

# BREEZE

CALIFORNIA  
YACHT CLUB



**HAPPY HOLIDAYS!**

**DECEMBER 2021**

# From the Commodore

## Keep Calm and Sail On

**A**s 2021 draws to a close it seems fitting to reflect on our achievements and challenges as a Club. My term as Commodore started in January and the challenges of dealing with the pandemic were still very real. Lucky for me, Jr. S/C Stephanie Weston's leadership throughout 2020 had kept us on an even keel, so I continued to build on all her efforts.

As the year progressed and vaccinations rolled out, our Zoom skills were put aside as we began to host in-person events and the human interactions we all craved became a reality. Whether it was sailing, racing, cruising, dining, drinks, swimming, paddle tennis, pickleball, parties, book clubs, Art Aficionados, or any of our many other activities, CYC gave us a safe and friendly environment to do what we love. For me, that was the greatest achievement, and I am incredibly grateful for all the event chairs and volunteers who made all these activities happen. Also, I want to recognize General Manager Lindsay Pizarro and her team who have gone above and beyond all year long – Thank you!

December is an action-packed month as we celebrate the holiday season. The fun starts with CYCWA's Toys for Tots, then it's the Epicurean Society's Hawaii: Crossroads of the Pacific dinner. Next up is the annual Holiday Party (a Clarke family favorite). The Power Fleet will be on deck for the Marina del Rey Holiday Boat Parade potluck



*Lara, Madeleine, Morgan, and  
Commodore Tim Clarke*

on the guest dock, we will have the traditional holiday brunches, and a special holiday wine tasting. I hope you can join us for one or more of these entertaining events.

As we head into our 100th year, please join me in congratulating our 2022 Bridge: Commodore Monica Antola, Vice Commodore Christina Tarantola, Rear Commodore Anthony Agoglia, Fleet Captain Sue Service, and Port Captain Rory Mach. Our centennial will be an incredibly special time under their leadership.

I want to give a special shoutout to Paula Cameron, Editor of the *Breeze*. After seven years at the helm, she will step aside in 2022. The commitment

and professionalism she has shown is unrivalled. Thank you, Paula!

As I transition into my role as Junior Staff Commodore, I look forward to spending more time cruising with my family. Lara and I plan to continue racing together, competing in the Sunset Series, and doing more weekend regattas. I also look forward to supporting the Junior Program and Keelboat Program. Both groups give so many opportunities to our members.

It has been an honor to be CYC's 2021 Commodore. I am so grateful for all the friendships, good times, and wonderful experiences. Lara and I wish you all a joyful holiday season and a happy New Year.

I look forward to seeing you at the Club or on the water soon! 🍷

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YACHT CLUB



Photo by Camille Daniels

*LEMWOD Challenge*



Photo courtesy SDYC/©Mark Albertazzi

*International Masters Regatta*



courtesy SDYC/©Mark Albertazzi

*Lipton Cup*

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**FRONT COVER** Santa, with one of his favorite elves at the helm, delivers holiday joy to CYC and Marina del Rey on *Mischief*, one of CYC's keelboats.

Photo by S/C Denny Haythorn

**BACK COVER** Team CYC (bow 05), with Alan Field at the helm, leads the fleet upwind toward the weather mark at the International Masters Regatta (San Diego YC, October 21-23). CYC also fielded teams at two additional challenge regattas in October, the Linda Elias Memorial Women's One-Design Challenge and Lipton Cup.

Photo courtesy SDYC/©Mark Albertazzi

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# First Mates Cruise to Downtown L.A. Offers Urban Adventure in Historic Setting

**T**he highly anticipated “Boston Tea Party Weekend” First Mates Cruise at the historic Los Angeles Athletic Club began on Friday evening, October 22 with a festive cocktail party in the beautifully decorated Blue Room. New England-themed appetizers included mini lobster rolls, cornbread, and clam chowder. Many adjourned downstairs afterwards to the Invention Bar while others went out for a night on the town.

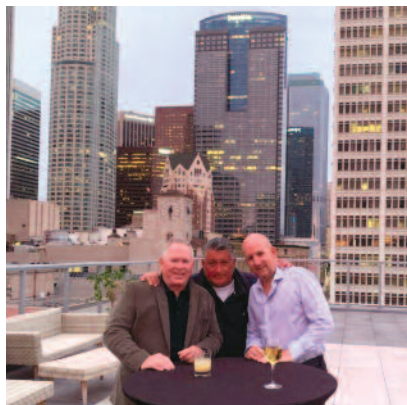
Saturday started with breakfast in the Plunge Café adjacent to the sixth-floor swimming pool, still a marvel of engineering after more than 100 years. While some went out to enjoy LAAC’s convenient proximity to Angeles’s cultural centers such as The Broad and Museum of Contemporary Art, others enjoyed a tour of LAAC’s beaux-arts style building with Teri Onerato, Director of Hotel Sales and Marketing, for a glimpse of historic and recently renovated areas. One lively contingent met up for lunch at El Cholo in its traditional adobe building near LA Live, where Lynn Whitehouse led a toast to CYCWA Executive Officer Connie Webster, “our noble Queen Connie.” Baseball fans met back at LAAC to see the start of what would become the final game of the MLB League Championship before ascending to the roof deck for cocktails, appetizers, and dinner.

As the sun set, alternating cloudy and luminous skies made a dramatic background for the gala celebration. SEOs Karen Stirling, Donna Petersen, and Carol Watkins were recognized, along with current CYCWA Executive Board members Junior SEO Michelle Parker Ondrey, First Officer Laura Greenburg, and Second Officer Berry Wilkinson. The menu featured a choice of surf ‘n’ turf, salmon, or pasta. All entrees received rave reviews. Clever New England-themed centerpieces included a lantern and tricorn hat, a hardbound book titled “The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere,” surrounded by bags of Cape Cod chips, Boston Baked Beans, and Necco Wafers. After dinner it was downstairs for dessert, dancing, and games in Duke’s Sports Bar, temporarily transformed with the addition of pinball machines into one of Connie’s favorite childhood haunts, the Crescent Park Arcade.

Chaired by Ruth Robbins, with encouragement from Alan Goodman and outstanding décor by Michele Fisher, the weekend was a wonderful opportunity for long-time and recent Club members to connect and celebrate the achievements of the First Mates of CYCWA and to fulfill the event’s promised “Party Like a Rebel” theme. 🍸



*Front: Pati Etter, George Etter, EO Connie Webster; Back: S/C Bill Watkins, SEO Carol Watkins, SEO Donna Petersen, Joanna Davies, Tom Rowe, and Kelvin Davies*



*Fred Ryan, Adam Faura, and Todd Whitehouse*



*SEO Karen Stirling and Stephanie Hathaway*



*Michele Fisher and SEO Donna Petersen*





*Michele Fisher and Ruth Robbins*



*Peter Webster and EO Connie Webster*



*Front: Jr. SEO Michelle Parker Ondrey, First Officer Laura Greenburg, and EO Connie Webster; Back: Lynn Whitehouse and Ruth Robbins*



*Kelly and David Estes*



*S/C Bill Watkins and SEO Carol, Stephanie and CYC President Steve Hathaway, Alan Goodman, Ruth Robbins, Carrie and David Schat*



*Alan Goodman, Michele Fisher, and Adam Faura*



# Pickleball Social

By Pickleball Co-chair JIM ACH



*Pickleball Co-chair Joanie Freckmann, Rolando Ortiz, Michele and Ray Fisher, Nancy and Rich Strick, Paula Watson, and Pickleball Co-chair Jim Ach*

**P**ickleball is fun. No two ways about it. It's the fastest growing sport in the U.S. with more than 4 million players. It's easy to learn, and it will give you as much exercise as you want. All ages take to it: Typical tournaments have age categories from 15 to 80-plus.

But it's very social, too. Pickleball Social Chair Ellie Ortiz organized our October Friday Night Champagne Dinner. Starting off with glasses of bubbly next to the courts, we toasted to the end of the workweek. Then, it was up to the dining room for the storied

**WARNING:  
Pickleball is  
addictive!**

Friday night seafood buffet. The maître d' organized two long tables for us as we indulged in crab legs, sushi, and all the other goodies.

If you haven't tried pickleball, you should. It is simple to learn, yet nuanced enough to keep challenging you as you get more experience. At CYC we organize games Saturday and Sunday mornings, and Monday in the early evening, with free instruction for new players. For more information, contact Co-chairs Jim Ach (310-666-

8784 or [jimach2@yahoo.com](mailto:jimach2@yahoo.com)) or Joanie Freckmann (818-802-5571 or [joaniefreckmann45@gmail.com](mailto:joaniefreckmann45@gmail.com)). ♣



*Derek Markoff, Karen Volpert, Ellie Ortiz, Ken Volpert, S/C Ann Ach, Lynn Calvin, Michele Hamilton, Kathryn Markoff, and Ron Hoffman*



# Club 25 Dinner

By S/C BILL STUMP

**T**wenty-five years ago, 1996, was a very good year. The Lakers added a high school phenom to their roster along with a giant from Florida, kicking off the Kobe/Shaq era and, as they say, the rest was history. But, not so fast – California Yacht Club was busy making its own history.

1996 Commodore Chuck Wright and his rogue's gallery of a Bridge – V/C Charlie Kelley, R/C Dick Squire, F/C Alex Benson and P/C Bob Sanguinetti – started the year off to a fast start. With more than 70 committees to staff and manage, their job was no less daunting than it is today on the eve of our 1100th-year celebration.

Fast forward to 2021 and our 32nd annual Club 25 Dinner, a nifty affair bringing together members of the Class of '96, plus two 50-year members from 1971, along with 10 Staff Commodores, five CWCYA SEOs, the 2021 Bridge officers, and dozens of well-wishers and former Club 25 honorees.



Photo by S/C Bill Stump

*Pictured wearing their 25- or 50-year pin: S/C Steve Curran (who joined in 1971), Ann Turner, S/C Rick Turner, B.J. Curran, Colleen Fracisco, John Fracisco, and Erik Oistad*

After a real cocktail hour, i.e., 60 minutes with plenty of passed hors d'oeuvres and quick-handed bartenders, Commodore Tim Clarke welcomed our guests, introduced the dignitaries – including Honorary SEO Patty Hathaway – and encouraged us to eat dinner. We were treated to carrot parsnip soup (outstanding), surf or turf – filet mignon or branzino – and a yummy hazelnut tart, all accompanied by tasty Duckhorn Chardonnay and/or Italian Chianti.

Following dinner, 1991 Commodore Bill Stump – filling in for S/C Wright – offered a rambling recap of 1996. Among the highlights back then:

- Flag and Fleet Officers donned waiter uniforms and served dinner to Club staff members at their annual Employee Appreciation Dinner.
- CYC was selected by US Sailing to host the U.S. Match Racing Championship, better known as the Prince of Wales Bowl. Our team of Ben Mitchell, Bob Little, and Kevin Crane finished second overall.
- Our 20th annual Catalina to MdR Rowing Race, in honor of Honorary Commodore Charles Hathaway's original crossing on his 50th birthday, drew a record turnout for the

32-mile jaunt.

- Not to be outdone, seven of our rowers dominated the US Masters Championships,

hauling home 13 medals, including eight gold.

- The Schock 35 Nationals turned out to be a challenging regatta, with shift winds and dense fog trying to foil the racers and race committee, but our RC team, led by Co-chairs S/C Dick Hampikian and V/C

Charlie Kelley, did a masterful job mastering the elements and earned CYC its first-ever award of the prestigious St. Petersburg YC Trophy for "excellence in race management," an honor voted only by competitors.

- Meanwhile, tennis balls were buzzing by as we again hosted the Lexus National Paddle Tennis Championships for 75 teams of men, women, and mixed doubles.
- The Commodore's Cruise was a magical trip around paradise – Tahiti, Bora Bora, and Morea – aboard the 440' *Wind Song*. Nearly 60 CYC members joined Chuck and Debbie for this South Pacific adventure.
- On the other side of the country, seven of us competed in the Olympic Sailing Trials for the Atlanta Games. 1988 silver and 1992 gold medalist Hal Haenel teamed up again with San Diego YC's Mark Reynolds to win the Star class and represent the U.S. in their third Olympics. Hal carried the Olympic torch twice leading up to these Olympics and presented his torch to V/C Charlie Kelley to be displayed at CYC during the Games.
- Rounding out 1996, the CYCWA Cookbook, featuring 325 recipes from club members' kitchens, went on sale for \$10! And, our Toys for Tots, which started 25 years before, replacing the long-standing member gift exchange, was a heartwarming way to close 1996. A great year, indeed!



*Hal Haenel and 1996 V/C Charlie Kelley hold the Olympic torch. August 1996 Breeze*

CYC's 50-year honorees were S/C Steve Curran and B.J., and Patricia Gardiner.

New members of CYC's Club 25 made for a longer list: John and Colleen Fracisco, Erik Oistad, S/C Rick Turner and Ann, Ruth Bettelheim, Carlos Chacon, David Clark, Robert King, William Solberg, Bill Stein III, and Brad Van Liew.

A special thanks to our Club management partners for making this night happen: Director of Catering Miki Mootsey, Banquet Manager Luis Estrada, Food and Beverage Director Adam Spicer, Executive Chef Fabio Montijo, and General Manager Lindsay Pizarro.

Join us next year for the 100th anniversary edition of Club 25, Friday, March 11, just before Opening Day on March 12. We'll take over the Club with every Staff Commodore and prior Club 25 members we can round up. See you there! 🍷

# CYC Women Take Second at the LEMWOD Challenge

By MARY STUYVESANT

**T**he Linda Elias Memorial Women's One-Design Challenge is such a great regatta. Since 1992 it has brought teams together from all over the country to compete, and often blends veteran racers with those new to the regatta.

Many people comment on the fact that we had 11 women on the team (yes, 11!): Allie Blecher (skipper), Simone Staff (main trim), Mary Stuyvesant (spin trim), Barbara Duker and Lara Clarke (jib trim), Port Captain Sue Service and Kirsten Robinson (float), Katie Moran (pit), Celena Staff (mast), Michelle Shanks (mid-bow), and Meliá Grasska (bow). To be frank, we needed the muscle and the weight on the rail. Especially this year as on Sunday the breeze went from 2 knots to 21-plus knots. So much breeze that, unfortunately, to keep racing the last race, teams had to drop down to a smaller jib and were not able to fly spinnakers at the direction of the race committee. None of us sailing the regatta had ever had to switch out the jib or sail without a kite.

Everyone on the team is actively engaged in racing on boats across the marina, and this year team veterans welcomed three new members to both the team and as new members to the Club: Meliá Grasska, Michelle Shanks, and Kirsten Robinson. Melia summed it up for the entire team, "Sailing the LEMWOD regatta with CYC was the ultimate treat. From great coaches helping us dial the boat before the event to two full race days with wind and wins. I loved being a part of the Cal Yacht Club women's race team!"

Practice was difficult to come by as the Long Beach Sailing Foundation had the boats booked leading into the regatta with Ficker Cup, Congressional Cup, and U.S. Match Racing Championship. The team was able to get time on Catalina 37s and expert coaching from Doug McLean, Commodore Tim Clarke, and Tony Festa. Practice was tough – but worth it!

Thank you to the Club, the Competition Fund, and our coaches for continuing to support women's racing and CYC's ability to compete in regattas of this stature. Big shoutout to CYC's Liz Hjorth, tactician on the winning team from Hawaii YC. ⚓



Photo by Marcos Weinstein

*CYC (bow 1) placed second out of 10 boats at the LEMWOD Challenge, hosted by the Long Beach Sailing Foundation and Long Beach YC October 15-17.*



Photo by Camille Daniels

*Team CYC (yellow and white spinnaker) challenges the Hawaii YC team, the regatta winner. CYC's Liz Hjorth called tactics for the winners.*



Photo by Camille Daniels

*Team CYC (yellow and white spinnaker) leads the fleet downwind.*





Photo courtesy of Mary Stuyvesant

Team CYC, front: Simone Staff (main trim), Lara Clarke (jib trim), Meliá Grasska (bow), Allie Blecher (skipper), and Mary Stuyvesant (spinnaker trim); back: Katie Moran (pit), Kirsten Robinson (float), Michelle Shanks (mid-bow), Barbara Duker (jib trim), Celena Staff (mast), and Port Captain Sue Service

**Cedars-Sinai Marina del Rey Hospital is sponsoring the 59th Annual Marina del Rey HOLIDAY BOAT PARADE**

**Saturday, December 11**  
 5:55pm Fireworks ★ 6:00pm Parade and Judging  
 Grand Marshal: Doctors and Nurses

**BOATERS!** Come be part of the FUN!! Any size boat is welcome!  
**Enter NOW to participate in the parade**  
 at [www.mdrboatparade.org](http://www.mdrboatparade.org)  
 2021 Theme "Joy on the Water"  
 Great prizes for Winners!!

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**CYC Race Committee Orientation**

Saturday, February 5 at 9 a.m.  
 Dinghy Dock

Curious about volunteering for race committee?  
 This is the day to get your questions answered!

Look for more information in the January Breeze or contact  
 Lori Haythorn at [lori.haythorn@haythorn.org](mailto:lori.haythorn@haythorn.org).

Photo by Bronny Daniels [joysailing.com](http://joysailing.com)



CYCWA

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## Toys for Tots Dinner

**Wednesday, December 1**

Cocktails at 6 p.m.

Dinner and Entertainment at 7 p.m.

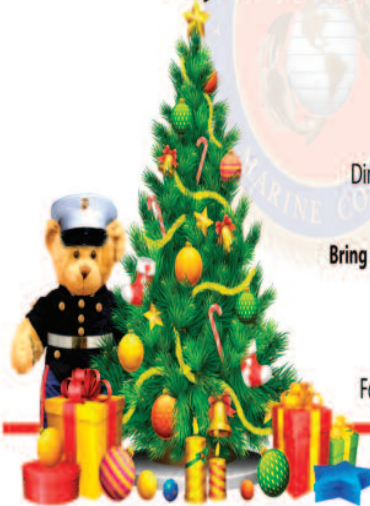
Bring an unwrapped toy for a child's holiday.

Cash donations also accepted.

\$55 Inclusive

For reservations call 310-823-4567

72-hour cancellation policy in effect.



## CYC Holiday Party

Sunday, December 5  
3 p.m. - 5 p.m.



Join us for complimentary hors d'oeuvres, eggnog, mulled wine, cookies, treats for the kids, crafts, Christmas carolers, and the lighting of the menorah.



**Don't forget to take  
your photo with Santa!**

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THE EPICUREAN SOCIETY PRESENTS

## *Hawaii* *Crossroads of the Pacific*

You are cordially invited to our holiday Epicurean dinner to celebrate the flavors and fine wines brought to the islands from around the world.

**Tuesday, December 7**

**7 p.m.**

Dinner Chairs for the Evening:  
John and Laurie Gosch

Price, including dinner and wine pairings, is \$150 inclusive.

This event is open to Epicurean members and to all other members of the club as space allows.

Please RSVP by November 30 by contacting [gloria.crawley@calyachtclub.net](mailto:gloria.crawley@calyachtclub.net).

Black Tie Preferred



# Women Racers, Rejoice!

**Women's Racing Clinic**  
**All day Sunday, February 6**

**This program is offered exclusively  
to CYC members.**

**T**ailored to women sailors with racing experience, this day will be all about advancing your racing skills. The clinic will feature instruction and practice, coaching and drills, debrief and evaluation, and lots of fun!

The morning chalk talks will cover basics of boat handling and racing procedures, as well as tactics and racing rules. On the boats, we'll have some walk-throughs at the dock before heading out to the ocean to run through racing maneuvers and have some practice races.

Using CYC's four Martin 242s, we'll have teams of three on each boat, guided by an experienced coach. A well-known professional sailor will be leading this clinic and directing the training and exercises.

To be part of this exciting new program, please apply by January 15, directly to [cycscholarships2021@gmail.com](mailto:cycscholarships2021@gmail.com). We'll need your name, contact info – phone and email – and a brief description of your racing experience.

There is no cost for this clinic; the program is free! But, it will be limited to 18 women sailors, so please apply soon if you're interested. If oversubscribed, participants will be determined by lottery. Hope to see you there! ⚓

## **Women's Racing Clinic** **Sunday, February 6**



**Apply by January 15 via email at**  
[\*\*cycscholarships2021@gmail.com.\*\*](mailto:cycscholarships2021@gmail.com)

Photo by Pam Hobson

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**Russ Carrington**  
[Russ@SeattleYachts.com](mailto:Russ@SeattleYachts.com)  
310.991.2628



# Lipton Cup

By TONY FESTA

October proved to be a busy month with CYC fielding teams week after week in some of the most prestigious challenge regattas in Southern California. Rounding out the month with a bang, San Diego YC's annual Sir Thomas Lipton Challenge Cup Regatta proved itself once again, drawing in some of the best Corinthian and professional sailors in the country for three days of extremely tight racing October 28-30.

The regatta format is unlike any other because the J/105s used for both the International Masters Regatta and Lipton Cup are privately owned boats across all years of manufacture with varying equipment including tiller- and wheel-steered boats. The regatta organizers not only work tirelessly every year to wrangle up enough owners willing to hand over the keys to 12 teams they've never met, but also spend countless hours ensuring each boat is fully functional and equalizing the rigging. Throughout the event teams rotate between boats every race to eliminate any advantage of one hull being faster than the others.

After every race, each boat pulls up to the changing dock that's towed out to



Photo courtesy SDYC/Mark Albertazzi

*Tony Festa (behind the mast), Commodore Tim Clarke, Mary Stuyvesant, and Will Tetrick focus on jibbing the spinnaker.*

the racecourse, spinnakers are de-rigged, snack and gear bags grabbed, water bottles refilled (Commodore Tim Clarke, our MVP), all while 11 other teams swarm the dock on their way to new boats. Once we found our next boat, Mary Stuyvesant and Will Tetrick would get going re-rigging our kite and putting new marks in all the lines, Tim would fight off everyone else at one of the water coolers, gear bags would make it on board, the brain trust of Allie

Blecher, Beka Schiff, and Doug McLean could have a very quick debrief, and lastly the CYC sail patch would be Velcroed on the new main (which was the real reason they brought me along). Then it was a quick jib out to set lead positions, tack over, set the spinnaker to make sure there were no wraps followed by a clean douse, and onto the next race ... or in the case of this regatta, sometimes a postponement. Being a first-time Lipton Cup competitor, it was this in-between racing that proved to be an eye-opener.

The conditions in the bay were very tricky all weekend with extremely shifty breeze and many of the best-known sailors in the country fighting for every shift. Day 1 showed a full range of conditions, shifting from light southerly breeze through a full 90-degrees in the afternoon as the wind went far right, putting our mark in line with the Coronado end of the bridge. Luckily, with the building breeze Principal Race Officer (and J/70 Worlds runner-up) Bruce Golison was able to get off four races. Race 3 was a definite highlight as we were able to lock into a couple big shifts on both upwind legs and a nice lefty we suspect came from the Navy helicopter hovering low conducting drills with a diver in the water. Downwind, all that wing-on-wing practice from recent J/70 racing paid off as we cruised in for a nice win while maintaining leverage on the fleet.



Photo courtesy of Mary Stuyvesant

*Team CYC: Tony Festa (spinnaker trim), Will Tetrick (bow), Mary Stuyvesant (pit), Allie Blecher (skipper), Commodore Tim Clarke (mast), Beka Schiff (main trim/tactics), and Doug McClean (jib trim/tactics)*





Photo courtesy SDYC © Mark Albertazzi

*Team CYC (bow 06) approaches the weather mark in tight competition. CYC placed sixth out of 12 boats at Lipton Cup.*

Days 2 and 3 were plagued by light, shifty wind. The local SDYC team was able to maintain consistency at the front despite a fifth on the second day of racing (their only finish outside the top two places). Our goal was consistency and working further up the leaderboard, and while we may have missed out on a boat here or there, we were able to maintain our position with extremely tight finishes. With pretty-darn-close-to-even performance of the boats combined with the skill onboard, every single position was fought for tooth and nail. I recall Jon Singsen, skipper of New York YC's entry, saying, "That was the hardest we've fought for last place" after a disappointing penultimate race of the regatta which left them in third overall at the end of the weekend.

Sunday, all the competitors enjoyed a wonderful banquet and awards ceremony where team introductions and skipper speeches added to the provenance of the event. This year's competition saw more women on the water than any prior year, including Shala Youngerman's all-female crew from Cortez Racing Association.

All in all, I am tremendously thankful to be a part of such an awesome event, and thanks to the team for welcoming me this year. On behalf of all of us, we greatly appreciate the opportunity to represent CYC at this event and hope to be back next year fighting for the Lipton Cup. ⚓



## J/70 West Coast Winter Series

### January 15 and 16

After recovering from the 2021 Worlds,  
it's time to get back on the water!

Get your boat ready, dust off your crew list,  
and call a few friends to sail in the  
first J/70 regatta of 2022 - two days of racing with  
three races on Saturday and two races on Sunday.  
The weekend will feature all the normal  
regatta fun with committee boats, marks, and  
post-race hospitality and camaraderie.



© Lisa Bronitt

Sign up on the regatta page of the California Yacht Club website.  
Contact Jim Murrell with any questions: 310-717-0775 or  
[jimm@denisonyachting.com](mailto:jimm@denisonyachting.com).



# International Masters Regatta

By JOHN FRACISCO

**A**fter a two-year hiatus, San Diego YC (SDYC) hosted the International Masters Regatta October 21-23, an invitational event for 12 skippers and their teams. CYC supported the entry of Alan Field as skipper, and his crew of CYC members Doug McLean (mainsail trim/tactics), Yumio Dornberg (jib/spinnaker trim), Mary Stuyvesant (pit), Will Tetrick (bow), and John Fracisco (mast).

The event is unique because the skipper and crew must meet a minimum age requirement to be eligible to compete. The host club provided J/105 class boats with sails, running rigging, and support staff to ensure a level playing field. The provided fleet of J/105 boats has an even distribution of tiller steering and wheel steering. The event annually draws world-class competition that includes former Olympic sailors and America's Cup sailors, as well as world and continental champions.

Alan's team came to the event well prepared, with a busy year of one-design sailing across multiple classes, practice sailing in Marina del Rey prior to traveling south, and an afternoon of on-the-water coaching with esteemed sailing coach Erik Shampain to fine-tune boat handling and time/distance starting practice. With provided boats and sails,

the emphasis really came down to the sailing team more than the expense of boat preparation. The CYC team brought several years of experience racing J/105s in the Lipton Cup and International Masters configuration, so the team was ready to hit the water and mix it up.

The first day of racing dawned sunny and clear. After the skippers meeting, the fleet headed to their boats for the motor down San Diego Bay to the racing area below the Coronado Bridge. The inconvenience of the racing area is offset by the ability to race in flat water with a minimum amount of tidal influences, to make for more even racing for all. Alan's team came out of the gate with first-place finishes in the first two races, taking advantage of boat speed due to a good team working together on trimming and boat placement, and a large shift in the second race to lead the fleet around the course. The first day ended with a nice lead for CYC, with the knowledge that there were still eight races to go.

One of the unique aspects of this event is the need to move to a different boat after completing every race. This requires pre-coordination by the team to make the transition in an orderly and timely manner. The team's spinnaker needs to be

*(continued on page 16)*



*CYC teamwork in action: hoisting the spinnaker.*

Photo courtesy SDYC ©Mark Albertazzi





*Team CYC (bow 09) leads around the windward mark.*

Photo courtesy SDYC ©Mark Albertazzi



*Each team hurries to make a prompt transition to their next boat at the floating dock.*

Photo courtesy SDYC ©Mark Albertazzi



(continued from page 14)

untied and repacked, the water bottles/lunch/gear bag needs to be brought up on deck, the skipper placard needs to be removed from the mainsail, the next boat needs to be located on the long, unstable floating dock, and water bottles need to be topped off. Once the new boat is secured and the boat gets off the dock, the equipment is replaced into its position, the jib lead positions are checked on both tacks, and the spinnaker is hoisted and doused before the next start. There is a lot going on besides racing.

SDYC hosted an event Thursday evening, Taste of Point Loma, for all competitors and invited their club members to attend. Participation included local restaurants, bakeries, breweries, and distilleries, all of which provided samples of their offerings. The evening was a great opportunity to connect with other teams and sailors which made this event special.

The second day of racing started with a heavy marine layer, and the long motor down to the race course. There was a delay to allow the wind to build and settle into a more steady direction. The Principal Race Officer was on the radio regularly to keep the fleet informed of her thoughts and plans to get four races in for the day. As the day went on, the breeze settled in more to the left side of the course which rewarded starts at the pin end and the ability to hold a clear lane of wind to the left side of the course. By the end of the day, Seattle YC's Carl Buchan (1984 Olympic gold medalist) really started to leave his imprint on the event, moving into first place.

The final day of racing was similar to Day 2, with heavy marine layer, light air, and unsettled breeze. The wind filled in from a more southerly direction, adding more variability to the

direction and strength. Similar to Day 2, the left side of the course was dominant most of the day, with a few big shifts rolling in from the right rewarding teams willing to take the occasional risk. Buchan, Rod Davis (Wakatere Boating Club), and Bill Campbell (SDYC) were able to cement their podium positions in the lighter, variable breeze. The CYC team finished strong, one point behind the fourth-place boat, in front of past International Masters champion teams, and happy to complete the 12-race series. The International Masters Regatta is a great championship racing event with incredible competition, and I would like to thank CYC for sponsoring Alan Field and out team for this year's event. 🚢



Photo courtesy of Mary Stuyvesant

Team CYC: Alan Field (skipper), Mary Stuyvesant (pit), Yumio Dornberg (jib/spinnaker trim), Doug McLean (mainsail trim/tactics), John Francisco (mast), and Will Tetrick (bow)



Photo courtesy SDYC © Mark Albertazzi

Team CYC (bow 09) gets a great start.



# 26 CFJs Mix It Up at Shadden Series #2

By S/C RICK TURNER



*Connor Fracisco and crew Shelby Scott fly their spinnaker.*



*Carsten Zieger and crew Ted Sherman (CAL-6, near boat) fend off the competition.*

**T**he Shadden Series is a set of four junior regattas contested in CFJs that is held during the school year. CYC traditionally hosts the second race of the series, which was held this year on October 3. Wind conditions were light and shifty. While the first race started more than an hour after the scheduled time, the race committee was still able to run three races for the 26-boat fleet.

The Shadden Series is an opportunity for junior sailors who have just graduated from Optimis or Sabots to move into double-handed sailing to race in a friendly environment. CYC fielded four boats of which two were manned by junior sailors who are in the early stages of their double-handed sailing career. The future is bright for skipper Carsten Zieger sailing with his crew, Ted Sherman, and Connor Fracisco with his crew, Shelby Scott.



*Grant Janov and crew Gigi Ivancich (CAL-5), the top-placing CYC team, placed ninth.*



*Santa Barbara Youth Sailing Foundation sailors execute a roll tack.*



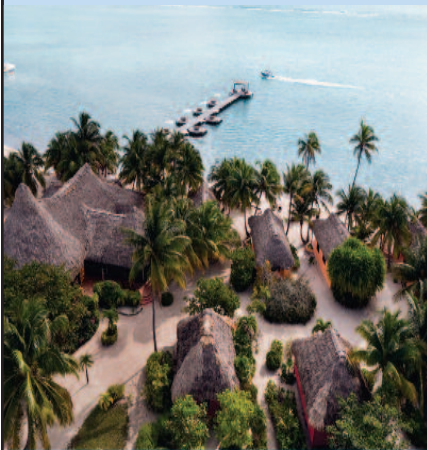
*After a postponement, the breeze filled in and three races were successfully run.*

Photos by © Lisa Bronitt



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## Goblin Optimist Regatta

**L**exie Bugacov (far right, pictured with attendees from other clubs) placed first in the White Fleet at Santa Barbara YC's Goblin Optimist Regatta, held October 16-17. Also competing from CYC at the 37-boat regatta were Miles Gordon (fifth overall), Katlia Sherman (sixth overall), as well as Ethan and Joshua Wenokur.

CYC Opti sailors next raced at the Optimist Pacific Coast Championship, October 8-10, hosted by San Francisco YC. Katlia Sherman was top girl and 12th overall, Miles Gordon was first in Blue Fleet and seventh overall out of 35 boats. Also participating were Kaito Le Tenoux, Joshua Wenokur, Lexie Bugacov, and Luisa and Clara Neumann. ⚓



Photo by Alejandro Bugacov



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*and*

*Awards Dinner*

*Saturday, January 8*

*Reception 1830 hours*

*Dinner 1930 hours*

*Dancing to follow*

*Cocktail Attire*

*Club Blazer*

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*Reservations required by January 5. Please call 310-823-4567.*

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# Miseries of the Depression and Dust Bowl Years Shape the Destiny of a Texas Family in "The Four Winds"

BY HANK TOLES, Happy Hour Book Club Chair

**T**he Four Winds," by Kristin Hannah, is a rich, sweeping novel that stunningly brings to life the Great Depression and the people who lived through it, the harsh realities that divided us as a nation, and the enduring battle between the haves and have-nots. Seen through the eyes of Elsa Wolcott, deemed too sick to marry in a time when marriage is a woman's only option, the future seems bleak. Then she meets Rafe Martinelli and decides to change her life's direction. With her reputation in ruin, there is only one respectable choice: marriage to a man she hardly knows.

The novel's main characters are Elsa, her husband Rafe Martinelli, their two children, Loreda and Anthony, and union organizer Jack. Rafe's parents, Tony and Rosa Martinelli, play a prominent role in Elsa being accepted while her own parents who were cruel and unloving to her. Some might compare this book to John Steinbeck's "The Grapes of Wrath." We follow our characters starting in Texas in 1921, a time of abundance. By 1934, the world has changed – millions are out of work and

drought has devastated the Great Plains. Farmers are fighting to keep their land and livelihood as crops fail and the earth cracks open. Dust storms roll relentlessly across the plains. The Martinelli farm is dying, including Elsa's tenuous marriage; each day is a desperate battle against nature and a fight to keep her children alive.

Our well-attended evening was moderated by me. We had a very lively and varied discussion about what the book was actually about. The attendees felt it was about migration, hardship, mother-daughter relations, perseverance, and treatment of the homeless. We as a group felt the book was beautifully written and its only possible negative was that it is depressing.

To sum up our discussion, the group felt the novel is an indelible portrait of America and the American dream, seen through the eyes of one indomitable woman whose courage and sacrifice will come to define a generation.

If you are interested in the Happy Hour Book Club, email Hank Toles at [hmt@toles.org](mailto:hmt@toles.org). ☛

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## "Klara and the Sun" Raises Fascinating Questions

BY SUSAN FRENCH, CYCWA Book Mates Chair

**T**old by the AF (Artificial Friend), Klara, this story of her relationship with Josie, the teenager she was purchased to befriend, and Josie's family and friends raises many more questions than it answers. Can robots be programmed to have human emotions? Can they have a soul? What are the responsibilities of the humans who own them? Are today's teenagers experiencing so much social isolation that they need AFs to keep them company? Can a fatally ill child's essence be transferred into an AF for the parents? Why would a parent want to do that and how would that play out?

In this futuristic novel by Kazuo Ishiguro, discussed by Book Mates at their November meeting, Klara experiences fear and sacrifices part of herself to find a cure for the debilitating illness that afflicts Josie. Participants strongly disagreed about whether artificial intelligence is capable of producing these kinds of emotions in robots. Most found the questions raised by the book fascinating. Randy Sprout thought "this was the best book we have read in a long time." On the other hand, Emily

Agnew wondered why "this otherwise serious author spent 300-plus pages on this."

Hank Toles, who led the very lively discussion, has participated in at least two other discussions of this book and finds that it "breaks his head open." His prepared questions provided a framework for the discussion, which everyone found interesting. Many thanks to S/C Stephanie Weston, who recommended the book, to Hank for moderating, and to all the Book Mates who participated.

Book Mates meets the first Thursday of the month and, beginning with the December meeting, will return to meeting in the clubhouse for a luncheon followed by discussion. The December 2 book is "The Madwoman and the Roomba: My Year of Domestic Mayhem," by Sandra Tsing Loh, the January 6 book is "Harlem Shuffle," by Colson Whitehead, and the February 3 book is "The Lincoln Highway," by Amor Towles. To join, email Hank Toles at [hmt@toles.org](mailto:hmt@toles.org) or Marie Hedlund at [mohedlund@ca.rr.com](mailto:mohedlund@ca.rr.com). ☛



# Balloon Fishing Contest Winner

By CURTIS WAGNER,

Dockmaster

**Jonathan Greenburg** submitted this photo of a happy group of cruisers returning to Marina del Rey September 18 at the end of the Surf 'n' Turf Cruise. Pictured on the Greenburg's Meridian 459, *Silver Lining*, are CYCWA First Officer Laura Greenburg, S/C Bill Watkins, CYC President Steve Hathaway, Jonathan Greenburg, Stephanie Hathaway, and SEO Carol Watkins. With Steve at the helm, and with the help of Bill, Jonathan was able to nab 13 balloons in USC's colors.

Bounty for the member bringing in the most disabled balloons off our bay is dinner for two at the Club. ⚓



Send a photo of your catch to Dockmaster Curtis Wagner at [dockmaster@calyachtclub.net](mailto:dockmaster@calyachtclub.net) or contact the dock office. One prize will be awarded each month.



## On-the-Water Photo Contest Winner

It happens. The wind shuts off and the water turns to glass. Racers experienced a three-hour lull during Del Rey YC's Channel Islands to Marina del Rey Race on September 25.

**Katerina Bakhta** made the best of a frustrating situation and captured the unexpected beauty of this sailboat's reflection in the still waters of the Pacific Ocean. Congratulations, Katerina, on winning a bottle of fine wine selected by General Manager Lindsay Pizarro.

Submit your entry to [cyc-breeze-editor@cycfleet.com](mailto:cyc-breeze-editor@cycfleet.com).





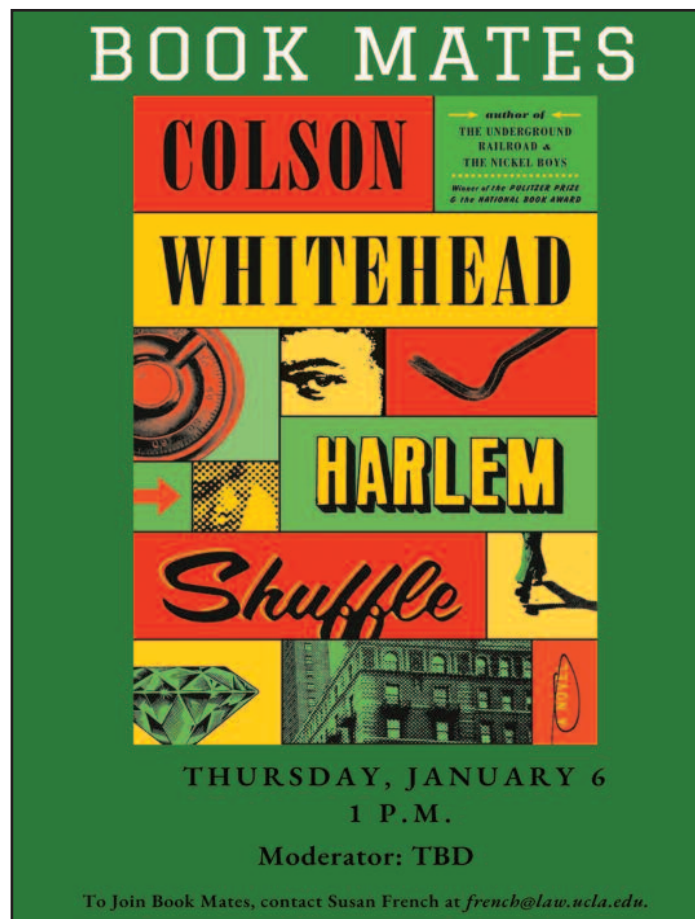
**Kids Noon Year's Eve Party**

**COUNTDOWN TO 2022**

Thursday, December 30  
10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

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**BOOK MATES**


**COLSON WHITEHEAD**

**HARLEM Shuffle**

THURSDAY, JANUARY 6  
1 P.M.

Moderator: TBD

To Join Book Mates, contact Susan French at [french@law.ucla.edu](mailto:french@law.ucla.edu).



**California Yacht Club Women's Association**

Installation of Officers  
and  
Awards Luncheon

**Saturday, January 15**

Reception 1100 hours  
Followed by lunch and Installation

Executive Officer Laura Greenburg  
First Officer Berry Wilkinson  
Second Officer Carly Saltzman  
Secretary Penny Collins  
Junior SEO Connie Webster

All members and guests welcome.

Club Blazer

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Please RSVP no later than December 30 by calling 310-823-4567.

**A MOMENT IN TIME**



JOIN CYCWA AS WE VISIT THE LONG-AWAITED...

**Academy Museum of Motion Pictures**

6067 Wilshire Blvd.  
(Corner of Wilshire and Fairfax)

**Friday, January 21**  
**9 a.m. - 3 p.m.**  
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Includes museum entry and  
round-trip transportation from CYC.  
Lunch is available on-site at Fanny's  
or nearby at LACMA.

For reservations, please call 310-823-4567.  
**MUST** cancel by January 6 or you will be charged \$19  
due to the Museum's strict cancellation policy.

**Proof of vaccination and photo ID is required for admission to museum.**



# From the Manager

## Caroling, Nightly Lighting of the Menorah, and Feasts

**W**ith all the activities, special events, and dining options, including half-off-wine

Thursdays and Friday night seafood buffets, we anticipate a full clubhouse in December. On nights the Club is open, please join us for the evening lighting of the menorah during the eight days of Hanukkah (November 28-December 6).

Our first party of the month is the CYCWA Toys for Tots Dinner on December 1, followed by the Club Holiday Party and holiday merchandise sale on December 5. The holiday Sunday brunch buffets with holiday carolers return the first three Sundays of the month. The *Charles Hathaway* is sure to be a top entry in the Marina del Rey Holiday Boat Parade which you can enjoy while attending the Power Fleet Dock Party on December 11. On Christmas Eve, the Club will close at 3 p.m. The month concludes with our Kids Noon Year's Eve party on December 30 and music and an elegant four-course dinner on New Year's Eve.

## Fixing Things!

### Randy Lawrence - CYC's New Facilities and Maintenance Manager

As Facilities and Maintenance Manager, Randy will oversee maintenance of the Club's buildings and grounds.



Randy is a highly skilled facilities management professional with many years of experience in the private club/hospitality industry. His background and management philosophy are rooted in developing and nurturing strong, loyal, and capable teams focusing on customer service excellence and timely resolution of

issues. Randy's goal for CYC is to develop a preventative maintenance-driven facilities program and to raise the bar on attention to detail. Randy and his wife, Mary, were married



**LINDSAY PIZARRO, CCM**

30 years ago at Burton Chace Park in Marina del Rey in front of a small gathering of family and friends. He's the proud father of three exceptional young men and grandfather of two. Randy is a lifelong baseball fan and an avid photographer.

## Waves of Change!

### Eduardo Sylvestre – CYC's New Waterfront Director

We are delighted to introduce this new position, created to support expansion of our waterfront activities. Eduardo's duties will include managing the Junior Sailing Program and its staff, overseeing dock office operations and staff, coordinating efforts between the Junior Program and the Junior Committee, and serving as a liaison with Sail Committee.



Eduardo has been involved with sailing and water activities since he was young. His family owns a marina in Brazil, so Eduardo was always involved with marina management, and lead many sailing events for keelboats and dinghies and other waterfront activities. A sailor, instructor, and coach, he was recognized by World Sailing as an Expert in the Field in 2013. While

working for World Sailing he was responsible for developing sailing in South and Latin America helping clubs and federations with their programs. Eduardo has also coached in major sailing events around the world. He has degrees in physical education as well as leadership and counseling. Eduardo is married with three kids and is excited to start a new chapter back in the U.S.

## Let's Communicate!

### Anjeli Jana - CYC's New Membership Communications Representative

As Membership Communications Representative, Anjeli will assist the Director of Membership and Marketing in all aspects of member services, for prospective, new, and existing members.

Anjeli has been a resident of Marina del Rey since 2014. She is an honors graduate of Santa Monica College where she studied computer business applications. She is also an independent filmmaker and member of SAG-AFTRA. Her short documentary "My Marina" won several awards including Best Local Short at the 2019 Marina del Rey Film Festival. ♣



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# **DECEMBER 2021**

**Always check *Zephyr* and *calyachtclub.com* for the most current event information.**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>DECEMBER HIGHLIGHTS</b>  1 Toys for Tots Dinner 5 Merchandise Sale 5 Holiday Party 11 Dock Party			Mixed Doubles Paddle Tennis 1 Bridge Club Toys for Tots Dinner ( <i>no à la carte dining</i> )	Women's Paddle Tennis 2 Mah Jongg Book Mates Fleet Council Party	Seafood Buffet 3	Pickleball 4 Mixed Doubles Paddle Tennis Paddle Tennis Courtside BBQ
Holiday Merchandise Sale 5 Holiday Brunch Buffet MD Paddle Tennis Pickleball Holiday Party	Last Day of Hanukkah 6 Club Closed Evening Pickleball	Club Closed 7 Women's Paddle Tennis Epicurean Dinner	Mixed Doubles Paddle Tennis 8 Art Aficionados Bridge Club	Women's Paddle Tennis 9 Mah Jongg	Seafood Buffet 10	Pickleball 11 Mixed Doubles Paddle Tennis Marina del Rey Boat Parade Dock Party
Mixed Doubles Paddle Tennis 12 Pickleball Holiday Brunch Buffet	Club Closed 13 Evening Pickleball	Club Closed 14 Women's Paddle Tennis	Mixed Doubles Paddle Tennis 15 Bridge Club	Women's Paddle Tennis 16 Mah Jongg Bridge Meeting New Member Mtg. Holiday Wine Tasting	Movie Mates 17 Seafood Buffet	Pickleball 18 Mixed Doubles Paddle Tennis
Mixed Doubles Paddle Tennis 19 Knit or Knot Holiday Brunch Buffet Pickleball	Club Closed 20 Evening Pickleball	Club Closed 21 Women's Paddle Tennis	Mixed Doubles Paddle Tennis 23 Bridge Club	Women's Paddle Tennis 23	Christmas Eve 24 Club closes at 3 p.m.	Christmas Day 25 Club Closed
Mixed Doubles Paddle Tennis 26 Pickleball	Club Closed 27 Evening Pickleball	Club Closed 28 Women's Paddle Tennis	Mixed Doubles Paddle Tennis 29 Bridge Club	Women's Paddle Tennis 30 Kids Noon Year's Eve Party	New Year's Eve 31 New Year's Eve Party Breeze Deadline	
<b>JANUARY 2022</b>						
						New Year's Day 1 Club Closed Pickleball Mixed Doubles Paddle Tennis
Mixed Doubles Paddle Tennis 2 Pickleball	Club Closed 3 Evening Pickleball	Club Closed 4 Women's Paddle Tennis	Mixed Doubles Paddle Tennis 5 Bridge Club Art Aficionados	Women's Paddle Tennis 6 Mah Jongg Fleet Council Mtg. Book Mates	7	Pickleball 8 Mixed Doubles Paddle Tennis Bridge Installation





## INTERNATIONAL MASTERS REGATTA