



Lake Mission Viejo Yacht Club

22555 Olympiad Road, Mission Viejo, Ca. 92692

NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2000

New Race Course Chart!

The popularity of the new race courses is mentioned elsewhere in this newsletter but how about appearance? In terms of graphics the new LMVYC race course charts have reached an all time high water mark. It is second to *none* when compared to any of the 50 or so established clubs in the Southern California Yachting Association, (SCYA), and some of them have over 75 years of racing tradition. Well done, and many thanks to Allyn Edwards for creating our new chart.

Code Flag Yellow

Prior to the new international *Racing Rules of Sailing* the starting sequence was white for warning, blue for preparatory and red for start. Under the new rules a yellow flag was substituted for the white flag to indicate the warning signal.

LMVYC adopted the yellow code flag change at the 2/27/00 race. Thank you Elisabeth Fournier for making the flag for us.

Flags, Flags, Flags

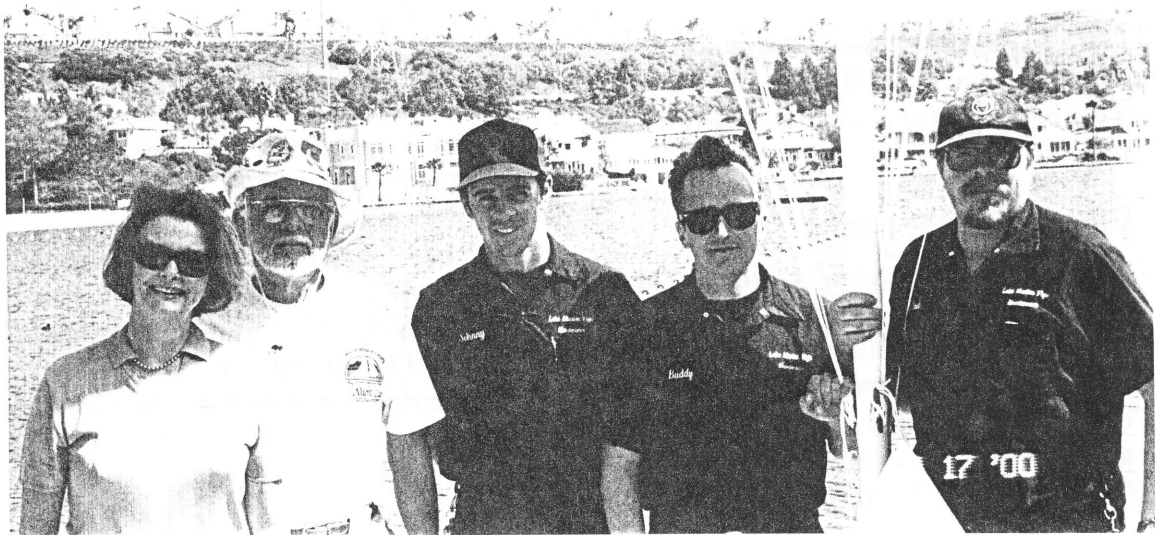
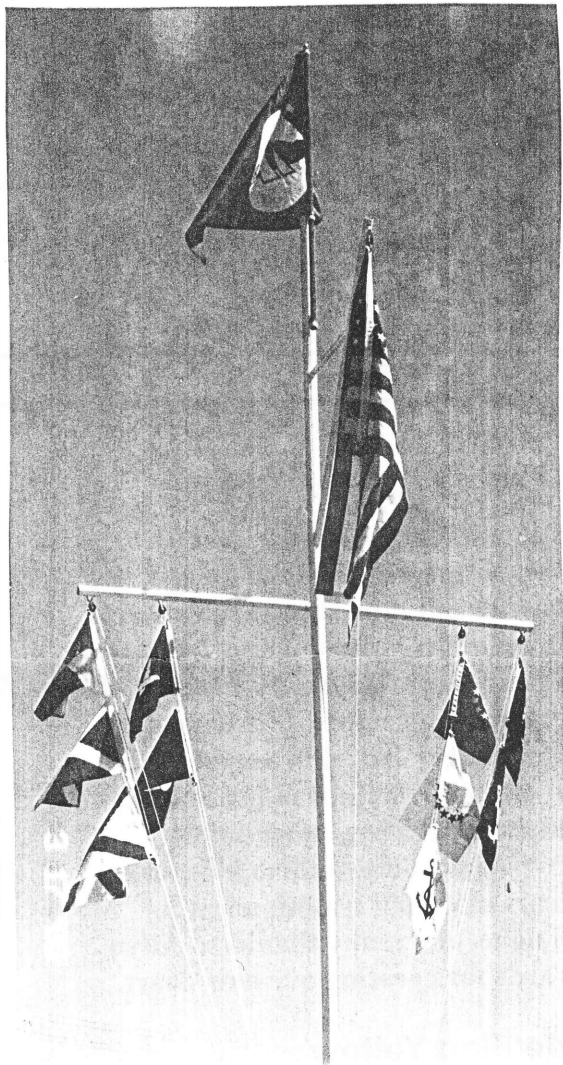
Our commodore, Audrey Simenz, had observed flag poles at many other sailing clubs which prompted her to question if it was possible that we could have our own LMVYC flag pole and if so could we have it in time for Opening Day?

Discussions with fellow club officers and the Lake management determined the answer was yes.

That's the background on the new flag pole erected on the dock in front of the club room building. The highly traditional and authentic pole with yardarm and gaff was researched and then designed by Frank Fournier. The team of Buddy Dugi, Johnny Greybeck and Paul Branstine from LMVA maintenance rounded up the necessary parts, assembled, painted and erected the flag pole. Frank then handled the finishing touches to make it operational which included making the special staff that the Club burgee is attached to.

Several people have asked if it is proper to fly the Club burgee higher than the American flag. Be assured that with this type of flag mast the American flag is always flown on the gaff in the position of honor. This is in accordance with flag display protocol.

With all our special flags flying, the new pole makes a colorful addition to the lake shoreline and also creates interest in the club and the recreational and social activities it has to offer to all LMVA members.



Audrey Frank Johnny Buddy and Paul

February 27 Tune Up Regatta

The race committee for the day was Steve Gonsowski ably assisted by Roger Robison and Willi Hugelshofer. They used the new starting line location and the new set of race courses for the first time. Highly favorable comments were heard from all the competitors. A few really minor revisions are planned for the courses, so things are off to a great start.

Winds blew then the rains came, finally forcing abandonment of the final race. The racers were wet and cold but the competition was hot. Top finishers were:

Opening Day 3/19/00

Tara Robison got things started very early Sunday morning as she and Zak decorated the board room, set up the food and beverage stations and generally had things pretty well organized by the time the rest of us arrived. Every thing looked great.

Activities for the day got started with an Opening Day ceremony on the dock where the new flag pole is located. After a brief welcome by Commodore Audrey Simenz, Ron Meyer gave a very thoughtful invocation which reminded us all how much we have to be thankful for. This was followed by flag presentations to each club officer. Port captain Randy Tiffany handled the flag raising duty for the occasion(twelve!, count 'em). He even provided the appropriate music. The final flag raised was the club burgee to officially mark the opening for the season.

The ceremony on the dock was followed by a bountiful brunch put on by Tara Robison, Vivienne Savage and Audrey Simenz, and enjoyed by a crowd of over fifty participants. Thanks to Caecilia Weiler, Cheryl Wegner and Tricia Gonsowski for their help throughout the day and to Sue Edwards for the delicious pasta salad we all enjoyed after the racing

It would not be Opening Day without some sail boat races, so twenty boats sailed out to the starting line in bright sunshine and good breezes. Race committee for the day was John Olson, assisted by Len and Vivienne Savage, Tricia Gonsowski and Cheryl Wegner.

The new race courses worked out well again. One outcome, which was one of the goals for the new courses, is that the fleets tend to be closer to each other during the race than previously. This puts a little more emphasis on knowing when you have right of way and even more important when you *don't*. If you are not sure about any of the rules and have questions give Steve Gonsowski a call or bring it up at Wednesday night pizza.

Opening Day Regatta Top Finishers

A Fleet – 1st Don and Linda Schaffner, 2nd Ron and Holly Meyer, 3rd Roger and Tara Robison

B Fleet—John Drake, 2nd Doug Sheppard, 3rd Audrey and Rod Simenz

Lake Fleet—1st Ced Fields, 2nd Frank Fournier, 3rd Steve Gonsowski

Juniors—1st Brian Wegner and Tom Anderson

A FLEET

1st Don and Linda Schaffner

2nd Ron and Holly Meyer

3rd Horst Weiller and Graham Newman

B Fleet

1st Milly Thomas and Mike Farina

2nd Audrey and Rod Simenz

3rd Doug Sheppard and Mark Rumph

Lake Fleet

1st Ced Fields

2nd Frank Fournier

3rd Randy and Norma Tiffany

The food and refreshments served after the races were provided by Tara and Roger Robison



*LMVYC Flag Officers for the Year 2000
Milly, Vivienne, Willi, Tara, Roger, Audrey and Frank*