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October 5th & 6th, 2024

US Sailing Sanctioned
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Sea Courses

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From the Helm

Commodore's Report

Kathy St. Amant

2024 SCYA Commodore

commodore@scya.org

NEW SCYA MEMBER +

The beginning of the year has been a very busy one for SCYA. First, we wish to congratulate our newest member, Canyon Lake Yacht Club. It was established in 1990 and is in Riverside County. All SCYA member clubs are invited to come out and visit. There is another organization that has applied for membership. We will bring them forward for voting at our next general meeting in June. Be prepared to learn about the Marina del Rey Anglers. They run wonderful community programs for adults and children. We feel they will be a wonderful fit for SCYA in helping to promote education and community outreach.

EVENT & SEMINAR PLANNING

My time and creative thought process are in full swing as I work with SCYA teams to imagine and bring to fruition great seminars to present to our members. I have just completed the build of the SCYA US Sailing Safety at Sea Courses that will be held in October. Sign up now for the course, it is marketed across the country, and these fill up. It is necessary in many offshore races for a third of the crew to hold the certification. Get your crew certified.

The design of The Women's Boating Event, to be held in September, is on my table. It will be quite different compared to the others we have presented. I think the format will provide a better learning experience for all involved. Stay tuned! **I AM IN NEED OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS** to help

with this project. If you wish to contribute to this project, please contact me at commodore@scya.org.

The Medical Emergency at Sea Seminar is coming mid-year. We have a panel of medical doctors that will share pertinent information about what you need to know to keep your crew stable after the unexpected happens.

Make sure to continue checking our website and reading the newsletter to find more seminars coming your way. We are actively seeking topics to cover that will enrich our member clubs, please feel free to contact me if you have ideas on what we should present. SCYA has a network of over 90 yacht clubs with a member knowledge base to pull from.

SPONSORS/PARTNERS NEEDED

For all the member and community outreach programs we run, it is imperative that we “get the word out.” Most of the time that means an expense is necessary. SCYA’s reach throughout the Southern California yachting community is immense. We have the virtual entry door to every member club to gain the eyes and ears of thousands of sailors, boaters, and fishermen. Any sponsor/partner that signs up with us will get a huge, targeted audience for their message and will provide the opportunity for our community service programs to grow. If you are interested in becoming a sponsor or a partner with SCYA, please contact our Rear Commodore Jodi Masters-Gonzales at rearcommodore@scya.org. She can provide the spec sheets that can help you build a campaign with SCYA.

LESSONS LEARNED



The devastating fire at CYC has had huge repercussions for SCYA, and others besides CYC. We lost a beautiful 2-foot-tall sterling silver trophy that was deeded in 1930 by the Academy Award Winning Director, Frank Borzage. It has been the Star Trophy for our Midwinter Regatta and was presented every year, except 2021 and 2024. The actual replacement value of the trophy far exceeded our insurance coverage—\$50,000 was our coverage for a vessel that would be over \$100,000 to have remade.



Trying to maintain the provenance and the wishes of Mr. Borzage became my task in replacing the trophy. After hours of research, quotes from all the big trophy companies, and BoD discussions, we settled on an eBay purchase. A gorgeous sterling loving cup trophy with a Sheffield stamp from 1840. The cost of moving forward with a “new design” allows SCYA to bring home a replacement trophy that would make any sailor proud to win and keeps the value level at what Mr. Borzage donated so many years ago. They are very different, each carrying embellishments that are difficult to reproduce today at an affordable price. We have a lot of work to do yet. A new base must be made,

and all those plaques made and engraved.



(Pictured above right, the original Borzage Trophy. Pictured above left, the newly acquired replacement Borzage Trophy.)

With that story in mind, take some time and look in your trophy cases. Many clubs will come to realize that a good part of your assets are in the trophy cases. It is a good reminder that it may be time to find out the value of the silver trophies and the special handmade trophies, then contact your insurance agent and have a frank discussion. Once you have

completed the inventory and assessment, check your deeds of gift. The Borzage Trophy deed declared it was the responsibility of SCYA to maintain insurance to cover the donation. The 1930s amount was \$1000, in today's dollars that is around \$18,000 to \$20,000. SCYA learned the hard way, that is irrelevant. CYC's loss will continue to provide all of us with life lessons on what the repercussions are when disaster strikes. Don't ignore the lessons. We will cover more about this subject.

FREE RACE SOFTWARE: Klexy Soft Yacht Race Scoring Suite

I have been a sailboat racer for over 50 years. Over that time, the friends I have acquired are the best part of the whole experience. As with any group of people, the skills my friends possess continue to amaze me. A very good friend is a brilliant software designer. He built a Race Software Package designed with simplicity in mind to make scoring races easier and will send out clear good-looking results pages as a PDF. The Klexy Soft Yacht Race Scoring Suite is now available FREE to any SCYA yacht club interested in moving in a different direction when scoring races. If you are interested in examples and more information, please see the letter from Ed below and contact him directly. He will be happy to provide any info you request.

GET OUT ON THE WATER

Summer is just around the corner. My boat, Rascal, just had a new bottom job, a new mainsail was put on last year, and we built an expanded crew list. We have already pulled in a few good race results and are excited to get out to the Wednesday nighters starting up tomorrow. The N2E is a week away, we are entered and excited! I "think" this race will be my 46th or 47th time down the



coast. My first one was 1973 in a Catalina 27 with a bunch of college buddies. It was a fun and exciting experience, as all of them have been. I have stories from each one, memories that are so special.

Get out on the water and make some new memories. Leave the work on the table, leave the house cleaning for another day, leave the dog with the neighbor (or bring it along), do whatever it takes, but get out on the water. That is the real reason why we are all here, right?

Kathy St. Amant

2024 SCYA Commodore
commodore@scya.org

From the Bridge

V/C Report

Lee Coller

Vice Commodore, SCYA

vicecommodore@scya.org



Opening Day season has started. My wife Lorraine (SCYA 2024 Honorary Commodore and Secretary) and I always enjoy these and the opportunity to interact with the leadership and members of our member clubs. I also strongly encourage club flag officers to attend other opening days as an opportunity to meet your fellow flag officers. Please remember that opening days are by invitation, and please RSVP when requested to do so. So far, I've attended 7 opening days (5 Marina Del Rey Clubs, Cabrillo Beach and King Harbor), and have another 15 scheduled for the rest of the year.



L.A. County fire boat 2 saluting the CBYC opening day.

Midwinters are not quite over – yes, I know its Spring, but Lake Gregory YC hasn't yet figured out how to do model yacht racing on a frozen lake, so they do their event in May – this year on May 11th.

Starting this year, we are putting together a cruising calendar. If you go to scya.org, and click "Events and Meetings," you will find a cruising calendar for cruises offered by member clubs that are opening open to other SCYA members. Right now, it is really sparse, so if your club would like to get a cruise on this calendar, please email vicecommodore@scya.org with your information. It should include dates, locations, any fees, as well as contact information. Note as scya.org currently does not have "member only" pages, this information will be publicly visible.

We had planned on holding a Medical Emergencies at Sea seminar on May 18th. Unfortunately logistics didn't quite work out and we need to postpone that, but it will still happen look for an updated date soon.

I was commodore of King Harbor Yacht Club during that wonderful year of 2020. One thing that happened that year amid the Covid crisis was that Commodore John Marshall held regular zoom meetings for the commodores of SCYA member clubs where we could discuss how were dealing the crisis. This was quite useful for all of us—read more about that in R/C Masters-Gonzales' update below. At a previous general meeting, it was suggested that we have regular meetings via zoom covering various aspects of running a yacht club. Look for announcements of these.

Lee Coller

2024 SCYA Vice Commodore

vicecommodore@scya.org



From the Bridge

R/C Report

Jodi Masters-Gonzales

2024 SCYA Rear Commodore

rearcommodore@scya.org

It is a great honor to be SCYA's 2024 Rear Commodore. Thank you for entrusting me with the duty and responsibility of stewarding and co-leading this great Corinthian organization, founded more than 100 years ago.

While on the Board of Directors and Bridge at Port Royal Yacht Club (PRYC), I wasn't totally sure how to leverage SCYA for my club's success. Then, when the pandemic hit in early 2020, the trajectory of my Commodore year began to swiftly unfold with unprecedented leadership challenges—many of which you may have also endured.

It was then SCYA Commodore John Marshall who emerged as

a lighthouse for SCYA member organizations. In March 2020, he began holding Commodore Roundtables via Zoom with the aim of creating a safe space where Commodores of SCYA member organizations could gather and discuss the “agonizing decisions” before them. Before long, our cohort began reimagining Corinthian leadership and club management best practices. In total, S/C Marshall held nine such roundtables.

This was my first experience of how valuable SCYA membership can be for its member organizations. My realization was that while S/C Marshall created and held open the space where we could come together, it was the wide participation of my fellow Commodores that was the magic sauce. Together, we created a path forward through the crisis—regardless of size or localized differences of our individual clubs.

As an SCYA Board Member, I've learned that SCYA and its member organizations share many of the same challenges. Whether they originate from the current post-pandemic recovery period, or are a result of modernizing long-standing Corinthian culture and traditions, there is no playbook. What we do have is our collective experience and intelligence—and it's up to us to come together to figure things out.

With the blessing of S/C Bill McNamara (2021), S/C Anne Eubanks (2022) and S/C John Caldwell (2023), we set out to establish a baseline of challenges, preferences, and needs of our SCYA member organizations. We're accomplishing this by conducting ongoing surveys and roundtable discussions—such

as November 2023 and February 2024 roundtables which we held at the encouragement and leadership of current SCYA Commodore, Kathy St. Amant. ([Download the November 2023 Roundtable Report.](#))

One way we are responding to SCYA member-driven insights is by iterating our programming. For example, this year's 2024 SCYA Rear Commodore Seminar was reimaged as an executive briefing, highlighting SCYA's many resources through active participation and open discussion—not unlike S/C Marshall's approach with the Commodore cohort of 2020. (Be on the lookout for the SCYA 2024 Rear Commodore Seminar Debrief in next month's issue to learn more.)

We joined U.S. Sailing in celebrating Black History month by inviting Kamal Carter, President of "[A Long Talk about the Uncomfortable Truth](#)" to activate an anti-racism conversation with our 2024 R/C cohort. All in attendance learned why programming such as this remains vital as member organizations do what they can to increase their post-pandemic resilience. (To learn more, read [Kamal's interview with U.S. Sailing](#) and join [SCYA's Inclusive Boating FB group](#).)

To all those who continue to participate in SCYA surveys, roundtables, and seminars, we sincerely thank you. Your participation and input matters greatly to us and to your peers. Your participation is also helping to shape SCYA's path forward, into its second century.

RECOGNIZING CORINTHIAN LEADERS AMONG US

Do you know of a Corinthian leader in our midst deserving of

recognition? Nominate them for recognition in an upcoming issue of this newsletter, on one of our social medial channels ([follow us on Facebook](#)), and/or other of SCYA's publications. There are no rigid qualifications or requirements other than the person exemplified what it means to be a Corinthian leader in your view. Have a look at the [nomination form](#) to learn more.

Fair winds and following seas,

Jodi Masters-Gonzales
2024 SCYA Rear Commodore
rearcommodore@scya.org

SCYA COMMUNITY NEWS

Greetings from Cal Yacht Club!



Greetings from Cal YC! I'm sure you all are aware of the devastating fire that consumed the club house last December. While that was a blow, the Club remains strong, at over 900 members. We are using a large event tent for functions, and while it's a bit rustic, it works! We hosted over 350 people for lunch on our Opening Day on March 9. We've held three evening Yachting Programs, each with 50-75 attendees. We've had two regattas, SCYA Midwinters and the

Harken Optimist Challenge #1, both with ~50-70 entries. Our weekly beer can race, the "Sunset Series" starts tonight. We have a temporary kitchen trailer on site and while the menu is limited, it is delicious. We've had to adapt and pivot, but the members are game and our ownership supportive.

By early to mid-summer, we hope to have a more substantial temporary facility. Come and visit and check it out! Cal Race Week is June 1-2, get your boat up here and enjoy a weekend of great racing and fun parties.

Hope to see you on the water!

Sue Service

2024 Commodore, Cal Yacht Club

94th ANNUAL MIDWINTER REGATTA

2024 SCYA Midwinters Regatta Trophy Presentation



By S/C John Marshall, jmarshall@expeditor.com

As of this writing, the 94th Southern California Yachting Association Midwinter Regatta is nearly complete! We're just waiting on Lake Gregory Yacht Club's Midwinter Regatta on May 11th. The ice in Lake Gregory is almost gone!

With twenty-three host clubs, sixty classes, and over 500 boats participating in this year's event it is the largest regatta on the West Coast. It all started back in 1928, when SCYA and the LA Junior Chamber of Commerce teamed up to sponsor the first Midwinters. The Midwinter Regatta was promoted as an example of the sports "paradise" that Southern California offered in the winter, attracting boats from the Great Lakes, the Atlantic Coast, and the rest of the Pacific Coast.

Many racers have shared stories that they first started racing by crewing on a boat competing in the Midwinters and caught the bug for racing, making it their sport of choice. It was really exciting to see all the young sailors lined up with their Optimis on their carts, waiting in line to launch their boats. It's always fun when we get the call, "We need more trophies!"

A Regatta of this size always presents opportunities for the unexpected. The Melges fleet was ready to sail at Cabrillo Beach Yacht Club until LA County announced a raw sewage spill into the harbor. Since contact with the water is a common occurrence when sailing those boats, the prudent thing to do was to cancel racing for that weekend. We expect them to race next year in 2025.

Part of the proceeds of the Midwinter Regatta is used to fund the many programs offered through Southern California Yachting Association, including support of Recreational Boaters of California (RBOC), a boater advocacy group co-founded by SCYA and its counterpart in Northern CA, Pacific Inter-Club Yacht Association (PICYA). You can donate online to RBOC by visiting www.rboc.org. RBOC continues to make recreational boating fun and affordable for all Californians. Visit RBOC's website to make a donation and become a friend of RBOC today!

Photos taken by S/C Marshall







2023 SCYA AWARDS

Winners Spotlight





The Signal

Chartered - 1952
Volume 58 No. 03
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Commodores Award for the Year 2023 - **Jr. S/C Janet Bubar Rich**
James M. Webster Perpetual Trophy - **Ed Gold**
The Maritime Order of the Golden Key - **J/A Tom Mulally**
DRYC **Dir. Victor J. Jedlicka** was appointed and installed
to the 2024 SCYA Board of Directors and to SCYA Angler Chair.

Are you a 2023 SCYA Award Winner? Please submit photos and copy using the [Searchlight Submission form](#) for inclusion in an upcoming SCYA Searchlight newsletter issue.

Marina del Rey 45th Annual

Halibut Derby, June 1st & 2nd



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June 1st & 2nd 2024

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- YOUTH
- CLUB
- SMALL TEAM
- LARGE TEAM



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SCYA 94th Annual Midwinter Regatta

Lake Gregory Yacht Club, May 11th, 2024



Well, the ice has finally melted on Lake Gregory in Crestline, CA. That's why we do this in May not February.

So, the Lake Gregory Yacht Club invites skippers to the concluding regatta for the 94th annual Southern California Yachting Association (SCYA) Midwinter series.

Who: RC skippers and guests

What: SCYA 94th Annual Midwinter Regatta

Why: Corinthian competition and great trophies for top four finishers in each class

Where: Lake Gregory, Crestline, CA

When: Saturday May 11th, 2024

BBQ and Awards at conclusion of racing.

Visit <https://www.lakegregoryyachtclub.com> for event flyer, NOR and registration information!

For more information, please contact:

Henry Johnson

Lake Gregory Yacht Club // Co-RC Fleet Captain

henry@henyjohnson.com

Club Náutico Baja (CNB)

"Grandes



Navegantes" now open regatta to US racers

After 22 years, Club Náutico Baja opens the "Grandes Navegantes" regatta to US racers on June 16th, 2024; Mexican Ocean Racing champion Ramón Carlín remembered

Ensenada, Baja California, Mexico---When you think of Ensenada, certain races come to mind. NOSA's Newport to Ensenada race, SWYC's Little Ensenada race, and the Todos Santos regatta sponsored by Club Nautico Baja draw the largest participation of American racers in the region.

All that is about to change as a little-known Mexican regatta, a favorite of local racers now in its 23rd year, will be opened to the U.S. yachting community this year on Sunday, June 16th. Competitors seeking a new challenge should save the date and make plans now to participate.

It is called Grandes Navegantes ("Great Navigators"). It's actually older than its better known sister race, the Todos Santos regatta held each October. Past winners say there are big differences between the two.

"Both races go around the Todos Santos Islands," noted

three-time winner Eduardo Morales of the Catalina 27 "Yatemg," who has sailed these waters for decades. "The Todos Santos course is counterclockwise around the islands, and the Grandes Navegantes course clockwise. But beyond that, Grandes Navegantes is significantly more challenging due to the uncertainty and unpredictability of the conditions that you'll find. One year, you can sail directly from the start near the Coral Marina to the southern tip of the islands; another, you might have to tack all the way. Behind the islands are the ever-changing problems of the wind, rocks, current and kelp. The return is generally downwind via spinnaker to the finish."

Carlos Hussong, winner of the 2023 edition of Grandes Navegantes in his Catalina 38 "Foggy N. Valentina", summed it up this way: "Local sailors consider it much more difficult... a more technical regatta than Todos Santos. And the perpetual trophy is by far more significant than any other here in Mexico."

That trophy is important not only because of who donated it, but because of what it represents for Mexican sailing. The Mexican Ramón Carlín in 1973 as an amateur led his crew to victory in the first edition of what would become The Ocean Race. At that time, 17 yachts from 7 countries participated in the 27,000 nautical mile regatta. His boat, the Swan 65 "Saluya II", was dismasted during the 133 days of racing, and he donated a part of that mast to CNB to use in its most prized perpetual trophy. His struggles and his improbable triumph were memorialized in the award-winning film "The Weekend Sailor" which will be screened by CNB the night

before the race at the Hotel Coral.

CNB Commodore Jorge Hurtado noted that "The Grandes Navegantes trophy reminds us, as Mexicans, that against all odds we can compete at the highest level. It reinforces the ideals of training, perseverance, preparation and Corinthianism that lead to winning regattas. And this year, we invite our American friends to come and compete with us for this prize of historical importance."

American racers are encouraged to come, spend a long weekend and discover this tradition. A welcome reception, film screening, and traditional on-the-docks post-race party are being planned. For more information or to register for Grandes Navegantes, contact CNB at ClubNauticoBaja@gmail.com.

Club Nautico Baja AC
Ensenada, Baja California

Contacts:

Jorge Hurtado, Commodore tel +52 646-227-4939 (Spanish)

Mark Tuniewicz, Treasurer tel +1-508-472-5321 (English)

ClubNauticoBaja@gmail.com (bilingual)

#

Photos (provided by CNB)



CNB Perpetual Trophy for Grandes Navegantes regatta



Carlin (holding trophy) and crew, 1974



Carlin, in an undated photo prior to his death in 2016



Carlin's Swan 65 "Saluya II", in an undated photo

Dockside Podcast

Ep 22--American Whitewater Series



Part 3: Stewardship

In this episode, we will talk with Scott Harding, Theresa Lorejo-Simsiman, Dave Steindorf, and Jeff Venturino who have spent their lives making impacts on California Rivers by working with American Whitewater and promoting California River Stewardship. This episode is part of a 3-part series in partnership with American Whitewater, a national river conservation nonprofit with a mission to protect and restore America's Whitewater rivers and to enhance opportunities to enjoy them safely. [Listen here.](#)



Want more? Check our previous five podcast episodes [here](#).

This podcast was brought to you by the California State Parks Division of Boating and Waterways, the California Coastal Commission, and the San Francisco Estuary Partnership, and it is partially funded by the Division of Boating and Waterways Clean Vessel Act Education Program and the Federal Clean Vessel Grant Act Program.

US SAILING

2024 US Multihull Championship



Enjoy a warm, sunny Memorial Day Weekend (May 23-26, 2024) at the 2024 US Multihull Championship at Dallas Corinthian Yacht Club in Oak Point, TX.

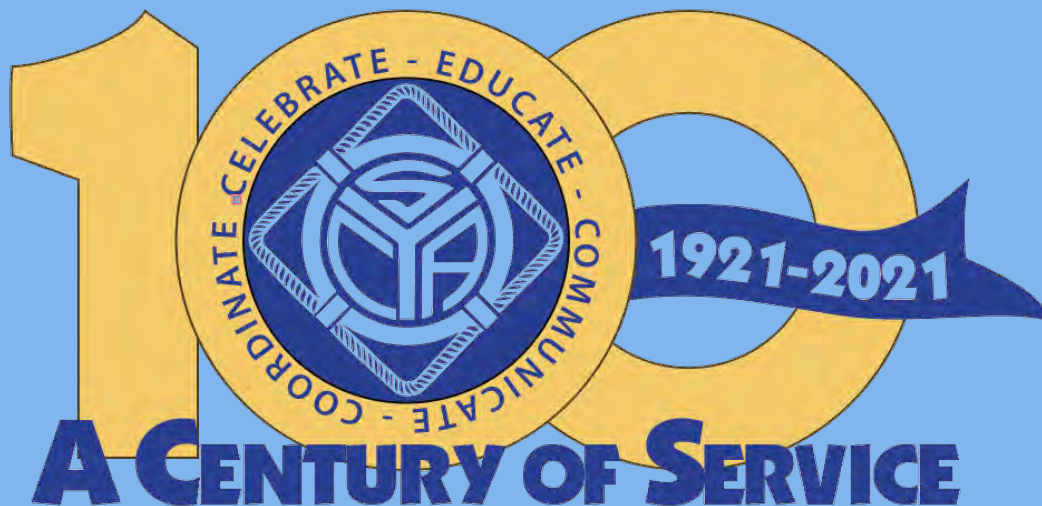
The Multihull Championship is one of several championships hosted by US Sailing in selected one-design class boats. The Alter Trophy, named in 1986 to honor Hobie Alter, Sr., and his extraordinary promotion of one-design multihull sailing and racing programs.

The 2024 Championship will be sailed in Hobie 16 Catamarans.

[Learn more>](#)

[Register here>](#) (Early Registration ends April 22, 2024)

SCYA Corinthian Leadership Nomination Form



SCYA Searchlight Newsletter Information

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[SCYA Website](#) | [SCYA Events](#) | [SCYA's Midwinter Regatta](#)



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