



SPLINTERS

WOODEN HULL YACHT CLUB NEWSLETTER

JANUARY / FEBRUARY 2005

A VIEW FROM THE HELM



It's hard to believe, but 2004 is all but a fleeting memory. As a nation, we survived a contentious Presidential election, a brutal hurricane season, the Scott Peterson murder trial and Ben Affleck in "Gigli." At the same time, we collectively rejoiced in the 2004 Olympic Games, the launch of the first

commercial manned spacecraft and (unless you're a Yankees fan) the World Series triumph of the perennially hard-luck Boston Red Sox.

Closer to home, the Wooden Hull Yacht Club wound up successful yearlong efforts toward turning around our Club. We staged and/or participated in a good half-dozen races, welcomed several new members and made progress toward reaching the "Turnaround" goals we established at the beginning of the year. Those who participated in the Club's events had a wonderful time, and despite some grumblings from a couple members, we are, as a whole, optimistic about 2005.

While it was my hope that a new commodore would come forward last year, that was not the case. With a plea from the participating membership and our current Board, I agreed to remain "on board" for one more year.

So what's on our priority list for the year ahead? Essentially, we're looking at a continuation of our Turnaround Plan for 2004. To wit:

- We need to continue recruiting new members. New membership is the life's blood of this or any other organization, and we need to keep this our priority. Our goal

remains to welcome at least 25 new members in 2005.

- We need to expand our Board of Directors. Any group is only as strong as its leaders, and as the WHYC is an all-volunteer organization, we need additional and NEW Board members to help ease the burden on those who choose to serve. More Board members means more new ideas, more interpersonal support, more participation at our events and more fun for everybody. Our hope is that our new member recruitment efforts will yield additional leaders as well.
- We want to continue to increase member participation. If we are members in name only, the Club as a whole suffers. We look forward to increasing the number of members — and their families — who participate in Club-sponsored races, cruises, dinners and other events. And we can do this by ensuring that our events are well-organized, well-publicized and in tune with our members' interests and schedules.
- In addition, we will continue to develop our WHYC Operations Manual and maintain focus on overall professionalism in all of our activities and communications.

For those who participated last year, THANK YOU and I hope you enjoyed 2004 as much as I did. And here's wishing you and yours a fantastic 2005.

Alan M. Peterson, Jr., Commodore

Alan M. Peterson, Jr.
Commodore
949-721-8686

Denton Porter
Treasurer

Bill Dunlap
Member
Board of Directors

Jerry Klein
Member
Board of Directors

Charlie Silver
Member
Board of Directors



SPLINTERS

A MESSAGE FROM THE NEWPORT HARBOR NAUTICAL MUSEUM

Last year was a great one for the Museum and an equally remarkable year for our partnership with the WHYC. And as good as 2004 was, the best has yet to come.

Here are just some of the events and exhibits we can all look forward to in the days, weeks and months ahead:

* **The Pirates of Newport — Jan. 27 – Feb. 1.** Join our pirate crew and set sail for the adventures of a lifetime. For more information, including event details, schedules and prices, please visit www.nhnm.org, call 949-673-3377 or email us at pirate@nhnm.org.

* **“Small Ships: The World of Model Ship and Boat Building” — Now – February.** This unique exhibition of maritime history features upwards of 50 custom ship and boat models representing all vehicle types. Examples of both static display and radio-controlled models from all historic periods are showcased along with a series of hands-on demonstrations of the art of model building.

* **The Photos of W.C. (Bill) Sawyer.** Culled from our collection of more than 58,000 classic photos, these pictures chronicle the years 1915-1945 and include many exclusive photos of Hollywood royalty at sail here in Newport Beach.

Happy sailing in 2005!

- Glenn A. Zagoren, President & CEO



LOG ENTRIES

News of the WHYC and its Members:

• The WHYC's 2004 Annual Dinner was held Nov. 13 at the headquarters of the Los Angeles Yacht Club in San Pedro. Approximately 25 people attended the event, which followed the annual running of the Ray Wallace Iron Man Race. (See results that follow). Throughout the year, nominations were solicited from the membership to serve on the Board. During the Annual Dinner, the following members volunteered (or were nominated) to serve as the club's Board of Directors for 2005, with support from those members present. Next

year's slate of officers are:

Alan M. Peterson, Jr. — Commodore

Denton Porter — Treasurer

Jerry Klein — Member, Board of Directors

Edward Fitzpatrick — Member, Board of Directors

The Club continues to need and to seek additional Board members. If you're interested in helping develop and stage future Club events and have a few hours per month to donate, please contact any of the Board members listed above.



Board member Jerry and Martine Klein with new board member Ed Fitzpatrick and girlfriend Bridget Ryan at the Annual Dinner



Alan Peterson thanks the WHYC thanks race committee chairman and LAYC member Fred Ripley.

- The 2004 Ray Wallace Iron Man Race was held Nov. 13 in the waters just off Los Angeles Harbor in San Pedro. Four WHYC boats participated in the 13-mile-long competition. Here are the results:

Sloops & Cutters

1st Place — **“Lark”** — Greg Alexander

2nd Place — **“Zephyrus II”** — Alan Peterson

Schooners

1st Place — **“La Volpe”** — Tim O'Brien

2nd Place — **“Bluenose”** — Denny Peitso

Congratulations to all the participants!



McNISH CLASSIC 2004 RACE RESULTS

The 37th running of the McNish Classic took place on Aug. 8, 2004. The "photo finish" found Oxnard-based **"Vignette II,"** the handcrafted cutter built and raced by Walter Russakoff, winning the Strathmore Cup and Class "A" honors for Sloops & Cutters by just one second ahead of **"Pacifica,"** skippered by Doug Jones of San Diego.



Following are the full results of last year's race:

STRATHMORE CUP **"Vignette II"** / W. Russakaoff, Oxnard
(Overall Winner)

BEST ELAPSED TIME **"Orient"** / K. Roche, Santa Barbara
(Fastest Around Course)

TROPHY FINISHERS

- SCHOONERS** **"Dauntless"** / P. Plotts, San Diego
- KETCHES** **"Fairwind"** / T. Bercovitz, Newport Beach
- YAWLS** **"Pacifica"** / D. Jones, San Diego
- SLOOPS** **"Vignette II"** / W. Russakaoff, Oxnard
- BRISTOL BOAT** **"Yankee"** / D. Siembieda, Seal Beach
(Best Shipshape)
- LAST TO FINISH** **"Erica"** / J. Koutras & J. Gish, Solana Beach



CLASS WINNERS

SCHOONERS

1. **"Dauntless"** 2:49:20 / 6.02 kph
2. **"Gabriella"** 3:57:56 / 4.28 kph
3. **"Samrang"** 3:11:04 / 5.33 kph

YAWLS

1. **"Pacifica"** 2:43:06 / 6.25 kph
2. **"South Pacific"** 2:57:46 / 5.73 kph
3. **"Niuhi"** 2:45:53 / 6.14 kph

KETCHES

1. **"Fairwind"** 3:20:57 / 5.07kph
2. **"Charity"** 3:54:50 / 4.34kph
3. **"Maggie J"** 3:54:13 / 4.34 kph



SLOOPS & CUTTERS

CLASS A

1. **"Vignette II"** 2:58:05 / 5.72 kph
2. **"Orient"** 2:38:34 / 6.43 kph
3. **"Tempest"** 3:00:22 / 5.65 kph

CLASS B

1. **"Savannah"** 3:41:44 / 4.60 kph
2. **"Sibonay"** 3:55:22 / 4.33 kph
3. **"Toko"** 4:05:39 / 4.15 kph

(All photos from the 2004 McNish Classic Yacht Race)

WHYC TO JOIN McNISH CLASSIC IN 2005

The WHYC has been invited to participate in the McNish Classic Yacht Race (MCYR), which will be held this August. Having recently completed its 37th year, the McNish Classic is sponsored by the Pacific Corinthian Yacht Club and is run in the waters just outside Channel Islands Harbor. One of the most prominent regattas on the western seaboard, the McNish Classic has attracted a remarkable mix of veteran and novice sailors for more than a quarter of a century. Remaining true to the tenets of traditional sailing, all the MCYR sailboats were designed before 1952 and range in size from a diminutive 17 feet to 82 feet.



Facts About the McNish Classic

- The oldest boat ever entered was the late Gerry Burch's century-old schooner "**Los Amigos**," built in 1895 and raced up until the time it sank in Ventura Harbor.
- Most Distant Port honor goes to the 1895 ketch "**Oscar Tybring**" from Norway.
- Walter Russakoff built "**Vignette II**," which is the only boat to have entered all 37 races.



- Ben Harper's "**Freedom**" was the first yacht to win the Strathmore Cup in 1977.
- 1988 was the largest race with 40 classic yachts competing for the Strathmore Cup.
- The smallest boat was "**Mud Pie**," a 17-foot schooner. "**Kelpie**," a magnificent 82-foot 1928 schooner from Dana Point, was the largest classic yacht to compete.

- Dick McNish, from Somis, Calif., has also sailed every race, only with different boats, "**Cheerio II**" and "**Valiant**," but has yet to win back the Strathmore Cup that he donated. The swashbuckling, silver-screen heartbreaker Errol Flynn once owned "**Cheerio II**."



Look for more information in Splinters and let's plan to make a strong showing at the 2005 McNish Classic!



- MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE DUE. It's that time of year again! Please support your Club by sending in your dues by Feb. 1, 2005. Those members whose dues are not received by this date WILL NOT BE INCLUDED IN THE 2005 ROSTER! Please return the letter and reply envelope you should have received by January 1, 2005, or mail your check (\$100 for General Members/\$50 for Associate Members) to WHYC, Post Office Box 773, Seal Beach, California 90740.



CHARTING THE COURSE

PLEASE HOLD THE DATES!

- One More Time Regatta — Feb. 26, 2005.** The 30th Annual One More Time Wooden Hull Regatta will be sailed off Marina del Rey. The only event of its type to be sailed in Santa Monica Bay, it's an informal event featuring some of the finest examples of wooden hull vessels. Shuttle service, photo ops, booby prizes, raffle tickets, Tupperware containers, some free overnight slips, boat rides, food and grog and a post-race trophy party will be found at the Pacific Mariners Yacht Club (PMYC), 13915 Panay Way, Marina del Rey, 90292. For details, contact Jerry Klein at 310-374-6519. More details to come. Hope to see you there!
- The Corsair Yacht Club** is hosting the 10th Annual Catalina Island Conservancy Ball in Avalon on April 2, 2005. Contact Ball Chairman Randy Boelsems at 714-843-6904 ext. 210.
- Heritage Regatta — June 25 2005** - Our annual race held in conjunction with the Newport Harbor Nautical Museum's Seaport Festival. Call Alan Peterson at 949-721-8686 for more information.
- Clark Sweet Cruise — August 2005** (Date TBD)
- McNish Classic Yacht Race — August 2005** (Date TBD). For more information contact Louise Anne Noeth at LandSpeed Productions, 805-44-8414.
- Ray Wallace Iron Man Race — November 2005** (Date TBD)



JOINING THE FLEET

A Harty "Ahoy!" to Our Newest Member

Carlton Chase

Boat: *Niuhi* (Formerly "*Circe*")

Type: Yawl (Sparkman & Stephens)

Length: 57 Ft. Berth: Marina Del Ray/San Diego

May the wind always be at your back!



SKIPPER OF THE MONTH

Ariane Compagnone, Captain of *Richmond II*



When Ariane's parents sent her to summer camp at age 14, she had not yet set foot on a boat. After that summer, she could never again even imagine a life without sailing.

"As a child I had never sailed, but soon after my first cruise I was hooked! I made it my goal to teach sailing and between ages 16 and 22, I was cruising up and down the coasts of France and England," she said. "After high school, my obsession to cruise around the world was at its peak."

Ariane's desire to sail year round led her to apply, logically, to universities in California. She sailed on the UCLA sailing team and worked on multiple film documentaries. Upon graduating with an MFA and with a "little bread in my pocket," Ariane made it her mission to get her own boat.



The Richmond II.

"In France, I had always sailed wooden boats," Ariane explains. "Not the kind of yachts you have here, but little plywood boats. In Europe, wooden boats are very appreciated, rare and therefore expensive. A few days after I began my research, I heard about a wooden boat for sale. It was described to me as a beautiful, double-ended, cutter-rigged, flushdeck raceboat from 1934. The price was pretty low and I thought, 'The boat must be sinking.' With nothing to lose, I drove to Fiji Way and couldn't believe my eyes! As I was walking down the dock, my smile was only getting bigger. The boat was magnificent, well afloat and lived in! From that moment I was in love and I knew the boat would be mine!"

Ariane bought the *Richmond II* in 2002. "Like all great wooden boats, this one has a history," she says proudly. "It was built in British Columbia in 1934 and then drafted into military service during World War II to rescue downed pilots in the North Atlantic. The legend says the boat is responsible for saving the lives of seven pilots."

When she purchased *Richmond II*, it had not been sailed for eight years and, after a few outings, she was taking on quite a bit of water. With her husband/first-mate Ronald Huerta and the help of their friends, the *Richmond II* is now leak-proof from top to bottom. With their cameras and editing suites on board, they hope to sail the *Richmond II* to Valencia, Spain, for charter cruises during the America's Cup competition scheduled for 2006-2007. After that, she hopes her budget will be back in the black, allowing her to cruise and shoot documentaries in all of the seas of the world.

"To me, wooden boats are the ultimate boats," she states. "They're the most beautiful of sailing vessels. When anybody imagines a sailboat, they see wooden hulls."



SPLINTERS



YACHT BROKERAGE

FOR SALE: "**Kelpie.**" – 65' Gammage Shipyard Staysail Schooner. Year: 1928. Current Price: \$495,000. Location: Shelter Island, San Diego, Calif. Hull Material: Wood. Engine/Fuel Type: Single Diesel. Length on deck is 65' on this charming classic sailing yacht. She is Coast Guard certified to carry 44 passengers for charter/excursion or 24 when under sail. She turns heads in every harbor and must be seen to be truly appreciated. Contact Pacific Yacht Sales at 949-248-5440, or email art@pacificyachtsales.com.

FOR SALE: 28' Kings Cruiser Sloop – 1956. Built in Gothenburg, Sweden, by AB Telfa. Beam 7'2", Draft approx. 4'6". Tight seam African Mahogany planking over bent oak frames, copper riveted. Deck fiberglass over plywood, non-skid paint. Cabin trunk and interior African Mahogany. Mast painted fir (31'4") with tabernacle. Boom varnished spruce with bronze fittings. New s/s standing rigging in 1997. New bronze keel bolts in 1997. Sails: main, jib, genoa, and trys'l in good to fair condition. Two anchors with rode. Engine removed and gone. 15-gallon copper fresh water tank. Two s/s 10-gallon fuel tanks. Two bilge pumps. One 12-volt deep cycle battery with charger. Tiller steering. Icebox s/s. W.C. marine head. Full canvas boat cover and canvas boom tent with curtains. Approximately 12 cracked or broken frames (could be sistered). Sound hull. Needs paint, varnish and 12-volt rewiring. \$2,500 obo. Contact: Denton Porter, 562-594-0730, after 1 p.m.

FOR SALE : "**Eulalie.**" – 1946 Kattenberg Type 82, 46' PCC Sloop, Three-quarter inch mahogany on steam-bent oak frame. Bronze fastened. Engine Beta Marine 3 cylinder FWC diesel. In storage in Salt Lake City, Utah. Contact Max Manlove at 310-201-9618. Will accept best offer.

FOR SALE: "**Commitment**" – 1964 Cheoy Lee Burmuda 30 Ketch. Designer: Adaptation of the Herreshoff H-28 Offshore Ketch. Engine: 25 hp Universal Diesel. Accommodations: V-berth forward. Aft of the V-Berth is the head and accompanying sink. The main cabin has a salon to port and a salon/navigation table to starboard. The galley is located aft of the port salon. Spacious cockpit. Contact: Jim O'Connor 310-220-9445, joconnor575@hotmail.com.



Have a wood-hull yacht to sell or trade? Send us information (and a photo, if you have one) to info@whyc.org.



WOODEN HULL YACHT CLUB

Post Office Box 773

Seal Beach, CA 90740

www.whyc.org