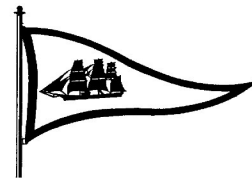


Three Sheets in the Wind



THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE LITTLE SHIPS FLEET YACHT CLUB
(ESTABLISHED 1937)
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Commodore's Report

By Rob Sonz



Hi everyone, hope the cold months of January and February are in the rear view mirror as we head into early spring with March.

The College Basketball world celebrates their conference titles as well as the beginning of March Madness. I'm hoping my Wildcats can repeat being Champions for a second year in a row !! Go Nova !! Locally here in the world of Sport fishing, we have the largest Sports fishing Show in the USA at the Long Beach Convention Center, Fred Hall Show, March 1 – 5th.

Many local Yacht Clubs are holding their opening Days in March as well: Saturday March 4th at 10:30AM – Shoreline YC, Sunday March 5th at 8AM, Santa Barbara YC, Saturday March 11th at 10:30AM, California YC, Saturday March 18th at 11AM, Long Beach YC and Saturday March 25th at 12 Noon, Hollywood YC.

LSFYC will be holding a General Membership dinner meeting at Mimi's Café in Long Beach at **6 pm, Friday March 31st**. VC **Todd Smith** is putting together a program for that upcoming event. Stay tuned for more details. Oh, how can I forget, one of the most festive holidays of all; St Patrick's Day, March 17th. Wish everyone ".....*the Luck of the Irish*" and make sure to wear green on that day too.

Let's get ready for another banner year on the water !



Vice Commodore's Report

By Todd Smith



As we begin the journey into the new year it is my pleasure to be the new VC for LSFYC.

Although I've been boating throughout my life, I started captaining my own in 2011 after moving to Huntington Harbor. I lived in Weatherly Bay and S/C **Tom Cornelius** was my neighbor.

I bought a power boat, a 24 foot Maxim, but Tom began to teach me how to sail on his boat and introduced me to LSFYC. Since then I have participated as crew in several races.

My wife and I decided to adventure to the British Virgin Islands chartering a sailboat on our own. We have done this 4 times now, two times with a captain and two where I was the captain.

What a great adventure and learning experience. I would highly recommend this to anyone.

LSFYC Opening Day is coming!

Mark your calendars on Sat **APRIL 15** as the day you will be attending the **LSFYC Opening Day** proceedings! Opening Days (of the yachting season) are an annual event celebrated by each of the yacht clubs in Southern Calif...up and down the coast. Our turn will be on above date. Lots of fun and eats, and an opportunity to meet more of the members. More on this event as time gets closer, but we will be asking for your help in putting together this fun event. If you would like to help, please let me know via the website.

More Stories in the Three Sheets...

In addition to Reports and updates as to club events in this newsletter, you have also seen many stories from members recounting boating adventures and events they have experienced. We would like to see more of these type of recollections in future issues. Please send any of such to S/C **Frank Franco** via the website.

Fleet Captain's Report

By Geoffrey Vanden Heuvel



Racing in April...

It's time to race! The Notice of Race for the Long Beach Harbor Series has been published and it is time to sign up. This six race series starts with the April Fools Race on Saturday April 1 hosted by the Shoreline Yacht Club. The next race date is May 6, followed by a race sponsored by Little Ships Fleet on June 3. The July 15 race is also hosted by Little Ships Fleet, followed by races on August 19 and September to finish out

the series.

The Harbor Series is unique in that it offers, in addition to the standard PHRF spinnaker fleets a modified non-spin class as well. What that means is that if you have a cruising boat there are adjustments to your handicap that can be taken to help even out the competition. All the relevant information is posted on our Little Ships website under the RACING tab.

I am still looking for Committee Boat crew for the June and July races. So let me know if you can help out.

There are a number of Little Ships members who typically race and we can always find a spot for you. No experience necessary, just a good attitude. You can contact me through the lsfyc.org website if you are interested in crewing. Happy sailing!



Port Captain's Report

By Larry Finley



My attempt to crewing a boat in Mexico...

I will probably never sail my Catalina 27 to Mexico. I got involved in a *Baja haha* crew website that lists potential members who want to sail as crew members. Some of the crew members listed on the site are quite impressive. There are people who

have been on boats all their lives and are waiting for another chance.

I listed myself as someone with no long distance experience, but extensive Southern California day sailing experience. I was willing to commit myself to 2 weeks on a boat, which was about the time necessary to sail a boat from Cabo to Long Beach.

So I got a call from a boat owner in La Paz. I was originally on a long list, but the list got shorter and shorter, and in early February he invited me to La Paz.

I discovered that the cheapest and easiest way to fly in Mexico was to take a Greyhound to TJ, spend the night, and take a morning flight out of TJI for as little as \$100.

I met the captain of the 40-ft. Hunter in early February, and he was enjoying his vacation, but all his friends have flown home, and his wife went back home as well.

The Baja Bash is a grueling cruise from Cabo to Ensenada. The main problem with the cruise north is that winds and waves are on your bow, and there are few ports available if there is trouble. At best one can expect two 4 day cruises motoring upwind, with little back up plans other than returning back.

Our week was spent planning for the cruise north. 120 gallons of fuel was required, and that meant buying 70 gallons of diesel in plastic containers. The captain liked microwave sandwiches. My food plan was to drink coffee and cocoa and vomit. We kept watching the weather on the Pacific coast on the internet, and nothing made us wish we were in Cabo rather than La Paz.

The weather got worse and worse. I finally left La Paz in the middle of the month and flew back. I had a wonderful vacation, but still wish that better weather would have allowed us the chance to sail North.



March 2017



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	1	2	3	4
5	6 LSFYC BOD MEETING 7:00PM L.B.	7	8	9	10	11
12 Daylite Savings ahead 1 HR	13	14	15	16	17 St. Patricks Day	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

More events at www.lsfyc.org, click [Events/Photos]



TRANSPAC PRESENTS



**"PREPARING FOR THE RACE OF A LIFETIME:
LOS ANGELES TO HAWAII"**

Date: March 4, 2017

Location: Los Angeles Yacht Club, 285 Whalers Walk, San Pedro, CA

Registration: 9:00 am

Seminar: 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

\$50 Pre-register, \$60 Door (lunch provided)

<http://2017.transpacyc.com/forms/seminars>

2017 LSFYC Bridge

OPERATIONS STAFF

Commodore: Rob Sonz

Vice Commodore: Todd Smith

Fleet Captain: Geoffrey Vanden Heuvel

Port Captain : Larry Finley

Treasurer: Dick Martin

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Junior Staff Comm: Pax Starksen

Director/Staff Comm: Tom Cornelius

Director: David Haas

Director: Robert West

Director: Moti Cohen-Doron

Director: Debra Terrell

OTHER CONTACTS

Membership Chairman: David Haas

Newsletter: S/C Frank Franco

Webmaster: S/C Ben Smith