



ALBATROSS

Ancient Mariners Sailing Society
Est. 1975

FROM THE HELM

June is not yet over and already it has been a busy month for AMSS. The 2015 Wooden Boat Festival is recently concluded. The AMSS/Maritime Museum of San Diego Education Fund has another completed family boat building project to its credit. The Kettenburg and Classic Yacht Regatta is upcoming.

Earlier this month, we sailed the inaugural Margarita Cup Race in conjunction with the 2015 Commodore's Cup. Following the race, participants and fellow AMSS members and invited guests enjoyed a post-race BBQ at Koehler Kraft Boat Yard. The potluck style celebration was well attended. The race was sailed under purely glorious weather and gave witness to a respectable turnout. At the after-party, the consensus seemed to be "That sure was fun. Let's do it again." And so we shall. You can read more about the inaugural Margarita Cup Race inside the pages that follow.

We are past the mid-point in our AMSS annual calendar and this seems as fitting a time as any to recognize the silent service of so many of our members. Greg Stewart deserves credit for assembling a running series of absolutely fabulous general meeting programs to date. John Buser has been running our race activities superbly. Our race results have never been more timely than as of late. Kathy Easter has our books and finances in good shape and up to date. We are financially healthy. Caroline Helmy, our Secretary, has carefully scribed notes of all of our board meetings and effectively managed all of our board communications. Have you noticed that our website is up-to-date and current? Thank Johnny Smullen for that. We



Photo Above: Disheveled and a bit messy in appearance at times, the motley crew aboard *Akamai* managed a 1st overall on corrected time in the 2015 Margarita Cup Race, in what may be best described as the latest miracle finish made possible only through the generosity of the AMSS handicapping committee.

~Photo courtesy of Roger Stewart

have been selling merchandise like it was ice cream and welcoming new members - Leslie Jenness deserves credit for that. We are all grateful for the many photographs that document our regatta events. We thank Roger Stewart who has been serving as our unofficial Club photographer. Board member Chris Reddin has our race trophies up to date and polished. He couriers them back and forth from their regular display and the Maritime Museum. Ann Kinner serves as our Albatross editor and keeps us all informed about upcoming events and happenings. Jerry Newton breathed fresh life into our Education Fund joint venture with Maritime Museum of San Diego. Janet Callow publishes our membership roster annually. Collectively, these individual efforts and others keep us viable and relevant. What more can we say? *Thank You!* ~ Christopher R. Barclay

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

THE ALBATROSS IS THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ANCIENT MARINERS SAILING SOCIETY.

2015 COMMODORE'S CUP RACE/ INAUGURAL MARGARITA CUP RACE

The first ever Margarita Cup race was sailed on June 6 in conjunction with the 2015 Commodore's Cup. Ten yachts turned out and there were two classes. *Chimaera*, *Sally*, *Sprig*, *Rendezvous*, *Akamai* and *Frolic* made up Class One. *Sea Witch*, *Betty*, *Elusive* and *Maid of Kent* filled out Class Two.

The Margarita Cup race was inspired by Junior Staff Commodore John Driscoll, who liked the idea of a race modeled on the Half Pint of Rum format only sailed at a time of the year that afforded warmer water conditions. Like the Half Pint race, the start was from off the anchor and the finish was by swimming ashore. Unlike the Half Pint, all crew were aboard at the start, instead of a row/swim off the beach, and finish times were marked by the downing of a slug of tequila, instead of rum.

The chosen course was simple. Off the anchor start from the La Playa anchorage, dolphins to port, CB 24 to port, dolphins to starboard and the swim finish in the vicinity of the white pier at La Playa where the swimmer would down a shot of tequila.

The race got underway at 1200 for Class Two, in fresh prevailing winds. *Elusive* had an excellent start in Class Two but *Betty* made up for lost ground rapidly, picking an excellent course south toward the Customs dock, quickly closing on *Elusive* to make for a very close race.

Class One started at 1210. *Chimaera* and *Sally* quickly exited the La Playa area, never to be seen again by the rest of the fleet. *Rendezvous* made a very classy exit from the starting area, sporting 80 pounds of sludge on an anchor that refused to enter the anchor track and stow properly. The anchor stayed hung from *Rendezvous*' bow roller for the entire race, sludge and all. The sight made for some un-pretty photos.



Photos Above: Waiting on anchor for the start of the inaugural Margarita Cup Race. **Top photo** - *Maid of Kent* with *Betty* in background. **Bottom photo** - The crew of *Frolic* scans the anchorage for other members of their class while planning race strategy.

~ Photos by Roger Stewart

2015 AMSS RACE CALENDAR

June 26 - 28	Kettenburg & Classic Yacht Regatta
August 8	20 Guinea Cup Race #4 (Non-Spin)
September 12	20 Guinea Cup Race #5 (Non-Spin)
October 10	20 Guinea Cup Race #6 (All Sails)
November 14	20 Guinea Cup Race #7 (All Sails)
December 12	Half Pint of Rum Race



The Editor's Bunk

A celebration of life honoring Dave "Rabbit" Easter will be held on Wednesday, July 29th at 9:00 AM on the USS Midway Flight Deck. Casual get together - coffee, tea, lemonade and breakfast bagels, scones. Parking at the museum should not be a problem at that early hour. The Easter Family hopes that those who are interested and available to attend can stay and visit the Midway afterwards.

Dave Easter set a high standard during his tenure as editor of the *Albatross*, and contributed in so many other ways to our Ancient Mariners Sailing Society. I hope many of you/us can join Kathy and the rest of the Easter Family for this tribute.

Standing by,

~Capt. Ann Kinner, Editor

2015 AMSS PROGRAM CALENDAR

July 2nd	[No Meeting Scheduled]	
August 7th	AMSS Summer BBQ	OMC
September 3rd	Naval Base Field Trip	SWYC
October 1st	TBA	TBD
November 5th	TBA	TBD
December 16th	AGM & Commodore's Ball	SWYC

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

The nominating committee for the slate of 2015/2016 officers and board members will soon begin work on assembling a slate of talented AMSS members? Interested in serving on the AMSS board? Please let us know! Send an email to: mailcall@amss.us. Please be sure to include your contact information. We will be in touch!

August General Meeting Announcement

Annual AMSS BBQ

When: Friday, August 7, 2015

Where: Outboard Motor Club

Time: 6:00 pm

NEW MEMBER

Our newest member is Alex Caldwell. Alex is a physician and owns PC No. 21 *Onion Truck*. Alex will be sailing in the Kettenburg & Classic Yacht Regatta this weekend. We wish him success on the water. If you see him, say hello. Welcome to the Club, Alex!

MAY GENERAL PROGRAM RECAP

We enjoyed another exceptionally informative meeting at our May general program. Brad Avery, Director of Orange Coast College's School of Sailing and Seamanship gave a presentation about the school's (now former) flagship *Alaska Eagle's* trip to South Georgia Island.

Brad is an excellent speaker and his comments and storytelling, dating all the way back to his younger days, touched on experiences also shared by many of the AMSS members in attendance. His talk was illustrated and brought to life with a number of slide photos. We learned about *Alaska Eagle's* years of service to OCC and the preparation involved for the South Georgia Island trip. But, as amazing as all that, the photos of South Georgia Island and *Alaska Eagle's* passage-making were beyond the imaginable.

After the meeting, Brad stayed on and spoke at length to a number of our members. Greg Stewart's streak as Program Director for 2015 remains unbeaten - this program was truly remarkable.



The winds were fresh and steady throughout the race. The Class Two boats quickly overtook the Class One Boats, as was expected. Most of the boats were able to set their kites soon after rounding the dolphins and carry them down the middle of the bay all the way to CB 24. Akamai and Rendezvous jibed repeatedly going downwind, though both were well behind Sally and Chimaera, who led the parade.



After almost two hours of competitive racing, the boats steamed back into La Playa for the swim finish. The Class One yachts roared through the La Playa anchorage under full sail, delighting and striking fear into the crew of the peacefully anchored boats. Akamai and Rendezvous had another exciting, exceedingly close race finish. Almost simultaneously, they dropped off their swimmers near the end of the pier before rounding up to escape the anchorage. Rendezvous' swimmer got creative and hopped up on the pier to make a run for the finish

Photos on left (top to bottom): (Top) L16 *Elusive* on anchor with *Chimaera* in the background ready for the start. (Middle) *Frolic*'s crew goes to work at the start. (Bottom) *Rendezvous* carried the anchorage out with her at the start.

Photo above: The Class One fleet gets underway.

~ Photos by Roger Stewart

while Akamai's swimmer went straight for shore. Linna Buser and Pam Wright served (triple) shots on a fancy table on the beach while taking down finish times. Akamai's swimmer took his shot 11 seconds before Rendezvous' swimmer. And, in a surprising finish, Akamai also edged out Chimaera and Sally to earn a first place on corrected time in the Class One fleet.

Betty and Elusive had a similarly close race with Elusive coming in 37 seconds ahead of Betty, taking first in Class Two and after 2 ½ hours of racing. Sea Witch edged out Maid of Kent by 2:53 to take third place in Class Two.

After the race, the sailors and crew repaired to Koehler Kraft where CF Koehler served as host and the Commodore presided at the BBQ grill. AMSS members and guests in attendance enjoyed a main course of barbecued carne asada and pollo asado, accompanied by complimentary side dishes, including an excellent ceviche, desserts and salads, provided by participating yachts and crew. Cold beverages were available in abundance, as always.

This was a fun and exciting race. The sight of the boats coming into La Playa under full sail and top speed made for a spectacular sight to shore-bound spectators as well as the residents of the anchorage and the two adjoining yacht clubs. It is envisioned that the start and/or the finish will stay the same in the future but the course may be changed. There is interest in a longer race, perhaps one that will take in the offshore buoys, or even a race that starts from Mission Bay. Let us know what you think and keep a watch for news and announcements in this publication.

Next up: the Kettenburg and Classic Yacht Regatta. Details on the upcoming "Wooden Boat Week" are posted on the AMSS web site. We hope for a large group of boats and a big presence on the bay for the week of June 21-28. ~ John Buser

Photos left: (Top) Class One rounds the first mark. (Middle) *Chimaera* and *Elusive* head downwind with spinnakers flying. (Bottom photo) Working the sails on *Sea Witch*.

~ Photos by Roger Stewart



2015 MARGARITA CUP RACE RESULTS

	Finish Time	Corrected Time	Place
Class 1			
Akamai	2:04:51	1:48:28	1
Rendezvous	2:05:02	1:48:39	2
Chimaera	1:49:00	1:49:00	3
Sally	1:51:41	1:50:41	4
Frolic	2:03:59	1:54:49	5
Sprig	2:02:36	1:55:04	6
Class 2			
Elusive	2:09:47	2:19:47	1
Betty	2:10:24	2:20:24	2
Sea Witch	3:06:35	2:35:00	3
Maid of Kent	3:09:49	2:37:53	4



Photo left: *Sally* heading to the downwind mark, flying her spinnaker well. **Photos above:** (Top photo) Greg Stewart sailed *Sprig* with an energetic and young crew. (Middle photo) *Maid of Kent* working her way back upwind. (Bottom photo) *Betty*, who took class honors in Class Two, heads back up to the turn to La Playa.

~ Photos by Roger Stewart

JUST AHEAD!



Concours d'Elegance
Competitive Class Racing
Charity Cup Race

June 26 - June 28

Entry by online registration only
Registration period closes June 24, 2015
(www.sdydc.org/kettenburg)

The 2015 Kettenburg and Classic Yacht Regatta is the 5th year of AMSS's expanded and reformatted Kettenburg Regatta. The Organizing Authority for this event is AMSS in conjunction with SDYC.

MEMBER UPDATE

Founding AMSS member and Staff Commodore Hugo Carver wrote to us recently to report on how he is doing. Hugo writes:

"I have just received a diagnosis from my medical team, though there is a small number of improbable other possibilities.....I apparently have what Steven Hawking has and Lou Gehrig had. ALS (amyotropic lateral sclerosis) attacks the nerve cells (motor neurons) that control muscles."

Hugo's spirits remain bright and he is getting about with aid of a walker and occasional spell in a breathing machine. In the meantime, he and Marjie are busy making plans for travel and other interests. So, the Carvers explain that their travels and other commitments may take them away from the water now and again. Hugo and Marjie have decided to seek a buyer for *Cat's Paw*. An announcement regarding *Cat's Paw* appears below.

We wish Hugo and Marjie the very best and look forward to reports of their adventures together. We hope to see them at a future AMSS general meeting program and our annual dinner this December.

Cat's Paw

LWL: 18'

LOA: 22'

Designer: Halsey Herreshoff

Built by: Squadron Yachts in Bristol Rhode Island

Year Built: 1974

Last Haulout: January 18-19, 2015 Red bottom paint

Awards:

Ancient Mariner's Yester year regatta: Turtle trophy (twice)

SGYC Best Maintained Yacht Over 25 Years

Modifications:

Original centerboard and trunk removed and replaced with Catalina 22 keel bolted on to reinforced hull.

Rudder cut away and lengthened.

Call Hugo or Marjie Carver Home 619-225-0864, Hugo Cell 619-778-7036. Slip available at Shelter Island Marina (about \$330 per month)

Price \$3000.





Photo above: *Sally* sets her spinnaker on the downwind leg of the 2015 Margarita Cup Race. **Photo right:** Notwithstanding a valiant swim-then-sprint finish by *Rendezvous*' "swimmer," she missed a first by mere seconds. Again! Who needs minutes anyway?

~Photos by Roger Stewart



2015 OFFICERS, BOARD MEMBERS, CHAIRS, ETC.

COMMODORE	CHRISTOPHER R. BARCLAY	619.977.5876
VICE COMMODORE	JOHN BUSER	619.226.7443
PORT CAPTAIN	PHIL THEARLE	619.334.4013
PURSER	KATHY EASTER	858.551.4340
YEOMAN	CAROLINE HELMY	858.344.3277
AT LARGE	JOHNNY SMULLEN	619.758.9198
AT LARGE	CHRIS REDDIN	847.636.9336
AT LARGE	LINDY THOMAS	847.209.1508
AT LARGE	JEFFREY L. WOODS	949.274.5785
ALBATROSS EDITOR	ANN KINNER	619.223.8989
EVENT PROGRAM CHAIR	GREG STEWART	619.224.6347
MEMBERSHIP	LESLIE JENNESS	602.301.0059
RACE CHAIR	JOHN BUSER	619.226.7443
ROSTER	JANET CALLOW	619.284.0156
WEBMASTER	JOHNNY SMULLEN	619.758.9198
YESTERYEAR REGATTA CHAIR	GREG STEWART	619.224.6347

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EST. 1975



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P.O. Box 6484
San Diego, CA 92166

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