

Santa Monica Windjammers Yacht Club



Sea Sounds - Volume 72



Fourth Quarter 2015 Issue

2015 Club

Officers

Commodore:

Themis G. Glatman

Vice Commodore:

Hartmut Eggert

Rear Commodore:

Michael Cross

Jr. Staff Commodore:

Fred Weinhart

Treasurer:

Mark Olson

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Produced and edited by
Staff Commodore
Fred Weinhart

News and Events around our Clubhouse



...or racing events and awards...



A year that started with a lot of promises on the improvement of our marina is almost over and we are now seeing the results of the long wait. Not that it slowed us down in getting our fun times throughout the year, whether with birthday parties...



...to the celebration of our first Junior trophies in a long time in our club....



...we were the place to be in 2015, thanks to all of our members, especially those who volunteered and heeded our call....

... and a special great big thanks to our Los Angeles County Department of Beaches and Harbors Director Gary Jones, who after many trying years, obtained funding and approval for the replacement of docks adjacent to our club, a project now nearing completion.



Our club house is located adjacent to Burton Chace Park at 13589 Mindanao Way



We are just lovely by day.....but spectacular evenings and nights!

Our club facilities are nestled among the trees of Burton Chace Park and surrounded by the blue waters of the Marina del Rey Main Channel

Photographs courtesy of Staff
Commodore Besim Bilman



A year of achievements and milestones

It has been my great pleasure to have been your Commodore for 2015, a year that has seen much progress both in the membership level, revenue level and physical level.

We began the year with the final notification by the County that the slips were indeed going to get the renovation we so desired and so talked about for so long while waiting for endless postponements.

This prompted the County to encroach in our parking lot and provided the worst background for our Opening Day. But I believe this distraction was indeed short lived by the Brazilian themed party we had planned for our guest and to this day, people still talk about what a great time was had in our club.

Then it was on to the renovation of our Lobby area with the gracious donation by the "Women of SMWYC" and the generous donation by the Rodriguez family for the funds for such endeavor that has seen great returns in the form of happy bottoms in the beautiful new sofas and chairs in the Lobby Area as well as the newer decorations in the entry, and in both bathrooms, with new faucets, new lighting and new decorations.

We also continued our tradition of great events and had some really great ones throughout the year, including some that were part of our rental program which I ran this past year and already have many profitable events scheduled for next year.

But our club cannot exist without the membership being constantly kept in check with resignations and new applicants, and I am happy to see that our membership has net added over 40 new members this year and is still growing. Some due to our affiliations with Fairwind Yacht Club, some with Marina Venice which unfortunately lost their lease in the Marina City Club, some from just people that enjoy sailing and specially gratifying to us is the fact that we got some members through our Junior program and this has been the high point of my tenure since we have seen many more juniors in our club than ever before. Steve Potter has done an amazing job and I tell him so every time I write the "This Week".

This has been a great cause of pride when I mention our junior program to other clubs and organizations when I attend their meetings. We have not seen juniors in this club for as long as I have been a member and to see that under my tenure we already got a Junior Trophy and are being considered for a major PCYA Trophy swells my heart with pride.

Another cause for celebration, is the revitalization of our Women of SMWYC which has been dormant for many years and have lived only during opening day when their names are mentioned, now we are poised to get events organized, a collection of items to be saved and archived in our 2015 Scrapbook and perhaps even some outings for the membership to enjoy.

All in all I rest easy knowing that under my guidance and leadership (AND REALLY HARD WORK) this club is really poised for success and a long life, since also under my tenure a Lease Committee was formed and we already are in discussions with the County to try and get a new lease with much more favorable terms thanks to the really hard work of Jr. Staff Commodore Fred Weinhart along with committee chair Ron Orr and committee members Pedro Rodriguez and Ron Wood.

As we venture forth till the end of the year I marvel about all our accomplishments and the new direction we have and I trust that our new Bridge will further our progress. I thank you for the trust you all have put in me and I assure you I will continue to pull for our club any way I can as your Junior Staff Commodore for 2016.

Commodore's Corner by Commodore Themis Z. Glatman



A final photo of some of our 2015 board Members



Here I am receiving the very coveted "Burgee of Merit" from the Board of Directors in our much celebrated Awards night.



A message from incoming 2016 Commodore Ron Orr

As your newly elected Commodore, I look forward to 2016 as a transition year from the disruptions caused by the Los Angeles County's slip and boardwalk construction project. Whether it was caused by moving our sailboats to temporary slips, avoiding obstructions and potholes in the parking lot, enduring power and water outages, or discovering that our slip side restrooms have been downsized, we will all be pleased when this project is over and we can get back to our normal boating lives. My emphasis as Commodore in the coming year will be to build membership and expand the demographics to include more families with children and Millennials. To do this, we need to expand the menu of programs available to members.

We are a relatively small club, which must rely more than larger clubs on volunteer time and ideas. One area where you can all help is expanding the educational programs available to members. The easiest example of this is educational programs on Wednesday nights when we are serving our dinners. The best example I can think is the exemplary program on the Galapagos Islands arranged by our members **Patricia and Pedro Rodriguez** last month. Please think about what similar evening programs you think our members and guests would enjoy, and let us know if you can facilitate the program through your contacts and experience. The more such successful programs we can provide, the more meaningful our Club memberships will become. Another area of creativity is for you frustrated chefs. If you have a dinner menu you would like to share with our members, let us know and we will support you with the groceries and kitchen helpers.

As a member of the Board for the past three years, I am aware of all the many hours that club members, Directors and Bridge Officers have contributed to the Club experience. The result, among other things, is a vibrant racing program and a world class Juniors Sailing Program. I thank all these volunteers and hope that they will help the Bridge and me in 2016 as they have in prior years.

Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!

Please join us for the Commodore's New Year's Eve Party. We already have many reservations, and we will have music, dancing, food, drink and much good cheer. Make reservations early and save money!

Ron Orr, 2016 Commodore-Elect





Vice Commodore's Corner

by Vice Commodore
Hartmut Eggert



With my term as Vice Commodore coming to an end, I want to thank everyone who has helped and supported me in this position over the past 12 months.

This year was both: challenging and exciting and I couldn't have done it all, if it wouldn't have been for the help of all the board members and some of the club members who helped as well. There was quite a learning curve involved for me, having been elected only 2 months after joining the club...

Besides the board, I also want to thank everyone else who has helped me this year. Whether it was for the weekly Wednesday night dinners, or any of the other club activities.

Pat Salcedo for her continued involvement in organizing the celebration nights and other events this year, including everyone who helped her as well such as Rosemary Depauw and Mary Hupp. Specially this last Celebration night which had the sounds of Dianna Drake's Band with lots of dancing and good cheer.

The Wednesday night dinners were a joint effort by VERY few club members. While one main person is usually in charge, we have had a lot of support by many other people who may go unnamed here and I want to extend my gratitude to them as well...

Besim Bilman, Elise Beane, Karen Cross, Rick Toomin, Sandy Weir and Vicki DeLuca.

Also, Commodore Themis Glatman has stepped up to the stove and prepared some of the Wednesday night dinners as well...

Some of these dinners attracted 60-80 people, which was really nice to see.

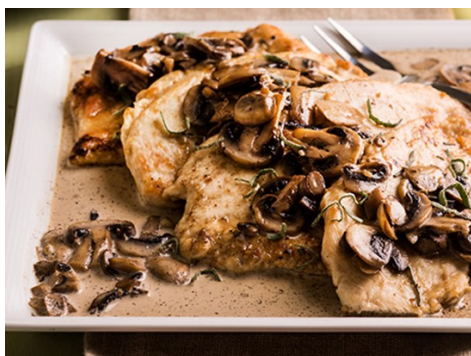
Let us also not forget **Danny and Lyly Stefanowicz**, who have been there for us and the club when they were really needed. Both of them are going the extra mile and their effort and involvement in the club is also greatly appreciated.

I wish the incoming VC and other board members all the best for 2016 and hopefully more support from the membership in 2016.

Looking forward to seeing you at one of the upcoming events, Specially the almost sold out already New Year's Party with great music, great chef prepared food and great fun for everyone.

Looking forward to seeing you at one of the upcoming events.

Hartmut Eggert
Vice Commodore
Santa Monica Windjammers Yacht Club





A view from the Rear

As I mentioned before, It has been quite a year and I am glad that after two tries, I have agreed to move up to be your Vice Commodore for 2016.

I was assured that the membership will be stepping up and help me with what is probably the hardest position to go through in the club and I thank Hartmut Eggert for stepping up in such a grand way and taking over these assignments.

As a Rear Commodore this past year, I really got very busy with my business and was not alone to devote as much time as the job needed throughout the year and I thank those that have filled the shoes for the position, specially our Commodore Themis Glatman who has been doing the Officer of the Day scheduling for the past year and also has put together the members packages and letters of welcoming to our many new members with the help of our very valuable Office Manager Deb Gibson.

In my new position, with the help of my beautiful wife Karen, I will try and provide more activities and with YOUR HELP, will get through al the Wednesday Dinners for the year.

Remember, if you have an inkling for cooking, with the help of our volunteers, you can come to appreciate what a really professional kitchen we do have, or if you know of a good Education Night topic that we can add to our club's calendar, let me know and I will include it in our events.

This club can only succeed with the help of our volunteers and since we are a club formed and guided by volunteers, I want to thank those that have made this past year a really memorable one with the addition of so many new members, so many successful events (Opening Day, Celebration Nights, Galapagos Education, Hartmut's Spetzal Dinners, and now our promised great event for the New Year's party amng many others).

So start thinking of what positions you may want to assume next year in leading this great club into the future, Real Commodore? Board Member? Race Chair? Leading a Committee? Let us know so we can contact you and see how we can have your involvement in the future of the club.

Well that's it for now, hope to see you at the club soon.



Our great chef Staff Commodore Besim Bilman enjoying the Chilli Cook Off.

Yes, he took first place

Rear Commodore's Corner by Rear Commodore Michael Cross



...and his lovely wife and Assistant Vice Commodore Karen Cross...





Our Race Program and Small Boat Fleet

Fleet Captain's Report by Lee Rhoads



SMWYC RACE CALENDAR - 2016

Jan 23 Saturday	Race Mgmt seminar	10am to 11:30am
Jan 31 Sunday	Super Bowl Regatta (Charity)	Lido 14, C15, CFJ, Laser, Snipe, Opti, Sabot
Feb 20/21 Sat/Sun	Midwinter Reg	PHRF/CR
Apr 03 Sunday	Start Clinic	Keel
Apr 10 Sunday	Poker Paddle	SUP
Apr 24 Sunday	Barbecue Race #1	Cruiser
May 29 Sunday	Barbeque Race #2	Cruiser
June 5 Sunday	Scavenger Hunt ??	SUP
Jun 26 Sunday	Barbeque Race #3	Cruiser
Jul 24 Sunday	Barbecue Race #4	Cruiser
Aug 14 Sunday	SUP Event	SUP
Aug 21 Sunday	Waynes Great Circle Barbeque Race #5	Cruiser
Aug 27/28 Sat/Sun	WOW/WAH	SMWYC Hospitality
Sept 03 Saturday	Outlaw Regatta/w SIBYC MdR to Seal Beach/MJ #1	PHRF/CR/ORCA
Sept 14 Wednesday	After Sunset #1	PHRF/CR
Sept 16 Friday	Summer Splash Cat	MultiHull
Sept 17 Sunday	Harbor Cleanup	SUP
Sept 21 Wednesday	After Sunset #2	PHRF/CR
Sept 25 Sunday	City of Hope	SMWYC Hospitality
Oct 2 Sunday	Walk on Water (City of Hope)	SUP
Oct 8 Saturday	Oktoberfest/MJ #2	PHRF/OD/CR



SMALL BOAT FLEET NEWS:

The County is closing the hoist for over a month as part of the dock re-model, so to keep our Small Boat Fleet Program going we have kept one Capri 22 in the water, ready for use!

The Dinghy dock demolition has been delayed, so the Juniors program will continue to access the water until further notice.

Our other Capri 22 and the Cal 20 are on trailers, and they will be available as soon as the hoist is back in service!

The club also has a Hobie 16, which was donated by a member, and I would like to see it being sailed when the water warms...

Ron Orr has also had written a letter to the County with some implementations and designs for a temporary solution for the hoist launching issue. With any luck, we will have MG Marine install them for our races and to help with the upcoming SuperBowl Regatta at the end of January. Our Dry Storage tenants need access to the water but unfortunately the County and the Contractors move at their own pace although they are trying to get it done before the end of January, let's keep our fingers crossed.

By the way, we are not only paying a monthly slip fee for the Capri 22, but registration is now due for all of our boats, so your support of the program is really appreciated!

The sun continues to shine, the weather is warmer than it has ever been in December, so let's take advantage of the club's boats and GO SAILING!



Lots of reasons to celebrate our 75th birthday in 2016!



Jr. Staff Commodore's Corner
by Jr. Staff Commodore



Last year we celebrated Marina del Rey's fiftieth anniversary and now we can celebrate our club's 75th!

Yes, we have survived and grown and prospered and become an ever better club since our founding in 1941.

Although the following article has been posted on our web site for several years, I would like to share it with all of you as a reminder of the events that have brought us to where and who we are today and ought to help guide us into our future:

On December 6, 1986, Commodore Al Waldman, the Board of Directors and the Membership of Santa Monica Yacht Club proudly dedicated our beautiful Clubhouse overlooking SMYC Marina and all of Marina del Rey.

How did we get where we are today? Back in the late thirties, Dr. Jack E. Taylor and Dr. Glenn E. Thorpe, sailing friends, met on a regular basis for lunch at a restaurant overlooking Santa Monica Bay. As with all yachting types, the conversations during these lunches invariably turned to the subject of boats and boating. Before long, these men who jokingly called themselves the "End of the World Yacht Club", were joined by Boyd "Bud" Verplank and Stratford Enright. It was soon decided to form a "real" yacht club. There was a lively discussion, (a tradition which continues even today in yachting circles) regarding a name for the new club. Bud Verplank was very partial to "Demerara" the name of the rum found in the chest used on our Treasure Cruise to this day. He was outvoted and the first official meeting of Santa Monica Yacht Club was held on April 22, 1941. The four founding Members became officers, led by Commodore Jack Taylor. Charter Members were Dr. Jack Taylor, Dr. Glenn Thorpe, Bud Verplank, Stratford Enright, Richard and William Lewis, George Mauser and Gene Curry. It appears there was an immediate membership drive netting four new Members, Jack J. Smith, Paul Platt, Leonard Price and Harry McKinny Jr. The burgee which proudly flies from our mast was designed by the Enrights. Some of these first Members raced Star class boats. One such race was Santa Monica to Point Dume, a beat to weather, sailed with the aid of a quart of rum and a bailing can, according to Strat Enright and Brownie Thorpe. SMYC was off and racing.

World War II did not stop SMYC. The first Annual Meeting was held at the Pirate's Den in Hollywood during a blackout. Many future meetings were held at the Enright's home in the Hollywood Hills and later in Newport Beach. In the early days, there were strong views as to Membership requirements. Do you believe, ownership of keel boats with a minimum length of 18 feet and no centerboards or powerboats admitted! Glenn Thorpe became Commodore in 1942 and in February 1942, SMYC was officially recognized as a member of the Southern California Yachting Association. The war ended and SMYC again had the freedom to race and cruise, doubling its activity. In the spring of 1947 arrangements were made with Flitz Brothers Landing in San Pedro for an SMYC anchorage. This was a fun loving group and Club activities really increased during 1947 with the instigation of many events we still enjoy today. (continued on next page)



The Demerara Cup was donated by Harry McKinney and Gene Curry. The Pig Trophy was perpetrated by Strat Enright and there is a long list of winners of the Trophy. The first Treasure Chest was built by Jack J. Smith. Note the list of winners of the pirates' booty under the lid of the chest at the next Treasure Cruise. Glenn Thorpe donated a perpetual trophy for the PC class. A new race, San Pedro to Santa Monica was instituted this same year. Not only were these folks out on the race course, but they were cruising to Catalina without benefit of engines, VHF, Loran and many of the devices we take for granted today.

SMYC needed a permanent headquarters and so on January 31, 1946, work was started in San Pedro on the first Clubhouse, a do it yourself project by the Membership. Two weekends later a Clubhouse was ready for finishing touches and in short order, paint, furnishings, a flagpole and a dinghy ramp and float were completed. This building served as Clubhouse through 1952 when it was sold and activities were moved to the Santa Monica area. There continued to be a full schedule of activities with meetings being held in local restaurants.

In the sixties, Marina del Rey became the center for activities for SMYC, when most Members moved their boats to the new harbor.

In 1969 negotiations were completed with Real Property Management and on July 18, 1970, the new SMYC Clubhouse on Mindanao Way, just down the road from our present location, was commissioned. In 1970, Darlene Plass was elected first Rag Dolls President (See Rag Dolls History).

During the seventies, Membership increased and SMYC became a prominent and winning participant in Marina del Rey Race events. Women were invited to the race course with the advent of the Racy Ladies Regatta. An extremely active Juniors Program was the envy of the Yacht Clubs in the Marina. SMYC won several Christmas Boat Parades ...the social calendar was busy. There were even luaus with real pigs roasted in the ground at an empty lot, the site of our present SMYC parking lot.

How did we get where we are today?

In 1985 the Club formed a limited partnership to purchase the Baja Marina. This was accomplished and we all became partners in the SMYC Marina. In early 1986 ground was broken for the new Clubhouse. Since that dedication day in 1986, the Club has continued to function as something very special to all of us. Everything has changed and yet nothing has changed. We are many more than eight Members as we were, but we still love boats, sailing and each other. SMWYC will continue over the years and one day someone will be reading a "history" which is our "today".

Written by Mary Herrschaft, former Rag Dolls President and Historian

July 18 is a very significant date in the history of our club. On July 18, 1970 the original Santa Monica Yacht Club building was commissioned. As good fortune would have it, on July 18, 1998, it was my honor to preside over the first of many meetings involving joining 2 great and proud Yacht Clubs, Santa Monica and Windjammers' Yacht Clubs. The issues were very great and involved, the negotiations were extremely involved but never acrimonious. I am proud to say after the fact, and after the successful negotiations, that serious and sincere issues were solved without raised voices or harsh words. Two committees worked together tirelessly, to join two great clubs to become what we are to-day - Santa Monica Windjammers Yacht Club. None of us could have done it alone. I can't mention all those who contributed, but at the risk of offending someone, I will mention those whose efforts were crucial to the success of the joining of the two clubs. They were David Lehman, WYC 97,98 "who originally suggested the program", Lynne Hammett, WYC 95 who provided so much information about WYC, and especially Warren Fox, whose negotiating skills were so vital to the culmination of this program. Finally it's so important to recognize Ron Offerman, SMYC 99 and Bob Hastings, WYC 99 for shepherding the proposal through to the final overwhelming votes to join. For my part, my greatest pleasure was participating in WYC's final Opening Day when the Commodores of both clubs were saluted for their efforts in consolidating the two clubs. That defined my watch as SMYC Commodore 98.

Addendum by Staff Commodore David Phelps. Now Forward and Onward to 2016, our 75th year!



Our newly elected 2016 officers and directors



Front row (from left to right): RC Michael Joy, VC Mike Cross, Commodore Ron Orr, Jr./S/C Themis Glatman
Back row (left to right): Director Ron Wood, Judge Advocate Warren Fox, Staff Commodore Fred Weinhart

Upcoming Events:

Please check our dynamic calendar on Home Page of our web site at Smwyc.org for latest event schedules.

Bar is open to members, prospective members and invited guests on most Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday evenings and other nights for special events

Open House Live bands most Sundays at 4 pm

Dinners and special programs on most Wednesdays at 7 pm

Membership Opportunities:

Now accepting new membership applications with special reduced introductory rates, preferred slip assignments and learn to sail programs
For more details and updates to all our events, please visit us at smwyc.org or call us at 310-827-7692 to speak to a club representative or to advertise in this publication or on our web site.





Junior Program Update

By Steve Potter

Junior Program Coordinator



The Juniors Program really came of age during 2015. In addition to a great ten weeks of Summer Camp, four of which completely sold out, we began a program with a local magnet school holding three, six class sessions for their students, our Thursday After School Program dates have been extended indefinitely, there are new Learn to Sail packages each month and we still sail every Saturday. Our fleet of boats has grown to a stable of 28 boats which offers a full spectrum of opportunities to our students.

In addition, we have finally also begun the process of integrating the students and parents into social events inside the club with a couple of dinners and holiday parties. We look forward to some of these families joining the club in the near future.

Looking forward to 2016 we will be able to focus on upgrading our fleet versus building it with some new sails for our Sabots, commissioning and outfitting another Laser and upgrading CFJs to full spinnaker rigging along with some new sails.

Naturally all of this is made possible by a dedicated group of instructors that have wholeheartedly bought into our program goals and mission statement. These talented individuals include **David Kirby, Alexa Rodriguez, John Richardson, Gavin Abraham, Jackie Berlin and Sam Burton**. This team ranges in age from 16 to almost 60 and each one of them brings a unique dynamic to the program. In future years we look forward to students that have learned to sail in our program as part of our instruction staff.

As our students become more and more talented on the water we encourage them to participate in regattas to pull it all together. It is a very unique experience the first time they are fully on their own in a regatta, often in a strange new environment. While far from a bonafide race team, during 2015 our students competed in our own Super Bowl Charity Regatta, Optimist Midwinters, the Lido 14 Invitational, the Sunstroke Series, a classic wooden dinghy regatta, the SCYA Shadden #2, the Halloween Regatta at Lido Isle Yacht Club in Newport Beach as well as numerous regattas at Westlake Yacht Club.



Our Mission

To provide sailing opportunities for the next generation in affordable, safe and fun programs tailored to the community and driven by the desires of our students





New Members Recognition:

Yes, it is true, we have not had this many members since we lost the Marina Management and the construction of the docks have started.

But thanks to the many advantages we offer by being a member, we have indeed added to our ranks more members and are continuing on our push to become a real strong force in our Marina.

Some of the notable members are

Jeff Butterworth:

A good sailor that has joined as a Fleet member due to Denise George arranging for him to acquire a Martin 242. He has already joined our race Committee and has been seen on the Race Committee boat helping with the starts of races.

Jim Barber: Another good racer that thanks to Denise George has acquired a Martin 242 from Kathy St Armand and is another Fleet Member

Giselle Ozeri: A long time member of our yacht club that has rejoined us via Marina Venice Yacht Club, but has decided to become not only an affiliate member, but an Individual Flag Member

Michael Joy: Another Marina Venice Yacht Club member that has joined as an Individual Flag Member and has agreed to be our Rear Commodore for next year and is helping bridge all their past members to join our family



Jeff at the helm



Mrs. Rae Jones

Have you Sponsored a member lately??? Have you told anyone about our great membership plans and our Adult Sailing Program? Or even our Junior Program?

Scott Cartier: The Vice Commodore for Marina Venice Yacht Club, has joined as a Full Flag Member since he wants to have his whole family come to the club and hopefully his kids will start the Junior program.

Lisa Schwab: Who until recently was only known for her great cuisine of Cantellini's Restaurant but now is poised to become a great friend to our Family and has already booked a rental of epic proportions.

Dr. David and Rae Jones : Are both retired and enjoy teaching others since their career was based in PHD Education. They mentioned they would enjoy being part of the membership committee and that is a good thing since we need help with many new members.

Jack and Clara Silverman: They have a beautiful Hunter 45' sailboat and are eager to bring their boat to our anchorage (aren't we all?) In their application they mentioned a desire to help with the Website and we sure could use help with our Facebook page.

And many others, not to mention the 20 other Marina Venice Yacht Club members that have joined as a group and are becoming more and more familiar with our members and hopefully will contribute some volunteering to the club's success in the coming years.