



THE BEACON

FEBRUARY 2008 ~ MARCH 2008

A PUBLICATION OF THE SOUTH COAST CORINTHIAN YACHT CLUB



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Events, Cruises and More!

Our Port Captain, Robert Symer, and his yacht for the week of repainting the hoist



COMMODORE'S REPORT

by Stu Coleman

While the cover of the Beacon usually features a winning member yacht, this month's cover story is our winning member, our Port Captain, Robert Symer, who performed a scratch handicap race over the last week revamping our hoist. Awaking at dawn every day to drive from Atwater Village to the Marina to toil on our rusted, fading 1 ton hoist, his sailtrim was unflagging. After grinding away the old rust, paint and bird droppings, our hoist was treated to two coats of primer and then painted with two coats of Petit marine paint. After a weekend of admiring the naked paint, the custom made vinyl signage was applied. This was a huge undertaking, masterfully completed in record time for only the cost of materials and rentals, saving the club close to \$3000. Be sure to recognize this great volunteer effort.

In other facilities news, the new Char Broil Barbeque was inaugurated on



Black Tie for Oscar Barbeque

February 24th with Tracey Kenney firing up the grill for some delicious Tri-Tip. It was a lovely evening of food from T.K. and Karmen Estlow to watch the Oscars with our then pending, now new members: Paul May, Lee Casey and Alex Ayarzagoitia. This brings three new Cruising sailboats into our fleet and I welcome them heartily. For the barbeque, I'd like to thank Gary Magnuson for all of his research, driving, shopping and finally pickup and delivery. He and Tom



Exchanging Burgees with visiting guest dock cruiser, Leon from Olympia Yacht Club

Estlow did a great job of assembling the machine from a pile of bolts and loose steel.

Cooking is a big part of what we do here from the First Friday Dinners to



Can you name this Southern California Marina?

the Membership Meetings to our Race Hospitality. While the membership dinners are like cooking for family, cooking for our guests is one of the best ways we live up to our motto as the friendliest club in the Marina. Please look at the dinner schedule on the O.D. page and contact Tracey to reserve a dinner. Our dinners always taste better after you've cooked for one.

Speaking of other cooking, Chris Zimmer manned the grill last weekend for our SFVYV race hospitality serving grilled dogs to a thirsty crowd. Bruce Fleck did a fabulous job with the Chili weekend for our Match Racing Clinic in January co-hosted with WSA, while also hosting our friends from SFVYC. And of course there was Harry's famous Chinese food and Rick Horner's meatlovers BBQ.

The clubhouse has seen quite a number of events in the last two months, the highlight being Gimmy Tranquillo's marriage to the lovely Kat. This local ceremony, officiated by newly minted minister and staff Commodore Carl Radosch, was a great way for us locals to celebrate with them before they make it formal in Italy next month. All of our best to you both.



SCCYC's Newest Couple

Other events included an ASMBYC meeting, a WSA skippers meeting, a FYC Boat captains meeting, a Martini party and other special events that our O.D.s put together for the membership. We will continue to reach out to our non-landed friends in providing a great venue for all things aquatic (or at least liquid related).

Shari and I attended Opening days at Shoreline and Santa Barbara (pictured above) and participated in the SBYC race aboard a well equipped C&C110 and have been attending all the SCYA functions in our "COY" pursuit. We are looking forward to Opening Days in MDR, followed by running the races for Les Storrs, more opening days and then Thursday night Lido season. Reliance had a great start with wins in the DRYC Stein # 1 and SFVYC Cruiser #2 and we look forward to getting back to Catalina! Speaking of Catalina, Sandy B. has some great cruises coming up. That's it till next issue — See you on the Balcony



REAR COMMODORE'S REPORT

by Tom Estlow

From the Cabin of the Rear Commodore

Well, Mid-Winters is just passed, and many of our members were out and about flying the burgee of South Coast. With a strong showing, we had more than enough entrants to help with the points toward our attempt at "SCYA Yacht Club of the Year" (Associate Member).

Robert Symer continues to lead the project to clean up and maintain the Club's hoist.

The O.D. schedule seems to be working a little better. More folks are showing up to do their duty. This makes the Club's operation look a lot better. Remember, it's your Club, so come on down and use it.

The sign up sheet for Club Cleanup for opening day (Sunday, March 16) is on the white board in the Club, and it would look really good to see some newer names on the list.

And finally, Bruce Fleck (Race Chair) has the Les Storrs Regatta under control, and even though it's only one day this year (due to Easter Sunday) we expect a great turnout with the usual after race hospitality that South Coast is known for. Yours in yachting,

Tom Estlow Rear-Commodore, SCCYC

Boating Clean and Green

SCCYC is looking for 4 volunteers for the March 29th California Coastal Commission's Dockwalker event. Can you help?

Dockwalkers are volunteers who train boaters and other recreators about environmentally sound boating. Once trained, Dockwalkers talk to boaters about clean boating and distribute educational materials while visiting marinas, boat launch ramps, boat shows and events. The Campaign has trained over 500 Dockwalkers since the year 2000.

Boaters throughout the marina will be asked to fill out a two minute questionnaire in return they will receive a tote bag made of organic materials filled with goodies useful for boaters.

The orientation seminar will take place in the morning at SMWYC from 10am to noon; Lunch until 12:30; then canvassing from 12:30 to 2:30. Upon completion, everyone will return to SMWYC to count the completed questionnaires.

Opening Day Needs You!

by Dana Hutton

Sunday, March 16 is our big day at SCCYC to celebrate Opening Day 2008. It is a morning of dignitaries and yacht club bridge members visiting us from ports from Morro Bay to San Diego. Every club in MdR has a special signature to their ceremony. Ours is 'short and sweet' and always made memorable by our famous Irish Coffee!

In addition, we pour Mimosas and host a special reception serving a delectable spread of Opening Day deviled eggs, home baked breads, special egg casserole squares, corn muffins plus an assortment of fresh fruits following the ceremony upstairs. All of these items are specially made by our members and I need YOU to help step up to the plate as well!

THANK YOU to all the many SCCYC members that have already volunteered items for which we are very grateful! We are still in need of some baked and purchased items for our ceremony so please check the whiteboard at the club or contact me directly to sign-up for a donation or an activity. The whole event is only about an hour and a half of your morning and I thank you in advance.

Dana Hutton, Hospitality Coordinator
MdRSailorGirl@yahoo.com



Serving up the Irish Coffees

Mel Widawski has volunteered to be our "Clean Boating Chair" for this season and will be coordinating our. Our club gets points toward our SCYA COY (Club of the Year), pursuit for these clean boating events. We will also be doing a beach cleanup and some other events



The Clean Boating Swag Bag

but this Dockwalking program is a great way for us to interact with other boaters and do our little part to make the water in the Marina and the ocean a little better. If everyone does a little, it will add up to a lot! Please contact Mel or see the website for more information on this **Clean and Green** program.



Christmas at the Bitter End (Sweet Times in the BVI)

by Harry Johnson

Arriving on Tortola, the smell of the air and the seawater nearby caused me breathe deeply. A zephyr of breeze rustled the palm fronds, the sun was bright and the people were chatty. Puffs of clouds rarely blocked the sun. It was hot, make no mistake, but the breeze made all the difference. The “ferry” boat was loud and fast: forty feet, twin screws, covered seating on benches. I sat in the back, facing astern, watching the huge wake and the spray. The shallower water near the resort was a stunning, hypnotizing shade of aqua and teal, a bright greenish blue.

The people at Bitter End were nice without smothering me with fake cheerfulness and plastic smiles. Even though this is an expensive tourist destination, the striking purity of the nature everywhere evokes appreciation of the quietest beauty. My room sits on the side of a hill 60 steps above the beach, facing north. The bed is large, firm and comfy and my view includes a couple of islands, expanses of that magically soothing Caribbean Sea, and a full moon. By the end of dinner, I found out they had O’Douls for my palate, Off! for the mosquitoes, and a pub with a TV to watch the Patriots game! There is no TV and but there is wi-fi in the area near the main buildings.

Day two: I awaken with no direct sun in my windows, only blue skies and puffy clouds. There are tiny lizards all along the wooden walkway to my room; tiny, wispy things that skit off the second one approaches. There are one or two tame but uncollared cats that roam the premises, usually near the restaurant.

I had a lovely breakfast looking out over the bay followed by a massage, facial, manicure and pedicure. The Indian masseuse, Johte (pronounced Jottee), was quiet and polite, her movements slow and deliberate. I reserved a 19-foot boat for the next day.

The walk back to my room after dinner along the barely lit dirt path on the shore was the definition of peaceful; the bright full moon glistened off the palm leaves like a Highwayman painting. The bay twinkled with lights from houses on the opposite shore and the anchor lights of moored boats.

Day three: I was awakened at eight by rain falling loudly on my little house and I was sleeping on my good ear! When it faded to a drizzle, a hummingbird flew up to my window and looked at his reflection for a moment. Happy with what he saw, he flew off again searching for nectar.

I had a great time sailing with the instructor, Jerome, exploring the sound from one end to the other. The perfect

weather, the friendly, waving boat owners and the breeze in my face were exhilarating. I cannot emphasize how stunning the nature is here. It reminded me of the great George S. Kaufman line, “It’s like what God could do if he had money.” Lush greenery fills every square foot of land. The sound is full of moored motor yachts and mega-sloops. A member of the staff came by around six thirty with four candies on a paper plate for Christmas. He called them cookies, but they were soft and chewy and as sweet as can be.

Day four: It rains every day and there are umbrellas in every room. My plan is to take out a Hobie in the morning. I am pleased with my short story rewrite, inspired and influenced by none other than Mr. Dostoevsky. I have been reading *The Idiot*, the Russian novel, not the biography of George Bush.

Day five: After breakfast, I signed out a catamaran, which, coincidentally was today’s Word of the Day. It comes from the Tamil kattamuram, which means wood tied together. A woman and her son from Princeton, NJ, were complaining they needed a lesson on the Hobie, so I invited them to come out with me. I chattered away the whole time, but managed to ask a few questions and teach a little sailing. The Cats are the easiest to launch and the

(Sweet Times in the BVI)

Continued

instructions for returning were simply to drive it up onto the beach as fast as you can! How easy is that? Another perfect day on Virgin Gorda; the sun is shining, the temperature is about 80, the water is postcard glorious, and a brief sun shower. I finished *The Idiot*.

Day six: Happy Birthday Harry! I took a Cat out by myself and had a ball, skipping back and forth across the sound, waving at the yachts. There was a motor yacht in the slip area last night with lights emanating from underneath the stern to light up the water as one disembarks! Yesterday I saw a boat with a helicopter strapped to the aft deck. A staff member said he'd seen a yacht with a 60-foot Swann on her decks.

The thrill of skimming along this little bay for 90 minutes is indescribable. When I returned, my clothes were dripping wet and I could not have been happier.

Day seven: I finally slept beautifully, although a 20-knot wind howled all night long. I stayed in the room, made coffee and read *Capote*, appreciating how lucky I am, sitting on my balcony, watching kite-boarders skim across the Caribbean's sparkling waters, knowing the Pats are on TV tomorrow night. The air smells sweet.

Day eight: It's no wonder I feel so lousy in the mornings, since every night and every morning I take a pill which the doctor warned would make me feel lousy. That was his word, lousy, not an encouraging prognosis for a man going on vacation. *Que sera*. Regardless, I have an appointment with a catamaran after breakfast.

Well, I capsized her (pitch-poled, at that) when my leeward pontoon went underwater, and instead of releasing the

tiller or the sail, I held on and watched, hypnotized, as the pontoon dug a trench in the water while the wind pushed her over. I struggled to hold on, tightened my life vest (the tighter the better, when the need arises), and tried to figure out how to right the boat. Two guys from an inflatable and another from a sloop dove in and righted her. They boosted me on board and continued to sail, slowly making my way back to the club, tacking all the way in.

That evening I chatted with a guy from NYC who sails his J-105 on L. I. Sound, but was renting a Beneteau 323 (a newer version of mine) to sail around the BVIs. He had been anchoring most of the time but said that the previous day the wind blew 25 knots all night, so they opted for a sheltered dock at BEYC.

I held on and watched, hypnotized, as the pontoon dug a trench in the water

I noted some of the nature: spider lilies, bougainvillas of every shade of the rainbow, even some desert plants such as the century. There are periwinkles and Indian rubber plants and, of course, palms trees abounding.

I saw a blue heron, elegant and compact, about 18 inches tall, with a long beak and s-curved neck, and legs the color of driftwood. He landed on a branch at the ocean's edge and stood skittishly, waiting for something to make him take off again. My first day I saw a large bird with swallow-shaped wings, probably six feet across, at least. He had a split tail and soared in circles very high up, two or three hundred feet maybe, I am no gauge of those distances. Ashley later told me it was a frigate bird.

That night I watched the Patriots game with a banker from NYC on my right, rooting for the Giants, and the resort chef wearing his Tom Brady jersey on my left. Both were relatively sober and both gentlemen. I loved it. The Pats won.

Day nine: My last day. I awoke at 8, my eyes looking out for the final time on the tropical, azure water sparkling with whitecaps like little eye brows, puffs of Titian-like clouds, a pelican riding the wind, hunting for *le petit déjeuner de piscine*. It's taken me all week to relax into this atmosphere and climate. I feel at ease and invigorated simultaneously.

Ashley and I left at five o'clock and headed out, out, out, past Saba Rock and almost to the reef, way past my room, constantly jibing and tacking, jibing and tacking, with yours truly working the jib. I only had one mishap, kneeling too close to the mast during a jibe. When the sail snaps around, the mast rotates with it and it whacked me pretty hard on the top of my head. No blood.

Ashley just didn't want to come back in. She kept tacking and jibing and never getting any closer to the club, and she sails twice as fast as I ever sailed this week, coming within inches of moorings, buoys, other boats and their tenders, wow! It was, as sailing always is, exhilarating. It was practically dark when we lugged the Cat onto the beach. A perfectly wonderful, wet, and thrilling way to end my holiday.

I remember my final, eerie walk home after dinner along the barely lit sandy path, listening to the silence, gazing up at Orion the Hunter and his billions of pals, the constant trade winds flexing the palm trees. The moored sailboats were so tall, I mistook their anchor lights for stars.

Happy New Year everyone.



Cruise Calendar
April 4-5-6 - Isthmus
June 20-21-22 Catalina or Shoreline
July 25-26-27 Isthmus Commodore's
August 15-16-17 Emerald Cove



SCCYC Fields 5 Boats for Champagne Series

by Bruce Fleck

Lots of sailors and boats from SCCYC were out for the SBYRC Champagne Series. The series this was cut from three days to only two days of racing. Jimmy had his new Viper 830, *Element Shield*. The boat looks very sexy and fast in bright yellow. It rates 66, three seconds faster than a Schock 35 which is 10 feet longer!

Speaking of Schock 35s. Steve Arkle was out on *Power Play*. The Open 5.70 had five boats racing in a one design fleet. Way to go Jerome. Besides Jerome, Nick Vale and Rich Festa also SCCYC 5.70 owners were racing.

Of the Thirty or so boats racing five were from SCCYC, a very good showing for the “small club”

In addition to these five boats the following mariners

from SCCYC were seen racing: Karen Jones on *Patience* the Martin 242, Steve Mullen was with Jimmy on the Viper.

I was out on a Martin, with Lee Lewis. Sorry if I missed anyone.

The second day of the series was sailed in some really good wind from a very odd direction, due east! Racing is extra sweet when you can look toward shore and see the snow covered, not capped, covered mountains.



QUARTERMASTER'S CORNER

New 2008 Pricing!

We have a plethora of great South Coast Corinthian Yacht Club logo wear available in the Ship's Store. If you can't find your size, place a request on the cork board near the Beer Cooler and we will get it ordered for you.

- Polo shirt\$28.00
- Womans Fitted T Shirt\$18.00
- Mens T Shirt\$18.00
- T Shirt (Long Sleeve)\$20.00
- Sweatshirt.....\$25.00
(\$2.00 surcharge for any 2XL & up)
- Windbreaker Jacket.....\$65.00
- Billed Cap\$20.00
- Hat Bands.....\$10.00
- Brief Case.....\$28.00
- Bouillons\$30.00
- Small Towels\$10.00
- Burgees.....\$20.00
- License Plate Holder\$10.00
- Canvas Tote\$15.00
- Zippered Tote\$15.00
- Club House Throw Blanket....\$35.00

We hope to expand our offerings, so if you have a sellable idea please talk to me and we can work out the details.

Membership Report

ACTIVE MEMBERS	~ 76
Flag Members	67
Life Members	3
Non Resident Members	7
Cruising Members	0
Honorary Members	1
Active Staff Commodores	10
NEW MEMBERS	3
Paul May	
Lee Casey	
Alex Ayarzagoitia	
MEMBERS OVER THE BAR	1
Mike Oliveau	





O.D. SCHEDULE

& Club Events

Friday 1800 - 2200 Hrs (Year Round Hours)	Saturday 1200-1600 Hrs (Winter Hours)	Sunday 1200-1600 Hrs (Winter Hours)
2/29 Mel Widawski	3/1 Steve Arkle SFVYC Hospitality	3/ 2 Bernard Auroux
3/7 Sherry Barone First Friday Dinner	3/8 Sandy Bartiromo	3/9 Jim Doherty
3/14 Peter Beale	3/15 Kelly Cantley Club Clean-up	3/16 Dan Grabski Opening Day
3/21 Sandy Clark Membership Dinner	3/22 Mike Cheda Les Storrs	3/23 Geoff Downer Easter Sunday
3/28 Jerr Dunlap	3/29 William Elmer	3/30 Tom Estlow
4/4 Clark Garrett First Friday Dinner	4/5 Peter Gonzalez Lido Invitational SFVYC Hospitality	4/6 Bruce Fleck Board Meeting
4/11 Don Golding	4/12 Rick Horner	4/13 Ron Ikejeri
4/18 Dana Hutton	4/19 Harry Johnson Membership Dinner	4/20 Karyn Jones
4/25 Trish LaVay	4/26 Michelle Shanks	4/27 Ron Judkins
5/2 Gary Magnuson First Friday Dinner	5/3 Bob Kellock	5/4 Jerry Magnussen Board Meeting

If you cannot fulfill your duty on your assigned date, please get a replacement and notify Tom Estlow (rearcommodore@sccyc.org) of your replacement. It is your responsibility to fulfill your duty or find a replacement; otherwise you may be assessed a donation of one arm or leg.

Reminder: Please fill out the OD logbook, as it may be the only record that you fulfilled your duty.

NOTE: The sponsoring member introduces the new Member to O.D duty on the first tour.

Sign Up for One Dinner! Call to RSVP

Jan 4	First Friday Dinner	Harry Johnson	July 4	First Friday Dinner	_____
Jan 19	Membership Meeting	Bruce Fleck	July 19	Membership Meeting	_____
Feb 1	First Friday Dinner	Rick Horner	July 19-20	O/D Weekend Race Hospitality	_____
Feb 23	Membership Meeting	Tracey Kenney	Aug 1	First Friday Dinner	_____
March 7	First Friday Dinner	_____	Aug 23	Membership Meeting	_____
March 21	Membership Meeting	_____	Aug 24	Outlook Trophy Hospitality	_____
Mar 22	Les Storrs Race Hospitality	_____	Sept 5	First Friday Dinner	_____
April 4	First Friday Dinner	_____	Sept 19	Membership Meeting	_____
April 5	Lido Invitational Hospitality	_____	Oct 3	First Friday Dinner	_____
April 19	Membership Meeting	_____	Oct 12	Two for One Race Hospitality	_____
May 2	First Friday Dinner	_____	Oct 18	Annual Business Meeting	_____
May 17	Membership Meeting	_____	Oct 26	Campbell Cup Hospitality	_____
May 25	Corinthian Cup Race Hospitality	_____	Nov 7	First Friday Dinner	_____
June 6	First Friday Dinner	_____	Nov 15	Annual Election Meeting	_____
June 21	Membership Meeting	_____	Dec 7	Installation Dinner	Shanghai Red's



SOUTH COAST CORINTHIAN YACHT CLUB

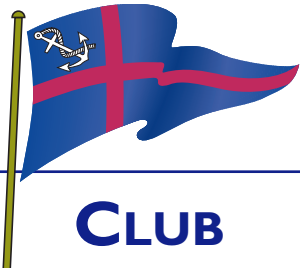
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