

LMVYC NEWS Feb 2009



Class Rod and Audrey Simenz, Balboa 13 Class Michelle Yu, and "C" Fleet Lake Boats Peter Tietz. I also want to thank Shawn McGraw from the American Legion Yacht Club who sailed a Club Balboa 13 and finished 3rd. Our food service was excellent again and everyone really enjoyed Cathie's Italian Dinner, we should all give Cathie a really big thank you for her effort to organize and see that our spirits are high and belly's are full, along with Karin Bennett who joined in this year to help Cathie, and Marilyn Haehn who's help last year sharing the responsibility with Cathie and then taking on the position of Quartermaster this year, thanks again.

Operating the Club is a bigger job than I could every have imagined, I want to thank my staff for their excellent effort and getting the job done, my Vice Commodore Randy Tiffany and Rear Commodore Peter Tietz have made everything really so much easier for me with them stepping up and taking on the Membership responsibilities and other responsibilities within the board, again thanks to you both, and a big thanks to Michelle Asay taking on the Secretary roll left vacant by the retirement of Audrey Simenz. I have had assistance getting started this year from our Junior Staff Commodore Ron Meyer and Staff Commodore Tony Musolino, can never say thanks enough.

Our web site is up and fully operational thanks to our Web Site Host Roger Robison, thanks Roger for all your effort to keep us informed on the net.

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From the Commodore

As we finish up our first two months of the year, we have gotten off to a very good start. Our Tune-Up Regatta in January allowed sailors to get in some valuable racing practice, which then led to our February SCYA Midwinter Regatta. Congratulations to all the winners of this year's SCYA Midwinter Regatta, Portsmouth Class Willi Huggleshofer, Wayfarer

And everyone is enjoying our newsletter thanks to the efforts of Jack McCollum and his wonder world of words and our photo's from our club photographers Ted and Mia Ishikawa.

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The Club's Balboa 13 fleet is ready for your use, they are a very fast and fun boat and our fleet captain Jeff Buchman is ready to assist. Please contact Jeff to reserve your boat for any of our regattas this year.

The Club is here for everyone's enjoyment and I know Cathie and I have really been enjoying it. Sometimes I wonder if it is too much with dealing with all the other clubs and going to opening days and with being the Chairman for the 2010 SCYA Midwinter Regatta and all the activities of the SCYA and AOCYC groups but then I realize that is why I

joined this club to begin with, I wish everyone could experience the comradery of the Yachting Community and the friendship of a small yacht club that we have come to enjoy and love with all the various backgrounds of all its members.

Duty officer list will be coming out shortly, this is a chance for everyone to help out and participate with the club and its functions.

Please come out and join in the fun and if you're looking for help learning to sail, we have a wonder staff that is ready to teach or advance your sailing skills.

We will have a Club Housekeeping day on Saturday the 7th of March from 1200 to 0200 hours to get the clubhouse ready for the season, come and join in we can use your help.

Our next event is on the 29th of March with the Opening Day Ceremony, guest registration and reception starting at 1030 hours. We'll have the ceremony from 1100 to 1130 hours, brunch at 1130 hours and our Opening Day Regatta starting shortly after. You can join us to get the 2009 Sailing Season off to a fun and good start, have a day racing and then join us to see what feast our Fleet Surgeons have prepared for us. Any questions please contact one of our commodores Randy Tiffany, Peter Tietz or myself.



On regatta day the sailors check their boats and tune the rigging, then sail out to the course, cross the starting line, keep their sails trimmed for maximum speed during the race and compete hard until they finish; and trust that someone is keeping track of who beat who. Our race committee does just that, check out all the results posted on the club web site; but it takes a village.

Five people are needed aboard the race committee boat to get reliable boat finish positions and finish times. They work as a team with one person spotting the finish line and calling out the sail number as each boat crosses the line. The timer calls out the corresponding finish time and three people record each sail number and finish time. Often three or four boats may finish almost simultaneously, then things can get hectic on board.

Many of the regattas require a second boat to relocate race mark(s) for changing wind conditions. This boat also accommodates visitors, club members as well as the club photographer.

We are fortunate to have a wonderful core group of experienced people that serve on these two boats. However, as you might expect, with twelve regattas scheduled there are times when one or more of these “regulars” are not available. So additional volunteers are needed to fill in from time to time. If you are interested in having fun and helping out on either the race committee boat or the mark set boat please contact me.

Rod Simenz

Race Chairman.



Persistence key at Midwinter's

Having just come through a midwinter storm, and with more rain in the forecast, the scene was set for a great day to start the sailing season at the Midwinter Regatta held on Saturday the 21st of February. Unfortunately, the day turned out to be one of the worst weather disasters in the last 10 years. While the fleet of 15 boats had little wind and the race committee weighed their options at the scheduled 12:30 start, one boat skippered by Jeff Buchman sailed at 5 knots with the assistance of the life guard boat after a rigging failure on his Balboa 13. He seemed to be the lucky one. Finally, the wind picked up to a brisk 2 or 3 knots at 1:20 and the fleet was off.

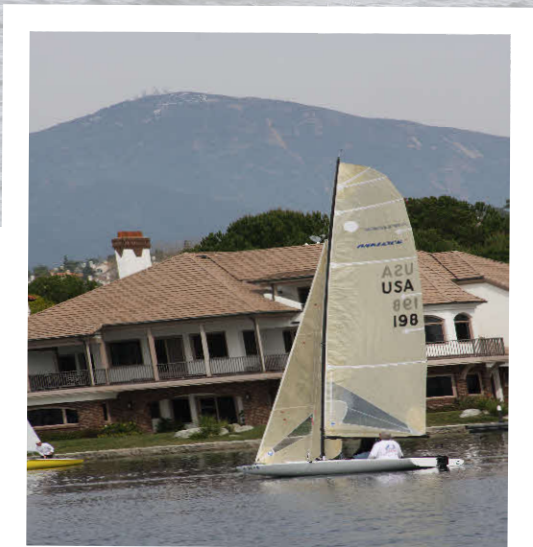
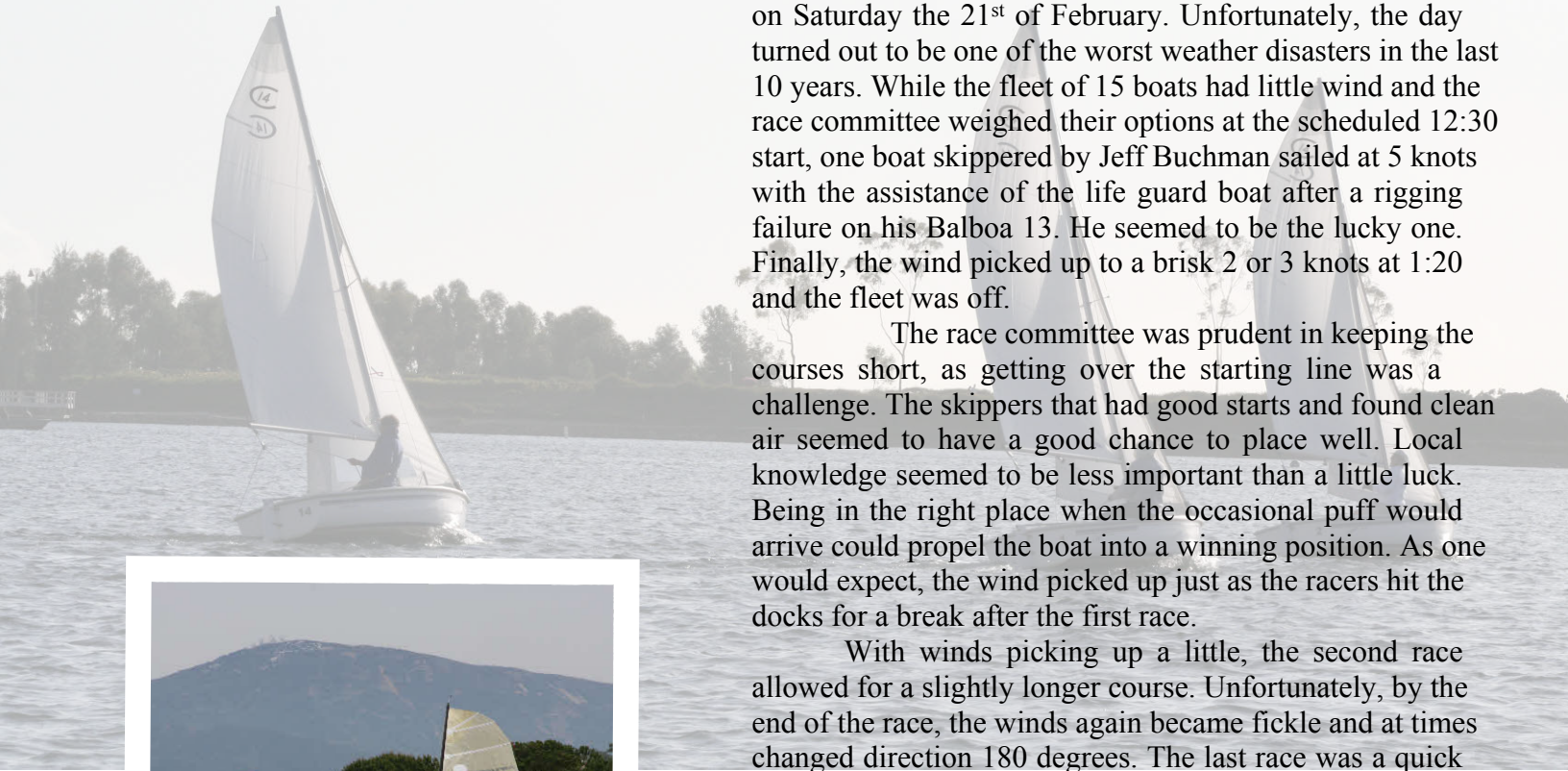
The race committee was prudent in keeping the courses short, as getting over the starting line was a challenge. The skippers that had good starts and found clean air seemed to have a good chance to place well. Local knowledge seemed to be less important than a little luck. Being in the right place when the occasional puff would arrive could propel the boat into a winning position. As one would expect, the wind picked up just as the racers hit the docks for a break after the first race.

With winds picking up a little, the second race allowed for a slightly longer course. Unfortunately, by the end of the race, the winds again became fickle and at times changed direction 180 degrees. The last race was a quick windward rounding which allowed the racers to get to the dock before the sun went down. Ultimately, those that persisted and had some luck came out victors on what was probably some of the toughest sailing conditions we have seen.

In the open fleet, Willi Hugelshofer and Horst Weiler fought it out for first place with Willi winning by one point. Audrey and Rod Simenz dominated the Wayfarer class with three first place finishes. Michelle Yu, the youngest competitor, captured 1st place in the hard-fought Balboa 13 class. Steve Johnson placed 2nd with Shawn McGraw from ALYC at 3rd, just 1 point ahead of Ron Meyer. In the C class, Peter Tietz scored three first place finishes followed closely by Bob Johnson and Ted Ishikawa.

As the sailors were preparing for the race, the Fleet Surgeon, Kathy Willkie, put together a continental breakfast followed by an outstanding dinner at the awards ceremonies. Kathy's mother and Marilyn Haehn assisted in the preparation of the festivities. Without a duty roster, everyone helped with the clean up. Thanks go out to everyone that made this a very successful event. We hope that the challenging weather conditions were a one time event and look forward to a promising season.

Peter Tietz





Check in on this Adventure

Bob Schaefer, Rear Commodore of Westlake Yacht Club, had this to say about Zac Sunderland in the February issue of the WLYC newsletter...

Zac Sunderland, a 17year old member of our Club, is beginning his passage around Cape Horn, Africa. This may well be the most dangerous and demanding part of his circumnavigation . Zac exhibits the imagination, self confidence and inner strength to undertake that of which most of us can only imagine... Remember the description by Melville in Moby Dick: "Sailor or Landsman, there is some sort of Cape Horn for all.

Boys! beware of it; prepare for it in time. Greybeards thank God it is passed." In some lesser way we try to give our Club members, and our junior sailors a glimpse of Zac's excitement and to prepare them for their Cape Horn. Check out photos and blog at his web site. ([www..zacsunderland.com](http://www.zacsunderland.com))



Midwinter Race Committee

We often get rain for the annual SCYA Midwinter Regatta, but not this year. Instead the race committee (RC) had to deal with worse problems. No wind. Most of the time. There were long periods of postponement waiting for at least enough wind for each class to start and clear the starting line before the next class start.

Fortunately, we had an exceptional group aboard the RC boat. They were Michelle Asay, Stephanie Johnson, Leonard Schupak, Sharon Yu and Corinne Musolino. Stephanie and Michelle got to use things they learned at an all day, US Sailing Race management seminar at BCYC just 6 days earlier. Sharon was the timer and got the accurate elapsed times (to 1/100 of a minute) necessary to calculate the Portsmouth handicap results. When handicaps are applied to the elapsed times for boats of different size, class and speed their corrected times are often within 1 or 2 seconds which puts a premium on accurate boat finish times. Leonard has many years of sail boat racing experience which is always valuable on a RC boat. Corinne handled signal flags, made her entertaining comments and did her part to make sure the RC was still having fun.

The regatta called for use of a mark set boat. Wil Chong was the skipper on this boat which was kept busy moving the weather mark more often than usual due to the poor wind conditions. Miya Ishikawa was also on board providing photo coverage for the day.

Thanks to all of you all for a job well done.
Rod Simenz





For those of you who missed it the 2009 Installation dinner was a great success. All who joined us had a great time and the room was lively with good food and conversation.

We gave thanks to all the 2008 volunteers and cheered on and presented our 2009 officers and appointees.

If you didn't make this year please reserve some time for next year's celebration!



Flag Officers

Commodore	Morrie Wilkie	949-830-9615
Vice Commodore	Randy Tiffany	949-830-0826
Rear Commodore	Peter Tietz	949-859-9260
Jr Staff Commodore		

Officers

Race Chair	Rod Simenz	949-462-0838
Fleet Surgeon	Karin Bennett	
Fleet Surgeon	Cathy Wilkie	949-830-9615
Treasurer	Willi Hugelshofer	949-582-8350
Secretary	Michelle Asay	949-
Port Captain	Dominic Trevino	

Commodore Appointees

Jr. Commodore		
Website	Roger Robison	949-855-8094
Quartermaster		
Trophy Chair		
Measurer		
Newsletter	Jack McCollum	949-235-1699

Fleet Captains

C-15	Horst Weiler	714-402-4439
Capri 14.2		
Finn	Willie Hugelshofer	949-582-8350
Thistle		
Wayfarer	Randy Tiffany	949-830-0826



Photos in this issue courtesy of Mia Ishikawa.