

# BREEZE



CALIFORNIA  
YACHT CLUB



**DREW FREIDES**  
**HAL H. HAENEL YACHTSMAN OF THE YEAR**

FEBRUARY 2021

# From the Commodore



## Our CYC Journey

**W**e all have unique stories of how we became members of CYC. For my Commodore's column this month I wanted to share my story.

It all began back in 2007 when Mother Nature and some luck brought Lara and me together for the first time. We were competing in Antigua Race Week. I was racing onboard a Swan 46 which we had sailed from England and Lara was racing on a J/120 with a team from San Francisco. On practice day, Lara's J/120 was dismantled. As luck would have it, we were looking for crew, so Lara and some of her teammates joined us as we spent an amazing week racing around Antigua.

After dating long distance between England and San Francisco, we made the decision to move to Los Angeles and our California Yacht Club journey began.

I have always enjoyed the sense of community that comes with the world of boating. Over the years I've been fortunate enough to have sailed and competed in many different countries and have always received a warm welcome when visiting a yacht club. For Lara and me it was obvious that CYC exemplifies that feeling of community and camaraderie and we could not wait to join.

Once members, a couple of major things happened straight away. First, we started racing with two CYC teams, Lara with S/C Alice Leahey onboard her J/105 and I raced with Dave Voss on his Farr 40. This gave us a taste of competing in SoCal regattas and the Wednesday night Sunset Series, which compared to racing back in England and San Francisco, but was significantly warmer! The second life-changing event was celebrating our wedding at the Club. It was wonderful to share our big day with new and old friends at such an amazing location.

*Commodore Tim Clarke and Lara when they first met in Antigua in 2007.*

During our CYC journey, we have been fortunate enough to become boat owners, enjoyed numerous cruises to Catalina Island, and most importantly we

welcomed our two daughters into the world. Racing continues to be a large part of our lives, and we are both incredibly grateful for how the racing community included us from the beginning. Our involvement and friendships have grown to the point now that California Yacht Club is a home away from home.

Thank you for indulging me with this story. Although 2021 is firmly upon us, life continues to be challenging and despite our best efforts we are still restricted on what we can do at the Club. I hope by sharing my journey it reminds you of how you joined CYC, what you experienced in the past, and the opportunities for us all in the future.

I look forward to seeing you at the Club or on the water soon. ⚓



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

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## EVENTS

From the Commodore.....	2
Installation and Awards Ceremony.....	8
Charles F. Hathaway Long Distance Cruising Trophy.....	10
Hal H. Haenel Yachtsman of the Year.....	11
Michael F. Braney Sportsmanship Award.....	12
Signal Service Award.....	13
SCYA Warren Ewert Memorial Trophy.....	13
SCYA George L. and Kay B. Fisher Memorial Trophy.....	14
SCYA Peggy Slater Memorial Award.....	15
Race Committee Orientation.....	22

## ROWING

CYC Rows into the New Year.....	4
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## CYCWA

The Best is Yet to Come.....	5
Doubles Play Returns.....	17
Book Mates.....	19

## SAIL

New 50-Boat Racing Fleet Arrives.....	7
De Mille Cup.....	18

## MEMBERSHIP

New Members.....	6
Balloon Fishing Contest.....	20
On-the-Water Photo Contest.....	21
From the Manager.....	22
February/March Events.....	23

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**FRONT COVER** Drew Freides was awarded the Hal H. Haenel Yachtsman of the Year trophy for the fifth time in recognition of his continued success in yacht racing. He won the Farr 40 Championship, hosted by Long Beach YC in October 2019. Drew followed this victory a year later by winning the 2020 Melges IC37 National Championship, hosted by New York YC. Drew is shown at the helm of his Melges IC37, *Pacific Yankee* (bow 022), competing at the National Championship, sailed in the waters off Newport, Rhode Island.

Photo © ROLEX / Daniel Forster

**BACK COVER** The Charles F. Hathaway Long Distance Cruising Trophy was presented to Clifford Rome for more than 235,000 miles of cruising onboard his Hinkley 49 sailboat, *Omeray II*, and 70' Delta Trawler, *Oasis*. In the past eight years, Clifford has cruised *Oasis* to four continents: Africa, South America, Europe, and North America. *Oasis* is pictured cruising beautiful Prince William Sound, Alaska.

Photo courtesy of Clifford Rome



# CYC Rows into the New Year

By S/C CRAIG LEEDS

**C**YC has a long history of rowing starting back in the 1930s when the Club was based in Wilmington in Los Angeles Harbor. The CYC rowing programs in 2021 encompass a much wider range of ages and goals. We have rowers as young as 11 years old and some still active into their 80s. Many of our participants row for fitness instead of, or in addition to, going to a gym. We also have a large component who train very rigorously and compete in regattas.

It's a surprise to most to learn CYC has about 60 adult rowing members and about 70 juniors. Most of our rowing takes place in the early to mid-morning which may explain the surprise. Rowing lessons for young and older are offered to those wishing to learn the sport or for those who are experienced and wish to improve further.

Although a smaller program in terms of numbers, the CYC Junior Rowing Program is among the best in the country and has consistently won medals at their two most prestigious regattas: the USRowing Youth National Championships and the Head of the Charles Regatta.

CYC junior rowers are currently rowing for and have been recruited by all the finest universities and rowing programs in the country. Currently, the list includes Harvard, Dartmouth, Brown, Penn, Columbia, Cornell, Tufts, Colgate, and many more. CYC junior rowers have also gone on to represent the U.S. at the World Championships.

For juniors on the younger side or for those who wish to row but not join a competitive team, a recreational rowing program is offered. The general pathway for juniors is to start in middle school with lessons and progress to the recreational rowing program. Once in ninth grade, those from the recreational rowing program may move up to our novice competitive team and from there, once in 10th grade, move onto our varsity competitive team.

Updated information may be found on the CYC Junior Rowing webpage [calyachtclub.com/junior-rowing](http://calyachtclub.com/junior-rowing). ⚓



Photo © Sport Graphics



Photo © Sport Graphics

# Best is Yet to Come for the CYC Women's Association

By CYCWA Executive Officer CONNIE WEBSTER

**T**he Best is Yet to Come," this year's theme for CYCWA, comes from a song composed by Cy Coleman to lyrics by Carolyn Leigh. It seems only fitting as we look forward to the return to full activities in 2021. We held a shortened version of our Installation in January, remaining at safe distances while signaling that we are looking forward, not back.

Through the pandemic we have offered many of our activities, including Book Mates, Happy Hour Book Club, Movie Mates, mah jongg, paddle tennis, and Art Aficionados. We look forward to several outings to such places as

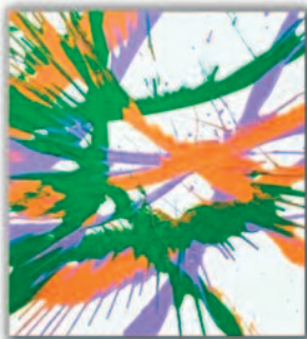


Photo © Chuck Behrman

the Virginia Robinson Gardens and the Frederick R. Weisman Art Foundation in the Holmby Hills neighborhood of Los Angeles as soon as social gathering concerns are removed. We'll end our season with our October 22-24 First Mates Cruise to Los Angeles Athletic Club.

Did you know that the women's association is not limited to any special group? All women who are CYC members are automatically members of CYCWA and men are welcome to participate in all of our programs and activities. Join us! ⚡

**Art Aficionados kick off the year with a splash! Wear used clothes as you may become an art piece.**



Select your paint color, attach Velcro to back of canvas, and spin the drill. Voila!



Or, select your paint color and use a string to create a three- or four-petal flower.

**FUN AND CREATIVITY AWAIT!**

Join Ellen Borowka & SEO Norma Pratt

Wednesday, February 10 and 24, 1-4 p.m. at your own table in an outdoor setting, featuring different artwork each day.

RSVP: [ellenb@lighthouseconsulting.com](mailto:ellenb@lighthouseconsulting.com) or [norma@rlpratt.com](mailto:norma@rlpratt.com)



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# New 50-Boat Fleet Arrives at CYC

By S/C TOM LEWECK

**F**ifty – that's how many brand-new racing sailboats arrived at CYC in January. Fifty brand-new DragonFlite 95s. It was a big order – although each of the radio-controlled boats is only 37" long.

The DF95 is a hugely popular international class, with big Southern California fleets already racing in King Harbor, Long Beach, Newport Beach, and San Diego. Still, the CYC order was the largest ever placed by a North American yacht club, and our new armada will also be supplemented by eight additional DF95s already owned by Club members.

The CYC fleet purchase was put together in less than 30 days by Alan Field and Doug McLean, who've been racing Wind Warrior RC boats for many, many years. They were looking to step up their game with a more contemporary, performance-oriented design. So, they tested the water, hoping to find enough interest for a yacht club fleet



*After sailing a pair of DF95s borrowed from CYC member Yumio Dornberg, Alan Field and Doug McLean enthusiastically put together a CYC fleet order for 50 of these radio-controlled race boats.*

purchase. They really had no idea how big this was going to get.

DF95 Fleet Captain Alan Field is now planning clinics for the new fleet members and a very full regatta schedule, plus weekly evening races in a new Funset Series ... once the COVID-19 restrictions are lifted. In the meantime, it's not uncommon to see individual members of this new fleet showing up at the guest dock in small numbers - tuning up their shiny new radio-controlled sailboats as they get ready for what promises to be a very fun summer. ⚓



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# Installation and Awards Ceremony – COVID Style

By COMMODORE TIM CLARKE and LARA

**T**his year we had to re-imagine our traditional Installation of Officers and Awards Dinner due to the pandemic. In lieu of the dinner a video was produced honoring the 2021 Bridge members and Fleet Officers, and to celebrate our award recipients.

On a beautiful afternoon in December, the Bridge and Installing Officer S/C Rick Turner met by the flagpole to begin filming under the guidance of CYC member Greg Smith and his filming crew. Creativity was the name of the game as our Fleet Officers were not able to attend, neither were the award winners or Junior S/C SEO Stephanie Weston. However, with movie magic on our side we were able to produce a video that we are proud of despite the challenges.

The ceremony started with Installing Officer S/C Turner introducing Jr. S/C SEO Weston, who gave her farewell speech and recognized our award winners. The Hal H. Haenel Yachtsman of the Year trophy was awarded to Drew Freides in recognition of his continued success in yacht racing, including winning the Farr 40 World Championship and the IC37 National Championship. Port Captain Sue Service was the worthy recipient of the Michael F. Braney Sportsmanship Award for many years of support to Sail Committee and our racing programs. The Charles F. Hathaway Long Distance Cruising Award was presented to Clifford Rome for more than 235,000 miles of cruising onboard his Hinkley 49 sailboat and 70' Delta Trawler, *Oasis*. The coveted Signal Service Award was presented by CYC President Steve Hathaway to Jr. S/C SEO Stephanie Weston for her outstanding leadership during

her term as Commodore last year.

S/C Turner then carried out the swearing in of the 2021 Bridge and Fleet Officers. In absentia, Fleet Budget Officer Mark Pinkerton, Fleet Secretary Nicole Harnett, Fleet Judge Advocate Cole Sheridan, and Fleet Surgeon Harlan Gibbs, M.D. received their flags of office and the responsibilities that come with them. Next up were the Bridge Officers: Port Captain Sue Service, Fleet Captain Anthony Agoglia, Rear Commodore Christina Tarantola, and Vice Commodore Monica Antola, who all happily agreed to faithfully execute their responsibilities. Finally, S/C Turner introduced Commodore Tim Clarke and presented him with his flag. Commodore Clarke's message to our Club members recognized that we are still enduring this storm, but better weather is on the horizon. As conditions allow, he's excited for our members to get back to doing the many activities available at CYC.

There was not any dinner and certainly no cocktails or wine, nor were we able to celebrate with friends and family. However, we are getting used to the necessary sacrifices that need to be made during these challenging times and hope you enjoy the video, which is available on the Club's website and social media. When we can meet again, please take a moment to congratulate the Bridge members, Fleet Officers, and award recipients.

Thank you to Greg Smith for taking on the task of filming and editing, Installing Officer S/C Rick Turner, General Manager Lindsay Pizarro, and the entire CYC staff for making the filming possible. ⚓



*The 2021 Bridge and their flags: Port Captain Sue Service, Fleet Captain Anthony Agoglia, Rear Commodore Christina Tarantola, Vice Commodore Monica Antola, and Commodore Tim Clarke*

Photo by Greg Smith





*Commodore Tim Clarke receives his flag from Installing Officer S/C Rick Turner.*

Photo by Greg Smith



Photos © Chuck Behrman

*Fleet Budget Officer Mark Pinkerton*



*(above)  
In a normal year, Tim and Lara's parents would have joined in the celebration; here they are enjoying the 2017 Installation Dinner: Sue Lundstrom, Lara and Commodore Tim Clarke, and Andrea and Paul Clarke.*



*Fleet Secretary Nicole Harnett*



*Jr. S/C SEO Stephanie Weston*



*Fleet Judge Advocate Cole Sheridan*



*Fleet Surgeon Harlan Gibbs, M.D.*



# CLIFFORD ROME

## Charles F. Hathaway Long Distance Cruising Trophy

Over the last 48 years, Clifford Rome has cruised more than 235,000 ocean miles on two boats, first for 20-plus years on his Hinckley, *Omeray II*, sailboat on which he logged 60,000 miles, and now on *Oasis*, the 70' Delta Trawler that has been berthed at CYC, on which he has traveled more than 175,000 ocean miles during the last 28 years.

Cliff has cruised *Oasis* to four continents: Africa, South America, Europe, and North America, and has transited the Panama Canal six or seven times. His most memorable cruises have been in Alaska, Norway, and the Mediterranean. He



has been at dock in five hurricanes and at sea at the tail end of Hurricane Sally.

Over the past approximately eight years, Cliff has journeyed to the Pacific Northwest, Alaska, the East Coast between Florida and Newfoundland, Europe, and the Mediterranean. He says the Med is the most difficult place to moor and skipper due to ancient marinas, bad power, and other issues.

Cruising is Cliff's passion and he thrives on skippering his boat and maintaining it. He has learned



Photo by Greg Smith

everything by experience and has earned a 500-ton offshore license. Cliff has never broken down underway, or been delayed from a departure more than an hour. He has built boats, including Charles Hathaway's trawler, *Starr*, and worked on the *Oasis* build.

One example of Cliff's ingenuity and spirit is the large bulb at the bow of *Oasis* with the Batman insignia on it. Naval architects claimed a bulb such as this would not work on a boat less than 100 feet long. Cliff decided to give it a try and tank-tested a wave-piercing bulb of his own design. The bulb on the bow of *Oasis* can hold 500 gallons of seawater and helps keep the bow down in large seas. It also improves fuel efficiency 25%. The

Batman insignia on it came from his daughter who really liked Batman at the time.

Cliff and his family have been members of CYC for 48 years and have traveled to faraway lands with CYC Honorary Commodore Charles Hathaway and Patty, and Tim and Risa Yeiser.

For the near future Cliff and *Oasis* plan to cruise the Pacific Northwest, Alaska, and Vancouver, British Columbia. When asked how long he plans on continuing his cruising, Cliff says: "When I stop waking up at 0500 excited, engaged, and passionate to challenge myself and greet the day. There are more places to see, experience and explore than we have time." It is this sense of spirit, individuality, adventure, and vast miles journeyed that makes CYC proud to award Clifford Rome the Charles F. Hathaway Long Distance Cruising Trophy for 2020. ⚓



Photos courtesy of Clifford Rome

# DREW FREIDES

## Hal H. Haenel Yachtsman of the Year 2019 Farr 40 World Champion 2020 Melges IC37 National Champion

**A**warding Yachtsman of the Year would seem challenging in a pandemic-curtailed sailing season. Helpfully, Drew Freides solved this dilemma by neatly bookending the pandemic induced break within the award selection period with achievements that would be extraordinary in any season, or indeed in any career; a World Championship in the Farr 40 and a National Championship in the Melges IC37 (there is no world championship yet in this class because it is so new). This is the fifth time that Drew has been named Yachtsman of the Year for his remarkable and continuing success in one-design racing.

Drew and his team on *Far Niente* won the Farr



Drew Freides (white sunglasses) and crew concentrate on the downwind leg at the 2019 Farr 40 World Championship.

Drew's third consecutive international one-design world championship.

Drew then turned his attention to the new Melges IC37 class. In a partnership with Bill Ruh, Drew purchased hull #22, and began the process of learning yet another new boat and building yet another new team. This endeavor got off to a great start as Drew's new *Pacific Yankee* debuted with a sweep of the Melges IC37 2019/2020 Winter Series, sailed in the waters off Fort Lauderdale, Florida. *Pacific Yankee* won the first two regattas, sailed in November 2019 and January 2020, before the third event scheduled for March 2020 was canceled.

After the extended break in racing, Drew and *Pacific Yankee* resumed racing in September 2020 at

40 World Championship, sailed October 2-5, 2019 in the waters off Long Beach. Trailing by 12 points after six races, *Far Niente* gained their first lead in race nine, the last race of the penultimate day of the regatta. Extending and then managing that lead on the final day left *Far Niente* with a comfortable margin over the second place *Struntje Light* of Germany, the 2018 world champion. Having won the Melges 20 World Championship with his team on *Pacific Yankee* the previous two years, this was



Photo by Greg Smith

New York Yacht Club Race Week at Newport, sailed in the waters off Newport, Rhode Island. The team finished in a strong second place in this regatta, despite having to retire from one race due to a pre-start collision with the eventual winner. Drew said, "Our goal this year was to win the Nationals, and we were hungrier than ever after the disappointment. We came into the regatta more focused than ever and knew what we had to do to win – stay clean, avoid unforced mistakes, and let our boat speed and crew work speak for themselves."

The 2020 Melges IC37 National Championship was sailed the following week, October 2-4, also in Newport. Drew and the *Pacific Yankee* team proceeded to put on an exhibition of sailing dominance and consistency. *Pacific Yankee* led the entire way, building a virtually unassailable lead during the first two days of racing, with their lowest finish (and throwout) being a third. In the final day, Drew and *Pacific Yankee* were able to take it easy and were crowned the 2020 National Champions by a comfortable 13-point margin. ⚓



Drew Freides and this team (bow 07) won the 2019 Farr 40 World Championship.

Photos by Sharon Green / Ultimate Sailing



# PORT CAPTAIN SUSAN SERVICE

## Michael F. Braney Sportsmanship Award

**I**n ways both large and small, Port Captain Susan Service has throughout the past decade generously shared her unique skills, energy, and Corinthian spirit to the benefit of CYC and the sport of sailing. Most recently as chair of the Sail Competition Planning Committee, working to attract high-profile championship regattas to CYC; as Sail Committee Chair in 2015 and 2016; as organizer and chair of multiple CYC regattas; and as an always-willing volunteer and problem solver for all of the Club's efforts on the water, Sue is a most worthy recipient of the Michael F. Braney Sportsmanship Award for 2020.

Sue's positive impact on the sport has been recognized in the past. Named ASMBYC Yachtsman of the Year in 2018 for her creative contributions to and exemplary accomplishments within the sport of



Photo by Greg Smith



Photo © Chuck Behrman

sailing, Sue also received SCYA's Peggy Slater Memorial Award in 2015 for her outstanding contributions to the enhancement of women's participation in sailing and her individual achievement in the sport. In 2014, the CYC Women's Association honored Sue with the CYCWA Fleet Service Award for

her contributions of time and service to the Club.

Sue's behind-the-scenes efforts have time and again provided critical support to CYC racing at every level. She partnered with external developers to integrate and customize CYC's online registration program, and regularly lends her skills and expertise to the Club's scoring team. She is a yeoman volunteer on race committees, whether as principal race officer or markset crew, as need demands. She serves on the Club's Race Documents Committee, has helped organize Sunset Series protest committees, compiled and tabulated historical wind data, and chaired marquee CYC regattas, including Cal Race Week in 2019, the 2018 CFJ Nationals, and 2017's Laser Midwinters West.

Sue is an avid racer and has competed in all the major Southern California regattas, as well as Key West Race Week and St. Francis Yacht Club's Big Boat Series. She has crewed in numerous Linda Elias Memorial Women's One Design (LEMWOD) regattas including CYC's winning efforts in 2013 and 2019. Sue is a staff commodore and active member of the Women's Sailing Association of Santa Monica Bay (WSA-SMB).

Whether she's on the water racing, organizing high-profile regattas, sighting a start line for race committee, or helping new members find a home at the Club, Sue has made a significant positive impact on sailing in our community. ⚓



Photo by John Nelson

# 2020 COMMODORE SEO STEPHANIE WESTON

## Signal Service Award

**T**he Signal Service Award is presented to a member or members who have given exceptional service to CYC which has made the Club a better experience for our members. This year's recipient is our 2020 Commodore, SEO Stephanie Weston, for her great leadership during the most challenging year ever as Commodore of CYC. A normal year as

Commodore is challenging enough. Her calmness and determination during the pandemic crisis kept much of what we love about CYC going. She encouraged as many members as possible to continue to meet virtually to maintain the Club camaraderie and enthusiasm. Many creative events were introduced at the Club.

Her motto this year was "Enjoy the Ride." It certainly turned out to be a ride no one ever dreamed of.

However, Stephanie made the best of it and we as CYC members couldn't have had a better person at the helm of CYC than her.

Congratulations, Stephanie, on your well-deserved honor. ⚓





# JUSTIN AND MADELEINE McJONES

## SCYA George L. and Kay B. Fisher Memorial Trophy



Photo by John Nelson

**T**he long-time service of Madeleine and Justin McJones to the wider sailing community of Southern California, through three yacht clubs, is extensive and noteworthy, and well-deserving of the honor of the Fisher Memorial Trophy.

Madeleine and Justin McJones have been active in the Southern California yacht racing community since the early '90s. Madeleine joined Cabrillo Beach YC right after college, and Justin joined Los Angeles YC in 1993. They met while racing and were married in 1995; their ceremony and festivities spanned both clubs.

Justin served two years on the CBYC board of directors in the late '90s, and Madeleine built a new website for LAYC and served as its webmaster for several years. LAYC presented her with its Emmett Harvey Exceptional Service Award in recognition of her contributions.

Their children, Jessica and Gavin, started racing in the Optimist class, which at that time was just gaining momentum in Southern California. Madeleine started

California Optimist Association of Sailing Teams (COAST) to encourage participation in and visibility of California Optimist action, relative to the national USODA which was more centered on East and Gulf Coast sailing.

Justin and Madeleine also started Midwinters West, now part of the SCYYRA Carrie Series. This event was held in its first years at LAYC and was timed to be on the three-day weekend before the SCYA Midwinter weekend, so parents could join their children for racing and then go out on their big boats the second weekend. It also allowed families from Northern California enough time to drive down and participate. As part of the initiation of this Opti regatta, Justin and Madeleine oversaw the re-deeding of three LAYC trophies for this event: the McNeil Dinghy Series Trophy, the Iroquois Optimist Dinghy Trophy, and the Warren D. Wood Optimist Dinghy Trophy.

Justin was elected to the LAYC board of directors in 2006 and started on the bridge in 2009. He was LAYC

commodore in 2012. He was LAYC's representative to the Association of San Pedro Bay Yacht Clubs (ASPBYC), and both he and Madeleine were involved with SCYYRA for many years. Madeleine created the website for the 2014 USODA National Championship, held at CYC.

The McJones family joined CYC in 2015. Justin has been an active member of the Junior Committee and is the CYC representative to SCYYRA. Both he and Madeleine have been active in race committee and the Junior Program, assisting with towing club trailers to away regattas, and hosting out-of-town juniors for the annual CISA clinic.

Madeleine arranged for an advanced Laser coach from Portugal, Miguel Andrade, to work with CYC racers during two summers. Miguel stayed at the McJones' home and shared his excellent coaching with Laser sailors from San Diego to Ventura at CYC. That resulted in SoCal juniors participating in regattas as far away as the Columbia River Gorge and Kiel, Germany. ⚓

# MARIE ROGERS

## SCYA Peggy Slater Memorial Award

**M**arie embodies the spirit of Peggy Slater, in both her numerous accomplishments on the water, and in her dedication to enhancement of women's participation in sailing. She is a skilled sailor and a U.S. Coast Guard Master Captain. She has long been an advocate for bringing sailing to the larger community and for inclusivity and diversity in the sailing community.

Marie's commitment to community sailing includes developing the Los Angeles YC Community Sailing Program, where she spearheaded efforts to introduce a diverse set of adults and children to sailing. She is passionate about inclusivity and is chair of the first-ever inclusive boating committee for SCYA. In that capacity, she secured a fleet of 16 Hansa double-handed sailboats that can be skippered by disabled sailors.

She started LAYC's Women



*"It's almost impossible to find  
a Black woman at the helm  
of any boat in Southern California,  
and even rarer on race boats.  
But being a woman skipper has  
competitive benefits.*

*No one expects you to win!"*

– Marie Rogers, November/December 2020 BoatU.S. Magazine

on Water (WoW) program, introducing women of all ages to boating in general and sailing in particular. She has spent countless hours as a Sea Gals coach aboard Long Beach Sailing Foundation's Catalina 37s, helping women hone their sailing and racing skills. Her knowledge and expertise in helping women excel in sailing was recently recognized by US Sailing, where Marie was invited to be part of a panel on diversity, equity, and inclusion in women's sailing, broadcast as part of the "Starboard Portal" series.

She is an accomplished racer herself, both nearshore and offshore, having completed her first Transpac race in 2019, the 50th running of the event, aboard the DK46 *CaZan*. Marie was the first sitting female commodore to complete this race.

Marie has been a CYC member since 1999 and is a member of the Women's Sailing Association of Santa Monica Bay. She is also a staff commodore at LAYC, the second female commodore in that club's history, and the first female of color to serve as the commodore of a major U.S. yacht club. She has broken many barriers in her time as a sailor, including being the first African American member in LAYC's 118-year history. She was recognized by LAYC as their 2012 Yachtsman of the Year. ⚓

*Marie Rogers (standing behind the helm on her Nelson Marek 55) races, coaches, and brings a diverse set of adults and children to sailing. She and her husband, Bill, also own a J/29, Rush Street.*



Photos courtesy of Marie Rogers





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# Doubles Play Returns in the New Year

By SEO NORMA PRATT

**D**edicated paddle tennis players Joanie Freckmann and SEO Norma Pratt enjoyed singles play every Tuesday and Thursday throughout 2020. When doubles play

was finally allowed beginning on New Year's Eve, they were joined by Peggy Powers and Linde Caughey in celebrating its return on the courts. 🏓



*Peggy Powers and Linde Caughey*



*Joanie Freckmann*



*SEO Norma Pratt*



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# The de Mille Cup

By V/C MONICA ANTOLA

As most everyone is aware, 2022 will be the 100th anniversary of California Yacht Club. In researching the history of the Club, I came across a stunning trophy called the de Mille Cup. I know the name Cecil B. DeMille and was immediately intrigued by a possible Hollywood connection. Cecil B. DeMille (he used DeMille professionally and de Mille in his personal life) was an American motion picture producer and director, considered the archetypal American film mogul. His 70 films reflected changing American tastes and values, and he was particularly noted for his multimillion-dollar spectacles. He was unequalled for the types of films he produced which consistently broke box office records and earned him the title "Mr. Hollywood."

In 1922, he commissioned this exceptional work of art. This article in the July 1922 issue of Motor Boating magazine (page 112) captured the excitement generated by this trophy:

## A Gold Cup for Los Angeles

The handsomest and most valuable trophy ever put up in the west for motorboat racing will be contested for at Los Angeles. This is the De Mille Gold Cup, just offered by Cecil B. De Mille through the Los Angeles Athletic Club Motorboat Racing Association. Mr. De Mille, who is director-general of the great Famous Players-Lasky corporation and who for a long time had practical aviation for his principal hobby, is turning from the air to the water and enthusing over sports in the latter element, and this trophy is the result. It is generally believed that Mr. De Mille, who does everything he undertakes in a broad-gauge way, will build a speedboat and get into the game himself with the object of beating all records. At any rate he is showing keen interest in the further development of the exciting sport.

The De Mille cup, already in course of manufacture,



Photo by S/C Martin McCarthy

was painstakingly designed by Paul Iribe, the distinguished French artist who has no rival and who has for years been on Mr. De Mille's art staff. The trophy will be 15 inches tall and in order to bring out the best possible effect the cup proper will be of sterling silver – a design of curling, white-capped waves. Upon this silver sea will ride a motorboat of solid gold, apparently driven at great speed and having the appearance of a fast craft in action on tossing waters. At the base of the cup will be a gold

shield to bear the names of the winners, and in relief a flying seagull casting a golden shadow upon the cup. The base will be of exquisite Catalina Island green marble. The whole constitutes a masterpiece of its kind. It is being made under the direction of S. Nordlinger & Sons, Los Angeles.

In accordance with Mr. De Mille's suggestion the race will be an annual free-for-all, to be held the first Sunday before Labor Day in or adjacent to Los Angeles harbor; to consist of three heats to be run on the same day, each 33 miles, and the total elapsed time to determine the results – the boat making the fastest elapsed time in 99 miles winning. The first heat is to start at 11 and the others are to follow with not to exceed half an hour between. There will be a race-horse start, entrants to draw for pole, and the pole boat to start the pace not faster than the slowest boat. Entries close July 1, and entry fee \$50, to be returned to each boat actually starting.

"It gives me pleasure to offer this trophy," said Mr. De Mille, "for I am sure that the development of motorboat racing in Southern California will be of general good. The west should not be behind the east in these matters and I can think of no reason why the Pacific Coast, and especially Southern California, should not be pre-eminent in water sports. In order that the winner each year may have a more lasting memento of what I hope may be a most interesting event it will be my pleasure to provide an appropriate gold

# "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings," a Remarkable Work of Autobiographical Fiction

By SUSAN FRENCH, Book Mates Chair

medal which will go to him as his personal property. I hope this effort on my part will be instrumental in the development of this sport of kings in Southern California."

Pacific Motor Boat magazine covered the September 10 race in its October 1922 issue (pages 14-16):

The race was a free-for-all event under the auspices of the California Yacht Club and the Los Angeles Athletic Club Motorboat Racing Association. It consisted of three beats of 33 miles each over a three-mile triangular course—eleven laps to the heat-off the Los Angeles Athletic Club Outer Harbor anchorage. The largest crowd ever assembled for this form of sport on southern waters was there, proving that the exciting game is becoming popular. Since the Los Angeles Yacht Club consolidated with it the California Yacht Club has 1050 members and nearly 300 boats, so owners, guests and fleet made a formidable and decidedly attractive showing. Mr. de Mille, donor of the \$1000 trophy, was on hand with his big auxiliary schooner Seaward, and a hundred other private craft, large and small, rode at anchor in the blue harbor. A passenger vessel carried out a capacity load of spectators from San Pedro, and other ports sent many. Their enthusiasm was expressed in almost continuous cheering.

Reading about all the excitement surrounding this trophy and event made me think about how much we will have to celebrate in our 100th year. While this sport's popularity has faded over the years, this stunning trophy is a great reminder of the rich history that our beloved Club played in motorboating in Southern California. As we were 100 years ago, California Yacht Club remains in the forefront of the yacht racing. ⚓

**A**t our January meeting, S/C Bill Watkins led us in a fascinating discussion of the first volume of Maya Angelou's seven-volume autobiography, "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings." Born in 1928, she was a poet, essayist, and writer of plays, movies, and television shows. She was awarded more than 50 honorary degrees, the Spingarn Medal in 1994, the National Medal of Arts in 2000, and the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2011. Her remarkable life is the subject of a documentary, "Maya Angelou: American Masters," that you can watch on [KCET.org](http://KCET.org). Her life stories are described as autobiographical fiction because they include reconstructed conversations and scenes.

Bill began by asking what the title means and why she chose it. It reflects one of the main themes of the book—African Americans are caged in by white society and long to break free.

The title comes from "Sympathy," by Paul Laurence Dunbar, an African American poet who lived from 1872 to 1906. The final stanza of the poem reads:

*I know why the caged bird sings, ah me,  
When his wing is bruised and his bosom sore,—  
When he beats his bars and he would be free;  
It is not a carol of joy or glee,  
But a prayer that he sends from his heart's deep core,  
But a plea, that upward to Heaven he flings—  
I know why the caged bird sings!*

The book, published in 1969, covers Angelou's life from the age of three, when she and her brother, Bailey, were sent alone on a train from Los Angeles to live with their paternal grandmother in the little village of Stamps, Arkansas. Both children felt the abandonment by their parents keenly but adapted to life in Stamps where their grandmother owned the only Black-owned store in the area. At age five, she and her brother were taken by their father to St. Louis to live with their mother. After Maya was raped by her mother's boyfriend at age seven, she stopped speaking, which led to the children being returned to their grandmother in Stamps. Eventually they returned to their mother and ended up living in San Francisco during World War II.

The discussion spanned the humiliation and severe limits imposed by racism and the survival strategies adopted by African Americans, the remarkable strengths of Maya, her mother, and her grandmother, and the similes and metaphors she uses throughout the book. All agreed that "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings" is a beautiful book that is well worth reading.

Book Mates meets the first Thursday of each month. Our February 4 book is "The Book of Joe," by Jonathan Tropper, and will be moderated by Gail Guglielmino. Our March 4 selection is "Hamnet," by Maggie O'Farrell; Marylyn Hoenemeyer will be the moderator.

If you are interested in joining Book Mates, email [french@law.ucla.edu](mailto:french@law.ucla.edu).



# Balloon Fishing Contest Winner

“Balloons every time we throttled up took forever to get in! The kids just wanted to keep gaffing them.” **Dana Keith** (far right) has set a new record for balloon fishing that will likely stand for some time: 37 balloons! He’s another fisherman who went out on the bay and ended up with lots of balloons ... but not much in the way of fish. Dana is pictured on his Crystalin 30’, *Trident*, with Will Gasparino and Asher Rosen, sons of two close friends.

Bounty for the member bringing in the most disabled balloons off our bay is a prime rib dinner for two at the Club. Send a photo of your catch to the dock office for consideration. One prize will be awarded each month. ⚓



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### California Yacht Club Yachting Program

7 p.m. Wednesday, February 17

Join us to get an insider's perspective on the upcoming America's Cup and the AC75s that will be racing in it.

CYC member Drew Freides, three-time world champion and current Melges IC37 National Champion, is a close friend of New York Yacht Club's American Magic. He'll share what he's learned about the boats, the teams, and the competition heading into the 36th America's Cup beginning March 6 in Auckland, New Zealand.

This program will be presented live online.  
Viewing details will be available in Zephyr and at [calyachtclub.com](http://calyachtclub.com).



# On-the-Water Photo Contest Winner

## Fleet Captain Anthony

**Agoglia** used a long exposure filter to take this photo of Len Weitzman sailing his 35' Solana, *Audacious*, on a bright sunny day in December.

Congratulations, Anthony, on winning a bottle of fine wine selected by General Manager Lindsay Pizarro. ⚓



## BOOK MATES

Thursday, March 4 at 1 p.m.



Moderator: Marylyn Hoenemeyer

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

## HAPPY HOUR BOOK CLUB

Wednesday, February 17 at 6 p.m.



LOVE IN THE TIME  
OF CHOLERA

GABRIEL GARCÍA  
MÁRQUEZ



Moderator: Marie Hedlund

For more information, email Trish Jackson [trishcyc@gmail.com](mailto:trishcyc@gmail.com)



# From the Manager

## Good Tidings, CYC Star of the Quarter, and CYC Provisions

Our Dock Office and Membership Department spread good tidings to properly kick off 2021. Lauren Baker, Director of Membership and Marketing, sent notes of gratitude and gifts to new members who joined us during the pandemic. Dockmaster Curtis Wagner and his crew hand-delivered West Marine gift cards of appreciation to our liveaboard member tenants. While we continue to operate under stay-at-home mandates, many areas of the Club are active and creatively adapting. CYC leadership and I remain appreciative and grateful for your membership, and the ways you are staying connected and involved to the degree you are able.

Toni Dicks, CYC's accountant, is our Star of the Quarter for fourth quarter 2020. Toni has been with CYC since October 2019. She is friendly, efficient, and a supportive



LINDSAY  
PIZARRO, CCM

team member. Over this past year Toni was one of the few essential workers who did not miss a day of work due to the pandemic. In addition to Toni's regular daily accounting duties, she helped with clubhouse operations, picking up additional administration duties as part of a limited team while our county's strict stay-at-home and essential-worker-only mandates were in effect. Toni was flexible, providing support in additional areas as needed, all the while helping keep my spirits up – or keeping me sane – when there were just two of us in the clubhouse! Please join me in congratulating Toni as our Star of the Quarter.

Please keep a close eye on *Zephyr* for all our up-to-date food and beverage offerings (at CYC and to go). In January I had the good fortune to sample Chef's various pizzas hot off the stone, Pho on Phridays, and an Ultimate Burger my way. ⚓



Toni Dicks

## Be Part of the Action at CYC! Join the Great Race Committee Volunteers Saturday, February 6

By LORI HAYTHORN

As we move forward in 2021, we hope February marks the beginning of the racing season at CYC. Regardless of when our racing starts, we are always looking for new race committee volunteers who would like to share in the excitement of the regattas. Each regatta is staffed with volunteers out on the water in Santa Monica Bay setting marks and signaling starts, as well as the critical volunteers who help with registration and get the results out to the racers at the end of the day from the comfort of the clubhouse. It definitely takes a team to put on a successful regatta.

The CYC Race Committee Orientation will be held Saturday, February 6, for anyone who would like to know more about how a race committee functions. No prior experience is necessary. There will be two sessions, 9 to 10:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. to noon. Meeting in the hoist area, we will walk through the process of setting up a racecourse and running the races, followed by hands-on opportunities with the actual equipment.

PLEASE NOTE: this will be an outdoor event with masks and social distancing required. If the weather does not permit an outdoor event we will reschedule.

CYC is known for putting on great races and race committee participation is a way to be part of that tradition. It is also a way to meet new people both on and off the water at the post race social hour. For more information or to sign up for the seminar, contact me at [lori.haythorn@haythorn.org](mailto:lori.haythorn@haythorn.org). Updates will be communicated through *Zephyr*, the Club's online newsletter. ⚓



Photo by Bronny Daniels joysailing.com

# ➤ **FEBRUARY 2021** ➤

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Club Closed 1	Club Closed 2	Mixed Doubles Paddle Tennis 3	Women's Paddle Tennis 4	5	Pickleball 6
				Mah Jongg		Race Committee Orientation
	Evening Pickleball	Women's Paddle Tennis	Bridge Club	Fleet Council Mtg.		Mixed Doubles Paddle Tennis
				Book Mates		
Mixed Doubles Paddle Tennis 7	Club Closed 8	Club Closed 9	Mixed Doubles Paddle Tennis 10	Women's Paddle Tennis 11	12	Pickleball 13
Knit or Knot			Art Aficionados	Mah Jongg		Paddle Tennis
	Evening Pickleball	Women's Paddle Tennis	Bridge Club	CYCWA Board Mtg.		
				Jr. Comm. Mtg.		
				Sail Comm. Mtg.		
Valentine's Day 14	Club Closed 15 <i>President's Day</i>	Club Closed 16	Mxd. Doubles 17 Paddle Tennis	Women's Paddle Tennis 18	19	20
			Bridge Club	Mah Jongg	Movie Mates	Pickleball
Mixed Doubles Paddle Tennis	Evening Pickleball	Women's Paddle Tennis	Happy Hour Book Club	Family Activities Comm. Mtg.		Mixed Doubles Paddle Tennis
			Evening Yachting Program			
Mixed Doubles Paddle Tennis 21	Club Closed 22	Club Closed 23	Mixed Doubles Paddle Tennis 24	Women's Paddle Tennis 25	26	Pickleball 27
Knit or Knot			Bridge Club	Mah Jongg	Epicurean Event	Mixed Doubles Paddle Tennis
	Evening Pickleball	Women's Paddle Tennis	Art Aficionados	Bridge Mtg.		Mariners Education
				New Member Mtg.		
Mixed Doubles Paddle Tennis 28	<div style="text-align: center;"> <b>FEBRUARY HIGHLIGHTS</b>   6 Race Committee Orientation  26 Epicurean Event  27 Mariners Education </div>					
Breeze deadline						

## MARCH 2021

	Club Closed 1	Club Closed 2	Mixed Doubles Paddle Tennis 3	Women's Paddle Tennis 4	5	Mixed Doubles Paddle Tennis 6
				Mah Jongg		
	Evening Pickleball	Women's Paddle Tennis	Bridge Club	Fleet Council Mtg.		
				Book Mates		
Mixed Doubles Paddle Tennis 7	Club Closed 8	Club Closed 9	Mixed Doubles Paddle Tennis 10	Women's Paddle Tennis 11	12	Opening Day 13
Knit or Knot			Art Aficionados	Mah Jongg		Pickleball
	Evening Pickleball	Women's Paddle Tennis	Bridge Club	CYCWA Board Mtg.		Mixed Doubles Paddle Tennis
				Jr. Comm. Mtg.		
				Sail Comm. Mtg.		

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