



Lake Mission Viejo Yacht Club

22555 Olympiad Road, Mission Viejo, Ca. 92692

NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2000



From the Editor

The docks and club house were as busy as I have ever seen on August 6, the date of our Summer Regatta II. June O'Connell and Tara Robison were decorating the club room to give it a festive Hawaiian look which turned out very well. Incidentally, how many of you saw June arrive in a boat filled with decorating materials? That must be a first.

Then there was the usual hauling of food and beverage supplies up to the club room; then flags, race committee equipment and supplies being carried down to the dock. Tables and chairs were being set up and arranged for the day. All this being accomplished by a large group of willing volunteers. Meanwhile, twenty four boats were being prepared for the days racing.

About forty five members attended a short LMVYC business meeting. Commodore Audrey Simenz gave a brief mid year status report on club plans and activities and noted the healthy increase in membership and participation. She also covered the reasons for proposed changes to the club By Laws and called for a vote. In accordance with the By Laws only one vote per family is allowed. There were twenty seven voting members present which easily met the quorum requirement and the proposed changes were approved by an unanimous vote.

Regatta report

Horst Weiler was Principal Race Officer for the day with a full boat load of volunteers for race committee.

If you noticed more excitement than usual in the starting line area, it's because there was. The winds were coming from the direction of "H" mark, which called for setting the windward starting flag nearer the center of the lake than the location used when "E" is the weather mark. The lake is deeper at the center so when the crew set the mark the line was too short for the depth and it promptly sank. The submerged flag was still visible because of the clarity of our wonderful lake water, but way out of reach. The life guards were asked for assistance and "rescued" the sunken mark. Don Schaffner donated one of his spinnaker sheets to use on the mark and the first race actually started right at the time announced at the skippers meeting.

Winds were fairly decent for mid summer topping out at 6 or 7 knots. The racing was tight in all three classes for all three of the predominately windward- leeward courses selected by Horst. There were nine Lidos on the starting line which was the largest turnout in many years.

Results 8/6/00

"A" Fleet

- 1st Don and Linda Schaffner**
- 2nd Ron and Holly Meyer**
- 3rd Arnold Christensen**

"B" Fleet- Division 1

- 1st Al Mc Cown and Family**
- 2nd John Drake**
- 3rd Doug Sheppard**

"B" Fleet- Division 2

- 1st Allyn and Sue Edwards**
- 2nd Ted Beresford**
- 3rd Milly Thomas and Peter Sjolander**

Results 8/6/00 Continued

Lake Fleet- Division 1

- 1st Ced Fields**
- 2nd Willie Hugelshofer**
- 3rd Frank Fournier**

Lake Fleet- Division 2

- 1st Kevin Henricks**
- 2nd Rick Quick**
- 3rd Bill Olson and Jim N.**

After racing we all enjoyed a Hawaiian themed feast of chicken, rice, carrots, banana muffins and a salad prepared by Sue Edwards, Bea Drake and June O'Connell followed by a super dessert made for us by Sue's mother. Great cooks one and all!

23rd Annual Regatta 8/27/00 Race Results- Top Finishers

"A" Fleet

- 1st Don and Linda Schaffner**
- 2nd Arnold Christensen and Holly Tiffany**

C-15

- 1st Horst Weiler and T.J. Henricks**
- 2nd Rod Simenz and Amanda Grey**

"B" Fleet

- 1st Doug Sheppard**
- 2nd Al McCown**
- 3rd Allyn and Sue Edwards**
- 4th Ted Beresford**

Lake Fleet

- 1st Steve Gonsowski**
- 2nd Rick Quick**
- 3rd Randy Tiffany**
- 4th Frank Fournier and Vivienne Savage**

Juniors Capri 14.2

- 1st Eric First and Mathew Fullerton**

Juniors Sabot

- 1st Brian Wegner**
- 2nd Tom Anderson**

Principal Race Officer - Willi Hugelshofer, RC members- Tricia Gonsowski, Cheryl Wegner

Western style vittals after the races were enjoyed by sixty members and guests. Thanks to Audrey Simenz for ribs and corn salad, Vivienne Savage for baked beans and Cheryl Wegner for green salad. Special thanks to Eric First for sharing his birthday cake.

SPECIAL COMING ATTRACTION

The next regatta, 9/24/00, will feature a fleet sponsored Pot Luck.

The Thistle & Lake fleets will be responsible for the main dishes. The Lidos and non sailors will bring salads and vegetables. All other A and B fleet boats will provide desserts. The Club will provide beverages, bread or rolls.

Call or e-mail Tara or Roger Robison if you need more information.

COMMODORE'S LINES

Our 23rd Annual Regatta was a special celebration this year as Horst Weiler regaled us with a short history of LMVYC ; with Willi Hugelshofer keeping him honest! And we all realized how fortunate we are to have had Horst and Willi working so hard to keep the Club going during some very lean membership years. Due to their safeguarding of old records we have been able to reconstruct the early years when the Club was formed and fill in some important details of our history along the way. We also now have a list of all the commodores from 1978 and even some records of a few of those early Invitationals. Can you imagine forty boats competing on the Lake? And food for a hundred after a some of the regattas? It all happened! We're planning to put a scrapbook together so all these details will be available for future members as well. Three cheers for Horst and Willi who gave us something to celebrate in every future Annual Regatta.

Looking ahead to our Annual Awards we've added something new this year, a really special trophy (Arnold is very imaginative!) which will be presented to the sailor who is willing to tell us about his worst / best blooper on the Lake this year. So start trying to recall the misadventure you'd thankfully banished from your mind. True confessions may be good for the soul and now they may pay off as well! Remember to check your flyer for details of the potluck following the Fall Regatta on September 24th. See you there. Audrey

History of the Racing Rules of Sailing

Sail boat racing began with two of our Neanderthal ancestors. They raised their bearskins over their heads in an attempt to get the log they were sitting on to float faster than a Tyrannosaurs Rex could swim. They succeeded and a new sport was born.

The earliest competitions tended to be between national teams, (Mycenaeans vs. Troy Abductors, Norway Vikings vs. Europa Victims etc.) and were hard on competitors and ships. Contact between boats (grappling, hand-to-hand combat, ramming) was considered part of the game, and the losing team was required to host a pillage and burn party for the winners. This eventually evolved into the post race celebration party and remains with us today.

As we wandered the evolutionary path from Neanderthal to Napoleon to today the notion arose that allowing the losers to survive and rebuild could result in more frequent contests and celebration parties, thus the international rules began to be accepted. First, boarding parties were outlawed; then Greek Fire, cannon broadsides, ramming etc., until we finally arrived at our current state of affairs where one can get into trouble for hurting a competitor's feelings. See DSQ'd.

In some ways this is probably just as well, since we no longer have the option of dragging our competitors families and neighbors off to repair our boats. We thus find ourselves behooved to avoid those situations which could lead to 'crackus fiberglassus' or 'bustedus mastus', conditions cured only by the transfer of all of our funds to the account of the Willy Sutun Boatworks.

And that is what the Rules are all about, they are designed to allow large numbers of boats to sail at top speed in close company around a race course.

On the race course, the assumption is that everyone knows the Rules and will react to the different situations that arise in the predictable way, according to the Rules. This assures safe and fair competition, makes tactical and strategic planning possible and gets everyone back to the dock safely for the post-race celebration party. (*Mainsheet of the Thames YC*)

