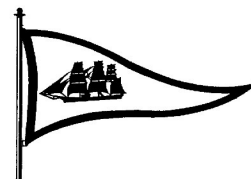


Three Sheets in the Wind



THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE LITTLE SHIPS FLEET YACHT CLUB
(ESTABLISHED 1937)
233 MARINA DRIVE, LONG BEACH, CALIF 90803

Volume 52, Issue 4

lsfyc.org

April, 2017



Commodore's Report

By Rob Sonz



Happy Spring and Opening Day Season everyone !

This month we have our Opening Day Ceremony on **Saturday April 15 starting at 9:00 am**. *Little Ships Fleet Yacht Club* Celebrates 80 years as being a Yacht Club here in the Long Beach CA area. Over the past eight decades, plenty of changes have occurred. Boats that were primarily made of wood are now made of fiberglass. Today, the spectrum of boat materials goes Hi-Tech into Fiber carbon materials and Kevlar (weigh less, yet, much stronger than steel). America's Cup Racing is now done with "foils in the water " on large Catamarans that can reach speeds that rival power boats. Here locally, LSFYC has seen memberships grow to the 100's; then reverse direction and go back to the 60's and 50's.

I believe this is reflective of the sailing community in general. In the 70's and 80's, many families were enjoying boating with races and cruises. Today, that number is dimensioned substantially. A higher number of people want to go "Kite Sailing" or ride the waves with PWC's solo; instead of sailing with friends. Little Ships Fleet Yacht Club, will always mirror the needs of our members.

At the Membership dinner meeting on March 31st, VC **Todd Smith** arraigned for USGC Lt. Jordan Prange to discuss "what is important to know when being on the water". Many members who attended that night, had good questions to ask Lt. J Prange. No matter what the watercraft, safety and being prepared never falls out of fashion. I'm happy to still enjoy sailing and racing with my friends in the year 2017. As Commodore, my only wish is that we can still enjoy boating at LSFYC for 80 more years in the future too!

"The chance for mistakes is about equal to the number of crew squared." --- Ted Turner



Vice Commodore's Report

By Todd Smith



LSFYC Opening Day is coming SOON!

Mark your calendars on Sat **APRIL 15** starting at 9:00 am 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, with lots of fun and eats, and an opportunity to meet more of the members, but we will be asking for your help in putting together this fun event. If you would like to help, please just show up ready to get to work to make this important event successful. Although a small club, LSFYC can provide a BIG welcome to our attending guests! So please join us to make this happen!

We can use help for:

- Guest sign in table
- Bar setup and bartender
- Tent setup
- Food table setup
- Podium setup
- Chairs and tables setup
- Flag detail

Please arrive before 8:00 am to allow time for setup. Thanks...

New Member...

LSFYC welcomes a new member this month. **Brad Little** and wife **Robin** with their 45 ft Oceanus *Little Endeavor*. Although currently living in Nebraska and the boat in Long Beach, Brad plans to get involved in racing and cruising with the club. We hope to see him and Robin very soon.

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



Let the racing begin...

Saturday April 1 was a beautiful day to kick off the 2017 Long Beach Harbor Series with a *Shoreline Yacht Club* sponsored April Fools Race. The sun was shining brightly, the temperature was pleasant for a Spring day and the wind at the beginning of the race was in the 5 knot range. Thirteen boats came out to race in three fleets. Both the **A** and **B** fleets were sent on a 9.1 mile course that started off at Shoreline YC start/finish line located near mark 39. From there the fleet was sent straight up to mark 36 at the wall just to

the left of Queens Gate for a port rounding. The next mark was all the way across the harbor to mark 32 which is located down in the opposite corner where the Alamitos Bay channel meets the Belmont Shore beach. Then it was back to the wall to mark 30 for a starboard rounding and then back down to mark 39 and the finish.

In the **A** fleet *Strategem* took first and in the **B** fleet *Suicidal Bird* took first. The Non-spin fleet sailed a significantly shorter course and *Skalywag* took first. The course chosen by the Shoreline Committee boat did a good job of keeping the Harbor Series racers away from the Congressional Cup action which taking place right off the Belmont Pier.

On Friday March 31, I spent a few hours on the Belmont Pier watching the Congressional Cup racing up close. It was my first time and I must admit it greatly exceeded my expectations. First of all there is no charge to watch from the end of the pier and the boats literally come within inches of the pier as they jockey for position at the start of the race. In fact, there is an umpire on the pier checking to see that there is no contact with the pier that would necessitate a penalty. The action is being described moment by moment by announcers who tell what is going on as well as give biographical information about the racers and the various aspects of the event. I had a fabulous time hanging out there at the Belmont Pier and next year I will put it on my calendar to make sure I schedule more time to take it in. If you would like to see some great footage of the races check out www.thecongressionalcup.com. For video, copy: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hLvBx4cB11o> and paste into the input header at top of your browser page.

Our next Long Beach Harbor Series race is **Saturday, May 6** and is sponsored by the *Navy Yacht Club*. The **June 3** and the **July 15** races are sponsored by *Little Ships Fleet YC* and I am looking for committee boat crew for both races.

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!



**Shoreline Yacht Club
of Long Beach**

The Friendly Club

***SYC COMMODORE CLAUDE LEBLOND
INVITES MEMBERS OF YOUR CLUB TO ENJOY
THE HOSPITALITY OF
SHORELINE YACHT CLUB
DURING THE
LONG BEACH GRAND PRIX
APRIL 7. 8 AND 9***



***BAR OPEN 9AM - 10PM
BREAKFAST SAT. AND SUN 9-10
ALL AFTERNOON FOOD FROM 11 - 7
PLEASE ASK MEMBERS TO PRESENT CURRENT YACHT
CLUB IDENTIFICATION UPON ENTRY TO SYC***

386 Shoreline Drive South • Long Beach, CA 90802
Office Phone and Fax: 562.435.4093 • Email: office@syclb.org

Little Ships Fleet Yacht Club

Invites you to attend

LSFYC Opening Day

Saturday, April 15

Celebrating 80 years

233 E. Marina Dr Long Beach, 90803

9:00 am Registration

10:00 am Ceremony

Breakfast to follow

RSVP Rob Sonz (714-963-5201) sonz_robert@yahoo.com

April 2017



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3 LSFYC BOD MEETING CALL IN	4	5	6	7	8
9	10 PASSOVER	11	12	13	14	15 LSFYC OPEN- ING DAY
16 EASTER	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	More events at www.lsfyc.org , click [Events/Photos]					

HI ALL, DON'T FORGET ABOUT THE MEMBERSHIP DRIVE!

THE MEMBER WHO SPONSERS IN THE MOST NEW MEMBERS FOR 2017 WILL GET THIS GREAT LOOKING NAUTICAL KNOT TROPHY AND GET FREE MEMBERSHIP FOR 2018!!!



S/C NATE TUCKER

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