



1961

# Sail Tales

The Redondo Beach Yacht Club  
210 Yacht Club Way, Redondo Beach, Ca 90277  
www.redondobeachyachtclub.org; 310.374.4838



2011

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## News From the Helm

*Commodore Craig Miller*

Greetings from the Helm!

Our long awaited Opening Day has arrived.

As we celebrate RBYCs 50th Anniversary on Sunday, April 10th, let's remember all those who came before us to make this special event possible.

I hope you don't underestimate the importance of attending events regularly.

Member participation is important for the vitality of the club. But in addition, every race, social event, and gathering that you join in with your fellow members at the club adds to our store of great memories.

Let's keep the traditions of the past alive, and establish further positive directives as we begin our next 50.

Thank you all for your participation, without you there's no club. See you all on the 10th.

### *Board of Directors*

#### **Flag Officers**

Commodore	Craig Miller
Vice Commodore	Patrick Shuss
Rear Commodore	Jill Lindsey
Jr. Staff Commodore	Kathi Sheridan
Treasurer	Rick Aburto
Secretary	Toni Denton

#### **Directors**

Thomas Bowling  
Jerry Edwards  
Steve Hofbauer  
Gary Lehto  
Ross Moore  
Mike Verla

#### **And**

QuarterMaster	Ana MacKenzie
Port Captain	Woody Johnston
Sail Racing Chair	John Ellinwood
Power Fleet	Carlos Perez
Sail Fleet	Rich McDaniel
Historian	Bruce Neighbors





# *Opening Day*

*Sunday, April 10th, 2011*

*At 10:00 a.m.*

*See you there!*





## *Racing Stripes*

*Vice Commodore Patrick Shuss*

Our first two races in February had light winds and flat seas so we were hoping for March to come in like a kitty-kat instead of a lion. What we weren't prepared for was what March actually brought us.

The second race (The Walti Regatta) of our Saturday series was postponed due to fish kill, tsunamis, and other events over which we have no control. The new date is August 6! Save the date and plan for a warm-weather race.

Well, Tuesday Beer can racing has begun! In the first race, *Oliver* and *Meimi II* were first in their class. In the second race, *No Way!*, *Sheridan Mae*, and *Meimi II* showed the field.

Tuesday night racing is meant as a diversion from our workaday chores. In honor of that, I present *Latitude 38's Ten Commandments of Beer Can Racing*.

- 1) Thou shalt not take anything, other than safety, too seriously.
- 2) Thou shalt honor the racing rules if thou knowest them.
- 3) Thou shalt not run out of beer.
- 4) Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's boat, sails, equipment, crew, or PHRF rating.
- 5) Thou shalt not amp out.
- 6) Thou shalt not protest thy neighbor.
- 7) Thou shalt not mess up thy boat.
- 8) Thou shalt always go to the yacht club afterwards.
- 9) Thou shalt bring thy spouses, kids, neighbors, and whoever else wants to go.
- 10) Thou shalt not worry, thou shall be happy.

In that vein, happy is what I shall be!

I'd like to encourage all you boat owners to come out and support the race as either a racer (for you rag-baggers) or an observer (for you stink-potters).

As an incentive, here are the trophies that you'll be racing for this year:



*Tuesdays (left) Saturdays, including the June Cup, (right)*



## 2011 Redondo Beach Series

### NOTICE OF SERIES of Six Saturday Yacht Races Sponsored by Redondo Beach Yacht Club (QMR is co-sponsored by SYCLB)



~~**FEBRUARY 5 – PALOS VERDES BLT**~~ – A Beat-Leeward-Triangle course from K to an inflatable. Distance 8–17 nm. The race starts at 1300 hrs and lasts about 3 hrs. Fee \$16

**MARCH 12** – Date for John Walti Memorial Regatta postponed to August 6th due to a Tsunami Alert. (they wouldn't let us out of the harbor!)  
one RLC

**APRIL 9 – LIGHTHOUSE RACE** from K to a temp. mark off perhaps Portuguese Pt. and return. Distance is 9–17 nm. Race starts at 1300 hrs and lasts about 3 hrs. Fee \$16

**MAY 7 – 37 FATHOM RACE** from K to an inflatable in 37 fathoms and the R-10 bell. Distance is 10 – 18 nm. The race starts at 1300 hrs and lasts about 3 hrs. Fee \$16

**JULY 9 – QUEEN MARY REGATTA\*** – One-way blast to Co-Sponsor Shoreline YC via “Hurricane Gulch”. Everyone sails 23 nm. Noon start from S mark. Fee \$30 (late, \$35)

**AUGUST 20 – JOHN PARKER MEMORIAL** – Uses an inflatable outside of F. Distance is 8 – 16 nm. Starts at S mark at 1300 hours. About 2.5 hrs. (Music at RBYC) Fee \$16

**CLASSES** – **PHRF-A** (Area RLC<150, 12-18 nm), **PHRF-B** (Area RLC>=150, 10-16 nm). If 3 entries **CAL-20** (courses of 8-14 nm), or **MAR-242** (**PHRF-B** courses), or **MARINER** (non-spinnaker class, courses of 8-14 nm, cruiser-adjusted rating.)

**RULES** – Boats in **PHRF-A,-B** shall be members of PHRF, meet Std PHRF Specifications & PHRF Equipment (Category 4 race). Except where \*, use Area RLC ratings. **ONE DESIGN** class rules and safety equip. apply. **MARINERS:** need crew of 2+, anchor, chain and rode, no free-flying headsail, no whisker pole > 1.4J, may add cruiser adjs.

**RULES APPLYING TO ALL BOATS:** have either VHF marine ch. 78 or a cellphone; Racing Rules of Sailing (omit RRS 35, 77); rules in this NOR, in the race NOR and SI, rules stated at entry or hailed under **L** flag. If they conflict, latest rules.

**SCORING** – At least four races not abandoned or cancelled will constitute the series. Series entrants are those who start all but at most one race of those completed. Others shall be removed from the series spreadsheet, and the series entrants rescored using RRS Low Point Scoring and RRS A8 and A9. Each entrant shall throw out one worst score from completed races, and the total of his remaining scores shall be ranked. Series trophies will be awarded in December: one if 3-4 in class, two if 5-7. The winning boat of each class will be immortalized on the Redondo Beach Series Perpetual.

**RACE INFO** John Ellinwood 310-645-9550 [jwellin@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jwellin@sbcglobal.net). **RBYC** 310-374-4838

“We won the race by twenty-three seconds, and two seconds after we had crossed the line the mast snapped. Which solved the problem of stopping, anyway.”

Philip Holland

## *50 Years of Commodores*

1961 Mitchell Dazey  
 1962 Lynn Kauffold  
 1963 David Bradley  
 1964 David Bradley  
 1965 David Bradley  
 1966 Robert McJones  
 1967 Richard Ohst  
 1968 James Sharp  
 1969 John Walti  
 1970 John Walti

1971 Joseph Luli  
 1972 Bill Larson  
 1973 John Walti  
 1974 Lee Robinson  
 1975 Frank Hine  
 1976 John Ellinwood  
 1977 Ron Gifford  
 1978 John Bianco  
 1979 Jack Nowlan  
 1980 Gail Hine

1981 Gail Hine  
 1982 Gary Beebe  
 1983 Gerald (Jerry) Martin  
 1984 Lew Gade  
 1985 Aili Larson  
 1986 John Ellinwood  
 1987 Ralph Harboe  
 1988 Zoltan Katinszky  
 1989 Bill Dall  
 1990 Dean Shepherd

1991 Clara Allen  
 1992 Bruce Nelson  
 1993 Gary Tingstad  
 1994 John Ellinwood  
 1995 Suzanne Butler  
 1996 Gene Moni  
 1997 Lake David Hegner  
 1998 Lake David Hegner  
 1999 Bruce Neighbors  
 2000 Rob Langford

2001 Jim Robertson  
 2002 Charlie Birkes  
 2003 Bill Brogan  
 2004 Carlos A. DeBonis  
 2005 Kyle Wilfong  
 2006 Jim Murrell  
 2007 Don Laverty  
 2008 Mike Devine  
 2009 Ron Cotta  
 2010 Kathi Sheridan

2011 Craig Miller



*And Thank You to all of these  
 Staff Commodores  
 who continue to serve  
 the RBYC so well.*

1976, 1986, 1994	John Ellinwood
1991	Clara Allen
1993	Gary Tingstad
1997, 1998	Lake David Hegner
1999	Bruce Neighbors
2003	Bill Brogan
2005	Kyle Wilfong
2006	Jim Murrell
2007	Don Laverty
2008	Mike Devine
2009	Ron Cotta
2010	Kathi Sheridan

*To begin the month of March a gale-force wind came up and a Great White shark came by and a toxic algae bloom grew in the Catalina Channel and..... Who knows which of those caused it but:*

Masses of sardines came swirling into the harbor and became trapped -- so many of them that they depleted the oxygen. Gasping for air, one by one they died and floated to the surface. **Lynda Madden**, who has an apartment on the third floor near the boatyard, said you could see them swimming slowly, randomly, weaving like drunken sailors and then gasping for air at the surface. The marina became a complete mess of dead floating sardines.



People from RBYC came to help clean up the mess. **John Schulte** was seen netting fish outside the Clubhouse. **Mike Verla**, worked a couple of days. He headed a CERT team of volunteers who spent one entire day in Basin A along Mole B netting and wheelbarrowing fish. "By the end of the day the surface was relatively clear," he said. But then, of course, when they came back the next day, all the fish that'd sunk, rose to the surface and they began the whole process again.

The city found lots of ways to pick up dead fish. On the second day, they began to vacuum dead fish off the rocks. Lynda caught this embarrassing moment where they had to vacuum up the pavement after a truck spilled some of its slippery load.

About the same time they began to use surface booms to drag fish to the end where they could vacuum them up.





Lucky Lynda was tagged to work from a Life Guard boat and then from a Harbor Patrol boat. They motored down one finger and then up the next, “Our feet were at water level (rather than on the docks above) so it was easier to haul the fish out,” she said.

“Easy” is a relative term.

Not everyone was unhappy taking on the job of scooping up fish. This sea lion (in the water on the left) and a lot of his buddies, happily gave the volunteers a hand. Also cheerful were those sea gulls who ate and ate and ate. “And then,” said Lynda Madden, “they went over to the docks and pooped their little brains out all over the docks and boats.”



Meanwhile, in addition to Mike Verla and John Schulte, Jerry Edwards’ daughter, **Laura Edwards** and her boyfriend, Scott, were seen shoveling fish. Jerry said he donated two nets to the cause in the RBY Club’s name. (But for some reason didn’t seem to have time to put a plaque on them first so we’d get credit.)

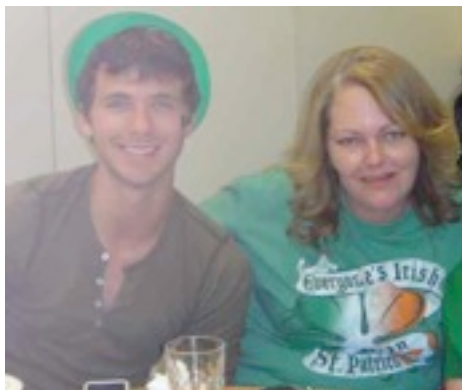
To make the week really interesting, on Thursday night (our time), Japan had a terrible earthquake which sent a tsunami to the west coast. Our bathtub-sloshing surges arrived on Friday, all day and into Saturday. CERT volunteers were not allowed to work but others grabbed hand nets and let great loads of fish surge into them.

**Leeann Pham** spent time out there as did **Ginger Clark** and probably many, many more members whose names we don’t know, contributed their time to help clear the marina.

*Hardly any green in the water for St. Paddy's so we brought our own. (green, that is).*



*Photos thanks to Leslie Lunsford*



*April Social Events At Redondo Beach Yacht Club*

**Fun Fridays;** Every Friday Night

**Sunday, April 10th 10 a.m. -**

Opening Day Celebration

**Sunday, April 17th** Cook-Your-Own /

Movie Night

**Saturday, April 30th** Pasta Making (\$10)

and Wine Tasting Party (\$5) Ravioli

(bring your own filling). Limited

seating so please RSVP to Susan N.

at 310 832-4540

**Check the Website for more details:**

**[www.Redondobeachyachtclub.org](http://www.Redondobeachyachtclub.org)**



*The Quartermaster  
Ana MacKenzie*

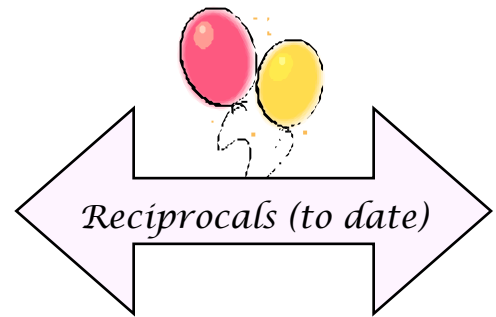
Prices listed are for the limited stock on hand (and are subject to editor's error). New orders will reflect price increases.

Burgee	\$30
Bullion	\$40
Pin	\$ 5
Nametag	\$20

To order, call Ana at 310-379-3365.

*Join The Social Committee!*

This lively group has already planned and run some terrific events this year. They meet at 7 p.m. on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at the Clubhouse.



American Legion Yacht Club	215 East 15th St., Newport Beach	949-673-5002
Bahia Corinthian Yacht Club	1601 Bayside Dr., Corona del Mar	949-644-9530
Cabrillo Beach Yacht Club	211 West 22nd St., San Pedro	310-519-1694
Channel Islands Yacht Club	4100 Harbor Blvd., Oxnard	805-985-2492
Corsair Yacht Club	P.O. Box 14777, Long Beach	714-968-4401
Hurricane Gulch Yacht Club	P.O. Box 425, San Pedro	hgyc.com
Little Ships Fleet of Long Beach	P.O. Box 3943, Long Beach	626-287-6755
Long Beach Yacht Club	6201 Appian Way, Long Beach	562-598-9401
Mission Bay Yacht Club	1215 El Carmel Place, San Diego	858-488-0501
Navy Yacht Club, Long Beach	223 Marina Drive, Long Beach	www.nyclb.com
Oceanside Yacht Club	1950 Harbor Drive North, Oceanside	760-722-5751
San Fernando Valley Yacht Club	P.O. Box 173, Van Nuys	818-845-5158
Santa Monica Windjammers Y.C.	13589 Mindanao Way, Marina del Rey	310-827-7692
Silver Gate Yacht Club	2091 Shelter Island Dr., San Diego	619-222-1214
South Shore Yacht Club	P.O. Box 1174, Newport Beach	949-646-3102

## *Eight Bells*

### *Spike Perry*

Spike, the 30-year-old son of the Pacific NW boat designer Bob Perry died of a viral infection on April 2, 2011. Bob announced their devastating loss on Sailing Anarchy the next day.

The prolific Bob Perry has designed the Islander, the Hans Christian, the Tayana, Baba, Cheoy Lee, Valiant, and many more very good sailboats.

A few hours after Spike's passing, Perry wrote this note on the Sailing Anarchy website: "I don't want to burden you with this but you are my sailing family. My 30-year-old son, Spike, died last night from a viral infection. We will have a real Irish wake for him.

For now I am in this surreal world. But I know we all loved sailors and Spike was one of those you didn't need to tell what to do. He had grown up sailing from day one and he always knew what to do.

I'm going to miss my son."

To view pictures of Spike and leave a message for Bob which he will see, go to Sailing Anarchy forums at: <http://forums.sailinganarchy.com/index.php?showtopic=120512&hl=bob%20perry&st=0>

The ocean has always been a salve to my soul...the best thing for a cut or abrasion was to go swimming in salt water. Later down the road of life, I made the discovery that salt water was also good for the mental abrasions one inevitably acquires on land.

Jimmy Buffett

## *Editorial*

Web Master: Don Laverty  
Patrick Shuss  
Editor *Sail Tales* Ginger Clark  
[ginger.garnett@gmail.com](mailto:ginger.garnett@gmail.com)  
310-378-7894  
Proofreader Toni Denton

Submissions to *Sail Tales* are welcome and encouraged. They can be in any form except video. If you hate writing but have something to say, call the editor and tell her about it. She'll write it up for you, send it to you to confirm, and put it into the publication. **Deadline** for all submissions in whatever form is the weekend after the Board's monthly meeting, so that would be the last weekend each month. **It is firm.** Exceptions can be made if the editor is informed ahead of time so space can be reserved.

Of course I am lonely at sea, but one suffers less on the ocean in that respect than in the heart of London.

Sir Walter Raleigh

Out of sight of land the sailor feels safe. It is the beach that worries him.

Charles G. Davis

No amount of skill, no equipment, and no boat will keep you from disaster if you don't develop the most important seagoing skill of all. A complete fear of falling overboard.

Lin and Larry Pardey

"I know who you are, but you'll have to wipe your feet."

Capt Richard Brown of the schooner *America* to Prince Albert of England, 1851