

Sou' Wester

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catalina cruise (and how it made my life better)

by Merle Asper
Photos by Ron Wood

This years Catalina Cruise was a huge success! We had 48 seaward souls attend and everyone had a great time. We had the main bandstand with tiki bar and fire pit reserved right in the middle of all the action. Friday night consisted of fabulous BBQ hamburgers and hotdogs with all of the trimmings catered by Harbor Reef. They even threw in bacon to top things off! I made a hot dog-bacon burger (known to some as a polish pig steak burger extraordinaire) to help me maintain all of my natural charm. We also had apps of veggies, chips and dip. Potato salad, cole slaw and a pile of gooey brownies rounded out the meal.



Saturday consisted of swimming, sun bathing and all of the beauty Catalina has to offer. It was sunny and perfectly warm, around 75 degrees. The water was the color of a gem, as only clean perfect Isthmus water can be.



At around 1:30, the progressive cocktail party kicked off

on my boat "Having Fun!" with Joe Jost Specials and Papst Blue Ribbon beer. We served 50 specials and 36 beers to about 30 people. My boat was packed, and the swim step was riding in the water. Not everyone was able to get on and many received their Specials and beer "drive-up" style in their dingy.

We moved to Kevin Ellis's boat "Seducente", which is a beautiful French made 45' sloop. The Moffatts were side tied in their impeccable Beneteau 423 "Resolution". Both were moored outside of Fourth of July Cove and created a picture of perfection in the tempestuous seas surrounding them. The wind was blowing a good 13-16 knots at that point and most people had to take it slow getting to and from their dingys. The two boats together created quite a gala. Kevin served delicious wraps that define California cuisine. Excellent cocktails were on hand, and the party was kicked up a few notches.



Next came "Driftwood", Ron and Elaine Wood's Pearson 38 that is truly a world-class yacht. The blue hull reflects the light off the water and creates a mesmerizing effect. Fine appointments throughout, it can be considered a characterization of American craftsmanship. Cocktails and snacks were served and everyone had a great time.

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save the date

I-14 North American Champs ..	September 10 - 11
General Membership Meeting	September 16
Adopt a Beach	September 17
Charity Regatta	September 25
Stag Cruise	October 1 - 2
Ladies Day Regatta	October 9
Commodore's Installation Dinner.....	October 22
Halloween Regatta	October 30
General Membership Meeting	November 17

commodore's comments



I'm writing this at the start of the regatta to decide the U.S. Singlehanded Championship for the O'Day trophy. This is a very prestigious event with top sailors from all over the nation competing in Lasers at ABYC. Jerry Montgomery has amassed a terrific team to run this event. We have 5 of our members competing, and we expect our ABYC members to do very well.

The club has been going non-stop during August. The month kicked off with the Junior Sabot Nationals; this event had over 160 boats competing. Our Junior members did us proud which demonstrates the success of our junior program and our director, Brad Schaupter, and his instructors. The event was Co-chaired by Bob Kirstine, Jane McNaboe and John Massey. They did an outstanding job. You can be very proud of your club's performance in running this huge, high profile event.

Elaine and I thoroughly enjoyed the Catalina Cruise. We will be putting this on our calendar for next year (July 21 & 22, 2006). Merle and Kelly Asper planned this as a "don't lift a finger" event and it was "truth in advertising". The most fun was boat hopping on and off host boats. It was great to see all the dinghies at each host boat when it was their turn. If you didn't go this year you really should not miss it in 2006!

Our members Steve Washburn, his son Stevie Washburn and Bruce Golison—with Anika Olsen—won the Santana 20 Nationals which were held in Oregon at the Gorge. They won it on a tiebreaker. The tiebreaker was with a four-time national champion. This is the second time that the team of Washburn/Gollison has won this event.

Don't forget to vote and plan on attending the Annual Meeting on September 16th. We will be going over the financial results for the past year, and this meeting marks the end of the voting process. Your 20/20 Trustees and new Board members will be introduced at this meeting.

Elaine, my sister-in-law and I are off to The Netherlands (August 24) with the Keelboat fleet. Bard Heavens has put together a group of 28 members and 6 boats to cruise the canals of Freisland (northern region of the Netherlands). I'm sure we will be bringing back some great photos, enjoyable stories, and even better, lasting memories.

See you at the club
Ron Wood

manager's corner



The summer sailing program was a great success again this year thanks to our wonderful Junior Director Brad and his mighty band of instructors. We all should be proud of the wonderful job that they did this year and how they expanded the program to the largest one we have had yet! Congratulations Brad! Each year I am amazed at how tall they little ones have gotten and how the ones we felt were just babies last year are out there in a sabot. These are memories I am sure they will carry with them forever.

What a wonderful way to invest in your families' treasure trove of memories! Spending time here at the club, on weekends and events can be an excellent tradition that your family will look forward to, and in time, look back upon with fond memories. Now that we have the gorgeous new club for functions, don't forget to see us first for your social events! We have a layout and kitchen that will now rival any venue in Long Beach.

Teresa Laird, Club Manager

to the membership

In the past, ABYC has had a somewhat loose policy of allowing our members to "rent" whalers for their personal use, that personal use primarily being to take family and guests out on bay cruises, going to see the Christmas lights, etc.

For reasons relating to Club liability, the avoidance of breakdowns, as well as the overall age and condition of some of our whalers, a policy was passed prohibiting the usage of Club owned whalers by members for their own, personal use. These whalers were purchased to support ABYC's sailing program, and we would like to go back to that original intent.

If you have any questions, please contact Glenn Selvin, ABYC Fleet Captain, for further clarification, or any of the other ABYC Flag Officers or Directors.

Glenn Selvin

fleet captain's report

Normally, each Director and Flag Officer presents to the membership their annual report as to how the year went, their thoughts on their position for the year, and most importantly, their thanks and gratitude to all the people who made their year possible.

I would have loved to be able to be at the 2005 Annual Meeting, as most certainly, I have a lot of people to thank for making my year what was, I believe, a success. However, the Finn PCC's calls, thus, I'll be racing on San Francisco bay and getting my brains beat in, though hopefully doing at least mid fleet!

However, the Fleet Captain's position is really that of working with a whole team, often behind the scenes. Chris Ericksen and Jim Drury, as co-chairs of the Race Management Committee, have been beyond incredible, and the quality regattas that ABYC has put on in 2005 is a testament not only to these two, but to Jerry Montgomery, Margaret Caddle, Sharon Pearson, Bob Anderson, Mike Baumann, Steve Flam, Paul Anctil, and everyone else who has joined us on the RMC committee this year.

Patience is a committee boat that we can all be proud of, and it is in fine mechanical condition. George Caddle and Vern Peterson continue to baby our baby, and it shows. Jeff Powell made the decals for Patience, and working with George and Vern and their entire team, has created some graphics that makes our boat stand out. John Massey has done a terrific job of keeping our whalers in repair, making sure that we have the support boats needed to run the regattas that we excel at.

However, somebody has to show up on race day to drag out the gear, equip the whalers, and then inspect and repair it after each and every race. Those two people would be our Port Captains, and Dave Myers and Paul Anctil, working together, have made sure that at each and every regatta, the whalers are in the water and fully equipped for that day on the water.

ABYC is a volunteer club, and our sailing program would not be where it is if it weren't for all the Board liaisons, Regatta chairs, PRO's, whaler operators, scorers, inside bay barge people, and entry window greeters. And that doesn't include those manning the hoists and watching the gate while handing out parking passes. Regattas don't just happen; rather, it is people that make them happen. And to all those people that volunteered this year, all I can say is a big thank you. It was a job very well done!

Glenn Selvin

membership

The Board of Directors at its July 14th meeting approved the following matters:

Joel Arenson, Scott and Lilli Babcock, Jeremy Davidson, and Jessica Costa, Frank and Cynthia Gasztonyi, Brian and Karen O'Callaghan, and Richard and Betsy Whiteley were approved for a Regular Membership. Joseph Kazane and Dugan Farrell were approved for Junior Membership.

The following were approved for Posting for Regular Membership: Kurt Miller and Brent Edive.

If any present Member has any reason why one or two of the above posted persons should not become members of our Club please let this be known to a Member of the Board of Directors before the next Board Meeting, September 16th, 2005 or forever hold your peace.

The Membership Committee



Burgee presentation at the general meeting on August 19th. L to R back row - Ron Wood, Jeff Slone, Jeff Wood, Kathleen Wood, Sean Taylor, Jackie Raylor, Ryan Taylor. L to R front row - Rick Vaught, Alex Vaught, Bonnie Ryan, Mark Ryan

membership promotion!

Hey, Don't forget about the Membership Promotion!

Promotion: The #1 sponsor and new member each get 250 ABYC dollars. 50 of which is to be used only for club merchandise. 200 can be used for food, beverage, or club merchandise.

Imagine all of the fabulous merchandise you could acquire with these juicy ABYC dollars! You will be rich!

Go get 'em hot stuff!

Merle Asper

from the pages of history

The upcoming Annual Meeting and major summertime regattas seems to be a regular feature of September SOU'WESTER's—at least the ones we're reviewing this month.

THIRTY YEARS AGO:

In his "Commodore Comments" in the September, 1975, SOU'WESTER, Commodore Ron Fox made a point to invite everyone to come to the Annual Meeting. There was an ambitious schedule: four people were to be elected to two-year terms and one to a one-year term, and there were some proposed By-Laws changes upon which a vote needed to be taken. Voting was tough in those days: the polls were only open from 5:00 to 7:00 pm the night of the meeting, and a spouse needed to have a written proxy from the member of record to vote.

While the 1975 Lido Nationals had not been completed by the time the SOU'WESTER went to press, the Sabot Junior Nationals had been; both were hosted by ABYC that year, as were the Sabot Senior Nationals. There were a total of 144 boats in the regatta, which was run with the assistance of Seal Beach Yacht Club, Long Beach Yacht Club, the Little Ships Fleet of Long Beach and the Leeway Sailing Club. Dick Landes and Jim Morford ran the race committee. The numbers in 2005 and the clubs assisting were much the same, by the way.

There was a flyer for the ABYC Closing Day Regatta. Run each year at the end of September, this was handled solely by the ABYC Juniors; Todd Merrill and Mike O'Toole were co-chairs in 1975. There were some fun races, included a Fleet Captains' Race where the captain of each of the centerboard fleets sailed their boat under the Small Boat Arbitrary handicap rule, the predecessor of the Portsmouth Yardstick. It was to run two days the last weekend of the month.

New members included Ted Flood, sales manager of a men's clothing store in Fashion Island and a new Lido owner; J. Gordon Palmer, Jr., who was taking over his father's membership and was a graduate student at UCLA; and Elliot and Joyce Rosenthal and their teenaged children, owners of a Cal 20...C-15 correspondent Dianne Sorensen reported that "all serious C-15 sailors packed up the babies, grabbed their old ladies and went to Huntington Lake" for the High Sierra Regatta and the C-15 Nationals...there was also a sign-up sheet included in the SOU'WESTER: both the "Mr." and the "Mrs." could indicate for which programs and activities they'd like to volunteer in the coming year.

TWENTY YEARS AGO:

A photo of a wing-sailed Eighteen Square Meter catamaran was on the cover of the September, 1985, SOU'WESTER: ABYC had hosted the Yachting Magazine "One-of-a-Kind" Regatta, or OOK, in August. There were pictures of some of the competitors, including ABYC members Mike Segerblom and Steve Rosenberg in the centerboard class; another of those pictured was a then non-member named Mark Elliot. The 5-0-5 was selected as the Outstanding Boat of the OOK, and the skipper—Howard Hamlin—was pictured with the legendary Bob Bavier of Yachting Magazine. One photo showed one each of a Snipe, a Lido 14, a Windmill, a C-15, a Flying Scot, a Flying Junior and a couple of other boats on the same line off the port side of PATIENCE—but no results are listed anywhere.

The big news on the ABYC Junior front was that Jonathan Greening of ABYC won the Sabot Junior Nationals at Lido Isle Yacht Club; ABYC juniors Todd Skenderian and Jared Morford were first and second, respectively, in the Silver Flight.

There was a full page laying out the schedule for the upcoming asphalt-resurfacing project: the entire asphalt surface of the grounds was to be seal-coated in October. Keelboats were to be moved across the street; Naples Sabots and Lasers were to be taken off the grounds completely; and centerboard boats would either be taken away by their owners or moved around to accommodate the pavers. All the sail lockers were to be cleaned out, too, as they were to be moved. It was a big deal.

Ann Exley wrote another article about the history of ABYC; this was looking to become a regular thing...Midge Marshall was promoted to the position of Club Manager...an invitation to participate in the Los Angeles Yacht Club Harbor Series was printed in the SOU'WESTER, written by Barbara Waterman, the LAYC Publicity Chair; gee, that's a familiar-sounding name, Waterman...

TEN YEARS AGO:

ABYC hosted 54 boats from Hawaii, British Columbia and all over California at the 1995 Cal 20 Class Championships. The conditions varied a lot, according to correspondent John Merchant: "We had fog. We had sunshine. We had tankers loaded with hazardous chemicals. We had short courses with many laps. We had long courses with few laps. We had a leeward gate. We reached to the finish line like the Olympians. We finished upwind." Mark Townsend was PRO, and evidently called his mother-in-law, Isabelle Lounsbury, "over early" in one race. Mark Golison apparently finished in second place in the Championship Division, but the article is not specific about that.

While this was happening, the local Lido fleet hosted the Lido Nationals up on Big Bear Lake. Ron Fox was PRO. Marty Bowman made the trophies, cut-glass sails mounted on a piece of white pressboard, by hand. Fleet Captain Margie Brown apparently slipped, fell on her tiller and broke the "ears" off the rudder-head casting.

A fairly new member, Kevin Ellis, appeared in the cover picture and three inside pictures, wearing a Hawaiian shirt and a Mount Gay hat; maybe this guy is going places at ABYC...In July, Latham and Jamie Bell had a baby boy, Richard, and Jeff and Michelle McDermaid had a son, Matthew...young Curtis Spencer was the top ABYC finisher at the Sabot Junior Nationals, finishing in third place in the Gold Flight.

Chris Ericksen, Club Historian

catalina cruise

...continued from page 1

The final boat was Tom Ramsey's 47' "Ramsgate". A tri-level power boat that demands attention. This showpiece consists of every creature comfort known to man and is plush beyond belief. Everyone agrees this is one of the finest yachts around. Hospitality was also over the top; the man and his lovely wife Anne provided hot appetizers right out of the oven!

Saturday evening was Special Island Sauce BBQ chicken back at the bandstand. I personally do not know what was also served, because I ate my fill of the chicken (I know you were thinking something else, silly). I would be remiss if I did not state that the chicken out surpassed my expectations by a long shot. We had Smores for desert, which seemed to be a childhood favorite for all of us.

Both nights ended around the campfire. Some party seekers sauntered over to Doug's (a.k.a. Star Wars Bar) for fun and adventure...sucking down Buffalo Milk while dancing to multi-generational Pop tunes and performing alien dance moves.

Final Analysis: Everyone had a great time!

July 21-22, 2006 has been reserved for the same location. Put it on your calendar and start making your plans. If it is your wish, **now** would be a good time to make reservations for the Banning house, it fills up early!

All the people I talked to are planning on coming next year; you are invited!

Remember: Life is about having fun. See you there!

Merle Willis Asper III, Catalina Cruise Official



ladies day regatta october 9th

Ladies Day will be sailed in Sabots again on Sunday, Oct. 9. The divisions will be Ladies A, B, C and Mens A, and B. Let's make this Regatta a Huge Success. Mark this event on your calendar. Dust off your sabot and come on down to sail. Please support this Club Regatta and let's keep up the tradition.

Mary Riddick

annual general meeting

quarter deck bridge

Bridge players meet in the Quarter Deck the 1st Friday of every month. We always welcome new people to join in. Call Mary Riddick to sign up.



VOTE!!!!

Friday, September 16th

amazing turnout (august 19th)

The program for the evening couldn't have been simpler – members meeting members and talking about sailing. All kinds of members and all kinds of sailing- the O'Day regatta being run that day, Pete's A Cat World and National victories, Bruce and Steve winning the Santana 20 Nationals, Paul winning the Lido class championship, Jay coaching 505's in Europe, stories from Trans Pac, excitement about the upcoming European Cruise, last month's great Catalina cruise, the



upcoming Stag Cruise, new boats and every matter of racing. We really do have an incredibly diverse and accomplished group of sailors at ABYC.



A key to the so-called program was to get everyone better acquainted. We went through several hundred labels and a dozen sharpies but everyone was well described for the evening. Not just names, but titles, fleet affiliation, events and various other descriptions were plastered on the fronts (and backs) of our new and old members. This combined with a fun membership question and answer game put together by Sue McDannel were the social lubricants for what turned out to be a very enjoyable evening with a record turnout. "We've never set up extra tables for a general membership dinner" claimed

Theresa. The ranks were swelled a bit by the US Sailing O'Day Championship officials and sailors joining us, but that just added to the fun.

The actual meeting itself was held in the new format with the podium set up mid room which worked. Everyone could see and hear much better and several members noted that the bar area had never been (or seemed) so quiet during the formal meeting. We gave burgees to 4 new members, but Don Reiman announced that he had eight more new members in process and noted that with these we have 60 new members this year!



All in all a great evening with new friends and connections made.

Jim Bateman, Rear Commodore (photos by Elaine Wood)

abyc members support transpac 2005

There was a large group of ABYC members participating in the Centennial Transpac Race this summer. Those members and the boats on which they raced are: Mike Pentecost (MAGNITUDE, 2nd in Division 1), Wendy Siegal (WILLOW WIND), Don Burdge and Jim Barber (PSYCHE), Dave Johnson, Scott Atwood and Rob Rice (PLAN B, 3rd in Aloha Class A), Rob Waterman (REINRAG², 1st in Division III), Jim MacLeod, Ed Feo and Dave Thompson (TABASCO, 1st in Division IV), Eric Conn (CHASCH MER), Eric McClure, Dave Robertson and Ron Clanton (INCREDIBLE) and Bob Lane, Keith Ives and Jared Morford (MEDICINE MAN).



ABYC family members who were in Hawaii to greet the racers were: Lisa Johnson, Karen Rice and the kids, Maggie Waterman, Maryann, Marisa and Katie Feo, Patty Thompson, Stacy Conn, Mary Suttie and Laura Ives.

Also in Hawaii to welcome the racers and attend parties and events were TPHYC Commodore Jerry Montgomery and Marilyn, Stephanie Munn, Rich and Fran Roberts, Bill Boyd, Tom Pollack and family, Jennifer and Steve Kuintz, and Barbara and Dave Rustigian. From all reports, a great time was had by all.

Jerry Montgomery

transpac 2005

This year's Transpac was "A Centennial Celebration" commemorating the races' 100 year history. Jerry Montgomery, past ABYC Commodore, served as the Transpac Commodore. There were many ABYC members spread throughout the 76-boat fleet, with one entry carrying the ABYC Burgee called the "Alamitos Bay Syndicate - TABASCO."

The syndicate chartered TABASCO, a one-design 35 sloop owned by John and Stephanie Wylie of San Diego who could not sail on the race. Why and ID35? Several reasons. There's fun sailing a high performance light displacement boat in downwind conditions, there's the physical and mental challenge of racing a 35' yacht in the open ocean for 12 days, and the practical aspect - everything costs less on a small boat. 3 of the 5 crewmembers were from ABYC - Jim MacLeod, Ed Feo, and Dave Thompson. The other 2 crew were Steve Rossi, skipper and navigator from Southern YC and Chris Doolittle from SDYC. Collectively, they have raced in 31 previous Transpacs!

TABASCO won Class 4 and had the fastest corrected time by over 9 hours for those boats starting on Friday, July 15th. There were 3 starts on July 11, 15 and 17th to enable the different size/speed of the boats to arrive somewhat together. Here are the highlights of TABASCO's race:



Boat Preparation: Being a low-budget operation, the crew did all the boat prep. Starting 3 weeks before the races, we worked daily putting on a "Dennis Conner" bottom, pulling the mast, installing a water maker and pipe berths, and reconfiguring the running rigging and accommodations from one-design buoy racing to offshore. Needless to say, the safety and inspection requirements are extensive and thorough. The final 4 days before the start found TABASCO at ABYC's guest dock for provisioning and gear storage.

Race Start/Tactics: The Monday, July 11th start saw most Cal 40s doing about 40 miles the first 19 hours with San Clemente or San Nicolas Islands still in sight. NW winds finally picked up to 'normal' the 3rd day.

TABASCO started Friday July 15th in 5-7 kts. We were able to clear the West end of Catalina without tacking, but the backside of Catalina saw a southerly shift and lots of tacks. By nightfall we settled in on a course of 225 degrees. Through

experience, historical research, and weather analysis (current progs), we determined sailing a more Southerly course was the best route. We held to this 'slot' down the course without deviation and great success.

When we heard that Morning Glory reached the west end of Catalina in two hours without tacking following the Sunday 17th start, we thought "...game, set, match" for our goal on corrected time to the big boats.

Mid-Race: Lighter than normal trades saw us set an asymmetrical 1/2 oz. spinnaker on day 4. As the boats north of us in our class slowed, we took the handicap lead on day 6 and never looked back.

We did not see the sun or moon for the first 8 days of the race! The race start was rescheduled from the traditional July 4th date to get a full moon. The moon behind the cloud cover provided a "lamp shade effect" aiding night sailing. The lack of direct sun helped keep sunburn at bay.

Daily Boat Notes: Two crew are needed to be on deck during watch, 3 can jibe. Therefore, with a crew of 5, there was plenty of sleep if you had earplugs, eyeshade mask, and could ignore the ole guys snoring. We had casseroles for 5 dinners until the dry ice was gone. Freeze dried thereafter. Breakfasts were granola or oatmeal. Lunches were tuna or PB & J sandwiches. We had a water maker so lots of showers.

Finish & Post Race: The Molokai Channel was up to its old tricks = 25 - 30 kt. trades. Our last jibe in mid-channel was made with baited breath. We finished at midnight and had a great party in front of the Hawaii Y.C.

TABASCO was unrigged the next day and put on its trailer via Travelift for delivery home by freighter at a cost of approx. \$8100.

In summary; the TABASCO crew feels it represented ABYC well and could have won 1st Overall; but '...not meant to be'.

Mahalo.

Dave Thompson

Sou'Wester DEADLINE

Friday, September 16, 2005 is the deadline
for the October Sou'Wester.

junior sabot nationals

Barnard Blows 'Em Away In Naples Sabot Juniors

The little Naples Sabot is a boat that some seem to sail forever. Jerry Thompson of Long Beach recently won Junior and Masters championships more than 50 years apart, and Chris Barnard is already a veteran at 14.

In one of the class's Junior Championship's more dominating performances over 58 years, the Newport Harbor Yacht Club sailor won on his fifth try Thursday by finishing first in four of six races over two days on the bay fronting the host Alamitos Bay Yacht Club.

Barnard, whose best previous finish was a pair of fourths, had 30 rivals in the top-rated Gold class where he has qualified since age 11, and he outdistanced the next one—NHYC teammate Wade Hatton—by 15 points. His string of finishes: 1-3-1-(12)-1-1.

There were 89 other youngsters competing in Silver, Bronze and Iron classes, as determined by qualifying competition earlier in the week. All competitors must be 17 and younger.

Other division winners were Jeff Adam, Dana Point YC, Silver; Haley Kirk, 13, Long Beach YC, 13, and J.P. Barnes, San Diego YC, Iron.

Dave Siegal, one of Barnard's instructors at NHYC, said that Barnard was so focused on this event that he bypassed US Sailing's national doublehanded championship for the Bemis Trophy hosted by his own club this week.

"He worked really hard for this event," Siegal said. "In my mind he was a pretty heavy favorite."

But Barnard admitted he put pressure on himself.

"If I hadn't won it would have been hard on me after passing up the Bemis," he said.

Winds were light Wednesday and slightly stronger Thursday, stirring a small chop that made boat handling more important.

Alamitos Bay, affected by tidal currents and encircled by high-profile waterfront homes that skew the sea breeze from the southwest, is a tricky place to sail, similar to Barnard's home waters on Newport Bay "but more open," he said, "without the [private boat] moorings on the race course."

Barnard, growing on 5-10 and 130 pounds, will be a freshman and a welcome new member of the sailing team at Newport Harbor High School in the fall. Besides his NHYC coaches, he credits his father Scott, also a sailor, with his early success.

"He's taken me to all of my regattas, helps me rig the boat, and then if I have a bad race he talks to me afterward about how to do better next time."

No need for that conversation this time. Barnard's tactics, he said, were "playing a side and coming out of that side [to the marks] and just trying to be consistent. I thought if I could just finish the first few races in the top 10 I'd be all right, then I could play certain boats."

But after opening with finishes of 1-3-1 and discarding his worst finish, a 12th, there were no serious threats, so he sailed for speed and also won the last two races Thursday.

The event has been contested without interruption since 1948, shortly after the eight-foot dinghy was conceived on the bay surrounding Naples Island in east Long Beach. It rotates among four yacht clubs from Long Beach to San Diego. Past winners include Olympic medalist John Shadden, whose son Thomas and daughter Melissa competed this year; 2004 Olympian Tim Wadlow, Mark Gaudio, Bill Hardesty, Adam Roberts and Chuck Sinks, whose son Tyler won in 2002 and 2004.

"Last night I was looking at the list of people who'd won before," Barnard said, obviously impressed. "I'm going to be getting more into the doublehanded classes, but I'll try to return next year [to defend]."

He isn't concerned about outgrowing the Sabot.

"Size doesn't matter if you can keep the boat moving," he said. "You may get bigger, but you also get smarter."

Special awards were presented to Sydney Bolger, ABYC, the Joe Wells Perpetual as the top woman competitor (fourth in Gold division); Mark Ryan, ABYC, the Jessica Uniack Sportsmanship award, and John Ellis, ABYC, the Jeanne Lynch Appreciation award.

Rich Roberts



Chris Barnard, 14, of Newport Harbor YC heels his Sabot downwind toward his first Junior Championship.



Haley Kirk, 13, of Long Beach YC outsailed all the boys and girls in the Bronze class.



Alamitos Bay was a challenging venue for all 120 sailors in four divisions.

u.s. singlehanded championship (o'day trophy)

Light Winds Make Taugher Work for His Victory

It may have looked like Kevin Taugher had his Laser on cruise control Sunday with a big lead before the last two races of the 2005 U.S. Singlehanded Championship for the George O'Day Trophy, but he's been sailing long enough to know that no lead is too big to lose.

Confronted by the lightest winds of the three-day regatta and a flock of Sunday boat drivers crossing the race course close to shore off Seal Beach, Taugher admitted, "I was a little worried. It was very light, and with the power boats going through it was also very choppy"—conditions that favored lighter and luckier competitors.

But even with two fifth places—his worst finishes in nine races—by day's end his agony had turned to the ecstasy of his first national championship. Runner-up Reed Johnson, 19, of Toms River, N.J., cut Taugher's 18-point lead to a final 13 with a fourth and a first, "but there was too big a gap," Johnson said.

Taugher, 33, of Huntington Beach, is a member of the host Alamitos Bay Yacht Club.



Light winds had Kevin Taugher worried, but he still won handily.



Chris Raab, the 2000 champ, made his day by winning the first race Sunday.

Thomas Barrows, 17, of the U.S. Virgin Islands, was the first-day leader and recaptured his form in more favorable conditions with a pair of seconds to finish third overall, followed by Peter Phelan, 32, Santa Cruz, Calif., and Vann Wilson, 49, Long Beach.

Taugher's performance mirrored the varying conditions. His best day was Saturday with finishes of 2-2-1-1 in 15 to 18 knots of breeze, following a 3-4-2 Friday in 12 knots. On Sunday the first race started in 5 knots, building to 8 through the second race.

"I'm glad the whole regatta wasn't sailed in these conditions," he said. "I was 15th or 18th [early] in the first race but finally went out to the left side and got back into it."

Johnson said, "I thought I was going to get lucky when he was so far back, but Kevin sailed well. Second's all right. When I sailed this regatta two

years ago in Oklahoma City I was dead last."

Barrows had no complaints, either. "It's a really friendly event. People talk to each other about what they're doing. I'm real happy."

So was the host club to celebrate with one of its own, joining an elite list of national and champions and Olympic medalists in various small-boat classes.

"I'm really pleased to win it at my own club," Taugher said. "So many people here have helped me to improve over the years, it's a victory for all of us. It's a great honor to have my name on that trophy with all those great sailors."

Peter Barrett was the first O'Day winner in 1962, and the second winner, Finn sailor Henry Sprague of Newport Beach, was present for the award presentations Sunday afternoon.

The event was once again sponsored by Vanguard Sailboats, which provided the Lasers, and Rolex Watch U.S.A., which has consistently recognized excellence in every important arena of competitive sailing dating to the 1958 America's Cup. Vanguard has been a dedicated sponsor of numerous U.S. national championships for more than a decade.

The U.S. Singlehanded Championship is one of US Sailing's 11 national adult championships.

The leaders (23 boats, 9 races):

1. Kevin Taugher, Huntington Beach, 3-4-2-2-2-1-1-5-5, 25 points.
2. Reed Johnson, Toms River, N.J., 7-3-3-1-7-8-4-4-1, 33.
3. Thomas Barrows, St. Thomas, USVI, 1-1-6-5-12-9-15-2-2, 53.
4. Peter Phelan, Santa Cruz, Calif., 5-6-7-3-5-6-9-6-10, 57.
5. Vann Wilson, Long Beach, 12-5-1-9-3-7-3-16-6, 62.

Complete results: <http://www.abyc.org>

Rich Roberts (courtesy of The Log)



Kurt Miller's lesson for Laser sailors: This is what happens when your pants snag on the tiller while tacking.

hails from the fleets



KEEL BOAT FLEET ON WATCH

One thing great about belonging to a Southern California yacht club is we don't close the club for the winter as some of our North-easterners do. Our boats are not mothballed until the next season; in fact some of the best sailing is in our so-called winter months. And some of the most fun racing is not always on PHRF or other large one-design boats. With this in mind, start tuning up your one design Pine Block model boats for Sunday, October 16, regatta and picnic at ABYC. The format will stay the same with Bob and Jeanne PROs for the racing in the afternoon. The time of the first warning and sailing instructions will be announced at the September 9th meeting. The picnic (cocktails and dinner) will be held after the races. Bring your libation and entree. The barbcue will be fired up. The fleet will furnish a green salad, potato salad and chips plus plates, utensils, etc. This is great fun and should be enjoyed by racers and spectators alike.

The fleet's annual meeting will be November 11. Please support the Keel Boat Fleet and attend. Please bring either a salad, entree or desert for eight people.

Plans for the Christmas party will be forthcoming from Joe R. and John E.

As John Brennan is out of town as this fleet news goes to press, we will have to name our speaker for the meeting at a later date.

John and George



At the last Sunday Meeting in August the following trophies were presented:

For the monthly race: 1) Mary Riddick; 2) Bob Ware. For the July Twilights:

1) Sarah McNaboe 2) Bob Ware. And finally the Championship Perpetual was presented to: Bob Ware. Is that name getting too redundant?

John McNaughton was also issued an honorary membership for all the support he gave us over the summer in manning the whaler during the twilights.

We are still extending an open invitation to our Sunday dinners after the races each month, but we ask you to call the office and tell them you'll be coming.

We will be contributing to the new motor for the whaler and have a project underway to refurbish the barge after Labor Day. George Caddle will oversee it so if you want to help, call him.

Adra is putting together an election committee and we should have a report by the next Sou'wester.

Good to have our wandering Tramspac sailors back. Scott Atwood, Wendy Siegal and Mike Gass were all missed

Twilights are over by this issue, so we will have to see you in your Sabots Sept 11th, Oct 23rd, Nov. 13th,

or Dec 4th. Look forward to great sailing and come join us. Call Adra Kober for more news or questions.

Barbara Gabriel



The summer is drawing to a close on another exciting summer of Lido sailing. The Fourth of July regatta, which also served as the Lido Fleet Six Championship saw Freddie Stevens sail with his father Fred once again into fleet champ position. This makes three years in a row for the father and son team. At the annual meeting following the race, Tracy Conn assumed the role of fleet captain. Tracy presented outgoing captain Ron Clanton with a finely-made custom table lamp created from a lido mast and tabernacle that was fashioned by Tracy himself! Tracy will also become the fleet measurer, and Ron will move to the role of treasurer/secretary.

In the racing department, the Lido class held the class championship up at Howard Prairie Lake Oregon. The regatta consisted of a 1 day Gold and Silver flight qualifying series held on Monday which split the fleet in two. Fickle winds showed up on the afternoon of the final day, leaving the regatta two races short of the full 8 on the schedule, but still enough races were completed to allow for a throw out. In the end, fleet six had two members finish in the top 10 of the gold fleet. Greg Rodgers placed 2nd and Freddie Stevens placed 7th. Up in the Sierra Nevada mountains at the annual High Sierra Regatta fleet six members Greg Rodgers took home a 5th place in the Lido A group and Fleet captain Tracy Conn with Mark Stanifer finished with a 3rd in the Lido B group. Congratulations to all of our successful sailors!

Finally, our own Lido Twilights on Wednesdays have been well attended this summer. The bay has seen 8 to 10 Lidos sailing in the beautiful sunset. The fleet would like to thank all who came out and all who helped run the races. We hope to see all of you next summer.

The Labor Day Regatta is next up for the Lido Fleet. The Lidos, in conjunction with the Multihulls, are duty fleet. The annual luau is taking place and if you can lend a hand please give Tracy Conn a call. The September Fleet race is scheduled for the 18th.

Ron Clanton



505

Bobbing aimlessly on the bay...



Etchells and Lasers have checked in and will be joining us again next month!

thank you

From August 17 -21 ABYC hosted the U.S. Singlehanded Championship for U.S. Sailing. Twenty-three competitors from all over the U.S. competed for the championship in Lasers. (See report of Rich Roberts elsewhere in this issue).

The ABYC volunteers did a great job with the regatta and again showed officials and competitors from outside of our area what a great place Long Beach is to race and what marvelous hospitality and race management ABYC provides.

Chris Ericksen was PRO and he and the on-the-water team did great work in getting in 9 races on 3 different racing venues. Adra Kober headed up the housing committee and found housing with our members for the competitors and race officials. Stacy Conn did her usual great job with the dinners and social agenda, and the local Laser fleet jumped in and helped with a number of its members volunteering.

Congratulations to Kevin Taugher for winning this prestigious national championship and to Vann Wilson for winning the Peter Barnett Sportsmanship award. Thanks and congratulations also to all of you volunteers who made this regatta the success it was. WELL DONE!

Jerry Montgomery, Regatta Chairman

marine weather class

In our continuing efforts to give the members of ABYC more for their money, your Board of Directors is offering the same weather class they teach at Orange Coast College, but at ABYC! If you attended the general membership meeting a couple of months ago, you know how interesting this subject is. Long distance cruisers and racers will find this information invaluable. Local racers and cruisers will like knowing what to expect with the rest of their day. The person enjoying the outdoors will like knowing whether or not to bring a jacket. Here is the class description:

Marine Weather I

Marine Weather I focuses on fundamentals of basic meteorology. The course explores the driving forces of weather, the characteristics and movement of high and low pressure systems, associated fronts, and cloud formation. The course also focuses on important local phenomena such as fog, Santa Ana's and local geographic effects.

There will be 6 classes, every Tuesday from 7-9 pm starting in October and finishing in November. This class will be open to all ABYC members and their guests. If all goes well, we will offer the second set of classes.

Merle Asper

charity regatta

The 2005 Charity Regatta is nearly here and Sunday, September 25th is the day. The hope that this will be the biggest ever is in the hearts of the hard working committee from the seven Yacht Clubs and the Singles Sailing Association. They have participated in the events leading up to the day of the regatta, worked the Swap Meet in July, the Golf Tournament in August, the Gourmet Dinner also in August, helped stuff, fold, label, seal and stamp the NOR's which helped to save the event well over seven hundred dollars. Thanks to all!

The golf tournament held at Recreation Park South had 89 players out of the 94 paid entrants. The closest to the pin for the men was a Seal Beach Yacht Club member who has played golf since he was 12 and that day got his first Hole in One, and as he said, "I've played a lot of years and this is FUN!" Carol Kofahl of ABYC was the women's Closest to the Pin winner as well as Women's Lowest Score Winner. My husband, Dan Clapp was the Men's Lowest Score Winner. It was a great day for them and for the Charity Regatta and The Children's Clinic. Thanks, Cerritos Bahia Yacht Club and Commodore Robin White for a well run event!

There will be venues for all classes of sail boats, One Design, PHRF, Multihulls, Cruisers, Bay Classes, Juniors and the Bay and Harbor that day hopefully will be filled with competitors doing what they love - racing - and doing that to help The Children's Clinic improve the health and lives of their patients and their families.

Join us for the Burger Bash, Trophy Presentation, Silent Auction and Drawing in the Patio at Alamitos Bay Yacht Club following racing, Sunday, September 25, 2005.

Norma Clapp, ABYC Representative



Alamitos Bay Yacht Club

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long beach race week 2005

In late June the Alamitos Bay Yacht Club and the Long Beach Yacht Club, in a joint venture, put on the largest big boat regatta on the West Coast. Yep, that's right Long Beach Race Week had more Big Boats than any other regatta on the west coast this year.

We had 135 entries, of which 128 actually participated in three days of racing in four venues.

Thanks to the approximately 800 competitors who took part and made the regatta such a success. Which, by the way, included, 87 starts, 896 finishes & 228 marks sets over three days of great racing and great fun.

Post-racing activities were held at both ABYC & LBYC daily. The scene around the pool at Long Beach was admittedly chaotic which the atmosphere on the patio at ABYC was much more subdued. With shore boat service between each club the participants could name their poison. It worked well.

We need to also thank all of you who volunteered, you did a great job, thank you! It couldn't have been done without you!!!

Mark your calendars for 2006 Ullman Sails Long Beach Race Week next year June 23-25, 2006.

Kevin Ellis

2005 OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

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