

Three Sheets in the Wind

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

Volume 56, Issue 3

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March, 2020



Commodore's Report **Moti Cohen-Doron**



Greetings LSFYC Members!

It's hard to believe we are nearly done with Winter and Spring is right around the corner! Although since it's been a very mild Winter there have been plenty of days where we can get out on the water.

We had a very successful Little Ships gathering with "Tales of the Old Salt's" at Cerritos Bahia Yacht Club. It was great to learn and hear about our club's glorious past as well as share some laughs along the way. The afternoon was filled with great camaraderie, stories, good food and drinks. A big Thank You goes out to our Vice Commodore **Debra Terrell** for organizing this wonderful event.

Looking forward to March, we have our third **CLEAN THE BAY DAY** coming up on this **March 29th, 9:30-12:30 at the LSFYC Shed**. As you may know this is an important event for the environment and our yacht club. Please save the date as your participation is greatly needed and appreciated. We will have gloves, bags and scoopers for your use. The event is supported by the Alamitos Bay Marina Office and the City of Long Beach. Please RSVP to me to let me know if you will be cleaning the waters from your dinghy, or walking the docks. Afterwards we will enjoy a club hosted lunch for all who participated. Prizes will be given as well. I hoping for a record number of volunteers! RSVP NOW at: moticodo@gmail.com or 714-383-1139.

Next time you visit the shed be sure to look for our new signage. We've upgraded all of the signs on the shed as well as added a brand new sign on Marina Drive.

LSFYC OPENING DAY is coming soon APRIL 26. Mark your calendar and plan to attend the celebration of this the big day.

There are still a few members who haven't renewed their membership yet, please do so ASAP so you don't miss out being a part of our legendary Yacht Club.

Thank you all and 'sea' you on the water.

Moti Cohen-Doron
Commodore, LSFYC





Vice Commodore's Report

Debra Terrell



Sails & Tales...

It is said there exist universal languages or ways of communication understood by most of the world—Math and Music are examples. I believe another might be Story, an age old tradition found in nearly every culture.

Storytelling is a good way of collecting and organizing a group's knowledge, and story circles can serve as a powerful tool for surfacing collective memory and experience.

In maritime traditions our stories are told and retold by sailors who are often talented raconteurs known as Old Salts. Much of the history and traditions of mariners are passed from generation to generation in this way.

LSFYC's 'Old Salts & Tall Tales' Feb 23 (see photos page 7) gathering recently found some of our long term members and club leaders, the Old Salts, sharing experiences and passing down a few insights to our newer members. Seated around tables with vittles and grog, exactly as our maritime forbearers, we engaged in an easy afternoon of storytelling and story listening.

We revisited the origination of the PHRF and the days of starting races with colored flags, when regattas were followed by news helicopters & regularly covered in the evening news and race results were in the LA Times on Monday morning.

There were stories of cruising the Caribbean, Channel Islands & the Delta and the winning of a race with a sideways spinnaker in Buenos Aires. A dedicated racer raced home 75 miles to retrieve a forgotten spinnaker pole and a patient captain described what a fiberglass owl looks like to a confused crew member.

Then there were the cautionary and goof worthy tales of making sure you're in neutral before going below, reading the course flags carefully at the start of a race and, of course, always keeping a jar of grease handy if you find yourself in a tight lazarette situation.

And finally, no telling of tales is complete without some quotable quotes:

"Play with your boat...you get no points for staying home"

and my personal favorite at the start of a party,

"I'm not nude...but I'm not through"

Tremendous thanks to our own talented raconteurs **Steve Cole**, **Nate** 'I have to sing Happy Birthday to remember my name' **Tucker**, **Dick Martin**, **Yvonne Levy**, **Carl Curtis** and **Carolyn** and **Roy Queen** for creating an inspiring and entertaining story circle for the rest of us. Thanks also to Cerritos Bahia Yacht Club for providing a relaxing location for our members to get together and engage in some Little Ships camaraderie and friendship building.

Hope to see you at our next gathering.

Debra Terrell

LSFYC Vice Commodore



Rear Commodore's Report

Cindy Ramirez



Welcome to March 2020 "Enjoy each day!"

Daylight Savings March 8

St. Patrick's Day March 17

March Madness College Basketball

Clean The Bay Day and Lunch March 29

I am excited to see most of our LSFYC members have renewed... thank you. Also, welcome to our new members:

Becky Martinez

Larry Rizzo,

So happy to have you all "aboard."

What a wonderful time we had at The Old Salts Tell Tales of the "Goof Trophy" and more. Thank you to our V. C. **Debra Terrell**, our members and the hospitality of our neighbor club Cerritos Bahia YC. What a Funday Sunday!

Please checkout our upcoming events calendar and bring a new interested member to join the fun.

All the LSFYC Opening Day invitations and Reciprocals have been mailed. A Big Thank You to all those that helped. Our Flag Officers are looking forward to attending some Opening Day ceremonies in the next few weeks.

Our **LSFYC Opening Day** is **Sunday, April 26** at 11 am. We look forward to your help to make this another great Opening Day!

"May your pot of gold be filled with the kindness of friends"

Cindy Ramirez

LSFYC Rear Commodore/Secretary



Treasurer's Report

Dick Martin



Dues for 2020...

Yes, soon it's that time again...the **LSFYC MEMBERSHIP DUES** are due for 2020. Your past membership has been greatly appreciated and will certainly be so for this new year. To ensure that you will be listed on the **2020 LSFYC Membership Roster**, please send your check for **\$125.00** to:

LSFYC, 3585 Tacoma Ave., Los Angeles, Cal 90065.

-OR-

See the LSFYC website [MEMBERSHIP] page for payment via PAYPAL.

To be sure the Roster will list your current information, please indicate current address, E-mail address, phone numbers, spouse name, boat type and name, slip location, and indicate if you are looking for crew or want to crew.

Thanks for your continued support...

Dick Martin

Treasurer, LSFYC



Signals from the Fleet Captain

Nate Tucker



Spring is just around the corner, the clubs are in training, there's a buzz in the air, waiting for opening day! - No, not baseball - interclub racing! Yes, the first Long Beach Harbor Highpoint Series race of the season is *this month*, March 28, hosted by Shoreline YC. Racers: Check the Shoreline YC website for details. You will need their course chart.

As for LSFYC (that's us) the two races we host will be **May 30** and **July 11**. **Frank Franco**, Jr S/C, is already tuning the engine of his newly acquired power boat, set to take on Committee Boat duties. **Dick Martin** and I have been busy revamping our course chart and we will soon publish that along with NORs and SIs for 2020. I don't think Port Captain **Larry Finley** has lit the grill yet, but don't worry, there'll be plenty of tasty burgers after each race - everyone invited whether you're racing or not. It's always fun and raucous at these after race burger bashes. Men returning home from the sea - hey, don't laugh; two or three hours out there can be brutal!

If you've not raced before or new to the club and want to get into it, or skipper looking for crew, give me a call and I will be happy to put you on the list.

NEED CREW

Tom Cornelius

WANT TO CREW

Chris Layne

Chris is new to our club, but he has had some experience crewing and would fit in nicely with any of you guys looking for young fresh rail meat.

Well, she's full and bye - hold yer course . . .

Nate Tucker

Fleet Captain, LSFYC

Bottom Pain!

By Larry Finley

I painted the bottom of My Catalina 27 in December.

I bought my Catalina 27 five years ago. I didn't know the maintenance history but I felt it was time to paint the bottom. I painted the last bottom of my older boat at Cabrillo Boat Yard, but they do not have water front property any more and they sold their crane. *Eddies Marina* is in Wilmington and is closest to me. Eddie has a small boat yard and Mike runs the yard now...Eddie was his grandfather. The price was real clear... he would haul the boat out and back for \$270. He let me prep and paint for \$200 a day, and a gallon of paint was \$250 and there is a \$50 environmental fee. The total price of a DIY weekend job would be \$1170. So another customer who had a larger boat and would have Eddie do the entire job was given a bill for \$1300. Well, that wasn't right. Not right at all. So Mike decided not to charge me for Sunday. That's only fair, I guess.

I showed up at the boat yard with my boat early Friday morning. I had cleaned the bottom the day before. The water here in December is cold for a guy like me. I did a quick cleaning job, and a hot shower in the marina made me feel better.

The scraping and sanding of this hull was easy. I collected no more than a dust pan of debris. I am lucky to have a good hull on my boat. The thru hulls are solid, and there are no blisters or cracks. I spent about 4 hours sanding and was happy with the results in that 4 hours. My boat was next to a similar boat that was getting a professional job. The sanding was done with a large sander hooked to a vacuum and the worker had a full suit with respirator. The worker spent little time on his hands and knees sanding the harder to sand places. I wouldn't be on my hands or knees either if this was someone else's boat. But I found those parts to be important. I then applied a quick coat of bottom paint on the essential parts before dark and went home.



There are a lot of opinions about bottom paint. Some say that it isn't as good as the old stuff. Some say they can go to Mexico and get a great job. But I have read about bottom paint and I disagree. I believe that boat owners have access to a high quality safe product. And who do you know that went to Mexico lately to paint their boat?

Some boat owners say you need to paint the bottom every 2 or 3 years. People in sailing forums say that they take their boat out every year and paint the bottom every 2 or 3 years. But here in Southern California we have about 10,000 boats, few take their boat out of the water for the season, and the 4 or 5 boat yards would be painting 2 or 3 bottoms a day if everyone painted their bottom every 2 or 3 years. I have walked around the docks and looked at boats in my marina. I think not.



I was tired and achy when I got home. This bottom paint on my fingers simply doesn't come off. But all of the dust from sanding did. I went to Shoreline Yacht club and ordered the Rib Eye AND Potato dinner. I feel good knowing that I can still work hard enough to eat both the steak and the potato. I slept well Friday night and arrived Saturday morning with a narrow roller. The strokes work best in the direction of the boat, but the narrow roller is the only thing that works because of the curved hull. The bottom paint is heavy and there is a lot of thick and horrible things at the bottom. So I used a paddle connected to a drill to stir the mess up. I

poured a small amount into a tray at a time and stirred every time I needed more paint. I had no trouble applying a thorough coat in a day. I arrived on Sunday to place a final coat and to use up the remaining paint in the \$250 gallon can. I had 3 coats of paint by this time. No one worked at the boat yard on Sunday. The boat next to me with a professional job? One coat. I figure that I did a better job for that reason.

Tall Tales photos

Photos from the Tall Tales meeting at Cerritos Bahia YC last month:





March 2020



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 DAYLITE SAVINGS 1 HR UP	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15 LSFYC WOMENS CRUISE	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 LSFYC CLEAN THE BAY DAY	30	31				

*Commodore Moti Cohen-Doron, the Officers and
members of*

Little Ships Fleet Yacht Club

cordially invite you and your guest to attend

OPENING DAY CEREMONIES

SUNDAY, April 26th , 2020 11:00am

at the

Little Ships Fleet Facility

Located 233 N. Marina Dr.,

Alamitos Bay Marina

Long Beach, California 90803

2020 LSFYC Bridge

OPERATIONS STAFF

Commodore: Moti Cohen-Doron

Vice Commodore: Debra Terrell

Rear Commodore: Cindy Ramirez

Treasurer: Dick Martin

Fleet Captain: Nate Tucker

Port Captain : Larry Finley

Secretary/Events: Cindy Ramirez

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jr. Staff Comm: Frank Franco

Director: S/C Tom Cornelius

Director: S/C Nate Tucker

Director: S/C Rob Sonz

Director: David Haas

Director: Al Bordallo

OTHER CONTACTS

Membership Chairman: David Haas

Newsletter: Frank Franco

Webmaster: S/C Frank Franco

S/C Ben Smith