



THE MAIN SHEET

From The Bridge



In this August, 2021 Issue:

Sweeney Jr. Olympics	2
Opening Day	3
Summer Regatta	6
Team Challenge	7
New Member Stories	11
More New Members	12
Bill Taylor	13

I hope that you had an opportunity to share Opening Day with us. All I can say is wow, wow WOW! What an event put on by some amazing volunteers. I would like to give a special thank you to Mia Ishikawa, Daniela Radu and Audrey Simenz. These three ladies are our dream team. They make our club events come to life. I couldn't be more proud of all of the staff commodores that came out to pass on the tradition of our club and share the day. Thank you to the two Randys for smoking some incredible kalua pork. This year we added a new tradition of an after party club cruise

around the lake. Great fun was had with back and forth banter among the boats as we made the slow lap charting some seldom seen corners of the lake.

The Friday night BBQ has kicked off with a bang for the summer. Please come out and join us for some social comradery before the end of the month. Bring your own food to cook on the BBQ and enjoy telling some tales with your fellow club members. Free sailing at 4:30 followed by 6:30/7:00 BBQ.

Mark Your Calendars!

- August 15—44th Annual Regatta
- Sept 26- Fall Regatta and Octerberfest
- October 17- Junior Regatta
- October 24- Top Skipper Regatta
- November 14- Turkey Regatta
- Note: Social gatherings before and after these events are subject to LMVA Guidelines.

The Summer Regatta kicked off the second half of our sailing calendar for the year. Dominating performances were put in by Vivian Ikeda, Emmet and Vicki Rixford, and Arnold Christensen, each scoring 2 wins in their respective fleets. We took a break in the schedule for the month of July to host the Team Challenge Regatta and the prestigious Simenz-Olson Perpetual Trophy. Graham Newman's white team was looking to make it a 3-Peat. See the article later in this issue to see how they did.

Next up is the 44th Annual Regatta. I hope you got your T-Shirt orders in. Looks like Rear Commodore Ross Nemeroff has outdone himself with this year's design.

See you on the water!

Guy Heaton

LMVYC Commodore 2021

Kate and John Sweeney Sail 2021 Junior Olympics Festival

Rod Simenz

Kate and John Sweeney are in their fourth year as members of LMVYC junior sailing team. Kate took a liking to the RS Tera when she first started competitive sailing and won many awards. John had an early preference for being crew and focused on sailing CFJs and 420s. John and Kate have always been very competitive at our regattas and are now the team to beat in the CFJ. They also participate in other junior sailing programs off the lake. Currently they are honing their CFJ and 420 skills under the watchful eyes of superb coaches at the Bahia Corinthian Yacht Club's junior sailing program.



Kate and John approaching the windward mark in boat BCYC 7 at the 2021 Jr. Olympics



Kate and John roll tacking their CFJ at Lake Mission Viejo.

Congratulations to Kate and John for their performance at the 2021 Junior Olympics Festival that was held at Santa Barbara Yacht Club in July. They sailed for BCYC and posted an impressive 8th place, best race finish in the fleet of 26 CFJs! It's great to have them as members of our junior sailing program where our junior sailors can now learn some of the fine points of sailing CFJs from them.

(re) Opening Day 2021 Celebrates Our History

S/C Kevin Weir



Anticipation for Opening Day, 2021 ran high. After a year of pandemic, losses, and restrictions, LMVYC volunteers gathered outside the Club Room on June 27 to celebrate our fellowship.

A gauntlet of boats from our fleet welcomed invitees upon arrival.



Cheyenne Stegal and Allison Brooks preparing salads.

Members socialized before formalities, setting the tone for the day.

Volunteers prepared the site, including setting tables, preparing food, and decorating our event.



Aki Hirota, Mia Ishikawa, & S/C Audrey Simenz

Opening Day, continued...



S/C Emmet Rixford, Emmet Rixford, SR., & S/C Arnold Christensen



Commodore Guy Heaton, Julius Sighiartau, & S/C Randy Tiffany



Current Flag Officers and Staff Commodores were dressed in their summer formal wear.



Overhead view of the audience



Junior Staff Commodore Randy Tisdale began the ceremony welcoming everyone.



Junior Commodore Vivian Ikeda led the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by our national anthem.

Randy Tisdale continued with a prayer followed by Eight Bells for members that we recently lost.



Vice Commodore Scott Pursell introduced past Commodores.

Randy then introduced Commodore Guy Heaton who had the pleasure of declaring the year open for racing. A feast followed.



Commodores past and present



The parade begins

A boat parade around the lake finished this grand day. As our time wound down, a few of us sailed or continued to socialize. Port Captain Graham Newman and I took a casual spin in Graham's boat – and were dismasted mid lake!



SS Rixford

Many thanks are due our volunteers. This article would be incomplete without a sincere thanks to the Lake Association for their support. A special thanks is due to Ed, who remained with us to assure that everything went well.



Commodore Heaton thanking Ed

Summer Regatta 2021

Commodore Guy Heaton



The second half of the sailing season has begun. Congratulations to Vice Commodore Scott Pursell as our leader in C fleet with a 2 point margin over Maverick Trudell and Rod Simenz. The B fleet was dominated by Deagan Willis with a total of 9 points after 8 scoring races. And yours truly barely held on to a 1 point margin from the ever amazing Nicole Sighartau finishing up 3 bullets in the last 3 races.

The Summer Regatta was filled with some tight racing just as we have seen all season. Rod Simenz started the day out hot with a tight win over Vivian Ikeda by less than 20 seconds. Vivian came back strong in the second race to beat Scott Pursell by 40 seconds. She again took her sabot to another first place win over Maverick Trudell by a close 6 seconds to score a big win in the C fleet for the day.

Vicki and Emmet Rixford held off the competition in B fleet to score two firsts and second to win the day. While Frank Roberts and Randy Tiffany mixed it up to tie for second.

Tyler Peyatt was edged out by Arnold Christensen after a long day on the water for A fleet. They exchanged 1-2s in the first 2 races with Arnold getting the best out of his new boat and taking the win in the final race of the day.

Scott holds a tight 1.5 point lead in the overall season long championship for C Fleet. Vicki and Emmet have been able to cut into Deagan's dominance in B fleet and only trail by 3.5 points. While in A fleet Arnold has taken the lead by a commanding 4 points. He's going to be tough to beat. Let's see how they do after the 44th Annual Regatta.

Team Challenge 2021

S/C Frank Roberts



Our Team Challenge Regatta starts much differently than our regular regattas. First, we need to secure volunteer boats to complete a fleet for four different vessels. This year we added a new fleet of boats, the Twitchell, so the owners were glad to lend them to the cause. C14.2 owners also agreed to supply a fleet. Special thanks to Peter Tietz who loaned his C14.2 Prime Time and sails so we could have four boats in the class. We mustered up four Expo lake boats from our dwindling supply and added in four Balboas to complete the field.

Team captains were appointed by Commodore/Race Chair Guy Heaton. They consisted of the C14.2 owners Kevin Weir, Graham Newman, myself and Emmet Rixford in place of Peter.

After a week of threats and intimidation, we rounded up twelve more willing sailors to participate in the race. Most wanted to avoid the flogging, but being tied to the mast did not seem to bother them. They happily agreed to sail over several pitchers of Modelo at Round Table and we were ready for the next step: The Draft.

Armed with a cold pitcher of beer and a list of “volunteer” sailors, the four skippers did a “snake draft” where we selected our team one at a time until all four teams were set. Then we spent the rest of the week trash talking to the other captains about our superior choosing abilities and how they may as well stay home and just let the winner lift the trophy.

Team Challenge 2021, continued



Skipper's Meeting

Race Day came and all were ready. We started the day with a Pancake Breakfast. It's a lot of fun. After breakfast, boats were fitted and teams turned out in their team colors, Red, White, Blue and Gray. Team colors are necessary so the three team members standing on the dock can cheer on their teammate and it also makes it easier to hurl insults at them when they are not doing well.



Cheering and jeering from the dock

The Race Format is Windward/Leeward with a total of four races. This also gives each fleet a chance to start. Balboas and

Expos are rotated after each race, but each team can decide whether to rotate skippers or not.



White Team "passing the baton"

Race 1. After an excellent start, two time defending champion White team finished in first. It was a hard fought battle for the rest with Blue in 2, Gray in 3 and Red in 4. The second race was led by the Expo's with Blue finishing 2, White finishing 1, Gray 3 and Red 4.



Blue leading Gray to the leeward mark

Team Challenge 2021, continued



Blue "passing the baton"

Now the day got interesting. The winds blew nicely, dock mates were busy yelling encouragement or insults depending on the moment, race committee baked in the sun, Team Captains paced and our Race Chair adjusted the course for the new winds.



Blue and Gray at the leeward mark

A blistering start to race 3 had White in a commanding lead, Blue team was down for the count after an unbelievably poor start by yours truly in my C14.2. But no matter how I manage to screw things up, somehow it always works out. A lesson for younger sailors is never give up. Better yet, learn how

to start properly. My poor start was quickly erased as White Team made an incredible blunder by taking the wrong windward mark and no matter how much yelling from the dock to go back, it was in vain. The wind did not allow the teammates voices to carry across the lake. I can't imagine the yelling by the other three teams had an effect on the communication. By the time it was all sorted out, Blue team somehow managed to win Race 3 and added another bullet.



Bob Van Pelt helping Red take the lead

Race 4 was another exciting one with Red pulling out a 1st place, White 2, Blue 3 and Gray 4.



Twitchells at the start

Team Challenge, continued

Now in all the excitement and since I was the last boat to sail in the last race, I had no idea how we finished. In fact I believed we lost to White Team after my horrendous start in race 3. As I pulled up to the dock, I was met by Patrick who handed me a cold beer and said congratulations, BLUE TEAM WINS! Everyone celebrated the day back in the Club Room and finished off the leftover breakfast items.



Team White's "wild card" Nicole hiking out

Thanks to all who participated from our Race Committee to our Mark Set Boat to the lake personnel who set up our room. Also the Pancake Breakfast Team: John Owen, Bill Yount, my wife Anne Roberts, Daniella Radu, Pat Chong, Mia Ishikawa and Allison Brooks.



Commodore Heaton hiking out

And thanks to the race participants:

Red Team 11 points: Kevin Weir, Bob Van Pelt, Rod Simenz and Commodore Guy Heaton

White Team 8 points: Port Captain Graham Newman, Nicole Sighiartau, Bill Yount, and Arnold Christensen.

Blue Team 7 points: Frank Roberts, Ted Ishikawa, Patrick Stege and Tyler Peyatt

Gray Team 14 points: Emmet Rixford, Vice Commodore Scott Pursell, Bill Taylor and Rear Commodore Ross Nemeroff.



Rod's Custom Whisker Pole



Arnold's Custom Pole

Meet Our New Members!

Duanjie Li

Thanks for your warm welcome!

My family has four members, my daughters Elaine and Anne, my wife Shan, and me, Duanjie.

We moved to California in 2013 after we finished our postgraduate study in Canada. We feel so lucky to have access to the Lake as proud Mission Viejo residents.

We learned about the junior sailing club this year and got a tryout for Elaine. This was our first experience with sailing. We learned a lot from Rod, who patiently taught us the techniques to start to sail. I am happy that I am able to sail independently now. It feels so free and wonderful to sail with the wind!

We look forward to making more friends in the yacht club.



David Hodges

Thank you for your welcome to LMVYC. We are very happy to begin participating. We only moved to Mission Viejo a few weeks ago.

We both have long associations with sailing, beginning in 1963 in a city program in Long Beach in Sabots. Then we had membership and various boats at Alamitos Bay Yacht Club, including Sabots, Lido 14s, 505s and Lehman 10s. Dara was Fleet Captain of a group of 130 sailors for a year.

We both sailed for our respective colleges, Dave at UCI and Dara at CSULB. Once our children were old enough we participated in the program at Balboa Island Yacht Club (with no permanent facilities.)

New Members, continued

Geoff and Nena Jawidzik

Geoff and Nena Jawidzik, with their son Adrian, and daughter Elisa, moved from New Jersey to California in 2014. Geoff is a mechanical engineer, who in the past would occasionally substitute for crew on a co-worker's sailboat in races, in Long Island Sound. Nena is originally from Costa Rica, and has been preparing to rejoin the workforce, in early childhood education.



Welcome More New Members:



A Little About Bill Taylor

Born to Build and Play with Boats

I must have been bitten by the boating bug at birth, but it wasn't until I received a set of carving tools and a block of balsa wood, one Christmas, That I recall making my first boat. I was told, "those tools are sharp, be careful". So, I put on my "Hop a Long Cassidy" leather gloves as protection. I began hollowing out the block to make a model boat. It happened quickly, the gouge slipped through the balsa wood and sliced right through the glove and drew blood in my left index finger - the first of many wounds inflicted over the years by my right hand upon my left. As far as I can remember this was the first boat I made and maybe my first woodworking project.

A few years later I received a model boat kit. It was a little cabin cruise, about 18" long. I had spent many hours cutting out the parts and gluing them together. It was almost complete when tragedy struck! My older brother and I shared a bedroom and we were running back to our room when his foot lands right in the middle of my model boat. I burst into tears and began pummeling him with my little fists until he convinced me that it was an accident. Not to mention I had left my treasured model right at the bottom of the stairs leading to our room.



A day or so later, I decided to try and salvage the model boat. After all, it was just a matter of gluing the many pieces back together. A coat of paint covered the bumpy scars on the hull, and I was beaming with joy as it was launched in the neighbors' pool.

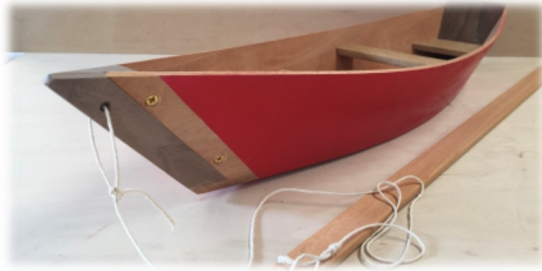
My next inspiration came when our family spent an Easter week with other families in Newport Bay. One father brought a paddle board he made from plywood and lumber. What a feeling - just floating on top of the water, moving with ease by slipping your hands through the water. I thought, wow, I could build a "boat" like this!

The next Christmas, I received a bright red metal tool box with the woodworking tools I needed to build my first paddle board boat. My father provided the plywood, lumber, waterproof glue and brass screws. It didn't occur to me to draw a plan, I just began sawing the lumber for a frame, and then cutting a top and bottom out of the 1/4" plywood. After gluing and screwing the plywood on to the frame I looked with pride on my new boat. I began cleaning up and putting away my tools, but one was missing! I thought "Oh no!" as I lifted and shook my new creation and heard a rattling sound. Should I leave it inside? No, someone would find out, plus, I wanted my missing metal square. I was able to unscrew a corner of the plywood before the glue had set up and retrieve my tool. Patience is a virtue one learns while working with wood.

My father had fond memories of his high school wood shop class (called "manual Arts"). A sewing table he made for his mother is one of my cherished possessions. He told me of other pieces of furniture he had made that were on display at school. It was a sad story to hear him tell how he pleaded with his father to go and pick up his projects, but to no avail.

I'm sure this experience had a lot to do with his encouraging me to further my interest in woodworking. He even purchased all the machinery from a wood workers widow: table saw, lathe, band saw and drill press (older than I, still in use). I suggested we build a separate building out in back of the house for all the tools and machines; and we did. I had my own little wood shop. Lucky me!

Bill Taylor, continued



Regatta and Opening Day Photos courtesy of Donna Stegal, Club Photographer

Sincere thanks are extended to: Commodore Heaton, Frank Roberts, Rod Simenz, and Bill Taylor for their contributions to this issue. Thanks are also extended to Duanjie Li, David Hodges, and Geoff & Nena Jawidzik—Welcome Aboard!

