

THE BEACON

STAR CLASS HISTORY
CHAMPAGNE SERIES BLOWOUT
2012 SOCIAL CALENDAR
and more...

FEBRUARY 2012

PHOTO CREDIT "Free Spirit"
on a mooring in Catalina
taken by Peter Beale



GENERAL INFORMATION

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MEMBERSHIP REPORT

FLAG	72
NON-RESIDENT	5
LIFE TIME	6
TOTAL	83



YACHT CLUB OFFICERS



**COMMODORE
KARYN JONES**



**VICE
COMMODORE
STEVE
VINCENT**



**REAR
COMMODORE
NICK SAMPSON**

COMMODORE'S REPORT



Karyn Jones

Well, it's official. The word is out and Punxsutawney Phil, the notorious groundhog, known for his ability to determine when spring will come, has seen his shadow. The bad news, we might miss the sun for a couple of days. The good news is that we're in SoCal which means we might get a little rain to wash off the dust. Here at South Coast, that means unbelievable sunsets on the balcony. During one such change of weather, we had quite a showing at the start of DRYC's 1st Berger Series of the year and many of our racers were ready to tackle the challenging conditions. Unfortunately, it was a much better day for water skiing and, much like the Campbell Cup last year, many of us were headed home under the Iron Genny. And thus began the start of this year's yachting season.

Although it's still winter, thanks to Phil, the club is already getting underway to get our members up and sailing and planning out our activities for this year. After being fed by Steve Vincent for our First Friday dinner, we continued with a social club meeting lead by Deb Sampson. Many of you may have filled out a survey last year of what you would like to see happening at the club on the social end. I'm here to report that your voices have been heard and there is now an official social committee that is planning several activities to give you an excuse to hang out on the balcony. She is working close with anyone who would like to be involved in making the ideas come to life. If you like to party, and haven't had a chance to offer your help for any activity on the calendar, I urge you to contact her today. The more the merrier.

But wait there's more... Although we never formally have a closing season, we do have an opening day coming our way. Jr. Staff Commodore Tracey Kenney is already planning an exciting day for our members. After all, why should Opening Day only be celebrated in the morning? It's our 80th Birthday and she is planning on a huge party for the membership. There are many ways to get involved in this event so please contact her for the details-she is going to need a lot of help and I know that SCCYC members always step up in any way that they can.

And finally a message of thanks to those who went above and beyond the call of duty this month:

A big "thanks" to Stu Coleman who answered the call of duty by stepping up to be Bar Manager. Another big thanks to Robert Symer for adopting the surprise bar fish (no not the crackers). We know they are in good hands. And thanks to membership chair Trevor for installing the new door to the office after an unfortunate mishap of someone's big foot going through it (I wonder who did that one?). Also a thanks to House Chair Trish for spearheading the club decorating committee—this is a wonderful woman who wants nothing more than for us to take care of the club we have and make it a comfortable (not to mention aesthetically pleasing) place for all of us to hang out at.

In fact, hanging out at the club sounds like a good idea. I think that's what I'll do right now. See you on the balcony.

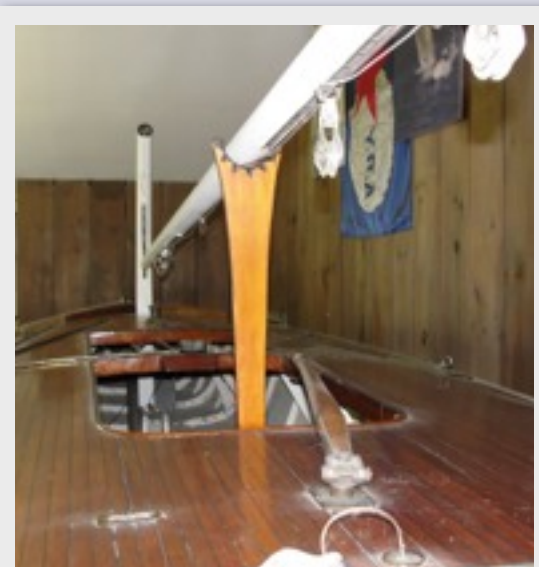
A LITTLE STAR CLASS HISTORY

While on the east coast last summer I had the opportunity to visit Mystic Sea Port Nautical Museum in Connecticut. I was delightfully surprised to find this fine example of a wooden Star, built way back in 1925, the Star Class Sloop named "ACE".

If your grandfather was Adrian Iselin II, he was a fast sailor in his Star Class boat ACE. He won the first International Star Class Association Regatta in 1922, and again in 1936. Sailing fast was in the best tradition of the family, with C. Oliver Iselin, Adrian's father, the manager of five America's Cup campaigns.

The Star Class was designed in 1911 by Francis Sweisguth, an upgrade of his employer William Gardner's 1906 Bug class. Simple to build, the Star provided first class racing for people of modest means. The Star class became the first to be adopted by yacht clubs and across the U.S. for inter-club competition. Since it could be shipped easily, the design soon found favor around the world so that by 1927 it was on every continent except Africa.

Today Stars are still popular internationally and are an Olympic Class. They have been modified to incorporate state of the art building materials, methods and rigging, and they are still a boat of choice for the sailor who wants to go fast in a sailing thoroughbred.



22'8"x 5'10", built 1925, Purdy Boat Company, Port Washington,

Port Captain, Robert Symer

CHAMPAGNE SERIES BLOW OUT



Saturday morning at about 10:30 Bandit left the dock to sail out to the starting area for day one of Champagne Series. We actually had the jenny strapped down on the fore-deck ready to go racing. As we sailed out under main only the wind began to rise. By the time we got to the UCLA boat dock we knew we would not be using the Jenny and would switch to the 100% jib. By the time we tacked half way up the main entrance channel we decided that this day would be the first day ever to reef the main. At this point I guess it was in the low 20s.

With the main reefed and all head sails below we ventured out. I wish I had a picture of the spectacle in front of us. Big ugly waves, white caps everywhere, and waves breaking over the breakwater. We sailed out. With the high winds and large steep seas the boat was just not under control. John thought that adding the jib might help. So he crawled out on to the bow to hank on the small sail. That done we sheeted in and got knocked over. Water over the side of the boat and into the cockpit. So much for the jib!

At this point we were still planing on racing but could not figure out how to get to the starting area. At noon we heard horns signaling a postponement. By 12:15 we were still unable to go to weather and we decided to turnaround and head back home. However, we could not get the boat to tack and I was afraid to jibe! You have to remember we were on port tack but well off the wind so tacking required 150 degrees. After four attempts I had the idea to drop the main entirely and home under jib only. This worked perfectly.

The wind seemed to build even more, with the tops of some waves blowing off in spray. The attached chart came from Sail Flow, it shows the average wind speed using data from LAX. The guys from Slap Shot the OPEN 6.50 said they had wind speed readings of 35!

Staff Commodore, Bruce Fleck

FREE SPIRIT LIKES WIND

We have had Free Spirit for nearly 6 months and even though we have had trips to the Channel Islands and Catalina plus numerous day sails we have never been out in winds greater than 5 to 8 knots. At that wind speed she is very comfortable but, as we expected, slow.



"Free Spirit" on a mooring in Catalina

On Saturday Jan 21 the forecast was for rain and low winds but by mid morning the rain had stopped and sun peeked though the scattering clouds so I went down to the Marina to do some never ending maintenance. The wind picked up and my neighbor recorded 15 with gusts to 20 knots. It was too good a chance to miss, and who really enjoys maintenance? So even though I was solo, but with auto pilot, I headed out. I am delighted to report that Free Spirit loves the strong winds and she is very stable, dry and fast. Her flared bow pushes the spray away which does not seem to come on board as much as in a modern boat.

I put up the main with one reef and the mizen and headed to the Marina south entrance like a racing car. The boat had a lot of weather helm and I started to think that in high winds 2 reefs in the main, the jib, but no mizen might improve the balance. Already out of the marina I abandoned the idea of unfurling the jib and hit the first waves to start a great roller coaster ride. We (FS and I) were sailing close hauled at 5.5 knots, and on a beam reach at 7 - 8 knots. With the jib we should do even better though the theoretical top speed, based on water line length, is 6.8 knots. The seas were quite big and being on my own for the first time in FS in strong winds and rough seas I did not want change the sail plan even though I wore a life jacket and a safety harness. Also the auto pilot was having difficulty managing the weather helm. Afterwards I realized I had chickened out and wished I had double reefed the main and dropped the mizzen. I stayed out for about an hour with just one Open 570 that was returning as I exited the breakwater and no other boats except a couple in the Marina. I have never seen the bay or Marina so deserted. Later I discover Bruce had been out earlier in Bandit and went back in just before I went out because the winds were up to at least 25 knots! From other observations Bruce collected and readings at UCLA sailing center it appears that I underestimated the conditions and we were in winds of 35 knots or force 8 gale!



"Free Spirit" interior

Even so Free Spirit handled it exceptionally well. Steve Vincent recommends that in those conditions I try using just the working jib and mizzen with the main furled onto the boom. I am looking forward to the next chance to take Free Spirit out in strong winds again and experiment with the sail plan, but hope to have a crew. Any volunteers?

Peter Beale



Dolphins just having fun by Trevor Bazeley



Mike Priest at the First Friday Dinner talking about his trip to Kathmandu, Bhutan and Tibet



Barrett, and Randy Sprout accepting the overall Champagne Series Trophy. Amanda adding some pizzazz to the ceremony.



Member Jerome Sammarcelli piloting the RC mark set boat during the Champagne Series



New members Anne-Laure and Dan accepting the Kleve Perpetual Trophy for Top One Design boat, an Open 5.70, in the Champagne Series.

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMANS REPORT



A beautiful sunset at the Hawaii yacht Club with the maxi "Sorcery" when we did Kenwood cup

The year is off to a great start with January already at a close how time fly's, the club has grown again with new members who I would like to welcome and also have all our members welcome too. Some new members are new 5.70 owners and active racers in there new boats so the fleet grows too. Please welcome Daniel Lieberman and his wife Anne-Laure, John Gartman and Jackie, Matt Sampson, and Mike Hanna and Christine.

The racing has begun and although the wind god's have not been that friendly it seems every one has had fun, the 5.70 racing went well with my Sheri sailing with Tracey which was a great thrill for her.

I am hoping that we can get the club up to the most members in years, and get a lot of things happening at the club, now with the leadership of Debbie Sampson as our new events organizer I think the club will have so much more to offer week round where you can come down and enjoy the beautiful sun sets and then have a

fun evening. The club really needs to be used by our members as that to is our income from the cocktails and the friendliness of the members, so if you drive by and want to see the sunset or the light on stop in have a cocktail before the long drive home.

Sheri and I took off to Hawaii just before new year and had a great time with Our friends Minot and Laurel from San Diego who flew over too for the new year dinner at the club with all the fire works at midnight and some beverages along the way on the deck. We then went to watch the big surf on the north shore which was just coming in and went Go-cart racing and did the ATV ride on the north shore where a bunch of movies were filmed which was fun then home to the real world.

Trevor Bazeley

LIFE SAIL OPTIMIST FLEET

Last Tuesday we met with the principle assistant principle, one of their teachers and two people from the LA Conservation Corp to discuss our future Opti boat building and summer sailing programs. We now have a go to build 2-4 Opti's at the JAMS (John Adams Middle School) which is very exiting.

We are currently in the process of building our 6th International Optimist in LA Programs at HOLA (Heart Of LA), Jams, and tomorrow we are starting to build 2 more at the Math & Science Academies in Hawthorn (supported by the HPOA).

The goal is to get children and the community involved in sailing, by developing a love and respect of the water.

Matt Schulz



2012 SCCYC SOCIAL CALENDAR

FEBRUARY					
FRI	10	POKER NIGHT			
SUN	12	SOLISTICE / VALENTINES CANYON HIKE			
MARCH					
SUN	11	OPENING DAY Morning			
SUN	11	80TH PINATA BIRTHDAY PARTY Afternoon / Evening			
SAT	17	ST. PATRICKS DAY PARTY After Les Storrs Regatta			
APRIL					
FRI	13	GAMES NIGHT			
FRI	13	SAT	SUN	13 14 15	JOINT 80th BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION with Cabrillo Yacht Club - cruise to Cabrillo and evening celebrations
MAY					
SAT	12	KENTUCKY DERBY & CASINO NIGHT			
JUNE					
FRI	8	WINE TASTING with a speaker			
JULY					
FRI	13	SCCYC RACE NIGHT as part of the Sundown Series			
FRI	27	OLYMPIC OPENING CEREMONY			
AUGUST					
FRI	24	SAT	SUN	24 25 26	COMMODORES CRUISE
SEPTEMBER					
FRI	14	MUSIC NIGHT			
OCTOBER					
SAT	13	MASQUERADE PARTY			
SAT	27	PUMPKIN CARVING PARTY			
NOVEMBER					
FRI	9	QUIZ NIGHT			
SAT	26	SUN	26 27	TREE DECORATING PARTY	
DECEMBER					
SAT	8	BOAT PARADE PARTY			
MON	31	NEW YEARS EVE PARTY			

The calendar can be subject to change, and we have some other things that will be added, each event will be advertised in more detail nearer the time.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Tuesday, February 14 - **Valentine's Day**
- Friday, February 17 @ 7:00pm - **General Membership Meeting and Dinner**
- Saturday, February 18 - **SCYA Midwinters**
- Sunday, February 19 - **SCYA Midwinters**
- Monday, February 20 - **Presidents Day**
- Saturday, February 25 - **US Sailing Basic Race Management Seminar**
- Friday, March 2 @ 7:00pm - **First Friday Dinner**
- Saturday, March 3 - **DRYC Berger #2 - Santa Monica Bay Race**
- Sunday, March 4 @ 10:00am - **Club Cleanup**
- Sunday, March 4 @ 6:00pm - **Board Meeting**
- Wednesday, March 7 - **ASMBYC Racers Forum**
- Thursday, March 8 - **Ensenada Racing Seminar**
- Saturday, March 10 - **Opening Day MDR**
- Saturday, March 10 @ 10:00am - **Club Cleanup**
- Saturday, March 10 @ 6:00pm - **Sunset Cannon**
- Sunday, March 11 - **Opening Day MDR**
- Sunday, March 11 - **80th Birthday Piñata Party**
- Sunday, March 11 - **Daylight Saving Time Begins**
- Sunday, March 11 @ 8:00am - **SCCYC Opening Day**
- Friday, March 16 @ 7:00pm - **General Membership Meeting and Dinner**
- Saturday, March 17 - **Les Storrs**
- Saturday, March 17 - **St. Patrick's Day**
- Saturday, March 17 @ 6:00pm **St. Patricks Day Party after Les Storrs**

Officer of the Day Schedule					
Friday 1700 - 2100 Hrs (Winter Hours)		Saturday 1200 - 1700 Hrs (Winter Hours)		Sunday 1200 - 1700 Hrs (Winter Hours)	
February 2012					
2/3/2012	Mike Priest	2/4/2012	Sandy Clark	2/5/2012	Bob Kellock
2/10/2012	Michelle Shanks	2/11/2012	Jennifer Kichen	2/12/2012	Gary Magnuson
2/17/2012	Jorge Benedid	2/18/2012	Paul May	2/19/2012	Dylan Porter
2/24/2012	Scott McKenney	2/25/2012	Magnus Hierta	2/26/2012	Mark Tilford
March 2012					
3/2/2012	Tracey Kenney	3/3/2012	Trevor Bazeley	3/4/2012	Mike Quigley
3/9/2011	Ron&Patricia Kenney	3/10/2012	Scott Tobin	3/11/2012	John Thomas
3/16/2012	Kelly Cantley	3/17/2012	JT Alex	3/18/2012	Steve Arkle
3/23/2012	Nik Vale	3/24/2012	Gary Schaffel	3/25/2012	Stu Coleman
3/30/2012	Dan Lieberman	3/31/2012	Sandy Bartiromo		
April 2012					
				4/1/2012	GIGI
4/6/2012	Lee Casey	4/7/2012	Peter Beale	4/8/2012	Paul Button
4/13/2012	Charles&Joanna Smith	4/14/2012	Todd Buese	4/15/2012	Dennis Castaneda
4/20/2012	Noah Farrell	4/21/2012	Mike Cheda	4/22/2012	Don Baker
4/27/2012	Brendan Watson	4/28/2012	Jim Doherty	4/29/2012	Geoff Downer