



THE MAIN SHEET

From The Bridge



What a Year! If it was not the weather cancelling the 2019 Christmas parade on the lake, then it was a COVID-19 pandemic cancelling a whole lot of other festivities. Today, however, we are going to focus on the really good things about the Lake Mission Viejo Yacht Club.

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The people in this organization are what make this club. When our members are challenged, there is a response, and it has always been a positive response. When we cannot have meals and large gatherings in our club room after a regatta, we get great sandwiches and a few cold beers out on the grass for race participants. When we cannot gather for our board meetings every month, we have Zoom meetings, getting the business of the club taken care of. When we cannot have a complete Race Committee on the boat, we will have a reduced Race Committee boat efficiently run. There is always a positive response to a challenge for this club!

You see the pattern...this organization has adapted to our circumstances and had a fun year anyway! We have enjoyed each other and had our competitions regardless of circumstances. Yazmin and Frank, Audrey, Guy, Rod, Nicole, Mia, Arnold, and every one of you who have helped keep the pizza coming, the notices going out, the results posted, the Burgees flying, and the Newsletters coming ...all of you have made this a memorable year for the Lake Mission Viejo Yacht Club!

Mark Your Calendars!

- December—Party and Boat Parade—**Cancelled (COVID-19)**
- January—Awards and Installation Dinner— **Cancelled (COVID-19)**
- January 24—Tune Up Regatta
- February 21—Midwinter Regatta
- Note: Social gatherings before and after these events are subject to LMVA Guidelines.

A Big Thank You goes out to all of the Flag Officers, the appointed position holders, and to all of those who have volunteered their time and energy to keeping the sails on the waters of Lake Mission Viejo this year. It has been a privilege and a joy to serve as your Commodore this year!

Randy Tisdale

LMVYC Commodore 2020

Annual Election Results Announced

Jr. S/C Kevin Weir

As Chair of the 2020 Nominating Committee I am proud to announce the leadership team for 2021. First, thanks are due to my colleagues, Emmet Rixford and Frank Roberts—their insights were essential.

Unable to hold our annual election and meeting in the Club Room due to COVID-19, absentee ballots were e-mailed to members. No petitions to nominate alternatives were submitted. More than the required 15% of ballots received indicated “Yes”. Zero “No’s” were received. Interestingly, as Protocol/Historian Audrey Simenz pointed out, roughly the same number of absentee ballots were received this year as members voted in past in-person elections. The board approved the slate of officers as presented during their A.G.M. ZOOM meeting on the evening of November 15. Congratulations to the 2021 Board!



I wanted freedom,
open air, and
adventure. I found it
on the sea.

-Alaine Gerbault,
Sailor

COMMODORE: Guy Heaton

VICE COMMODORE: Scott Pursell

REAR COMMODORE: Allyn Edwards

JR. STAFF COMMODORE: Randy Tisdale

PORT CAPTAIN: Graham Newman

FLEET CAPTAIN: Rod Simenz

RACE CHAIRMAN: Guy Heaton

TREASURER: Arnold Christensen

HOSPITALITY CHAIR: Yasemin Talay

SECRETARY: Mia Ishikawa

A copy of the Annual General Meeting minutes was sent to all members. Our meeting has always offered the opportunity for members to ask questions of the current board. Any questions this year may be addressed to 2020 Commodore Randy Tisdale commodore@LMVYC.org. Thank you to Randy and his 2020 board for their leadership in difficult circumstances.

My Experience Sailing The Melges 17

Maverick Trudell

The Melges 17 is the largest and fastest sailboat we have in the Lake Mission Viejo Yacht Club fleet. It was acquired by a lease arrangement from the Mission Viejo Youth Sailing Foundation (MVYSF). I love to sail, so this speedy boat presents a great adventure for a kid my age. The Melges is a Bermuda rigged racing boat first launched in 2004. It weighs 300 pounds and can hold a crew of 2 people. The Melges 17 has 3 sails available; the mainsail, the jib (a small sail in the front of the boat, which helps the boat reach high speeds), and the spinnaker (a very large sail that is mainly used off wind).

Emmet Rixford, an experienced sailor and Staff Commodore at the Lake Mission Viejo Yacht Club, invited me to sail with him in the Melges 17 and race against the other adults in a recent Wednesday afternoon regatta. I gladly accepted his invitation and was very excited, as I was going to be the driver (also known as the skipper in sailing terms). The boat was fairly easy to set up, as most small boats are along the same lines when it comes to rigging.



Maverick and Emmet

Once we launched the boat, I could instantly feel the wind blowing through my hair as we took off and headed for the starting line. This boat has the ability to catch speed in very low wind areas so I was curious to see how well we would place in the races. The waves were very choppy, which warned of strong wind. In the sail are carbon fiber battens to keep the sail straight and keep it from flopping around. Well, every once in a while when we tacked (turn the tiller towards the sail which makes you turn in the opposite direction of the sail) one of

the battens would bend and make a big lump in the sail. To fix that, I had to duck while Emmet yanked on the boom to straighten it out. Emmet is a very knowledgeable sailor and he taught me many strategies to implement when trimming (to pull in or let out the sail). During the regatta, the Melges glided across the water as we rounded the marks. By the second race we were in first place! Heading for the last mark before the final stretch to the finish line, Emmet told me to "Take it wide and don't tack right away." We were able to successfully complete the race in first

place due to Emmet's vast knowledge, and from the dedicated teachings of my dear sailing coach, Captain Rod Simenz, who has selflessly taught me how to sail over the last few years.

After we won three races, Emmet and I sailed off to the end of the lake and raised the spinnaker. We sure flew like a bird! At one point we were going so fast that water was splashing against my

back. After that we started to head in while we took down the spinnaker. Derigging the boat with Emmet was a joy. Soon the boat was put away and I was ready to go home and tell my parents all about my memorable day on the Melges 17. The Melges is now one of my favorite boats and I hope to sail it again soon. I want to thank our yacht club and MVYSF for providing the junior sailing team with the Melges 17 so we can train in and experience what sailing a modern, high tech boat is all about.



**Sailor is an artist
whose medium is
the wind.**

- Webb Chiles

Junior Team Challenge Regatta, 10/15/20

Rod Simenz

This year’s junior regatta planning started with naming three team captains, and letting them choose their team colors. Nicole Sighiartau the defending champ chose blue, Vivian Ikeda grabbed gold and Deagan Willis red. A format of three races and the use of CFJ, Sabot 1, Sabot 2 and Expo 14.2 for the relay was agreed to. Next a player draft via a Zoom meeting was held to select members for each team from the list of juniors that had signed up to participate.

	Blue	Gold	Red
Captain	Nicole Sighiartau	Vivian Ikeda	Deagan Willis
	Kyle McGlothlin	John Sweeney	Tyler Hallstrom
	Maycie Pugh	McKenna Pugh	Roman Lufti
	Lindsay Taylor	Kate Sweeney	Griffyn Pugh
	Maverick Trudell	Alex Youakim	Madoc Pugh
			Nico Rousset



Your present circumstances don't determine where you can go; they merely determine where you start.

- Nido Quein

On regatta day a lot of team effort went into rigging and launching six Sabots, three CFJs and prep of three Expos. Race chair Guy Heaton went over the very detailed Sailing Instructions. Each relay race consisted of four laps, with a different class boat sailed in each lap and the order of start changed for each race. Then off to the races. Sixteen of our juniors sailed the fleet of boats to East beach dock for last minute discussions with their team captains and team mates.

The first race showed what relay sail boat racing is all about and it was exciting to see. The CFJs were the first start and Blue team captain, Nicole, gained a huge lead. The race seemed to be over with Red and Gold battling for second. But Madoc Pugh somehow chased down the lead Sabot in the second lap and put Red in the lead for the third lap where Tyler fended off Alex and Kyle to help Red win the first race.



Sabots and CFJs at the mark

Junior Regatta, continued



Skilled mark roundings

The winds improved for the second and third races that provided excitement, especially at the starts and rounding marks. The older kids in CFJs put on a show with their advanced sailing skills in tactics, helmsmanship, and boat handling. Red won the second race and Blue won the third race. A Sabot tied up at the dock with the mainsheet cleated added some excitement before the third race. The wind blew the Sabot over, it filled up with water and almost sunk. Lots of people frantically bailing, even life guards, helping to get the Sabot ready for the next race. Lesson learned ... I hope.

Congratulations to Deagan's winning Red Team with a final score of 4 points, followed by Blue with 6 points and Gold with 8 points.

Thanks to the fourteen adults who contributed so much to the fun and success of the regatta with their efforts on race committee, mark set, coaching and hospitality. A special thanks also to the "dock master" parents that took on the responsibility to send the right boats, with the right skippers to the start line as their team mates approached the finish line on each lap of the relay.

The perpetual trophy was presented to the Red team as the juniors enjoyed complimentary pizza and the adult participants snacked on individual boxed sandwiches from Bagels and Brew.



Team Red



**There is nothing half so
much worth doing as
simply messing around
in boats.**

- Kenneth Grahame

Fall Regatta 2 aka Oktoberfest

S/C Frank Roberts

2020 has been an interesting year. Our schedule was shortened to six events, all held without the usual party afterwards. The Fall Regatta was no different.

Winds were light and variable so reading them was the skipper's advantage. And again, knowing the course pays off.

So was it a fluke? Could he hold up to the intense pressure?



C Fleet at the line



"It's remarkable how quickly a good and favorable wind can sweep away the maddening frustrations of shore living."

—Ernest K. Gann



A Fleet at the start

Our first race started off; sailors in their respective classes hit the start line with winning on their minds. As the first race drew to a close, some familiar names finished first, Nicole Sighiartau finished first in B Fleet, piloting her Balboa in her expert fashion. Deagan Willis also finished first in C Fleet. But A Fleet saw a new name at the top, Staff Commodore Randy Tiffany in his intrepid Wayfarer. Randy is no stranger to wins, but A fleet has had a tough competitor at the top for several years now.

The second race was also interesting. Nicole came in fourth, a rare sight. Lake winds can be a challenge with some boats moving fast only a few feet away from those sitting still. Port Captain Graham Newman finished first in the race in his C14.2. Deagan again finished second in C Fleet with Cheyenne Stegal taking first in her Laser. But again, Staff Commodore Randy Tiffany took first place! Not a surprise I remind you, but he is racing in a tough class. I scored a DNF after not remembering the course! So from now on, I keep a Sharpie and masking tape to write it down. Memory can fade in all the excitement of a start.



B Fleet at the line



Covering force coming up!

Fall Regatta 2, continued



Perils of an Aero!. Nice righting!

Third race saw a bit of normalcy return with Nicole tied for first in B Fleet with Frank Roberts, Deagan first in C Fleet, and Vice Commodore/Race Chair Guy Heaton first in A Fleet. But, Randy came in second so his day was looking good.

So the fourth race was going to be the decider. After all Fleets started, Nicole again established herself as a premier racer by taking first place in B Fleet and first place in the regatta. Kate Sweeney took first place in C Fleet and Deagan took second place and first overall. But again, Staff Commodore Randy Tiffany took first place for a first overall for the day in A Fleet!



Tyler Peyatt downwind.

Well done to all the racers and to our Race Committee of two: Mia Ishikawa and Audrey Simenz. Without these two ladies stepping up, we would have struggled in our regattas.

Afterwards, a few celebratory German beers and a sandwich and we wrapped up our day.



Happy sailors Frank F. and Randy Tiffany.



The Rixfords chasing Frank Roberts

The sea finds out everything you did wrong.

- Francis Stokes

Editor's Note: September Regatta Photos (Fall Regatta 1) are available online at LMVYC.org

Gobbling Up The Afternoon: 2020 Turkey Regatta

Jr. S/C Kevin Weir



The most challenging times bring us the most empowering lessons.

- Karen Salmansohn



S/C Glackin in his Thistle

Fourteen boats competed in the 2020 Turkey Regatta. A beautiful day on the lake began with more than adequate wind and ended with wisps. Wind was from the west, resulting in the leeward mark being set adjacent to East Beach. Four races commenced.

Race 1 for A Fleet was a short course with Mark Glackin in his Thistle besting Guy Heaton, Arnold Christensen, and Tyler Peyatt. Race Two was a slightly longer course. The corrected finishing order was Guy Heaton, in Balboa #8 in first place, followed by Mark, Tyler, and Arnold. A Fleet's third race was slightly longer. While Mark's boat crossed the finish line first, Guy corrected for the win. Arnold placed third; Tyler fourth. Race 4 was a twice around course – requiring more time in competition. In that race, Guy again finished first followed by Tyler, Mark, and Arnold. Overall – Guy took first place, followed by Mark, Tyler, and Arnold.



Tyler Peyatt and Arnold Christensen

I competed in B Fleet. I was using new and improved jib cars along with lighter jib sheets. Although the upgrades provided a smoother experience than my old equipment, I finished fourth in the fleet. Results in all four of our races were the same: Nicole Sighiartau placing first (by a long ways), Graham Newman coming in second (and doing very well, as well), Emmet and Vicki Rixford placing third, and me looking at transoms. The fourth race, also a twice around course, went from the usual experience, to light winds. It was a long race for all of those not named Nicole. We were the last boats in the regatta to head for the dock. The wind was no more than a breath of air at times, making that journey slow and persistent.



B Fleet sailors: Vicki and Emmet Rixford and your author.

C Fleet included our competitive juniors, Daniela Sighiartau with Julius as crew, and Rod Simenz skippering his newly acquired Twichell 12. Vivien Ikeda took the first race, correcting over the fleet in her Tera. She was followed by Maverick Trudell, Deagan

Turkey Regatta, continued



Vivian Ikeda

Willis, Rod, Cheyenne Stegal, and Daniela. Maverick easily took the second race followed by Cheyenne, Rod, Deagan, Vivian, and Daniela. Deagan corrected to first place in the third race followed by Cheyenne, Maverick, Rod, Daniels, and Vivian. The fourth race was the longest for C Fleet, as well. Cheyenne crossed the finish line first in her laser, followed by Maverick, also racing a laser. Daniela arrived in third place, Vivian in fourth, and Deagan in fifth. Rod lost his steering gear, nursing his Twichell to the restaurant dock. Overall, Maverick finished in first place followed by Cheyenne, Deagan, Vivian, Rod, and Daniela.

This wonderful day would not have happened without racers, of course, but it definitely would not have taken place without a masked Race Committee. Audrey Simenz, Mia Ishikawa, and Suzanne Hugelshofer managed the com-



A,B, & C boats at the Race Committee

mittee boat. Commodore Randy Tisdale and R/C Scott Purcell ran the mark-set boat.

Race participants were treated to Bagels and Brew sandwiches – something that a few of us experienced in the dark after putting our boats away.



R/C Guy Heaton



A focused Graham Newman.



Julius and Daniela Sighiartau

Sailors, with their built-in sense of order, service and discipline, should really be running the world.

- Nicholas Monsarrat

A Greeting From New Members

Leo Liang

Thanks for the warm welcome!

We are a couple in our mid 50's who moved to Mission Viejo about 1 1/2 years ago. Our older daughter graduated from college and works in San Francisco. Our second daughter is still in college and studies at home due to the current COVID-19 situation.

We originally immigrated from Beijing, China twenty plus years ago. I have been an electrical/software engineer most of my ca-



reer. My wife works as a realtor. Photography has been my hobby for the last 15 years. As all our children are moving out of the house, our life has started to slow down. We are do-

ing our best to keep an active lifestyle. We love camping, hiking, snorkeling, kayaking, and paddle boarding. Sailboats are something new that we just recently discovered. Our dream is to sail to the Caribbean Sea, Hawaii, or even further around the world, before we get too old. If this dream ever comes true, the Lake Mission Viejo Yacht Club will be our very first step to start a long journey.

Thanks again for everyone's hospitality and help.



Land was created to provide a place for boats to visit.

—Brooks Atkinson

Birthday Greetings: Three In A Row!

Three of our members celebrated their birthdays together on September 16. Rod Simenz, S/C Frank Fournier, and Commodore Randy Tisdale were born one day apart from each other. Rod on the 15th, Frank on the 16th, and



Randy on the 17th. To add to this serendipity, Rod and Frank were born in the same year. Wednesday night sailors celebrated their birthdays with a cake prepared by Kit Tisdale. Happy Belated Birthdays!



What About Those Twichells?

Rod Simenz

You may have noticed a different class of dinghy sailing on the lake— here is the story. Four members of Balboa Yacht Club made a very generous donation of their Twichell 12 sail boats to LMVYC sailors on September 22, 2020. The Twichell 12 is a special boat designed to be easily and comfortably sailed by older folks. Some novel features include joy stick steering, self tacking jib, forward facing bench seat and no hiking. The boats are in good condition and came with boat covers, a launch dolly and very good sails. Randy Tisdale, Frank Fournier, Scott Purcell and Rod Simenz/ Bill Murphy who are sharing one are the lucky recipients. These members have made a commitment to pay storage fees and maintain the boats in good condition. There is



Proud new owners!

an understanding that they will pass them on to fellow club members when they no longer are using them. The four Twichells give the club an instant “One Design”



S/C Frank Fournier

fleet that will provide fun racing on the lake for years to come. The boats are kept on dollies next to the boat storage racks and that makes for very easy access to the launch ramp.

As with any boat new to the lake there was the mandatory 30 day quarantine, but all four Twichells were launched and sailed on the first Wednesday available. Randy encountered trouble with his boat’s steering mechanism and had to return to the dock after a short sail. Frank, Scott and I participated in a number of races and found the boats super easy to sail and that we were pretty equally matched. This should make for a great rivalry and ton of fun at future regattas and at informal Wednesday afternoon sailing.

On a day when the wind is perfect, the sail just needs to open and the world is full of beauty.

—Rumi



Lined up for first day



Rod Simenz



LAKE MISSION VIEJO
YACHT CLUB

2021 Calendar

Date	Event	Notes / Information
Sun-24-Jan	Tune-up Regatta	Practice Races
Sun-21-Feb	Midwinter Regatta	** Food and beverages after sailing - Clubroom
Wed-17-Mar	"Wet Wednesday" Sunset Sailing Begins	Informal Sailing starting about 3:00 - 4:00 PM
Sun-21-Mar	Opening Day Ceremonies & Regatta	LMVA Club House, Reception 11:00am, Ceremonies 11:45 am, Commodore's Brunch 12:15. Regatta after Brunch
Sun-25-Apr	Spring Regatta I	** Food and beverages after sailing - Clubroom
Sun-16-May	Spring Regatta II	** Food and beverages after sailing - Clubroom
Fri-25-Jun	Friday Night Sunset Sail & BYO-BBQ Begins	Sail 4:30 pm. Dinner 6:30-7:00... Bring your own food & beverage - Club picnic area. (Every Friday thru Sept. 4th)
Sun-13-Jun	Summer Regatta	** Food and beverages after sailing - Clubroom
Sun-18-Jul	Team Challenge Regatta	Pancake Breakfast before Regatta - Clubroom
Sun-15-Aug	LMVYC 44th Annual Regatta	** Food and beverages after sailing - Club picnic area
Sun-26-Sep	Fall Regatta	** Food and beverages after sailing - Club picnic area
Sun-17-Oct	Junior Regatta	Food and beverages after sailing - Club picnic area
Sun-24-Oct	Top Skipper Championship	By invitation of the Commodore. Food and beverages after sailing - Clubroom
Wed-03-Nov	Final "Wet Wednesday" for the year	
Wed-10-Nov	Wednesday Night Lake Walk Begins	Meet at Market on the Lake @ 6:00pm
Sun-14-Nov	Turkey Regatta and LMVYC Annual Meeting	** Annual Meeting 4:30 pm LMVYC Club Room. All Club Members invited. Food and beverages after Annual Meeting
TBD	Christmas Party & Parade of Lights. Club "schooner" leads the way!	5.00 pm. (LMVA Boardroom) Hors d'oeuvres & Dessert Potluck before and after the Boat Parade
Jan-2022	Awards and Officers Installation Dinner	Venue: TBD

** Indicates part of the Club Championship Series