
General Meeting	
KETTENBURG REGATTA	(SUN) June 13
General Meeting	
Classic (Wooden) Boat Festival	
General Meeting (Picnic)	Aug 5
General Meeting	Sept 2
IRON/PETTICOAT	
General Meeting NOMINATIONS	Oct 7
General Meeting	Nov 4
Commodore's Ball	
General Meeting (ELECTIONS)	Dec 2
Half Pint of Rum Race	Dec 4
New Years' Eve Raft Up - La Playa	Dec 31

OTHER ORGANIZATION'S EVENTS

American Schooner Cup March 20/2	1
Wild Goose Chase, San Pedro to Newport (W.H.Y.C.) TBA	4
Heritage Regatta- Show (Newport Hb. Nautical Museum) Apr 1	8
Newport - Ensenada Race	3
Master Mariner's Race May 2:	2
Eric Erickson Oil Island Race, Long Beach (W.H.Y.C.) May 2	9
McNish Classic Yacht Race (Channel Islands Harbor) Aug	7
Bishop Rock Race (SDYC) Aug20-22	2
Nautical Heritage Society - Long Beach Schooner Race TBA	4
W.H.Y.C. vs AMSS TBA	1
S.W.Y.C. Ensenada Race Oct	1



FROM THE HELM

Staff Commodore Kevin Thompson

I can't believe that 1998 is almost over. The year has gone by much too fast! I think that it should be recorded as a very successful season. We had a number of great events. I want to thank everyone who participated and/or helped organize our various functions. Every member of our Board of Directors should be recognized for their commitment to the society and their success at overseeing all of our activities and responsibilities. There are too many individuals to name here but I would like to recognize a few.

Thanks go out to now Commodore Doug Jones for organizing our racing events and the Yesteryear Regatta. Staff Commodore Doug Graves and committee did a superb job with trophies. The Classic Boat Festival was a well attended, smoothly run first class operation thanks to Staff Commodore Doug Smith and his committee. Do you get the feeling that we are developing a disproportionate number of Dougs in this group? I may have to take on *Membership* next year in order to rectify this. Speaking of *Membership*, I would like to thank Port Captain Steve Caouette for his efforts in recruitment. We took in a tremendous number of new members this year. I hope that this will continue next year. Remember, it doesn't hurt to keep a few copies of our application handy in your boat and car. You never know when you might find yourself in need of one!

I can't thank Staff Commodore Deb Dominici enough for her work on our Albatross. I'm sure that you all will agree that we look forward to receiving it each month. This is really a tremendous effort requiring quite a bit of time each month. Another tedious and time consuming job that I'm sure most of us are not fully aware of is that which is performed by our Historian Ed Barr. Please take time to thank him when you see him. I would also like to thank Staff Commodore Jim Sutter for lining up a great series of presentations during the year! Finally I would be remiss if I did not take time to thank my lovely bride Maggie (and her helpers) for organizing the Commodore's Ball and in general for putting up with the normal chaos that comes along as part of the package when being commodore of a group like this.

I think that you have elected a great group of people to run the society next year. Both the new and old board met at our house last week to "pass the caulking mallet" so as to speak. (We actually used to have one which was used at meetings in place of a gavel but I have not idea where it went to.) We will soon be looking for volunteers for our 1999 activities. It would be nice if you could start thinking about how you might help out before our next meeting. As a last administrative issue, you all should be receiving annual dues notices in the mail this month. Please help the club to start out the new year on a strong financial basis by sending you dues in early.

On a final note I would like to express my sincere gratitude for the efforts you all made to turn out for each of our general membership meetings over the last year. The attendance was consistently fantastic. Having a good group there each month not only enhances the experience for all of us but it shows an appreciation for whoever may have been invited to give a presentation that night. I look forward to seeing you all next month!

AMSS IS ON THE WEB

www.sdsailing.com/amss.htm



NEXT MEETING BRING YOUR DUES

JANUARY 7, 1999 SWYC AT 7:30 P.M. JEFF BENTLEY GUEST PRESENTOR

Coordinated Maritime Academy

HISTORY'S CORNER:

BY Edward S. Barr

It happened in January-

Jan 03, 1907 - Johann Klepper of Bavaria, Germany, a tailor by trade, introduced the first successful folding kayak.

Jan 15th, 1906- A conference of 20 delegates from 16 countries convened in London to develop a universal yacht racing rule the International Rule.

Jan 21, 1954 - USS. Nautilus, the first nuclear powered submarine, was launched at the Electric Boat Co., Groton,

For the record, Blue Riband Atlantic Ocean Speed Crossings.

- 1). 8.2 kts- " Great Western "- 1838
- 2). 13 kts- "Baltic "- 1849
- 3). 21 kts- " City of Paris "- 1893
- 4). 25 kts- "Lusitania "- 1909
- 5). 30 kts- "Normandie "- 1935
- 6). 36.5 kts- " United States "- 1952

Membership	Kevin Thompson			
Handicap	Bill Clark	542-1229		
	Jerry Newton	222-1281		
Race	Doug Jones	294-2244		
Cruising	Patrick Langley			
Program Director	Jim Sutter	972-1963		
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Data Processing	Diana Watson	592-1678		
T-Shirt Sales	TBA			
Directory	Diana Watson			

Board meetings will be held on the first Tuesday after the Thursday Regular Meeting of each month at the Southwestern Yacht Club at 7:00 PM. Members are welcome to attend.

AMSS Half Pint-of-Rum Race December 1998 (Squalls-Gusts to 20 Kts)

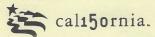
		Start Time:	12:10:00	Distance:	7.6nm	
	BOAT	Handicap	Finish Time	Penalty	Correction	Corrected Time
	Racing Class					
	Sprig	125	13:34:05	00:00	0:06:20	1:17:45
	Pacifica	115	13:32:50	00:00	0:05:04	1:17:46
	Freedom	145	13:49:57	00:00	0:08:52	1:31:05
	Andale	120	13:34:05	30:00 *	0:05:42	1:47:26
	Cruising Class					
*	Revelee	520	15:30:25	00:00	0:56:22	2:24:03
	Maid Of Kent	425	DNF	00:00	0:44:20	DNF
	Sally **	075	13:24:45	00:00	0:00:00	1:14:45

^{*} Grounded and used motor to get off.

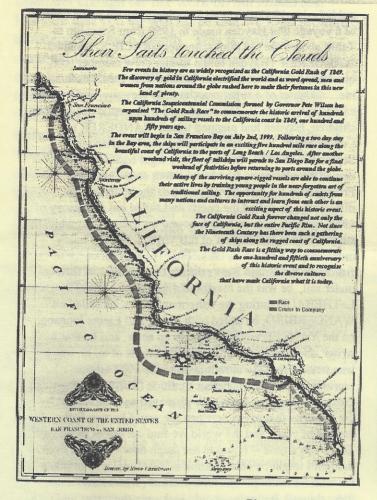
^{**} Not officially entered (non-member boat)



GOLD RUSH RACE 1999



THE RESIDENCE OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PARTY O



JULY 2-4, 1999

Tall ships parade into San Francisco July 2nd. Vessels open for public viewing on weekend of July 3rd & 4th.

JULY 5-9, 1999

Tall Ships® race from San Francisco to Long Beach.

JULY 9-11, 1999

Tall ships in Long Beach.

Vessels open for public viewing on weekend of July 10th & 11th.

JULY 12-13, 1999

Tall ships cruise in company to San Diego.

JULY 14-18, 1999

Tall ships in San Diego.

Vessels open for public viewing on weekend of July 17th & 18th.

Vessels depart July 19.

Please copy this form and fax or mail to ASTA

1999 Mervyn's California Gold Rush Race

We plan to join the M	ervyn's California Go	old Rush Race as follows:		ASTA		
		Long Beach		P.O. Box 14 Newport, R	159 I 02840 US	A
Sail Training Race	e / Cruise in Com	pany		Phone: 401 Fax: 401-8		email: asta@sailtraining.org
Tall Ships I	Race - San Francisco t	to Long Beach	Cruise in C	ompany - Long Beach	to San Dieg	o Alla Alla alla alla alla alla alla all
Name of Ship:	hings the 21 Add	of all selepte for	Nation	nality:	Wille M.	MAKIELI A MEONBEAM, TUIC
Contact Name:	DESTAL TO UNIT		AR Alto	Telephone:	HARRY PERCHAN	Fax:
Contact Mailing Add			Veltilien	To select the MOLD	CTV-CT (wholed tend boat their glylasoks
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						Trainees:
Please list any specia	l questions or require	ements you may have:			evering?	WoodenBoat Books in Brenklin, N
I am not entering, but I	I am interested in the	following: Spo	nsorship Opportuniti	es Crew / sail	training ope	enings
		ability Nautical F				TA Membership Information

BOOKS TO BUY AND READ

by Ginny Jones

By the calendar it's the 24th of November, but our New England island is experiencing an unusually beautiful fall -- warm sunny days, westerly breezes, and only an occasional gale or frost to remind us of our northern location. Today is almost a September day and some of us should really be out sailing. But today our boatyard is starting to take the smaller boats apart -- down rigging and decommissioning them and getting them ready for their winter slumber under tarps over in Packer Park. With everyone here still working in shirt sleeves it's hard to be thinking about Thanksgiving dinner in two days, and even more of a stretch to be thinking about and planning for the holiday season rapidly approaching. This all may not sound strange to the sailing community of San Diego -- for those of you to whom such weather is a year round phenomena, but for those of us diagonally opposite on the continent these lovely autumn days are to be treasured and added to the memories stored up against the grim, gray days of winter.

But think about winter and the Holidays we must, and here are some suggestions for gift giving: books that anyone interested in sailing, boats, the sea or adventure would enjoy reading and adding to their library, as well as a few other treats. If you don't have time to get them for Christmas, then there are always birthdays and Valentine's Day on the way.

Without doubt one of the world's greatest yacht designers was William Fife III... really the last of the Fifes of Fair lie in Scotland...who designed some of the most beautiful yachts ever built. Published in Italy in 1996and only just now available in the United States, Franco Pace's WILLIAM FIFE, MASTER OF THE CLASSIC YACHT is a lovely, and loving celebration of 19of Fife's loveliest designs. For those of you who have never seen a Fife under sail, her beautiful sheer, glorious proportions, and classic and simple elegance both on deck and below, this book -- no matter how beautiful the photographs -- can provide only a hint of Fife's genius. ALTAIR, BELLEA VENTURE, KENTRA, MARIELLA, MOONBEAM, TUIGA, SUMURUN and the exquisite HALLOWE'EN (for many years home ported in New England and named COTTON BLOSSOM IV) and Eric Tabarly's original (and best beloved) PEN DUICK all feature in this wonderful book. Ironically Tabarly was sailing PEN DUICK to a Fife reunion where her 100th birthday was to be celebrated, when he was lost at sea in the Irish Sea, off Wales. At \$69.95 this book is expensive, but the design, text, production and most of all, the drawings and photos of those lovely Fifes make this a breathtaking book. The preface is by Eric Tabarly, the history of the Fife family by William Collier, the photos by Franco Pace, and the book is published by Adlard Coles Nautical in London, and WoodenBoat Books in Brooklin, Maine.

Back in print, in paperback, is one of my all time favorite books: WANDERER by Sterling Hayden. First published in 1963, this is an autobiography set in the context of a voyage that Hayden made in 1959 from Sausalito to Tahiti aboard the old pilot schooner GRACIE S, renamed WANDERER (Hayden told a former crew member who questioned the name change: "GRACIE S, meant nothing to me....daughter of a sugar merchant, so they say, and I never cared for tycoons.") Divorced, and with custody of his four children, Hayden had planned to sail WANDERER to Cophenhagen, Denmark, departing San Francisco in September of 1959. In a landmark legal battle, he was denied permission to take his children on the voyage. Frustrated at his inability to persuade the court system differently, he defied the courts and sailed out in January of 1959, with his kids on board, bound for Tahiti. But while the story is told in the context of this voyage, there is much more: Hayden sailed on Gloucester fishing schooners -fishing on the Grand Banks during the last days of fishing under sail, he was the masthead's man on the GERTRUDE L. THEBAUD during the fisherman's races, he sailed on WANDERBIRD, he sailed with Irving and Electa Johnson on the YANKEE voyages, he was an actor, and he was a writer, a romantic, a fine seaman, but most of all he was a wanderer. From the introduction to the 1977 edition, reprinted in this fine paperback edition (\$17.95) by Sheridan Press: "I have long been both dismayed and astonished by the disparity that exists between the world known in the dreams of youth and the world we find ourselves faced with. There was a time -- it makes me laugh now -- when I even thought I might be able in some infinitesimal way to make the world a better place...Who knows? Who knows about these things? Better we should kick over the traces and take up drifting or wandering, secure in the irrefragable knowledge that if only there were enough enlightened wanderers around, this world would be a far better place, if notfor the wanderer himself then for the compact majority. What was it Ibsen said? 'The greatest enemy to truth and justice among us is the compact majority.' They never taught wandering in any school I attended. They never taught the art of sailing a vessel, either. Or that of writing a book. It's all so mysterious and -- yes -- enchanting. And that is what I suppose this book is all about."

GOOD BOATKEEPING by Zora and David Aiken, with drawings by David Aiken is a paperback which bills itself as a" wide-ranging compendium of hints, tips, and projects for boat owners, all of which aim to ease everyday life afloat."Priced at \$19.95 and published by International Marine division of McGraw-Hill, it's a nicely designed and printed paperback with clear sketches and diagrams on nearly every page. For many sailors and boat owners, some of the suggestions and tips may seem simplistic (Underraftups: "when rafted at anchor, they should be tied tight to each other, so that when they move with wind or current, they move as a unit...sailboats must watch spreader

location in relation to the neighbors.") but there is a wealth of useful information and ideas for projects that you can do yourself, rather than resorting to more expensive alternatives. One of my favorites (and something that we always do with the boats with deep bilges) is the suggestion to mount your bilge pump on a long (and substantial)stick -- use a broom handle -- so that when you need to clear or service the pump, or, as so frequently happens, replace the float switch, you can easily pull it out of some dark, obscure bilge. With close to 300 pages of information and tips, even the most experienced sailor or boat owner is sure to find something new and helpful.

For those who would like to embellish their yacht with some fancy bronze hardware, the Highwater Bronze Collection will be just the thing. Michelle Post, "Founder and Artist-at-Large" will send you a brochure picturing many of her creations, and they are gorgeous. Featuring sea creatures: fishes, turtles, mermaids, shells, alligators, Great Blue Herons, etc., her bronze castings are cleats, boom crutch brackets, drawer pulls, and other useful bits of hardware. Of note are her custom designed builder's plates. She will also custom design and cast pintles and gudgeons, stem irons, binnacles, sampson post, transom plates, figure heads, bow scrolls, etc.. Better yet, if you don't find something you like, she's open to suggestions, and encourages commissions for homes, gardens and offices, as well as boats. As her brochure notes: "We are limited only to your imagination". I've seen her work at one of the WoodenBoat shows... it's dazzling and for the high quality, beautiful details and fine finishing the prices are very reasonable. Highwater Bronze is located at Box 3646, Trenton, NJ 08620. She has a toll free number 1-888-410-0004.

My two favorite books published this year are both about a part of the world that I will almost certainly never visit. Even in my wildest dreams I have almost virtually no interest in traveling -- even in the most luxurious fashion -- to Antarctica, but these two books are about people who consciously and willingly sailed there.

The first book, by Caroline Alexander, just published by Knopf in association with the American Museum of Natural History (\$29.95) is entitled THE ENDURANCE, SHACKLETON'S LEGENDARY ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION. The story of this expedition which set sail in August of 1914 (days before the oubreak of WWI) has been written before, in some instances by the participants themselves (Shackleton's SOUTH, Frank Worsley's two books ENDURANCE and SHACKLETON'S BOAT JOURNEY) and recently: Alfred Lansing's ENDURANCE: SHACKLETON'S INCREDIBLE VOYAGE, etc. I would happily have everyone of the books on my book shelves. Ms. Alexander's book is a particularly valuable addition because she not only draws on previously unavailable sources, but she includes the photos -- many never before published -- taken by the Australian

photographer Frank Hurley. This was an extraordinary adventure...one of history's greatest epics of survival...and, as the dust jacket blurb notes: "Together, text and image recreate the terrible beauty of Antarctica, the awful destruction of the ship, and the crew'sheroic daily struggle to stay alive, a miracle achieved largely through Shackleton's inspiring leadership....The survival of Hurley's remarkable images is scarcely less miraculous...." I won't recount any of the story, saving the whole amazing set of circumstances for the reader, but willinclude two quotes from the text. After ENDURANCE was wrecked, and the whole crew had finally reached South Georgia Island (and the voyage to seek help and the subsequent rescue is where the incredible journey really happened). Shackleton wrote to his wife: "I have done it. Damn the Admiralty...Not a life lost and we have been through Hell." The second quote is Shackleton again, to Thoralf Sorlle, the Station Master on South Georgia: "Tell me, when was the war over?" "The war is not over," Sorlle replied. "Millions are being killed, Europe is mad. The world is mad."In fact, when the members of the expedition returned to England, their reception was completely eclipsed by the news coming from the war front. Sadly, several expedition members, having survived the perils of Antarctica, died in the trenches, while Shackleton himself died of a massive heart attack at 47 in 1922 in South Georgia to which he had returned on another expedition. A great book and one that will keep you up late at night (cozy in your Polar Fleece) reading.

The second book about South Georgia, and the authors, are no less extraordinary. For 30 years Tim and Pauline Carr, sailing aboard CURLEW, a 100 year old, 28 foot, engineless cutter -- A Falmouth quay punt -- have voyaged all over the world. Crossing oceans, circumnavigating and sailing from the Arctic Circle south to Antarctica, the Carrs have received many medals and awards for their seamanship. Seeking solitude and looking for an unspoiled area they sailed to the high southern latitudes, landing on Antarctica first and then sailing northeast to South Georgia Island, arriving there in November of 1992. Since then they have made the island their home and are the only permanent inhabitants, serving also as the Curators of the Whaling Museum. Their reverence and admiration for the island is chronicled in ANTARCTIC OASIS, UNDER THE SPELL OF SOUTH GEORGIA, just published by WW Norton, and a bargain at \$40.00. Full of history, detailed maps and drawings, wonderful photos of scenery and wildlife, not to mention the narrative of the Carrs' explorations around the island -- both by sea and on land -- this book is a winner.

A major reference work in progress is THE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF YACHT DESIGNERS by Lucia del Sol Knight and Daniel B. MacNaughton. To be published in 2000 by WW Norton, the book will contain information on approximately 350 designers ranging from the early 1800's to the present day, and from the major yachting countries of the world. There will be many photos and drawings. The

authors have enlisted the services of a very distinguished Editorial Board including Llewellyn Howland, Dev Barker, Barney Boardman, Anne Bray, John Carter, Bill Collier, Bob Johnstone, Jim Mairs, Adrian Morgan, and yours truly. In order to finance this expensive undertaking -- and to persuade WW Norton of the value of this project -- the authors offered a special edition at \$250.00...if they could get 50 people to sign up WW Norton would agree to publish. To date the response has been phenomenal and at last count they were approaching 100 charter subscribers. If you would like more information you can write to them at Box 830, Blue Hill, ME 04614, or phone 207-374-2845. There is a website which is http://www.total.net/knightjb/index.html. Of course the regular edition will be considerably less expensive, but wouldn't you really rather have the special edition?

Finally a book that is a monumental to me and a must have is AMERICA AND THE SEA: A MARITIME HISTORY. Published by Mystic Seaport Museum, at \$50.00and authored by Benjamin Labaree, William Fowler, jr, John Hattendorf, Jeffrey Safford, Edward Sloan, and Andrew German, the book's almost 700pages are divided into four parts. Part I chronicles Becoming America, to 1815, Part II is The Expanding Nation, 1815 - 1865; Part III is the Rise to Word Power, 1865 - 1939. The fourth and final part is World War II and After, 1939 - (to date). With extensive narrative, paintings, photos, poetry, maps, and excerpts from other publications and books, and with the inclusion of numerous special sections as well as "vignettes" of history, AMERICA AND THE SEA is a comprehensive exhaustive compilation...a major reference work. Two minor quibbles: while you may not find a lot of information about any one topic, and there are some notable lapses, there are appendices, bibliographies, and a good index to point you to other sources. Further, I found the organization somewhat difficult to follow in that the special sections are inserted rather randomly into the main body -- the pages are marginally a different color but it's still difficult to find the continuation of an article, and there is nothing to indicate even that it is continued.

These are my major books to recommend for this year, but I would be remiss if I didn't urge you to buy or to try to find: MOTHER SEA by Elis Karllson (one of the unsung classics of maritime literature -- about sailing in the 30's in a square rigger -- and long out of print), any of the Uffa Fox books-- particularly his main five on yacht design...also sadly long out of print. THE LAST GRAIN RACE by Eric Newby, available in paperback is a favorite of anyone that has read it. And keep an eye out for the Irving and Electa Johnson YANKEE series. I could list a hundred more books, but the book shelves are already crowded. For those who would like to find out of print books, here are several excellent sources all with regular catalogues: Howland & Company, 100 Rockwood Street, Jamaica Plain, MA02130...1-617-522-5281; Columbia Trading Company, Hyannis, Ma.1-508-778-2929; Ten Pound Island

Bookstore, Gloucester, MA 1-978-283-5299; J. Tuttle Maritime Books, 1806 Laurel Crest, Madison, Wisconsin, 53705, 1-608-238-7245. Some of these have e-mail addresses and websites.

There are also several excellent English used book dealers -- look in threads in CLASSIC BOAT -- with prompt service and reasonable prices. Finally, for new books, one of the premier maritime bookstores is in the Museum Store at Mystic Seaport Museum, Mystic, Connecticut, 06355. Their toll free number is 800-331-2665. If you get yourself, or a friend a membership, you'll get a discount. Call the Membership department for details at 1-860-572-0711. If you call the Museum Store for books, tell them that Ginny Jones from Martha's Vineyard sent you...you won't get a special price, but I'll get brownie points! Have a good winter.

MARITIME MUSEUM'S EVENTS

MORE INFORMATION at (619) 234-9153

HM Bark ENDEAVOUR (Replica of Captain Cook's Ship) arrives at Museum Feb. 5, 1999
ENDEAVOUR looking for crew members between the Caribbean and West Coast Ports of Call www.greenwichuk.com/endeavour
Volunteer Guides needed for ENDEAVOUR visit

Museum's Docent Training Course begins February 9TH

"Two Years Before the Mast" Theatre Opens February 26-28, 1999 \$20/\$14 for MM Members

COMMODORE'S CUP

JANUARY 30, 1999
DETAILS AT THE JANUARY
MEETING
OR CALL 294-2244
INSTRUCTIONS WILL BE POSTED
AT: www.sdsailing.com/amss.htm
or E-Mail
AMSS.INFO@juno.com