



# THE SHEETS

The Official Publication of The South Shore Yacht Club

May 2017

Commodore's Comments by Juli King



**Almost there!** SSYC nears \$50,000 in donations for NSB! We need an additional \$400 in donations to raise \$50,000 since we began giving in 2010.

**Congratulations** to 17 members and 4 business donors who have raised \$6,000 for the Newport Sea Base in the past two months! It is now time for others to join in the giving. There is a discount available for the June dinner meeting; a free dinner for a 500 Club donation, \$15 off on an Admiral \$250 donation, \$10 off on a Commodore \$150 donation, and \$8 off on a Captain \$100 donation.

For the last two years we have raised over \$7,000 and we are within \$1,000 of matching our previous generosity! **So send your donations now!** If you have misplaced your donation envelope, call Herb Fischer at 949-500-4928.



See you all soon,

*Juli King*, Commodore



## Vice Commodore's Comments by Dean Russell

**TRADITIONS:** We went to the San Diego Yacht Club for their 132<sup>nd</sup> Opening Day. This is a club that is steeped in tradition. Their opening day is filled with tradition, complete with a Marine Band and a notable sailing ship at their docks. This year the San Salvador, the replica of the ship that brought Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo into the San Diego Bay in 1542 was the highlight at the club.

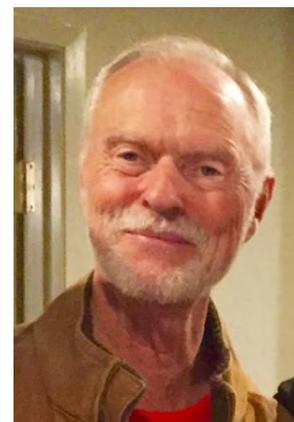
For a club that is 50 years young, we have some fun traditions that can rival any yacht club. On the West Coast, who else has a sock burning ceremony to celebrate the end of winter with prose from our own Steve Baker? Even if someone else does, they can't rival our stench.

Then we host the Ensenada Hospitality Suite to welcome our tired and thirsty racing crews. We were excited to greet the crew on Savasana when they arrived at the Hotel Coral & Marina on April 29 and to hear about their race experiences. Even if you do not race, it is a great experience to be in Ensenada and to mingle with the crews from various clubs.



And there is the End of Summer Beach Party (AKA Pig Party), which evolved from the Endless Dock Party. A day of sun, sand, entertainment, good food, libations and friends.

Don't miss out. Enjoy the club's traditions and other events held throughout the year.



***Dean Russell,***  
Vice Commodore

## Social by Jennifer Johns

The night was on fire at SSYC Closing Ceremonies. Master of Ceremonies Steve Baker dedicated the night to Betty Lems as he read a poem before we headed out to burn sour socks.

Them South Shore folks got an odd tradition,  
Commodorable Juli swears it's not fiction.  
Brian puts a barbecue down by the docks,  
And all of the members burn their socks.

It's a terrible stench like burning rot,  
Some say it's peculiar, but I think it's not.  
Barbara and Dean put their socks on last fall  
But never took 'em off to wash 'em, at all.

Through the spring and summer and into the fall,  
Mary Beth and Jerry wear no socks at all.  
Just stinky bare feet in old deck shoes,  
Whether sailin' Hibachis or drinkin' some brews.

Rose and Patti will sail every week,  
While Elizabeth hopes our boat doesn't leak.  
The Nelsons hold forth in their Harbor 20,  
Kathy Abbot crewed it to victory already.

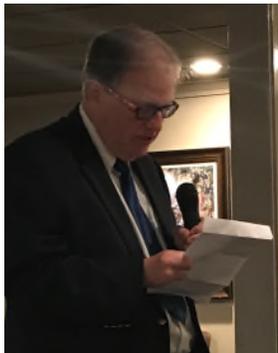
I don't think in much trouble we'll be.  
If Tina can keep the smoke in the lee  
I think that if anyone does go to jail,  
A true friend Mike Schmidt will be there with bail.

Incineration of socks is the only solution,  
'Cause washin' 'em contributes to Newport's pollution.  
Pleading ignorance will be Scott and John Marshall.  
As once they did upon a bridge I did fall.

I dedicate this verse to Betty Lem,  
Memories of her will never dim.  
Her spirits in my heart fulfilled,  
Or perhaps Jack Daniels with spirits distilled

So if into the Harbor on this night you sail,  
And smell something rotten you wouldn't inhale  
You'll know you're downwind of the South Shore docks  
Where they celebrate yachting by burning their socks.

- Steve Baker



### What Next on the Calendar

It's Open Day, Saturday May 20th! Please RSVP to [ssycsocial.com](http://ssycsocial.com). You won't want to miss this!

Cheers,

*Jen Johns*  
Social Director



## Cruising by Brian King

Ahoy, Mateys!

Our April whale watching cruise was a huge success. Roughly twenty club members and friends spent some quality time together at sea and we found the whales. Thanks to our skipper Mike Schmidt, along with some good scouting and coordination with some local whale watching outfits, we spotted a Humpback and two Fin whales. After, we moseyed over to the Russell's for a beautiful sunset and drinks. Thank you Barb and Dean.



The cruising season is well underway; it's now time to finalize our plans for the Channel Island's cruise. This is the first ever SSYC cruise to the Channel Islands and you don't want to miss out. This will be the Signature cruise of our current Commodore, and my wife, Commodore King. It takes place Memorial Day weekend, giving us an extra day for the journey and plenty of time to explore "the Galapagos of the West Coast". If you have not signed up as crew or skipper and still have an interest in going, please call me asap at 317-201-0108. We will depart from Oxnard Friday morning May 26<sup>th</sup> and return Monday morning May 29<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you and see you all soon,

*Brian King,*

Cruise Director  
317-201-0108



## Racing by John Marshall

### THE EPIC N2E ADVENTURE

The intrepid crew of “Savasana” (a Yoga relaxation pose) started off at 9:30 AM Friday as SSYC’s entry in the 125nm 70<sup>th</sup> Annual Newport-to-Ensenada race. SSYC’s Senior Staff Commodore, Don Albrecht, with 43 straight years of N2E experience, was at the helm of the start of our class at 11:10 AM. We were shadowed by a number of SSYC’ers on “Ku’ uipo”, with Vice Commodore Dean Russell at the helm. They were cheering us on after the start. The crew included owner Erik Waelput, Don Albrecht, Kathy Abbott, Tina Simmons, Chris Haro, Mark Howard, John Marshall and Dan Urbano.



We had 5-7mph winds at the start and as the sun became bigger, the winds were expected to build. A majority of the boats rode a port tack some 40 miles out to sea and after several hours, were further away from Ensenada than when they started. They were outside looking for high winds while some of us remained closer to shore. With 8 people on board, everyone had an opportunity at the helm. As the winds grew ever stronger, we determined that the wind had indeed clocked around from the SSE to the West. It put the wind direction coming over our starboard aft quarter, an ideal direction and opportunity to set our gennaker (a gennaker is an asymmetrical sail and mounts like a jib on the forestay, where a spinnaker is symmetrical and flies with lines on the corners).



With Tina on the helm, the wind was gusting up to 18-20 mph and we were hitting hull speeds of 10.4 mph! With following seas at 6-8 feet, the rudder became too shallow in the water and we lost control of the boat direction! Needless to say, it’s a very crazy time on the boat when you can no longer steer it where you want to go as the boat starts “rounding-up”.

“Rounding-up” is a phenomenon that occurs in sailing when the sailor at the helm is no longer able to control the direction of the boat and it heads up (or “rounds up”) into the wind, causing the boat to slow down, stall out, or tack. This occurs when a gust of wind overpowers the ability of the rudder to maintain a straight course. It takes a great deal of strength to get the rudder to respond to the rounding-up.

As the sun set, the winds began to die down. By 9:00 PM, the wind stopped and we were simply being pushed forward by the ocean swells. It’s roughly the equivalent of being in a washing machine as the sails and rigging slap from one side to the other, causing the boat to pitch and yaw. That was a bit unsettling to a few sailors’ stomachs. But, the beauty of the night sky away from city lights is amazing as night sky literally explodes with stars.

Since we were sailing in the Cruising Gennaker “B” class, we were able to use our engine for a few hours to make some headway. After all, the party in Ensenada started Saturday at 6:00 PM and we didn’t want to miss it! As the sun rose on Saturday morning, you could see Point Loma in San Diego. As the sun rose, the winds returned and we were on our way again down the coast to the border with Mexico.

## Racing Continued

We heard many radio broadcasts from the San Diego Coast Guard warning sailors of small boats to be aware of a “Small Craft Advisory”. A “Small Craft Advisory” is a type of warning issued by the National Weather Service in the coastal areas. It is issued when winds have reached, or are expected to reach within 12 hours, a speed marginally less than gale force. The wind that triggers the advisory is typically 25-38 mph. We kept wondering when it was going to give us the great wind to reach Ensenada in a reasonable period of time. After all, we had a “Welcoming Committee” looking for us!.

We were headed to a waypoint roughly 20 miles off Ensenada Bay where we would have to jibe from a starboard tack to a port tack. I was on the helm and we brought the crew together to discuss how we were going to manage the jibe. Erik and Dan were to scramble up the foredeck wearing the auto-inflatable PFDs while being tethered to the boat to make sure the clew of the Gennaker made it around the forestay. Chris was to center the main, then ease the main sheet to the starboard side. The port side Gennaker sheet was to be eased, while the starboard Gennaker was to be trimmed. We executed the maneuver to perfection! Now, we were on a final leg in to Ensenada!



The winds started to increase dramatically. We were getting buffeted by winds that created a twist in the Gennaker at the top of the sail. Our boat speed kept increasing to 9, 10, 11 mph. We hit 12 mph and I was fighting the helm hard as she kept trying to round-up with each bigger gust of wind. We had to get the Gennaker down as we were pushing Savasana beyond her limits as we hit 12.9 mph! Unfortunately, the twist in the Gennaker made it impossible to put it into the sock. We had to pull the entire sail into forward hatch. Mark Howard was standing by below deck as we wrestled with the Gennaker. Another gust of wind blew the Gennaker block off the starboard side and the sail was flying out of control. Winds are always fastest at the top of the mast while the water slows the wind. Savasana buried her starboard rail in the water as the Gennaker billowed out far on the starboard side. We were heeled way over and I'll never forget the 3 seconds that everyone looked at me on the helm with the, “Are we going into the water?” The 10-12 foot swells were slapping against the port side of the boat, but I managed to steer the boat off the wind to keep the boat upright. When we were heeled over, Mark Howard, shouted, “I can see fish!” Fortunately, the starboard side windows were closed. We did our best to save the Gennaker as out came the knives to cut the lines. The only thing holding the Gennaker was the halyard. We managed to raise it ten feet above the water where it became evident that the Gennaker had split in two. Erik made the final call to cut the Gennaker halyard and we watched the halyard fly out of the top of the mast and away from the boat. The expressions on the crews' faces looked like we had just lost a dear friend. I know many of us were willing to pitch in to buy a new sail. Erik did his best to make us feel better. He explained, “It was a \$3,000 sail. I used it seven times over the past three years. I just bought a new boat and it has a spinnaker. I'm planning on leaving Savasana in Windward Sailing Club and they'll never need a Gennaker, so we're not replacing it”.

## Racing Continued

After recovering from a trying experience, we finished the race at 5:25 PM on Saturday and were greeted on the dock by a very enthusiastic welcoming committee comprised of Robin Marshall, Juli and Brian King and Dean and Barbara Russell. Champagne was poured all around and we toasted to an N2E experience that we will not soon forget. The Coral Hotel and Marina is a magnificent property. The King's and Russell's suite on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor had a commanding view of the pool area and the expansive view of Ensenada Bay. They entertained the crew of Savasana on the patio deck while many in the crew took advantage of a hot shower. The party featured lamb, carnitas and chicken tacos for \$2.50. The Cadillac Margueritas for \$5.25 were fantastic!



The RBOC past president and friend Cleve Hardaker of Silver Gate Yacht Club was on the N2E finish boat and explained to us what happened on the water. He described that two large air masses collided out at sea. You had the cool onshore breeze that was building all day. Then, you had the warm offshore breeze of the Santa Ana winds combining to create a windy vortex with winds exceeding 37 mph. Truly, gale force winds. Savasana was one of several boats that either lost their Gennaker or Spinnaker that afternoon. Many boats crossed the finish line with only their mainsail up or what was left of their spinnaker tied to the mast. Many mainsails were simply blown out. "Apprentice" out of the Newport Sea Base had to retire from the race in San Diego as their head stopped working! Next year we'll have an even more experienced crew!

## SUMMER HIBACHI SERIES STARTS JUNE 6<sup>TH</sup>!

We've spread the word that South Shore Yacht Club is starting our annual Summer Hibachi Series on Wednesday nights beginning June 6<sup>th</sup>. Mary Longpre and the crew of Valentine reminded me that this will be her 39<sup>th</sup> year racing in SSSYC's Summer Hibachi Series! We'll be looking for Race Committee people to help out Wednesday nights. And, if you want to race, but don't have a boat? No problem. We'll get you a fast Olson 30 out of the Newport Sea Base! We'll see you on the water.

**John**



## ▶ January 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	J. White Race
15	16	17	18	19	20	Comm's Ball
22	23	24	25	26	27	J. White Race
29	30	31				

## ▶ February 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	YRUSC Seminar
	Super Bowl	6	Board Meeting	8	9	2nd Friday Dinner
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	J. White Race
26	27					Fat Tuesday

## ▶ March 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	Board Meeting	8	9	2nd Friday Dinner	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
						Avalon Cruise
Avalon Cruise	20	21	22	23	24	25
Duffy Day	27	28	29	30	31	

## ▶ April 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						Border Run Race
2	3	Board Meeting	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	2nd Friday Dinner	Ensenada TuneUp
16	17	18	19	20	21	Day Cruise
Easter						
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
						NZE
30						

## ▶ May 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	Board Meeting	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Mother's Day	15	16	17	18	19	Opening Day
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
						Channel Island Cruise
28	Memorial Day	30	31			
						Channel Island

## ▶ June 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	Board Meet-	Hibachi Race	8	2nd Friday Dinner	0
11	12	13	Hibachi Race	15	16	17
Father's Day	19	20	Hibachi Race	22	23	Duffy Day
25	26	27	Hibachi Race	29	30	

## ▶ July 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	Hibachi Race	6	7	8
Dana Point Cruise						
9	10	Board Meeting	Hibachi Race	13	2nd Friday Dinner	Crew of 2 Race
16	17	18	Hibachi Race	20	21	22
23	24	25	Hibachi Race	27	28	29
30	31					

## ▶ August 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
		Board Meeting	Hibachi Race			
6	7	8	Hibachi Race	10	2nd Friday Dinner	12
Sunday Race Series	14	15	Hibachi Race	17	18	19
20	21	22	Hibachi Race	24	25	26
					Two Harbors Cruise	
Two Harbors	28	29	Hibachi Race	31		

## ▶ September 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	Board Meeting	6	7	8	9
	Labor Day					
10	11	12	13	14	15	Beach/Pig Party
Sunday Race Series	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	Duffy Day

## ▶ October 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	Board Meeting	4	5	6	7
Sunday Race Series	9	10	11	12	2nd Friday Dinner	14
					Jazz Fest Avalon	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Jazz Fest					Jazz Fest Avalon	
22	23	24	25	26	27	Halloween Party
Jazz Fest						
29	30	31				

## ▶ November 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	Board Meeting	8	9	2nd Friday Dinner	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
				Thanksgiving		
26	27	28	29	30		

## ▶ December 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	Board Meeting	6	7	8	Boat Decorating Party
10	11	12	13	14	15	Boat Parade
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	Christmas					
31						

# Details 2017 Officers & Board Members

**Commodore:****Juli King**

iamcinderella2000@yahoo.com

**Treasurer:****Don Albrecht**

hb\_sailor@yahoo.com

**Director:****Gerry Holleger**

Holleger@gmail.com

**Vice Commodore:****Dean Russell**

deansrussell@aol.com

**Staff Commodore:****Ken Schoffstoll**

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**Rear Commodore:****Mike Schmidt**

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**Director:****John Marshall**

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**Director:****Chris Haro**

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**Secretary:****Milledge Hart**

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**Director:****Kate Pearson**

katherineladd@msn.com

**Cruise Director:****Brian King**

bdkjak2011@gmail.com

**Social Director:****Jennifer Johns**

Jen\_johns10@msn.com

Any members with children who are interested in heading up a **Kids Learn to Sail Program**, please call Don Albrecht at 714-501-7520 or email him at hb\_sailor@yahoo.com

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