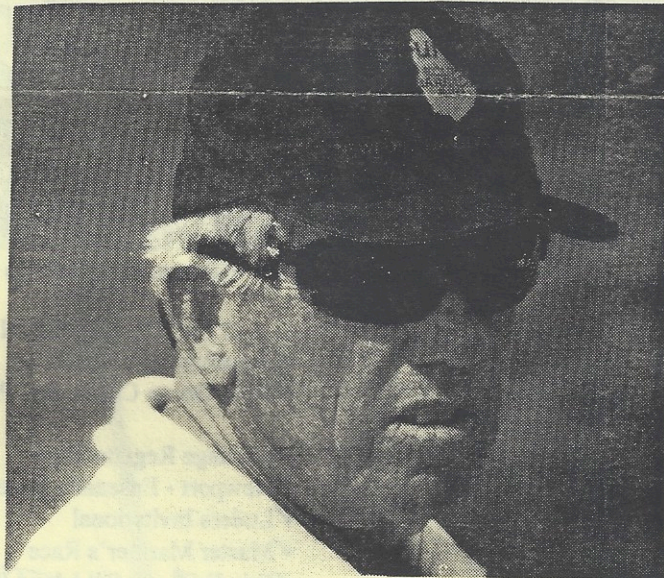


# ALBATROSS

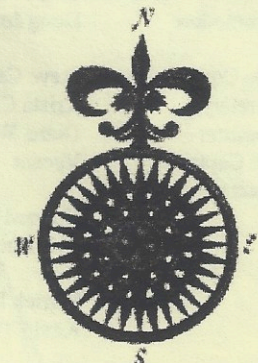
## DOUGLAS K. SMITH

Doug Smith, co founder and Senior Staff Commodore of AMSS, died suddenly on September 7th 1999. He will be missed for his forthright opinions and sage advice, his skilled and aggressive sailing, and his commitment to AMSS. He will be buried at sea in a private family ceremony. There was a remembrance service at SDYC attended by many of his friends. Last weekend several AMSS boats went out for a memorial sail/final race with *Andale* skippered by Patrick Langley.



### Inside this issue:

Doug Smith	1, 3
From the Helm	1
Club Details	2
Calendar	2
Treasurer's Report	3



## FROM THE HELM by Doug Jones (with help from Deb Dominici)

It is the First Day of autumn which means summer is over and *Pacifica* is in the Northwest Coast at Port Townsend. A Powerpoint Presentation of photographs from our Transpac Race (with humorous inserts) and of the Port Townsend Wooden Boat Festival will be shown at the next AMSS General Meeting, Thursday, October 7. We will raffle off a Hawaiian Yacht Club ball cap and some lovely shirts from the Port Townsend Festival so come and bring a friend.

The nomination Committee has been formed and the members are myself, Deb Dominici, and Kevin Thompson. If you have not been approached by the committee and would like to serve on the Board of Directors, please contact one of

us as soon as possible.

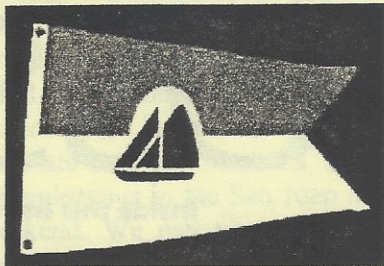
It is always sad to lose friends and we were quite shocked to hear of Staff Commodore Douglas Smith's death while up north. Doug has been an advisor and adversary to both Deb and myself, as well as a mentor of organizing the Wooden Boat Community. Several of the Ancient Mariners vessels went out Sunday for a memorial sail/race for Doug Smith and *Comanche* filled in for *Pacifica*. I can honestly say that at the times when *Andale* beat either *Pacifica* or *Comanche*, were probably the happiest times for Mr. Smith. *Andale* is a great boat and both of us appreciate the opportunities Doug gave us by inviting us to sail onboard with him. As

(Continued on page 4)

**Next Meeting:-  
Oct 7 1999.  
7:30pm, SWYC  
- Nominations  
for the Y2K  
Board of Direc-  
tors plus pho-  
tos from  
*Pacifica* in the  
Northwest.**



# ANCIENT MARINERS SAILING SOCIETY



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

Assistant Editor (for July) - Diana Watson

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS 1999

Commodore	Doug Jones	294-2244/ BT:523-0675
Vice Commodore	Steve Caouette	224-7816
Secretary	Krista Campion	435-3643
Treasurer	Diana Watson	226-0478
Port Captain	Vacant	
Directors:		
	Howard (Jack) Dentz	(760)967-8601
	Deb Dominici	294-2244/ BT:226-2469
	Patrick Langley	787-1181
	Kevin Thompson	222-9123/ WRK:222-2669

## COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Membership	Kevin Thompson	222-9123
		222-9123
Handicap	Bill Clark	542-1229
	Jerry Newton	222-1281
Race	Rod Latimer	226-0478
Cruising	Patrick Langley	787-1181
Program Director	Jim Sutter	972-1963
Trophies	Doug Graves	226-3446
	Ted Stearns	287-4125
Historical	Ed Barr	224-7255
Public Relations	Deb Dominici	688-6961
Bye-Laws	Steve Caouette	224-7816
Data Processing	Diana Watson	226-0478
Directory	Diana Watson	226-0478

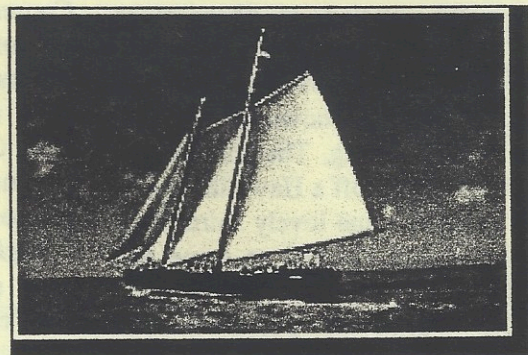
Board meetings are held on the first Tuesday after the Thursday Regular Meeting of each month at the Southwestern Yacht Club at 7:00 PM. Members are welcome to attend.

## AMSS EVENTS

- ✓ General Meeting..... Jan 7
- ✓ Commodore Cup and Raft-up ..... Jan 30
- ✓ General Meeting..... Feb 4
- Jack and Jill (canceled !!) ..... Feb 13
- ✓ General Meeting..... Mar 4
- ✓ General Meeting..... Apr 1
- ✓ April Fools Regatta and Raft Up ..... Apr 3
- ✓ General Meeting..... May 6
- ✓ Yesteryear Regatta ..... May 8
- ✓ General Meeting..... June 3
- ✓ Kettensburg Regatta ..... June 13
- ✓ General Meeting..... July 1
- Catalina Cruise..... TBA
- ✓ Classic (Wooden) Boat Festival ..... Aug 14/15
- ✓ General Meeting (Picnic)..... Aug 5
- ✓ General Meeting..... Sept 2
- Ironman/Petticoat Race..... ???
- General Meeting (NOMINATIONS)..... Oct 7
- General Meeting ..... Nov 4
- Commodore's Ball ..... Nov 13
- General Meeting (ELECTIONS) ..... Dec 2
- Half Pint of Rum Race..... Dec 4
- New Millenium Eve Raft Up - La Playa..... Dec 31

## OTHER ORGANIZATIONS' EVENTS

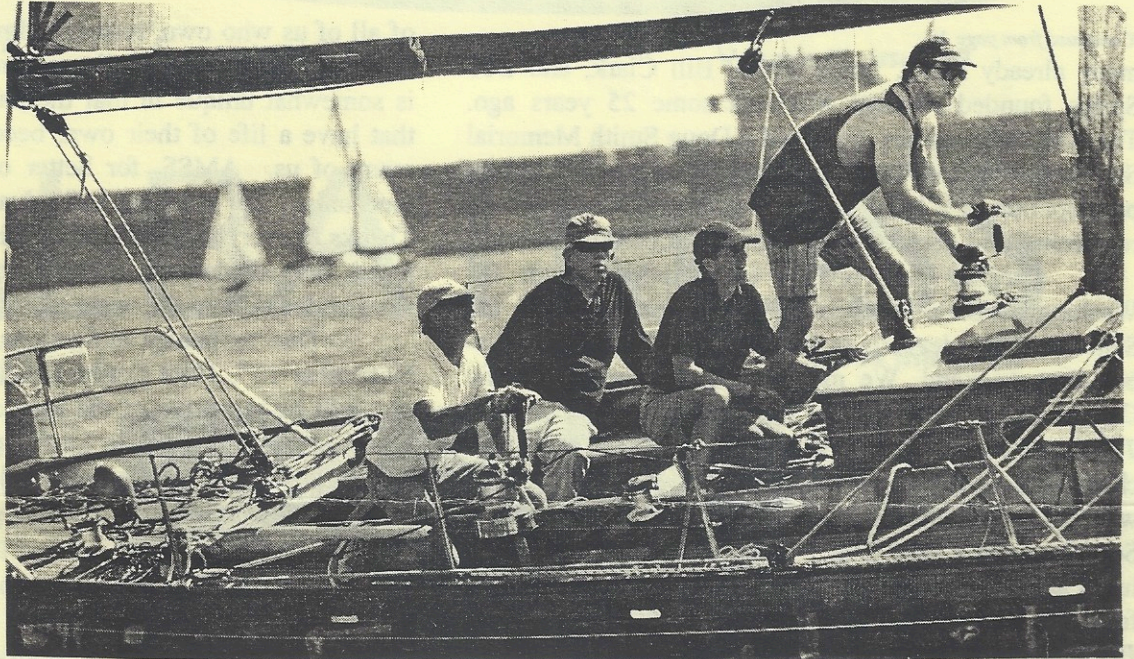
- ✓ American Schooner Cup March 20/21
- ✓ Wild Goose Chase, San Pedro to Newport (WHYC) April
- ✓ Heritage Regatta/Show April 18
- ✓ Newport - Ensenada Race April 23
- ✓ Luders Invitational May 15
- ✓ Master Mariner's Race May 22
- ✓ Eric Erickson Oil Island Race (WHYC) May 29
- ✓ McNish Classic Yacht Race Aug 7
- ✓ Giant Messabout (Scuzbums) Aug 18-22
- ✓ Bishop Rock Race (SDYC) Aug 20-22
- Nautical Heritage Society - Long Beach Schooner Race TBA
- ✓ W.H.Y.C. Dana Cup Sept 25
- S.W.Y.C. Ensenada Race Oct 1



WE ARE ON THE WEB AT WWW.  
SDSAILING.COM/AMSS.HTM



*Doug Smith,  
 1933-1999  
 When I come to the  
 end of the road  
 And the sun has set  
 for me,  
 I want no rites in  
 a gloom filled room  
 Why cry for a soul  
 set free?  
 Miss me a little,  
 but not for too long  
 And not with your  
 head bowed low.  
 Remember the love  
 that once we  
 shared.  
 Miss me but let me  
 go!  
 For this is a jour-  
 ney we must all  
 take,  
 And each must go  
 alone!  
 It's all a part of  
 the "Master's"  
 plan,  
 A step on the road  
 to home.  
 When you are  
 lonely and sick of  
 heart,  
 Go to the friends we  
 know  
 And bury your  
 sorrows in doing  
 good deeds.  
 Miss me and let me  
 go.*





(Continued from page 1)

many already know, Doug Smith, Bill Clark, and Bob Sprigs founded Ancient Mariners some 25 years ago. The AMSS Board has discussed a Doug Smith Memorial Scholarship that would be given to a young individual for participation in a local sailing program. Details will be researched and decided on at the next BOARD meeting.

*Pacifica* was invited to participate with the Washington State Ancient Mariners and followed the Schooners' Rendezvous in the San Juan Islands post Labor Day weekend. We met up and exchanged Pacific Ocean voyage stories with Vicki and Craig on *Magic Tioga*, an Augie Neilson's Yawl, chased us down and challenged us to sail. After, we were a part of a raft-up where 20 or more wooden beauties gathered in West Sound around a 1899 Tug. We were invited to beach pot lucks and a catered award ceremony. *Courageous*, a 48-foot sloop, built in Nevin's yard the same year as *Pacifica* (1947) rafted next to us at the Wooden Boat Festival. We met new friends and were reacquainted with old ones. What Deb and I learned from the experience was; keep things simple and open activities up to all. If you have a race, have categories like the Best Jokester, Best Sea Dog (cats and people qualify), Most Welcomed Newcomer, etc. etc. Classes of Boats were decided after the race and awards were applause and hoorays. Kids were involved and welcomed to all the social activities. The Wooden Boat Festival was not only static but boats left their slip and went out each day to sail and race which was viewed by crowds on the beach. The cost for *Pacifica* to be involved and have a slip in the Festival was \$80. No awards were given.

Things never stay the same, you sail away and friends are no longer there when you return home but new friends were made along the way. The community

of all of us who own, restore, admire, and build Wooden Boats is a large and friendly community. The Community is somewhat unique in that the passion for these vessels that have a life of their own, becomes a way of life for many of us. AMSS, for better or worse, has been the mechanism for meeting individuals in that community. Thanks to everyone who during this past year who participated, helped planned, worked on specific projects that were undertaken in the name of Ancient Mariners.

Due to family obligations, I need to cancel the November 13<sup>th</sup>, 1999 Commodore's Ball and hope everyone will be receptive of the idea of a rendezvous/raft-up Commodore's Pot-Luck in La Playa after the HALF PINT OF RUM REGATTA, December 4, 1999. We would like to invite all members and friends.

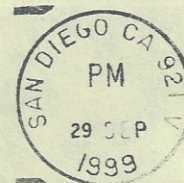
Doug & Deb

### Financial Status - Diana Watson

While we are not at the end of the year yet, we have completed most of the big ticket items. Below is a summary of transactions for the year. There is a bill for Trophies still outstanding for the boat festival, so it will make a little less than \$1000. Overall we are up for the year and as of Aug 30th we had over \$8000 in the treasury.

Summary	Debit	Credit	Total
YJR	1987.97	467.00	-1520.97
Shirts	2143.69	3046.00	902.31
CBF	4267.74	5754.00	1486.26
Membership	85.00	2721.00	2636.00
Other	2384.34	0.00	-2384.34
<b>Total</b>	<b>10868.7</b>	<b>11988</b>	<b>1119.26</b>

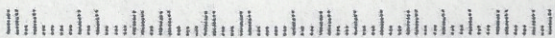
ANCIENT MARINERS SAILING SOCIETY  
P. O. Box 6484  
San Diego, California 92166



Grinell Lawrence (& Victoria Vahan)  
2936 Copley Ave  
San Diego, CA 92116  
Zida

NOT DELIVERABLE  
AS ADDRESSED  
UNABLE TO FORWARD  
RETURN TO SENDER

92116-1519-25/0484





**Sharing A Legacy**  
**Sept 6, 1999**

*per  
Albatross*

This writing is formulated out of respect. It further is compelled by urgency and even more, it is caused by the comradeship that I enjoyed with senior staff commodore, Doug Smith.

Not out of willing choice, but with a sense of duty is this testimonial prepared for his survivors. I owe to Doug this public commentary.

During the ten years that I have been an AMSS member, the one whos views I revered the most were those of your founder. Doug & the historical archives for which I am responsible reveal clearly that the founding purpose of AMSS is and continues, in writing, to be, "to preserve and promote interest in sail and power vessel of ancient vintage and/ or classic design".

Not until the 1980's did Article IV Section 1 (a) 1,2,3 become part of the by-laws membership exclusion.

To wit:

- 1) vessels of fiberglass
- 2) vessels of aluminum
- 3) vessels of concrete

As the month remaining in Doug Smith's life neared an end; he and I became increasingly concerned with the ability for the club to survive well into the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

He and I engaged in frequent, frank conversations in 1999. The conclusions we reached were the following:

- 1) AMSS will evolve into a club favoring the advancement of how to build wooden boats. (small ones)
- 2) It will evolve into a club with few active member vessels – (7-10). Other members will be primarily observes with limited participation.



- 3) It will evolve into a broadening of the purpose of AMSS to include the essential foundational and original intent as put forth in 1974. Namely, for the board of directors to determine the eligibility of each applicant, power and sail, so long as it met the ancient vintage and/ or classic design criteria.

The club is now at this crossroads. The call is up to the membership:

- 1) wood boats- how to build.
- 2) wood boats-few active in number.
- 3) extend membership to the founding criteria.  
What is the memberships pleasure?

My last conversation with Doug Smith on this subject centered around a discussion of picking up the pieces once the club ceased to exist. I would suggest that those who are interested in wood boat building, please step forward with proposals. I would suggest that those who wish to reduce the clubs size to only a few "key" "member vessels", please come forward with specifics.

Lastly, if there are any who would like to see the designers of vessels 25 years old or older that have met the design test of time with products such as: the Bounty, Triton, Alberg 35 , Newporter, L-36, K-41, Luhrs Larry Drake, Ed Monk, Grand Banks, Myron Spalding, Jensen etc. - Then they also should step forward with specifics.

Doug & I, plus a few others, favor the latter concept. But, if the membership wishes to proceed in a different way- So be it.

I prepared my letter of resignation from the board of directors including positions of Port Captain and chairman of the By-Law committee on August 10<sup>th</sup>, 1999. I shared this with Doug but did not make it effective until the 17<sup>th</sup>. Doug Smith wanted to know why I was picking this particular point in time. My answer to him was-we still can not get any complete financial accounting for the yesteryear regatta which occurred 3 months earlier and the boat show results from the

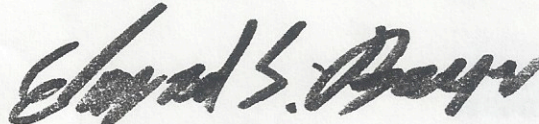


previous week. I felt that I was no longer offering an effective influence at board meetings. My feeling was that it was time for me to take a back seat and encourage others with fresh vitality to serve. This was a conclusion that Doug Smith had himself reached the previous year.

Doug is now gone. Many of us who honored his sage views and advice are ourselves pretty worn out. Its been, at times, a bloody, thankless cause.

AMSS needs focus for this upcoming century. I have little doubt that in some form- it will continue! There is, inherent among ancient mariners, a vibrant vitality which, when called upon, will march with energy to center stage before the final curtain comes down!

Doug Smith- you left just when the going was getting to be a challenge! Guess its all up to us now! Happy Hunting!



Edward S Barr

**DOUGLAS K. SMITH**

July 30, 1933 - September 7, 1999

Archivist-Historian-AMSS

Miss Me But Let Me Go

When I come to the end of the road  
And the sun has set for me,  
I want no rites in a gloom filled room  
Why cry for a soul set free?  
Miss me a little, but not too long  
And not with your head bowed low.  
Remember the love that we once shared.  
Miss me but let me go!  
For this is a journey we must all take,  
And each must go alone!  
It's all a part of the "Master's" plan,  
A step on the road to home.  
When you are lonely and sick of heart,  
Go to the friends we know,  
And bury your sorrows in doing good deeds.  
Miss me, but let me go.

