



our burgee holiday tree

Karen Zieba photo

It was all hands on deck to deck the halls at ABYC! Major shout out to the teams of people who dedicated their turkey weekend to climbing ladders, untangling lights, and brushing glitter out of their hair all to give the club a holiday makeover. The club is absolutely darling! We have garland and bells hanging in familiar places, icicles lighting up the breezeway, and one hidden piece of mistletoe dangling over unsuspecting members. Anyone find it yet? We even have a pillar that accidentally looks like Pennywise from IT. As if 2020 wasn't scary enough.

We honestly couldn't have done it without all the volunteers! Thank you so so so much for your time: Dan DeLave, Alan Cunningham, Carol Senske, Lori VanSkyhock, Carol Clanton, Sawyer Gibbs, Trish and Chuck Clay, Dana Bell, Jack Johnson, Yon Carpenter, Sharon Pearson, Martyn Bookwalter (special shoutout to Tessa), Jon and Kathy Robinson, Sue McDannel, and Dave and Stacey Schack. I am even more sorry if I forgot to mention you; I'm going to blame it on your mask and my ability to not recognize you. Don't forget to thank our ABYC employees as well; I had Cole, Dwain, Damian climbing all sorts of ladders for me. So again, huge thanks! The club looks special.

Speaking of special, THAT TREE! Here are the dazzling numbers: 64 feet tall, 22,499 lights (we had one casualty but don't worry, Mike Shea saved the day), 3 halyards, 1 pigstick, and too many zip ties to count. We have to give a huge mega special thanks to the CTTF (Covid Tree Task Force) who dedicated their time to designing, manufacturing, and installing the magnificent beast. It took many nights of laying out the donkey tape, weaving the light strands, zip tying the pizza crusts, and installing the crinoline hoopskirt. As you can tell, super technical. Luckily we had our CTTF Engineers, Gabe Ferramola and Ruta Bandziulis, and our CTTF Technical Assistants, myself and Martina Steiner on the job putting in the overtime. Oh and we can't forget our many thanks to all the supervisors who put down their dock beers and gave us a hand throughout the process. Your wisdom and guidance will never be forgotten.

So, the tree is lit. It bellows over the bay as a beacon of hope during this dreary time. Do a dinghy driveby and gape in its magnificence. Get your masked holiday picture with it (#abycistheplacetobe). Worship it, do a pagan dance around it, enjoy it.

Happy New Year everyone!

Melissa Kirby



more photos on page 8

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save the date

All events TBD
Full calendar has not been updated

[Full ABYC Calendar](#)

manager's corner



Welcome to two thousand and twenty-one! I think it unlikely that any of us will soon forget this past year.

I endeavor to always look for the positive aspects in challenging situations. Worst case was in July 2011 when I had an issue that landed me in the emergency room. I thanked the nurses for putting me in a room where I could see fireworks in the local park.

The City of Long Beach has been very supportive with us during the pandemic and, even though we are still currently under social distancing restrictions, they allow us to keep the front office open and have members take their boats out for day-sails.

As we move through 2021, I am confident restrictions will ease and we will begin the process of returning to normal operations.

Our Social Advisory Committee chairperson, Melissa Kirby, is putting together plans for upcoming club social events with tentative dates, and our Race Management Committee is doing the same with races and regattas both big and small.

As we are all looking forward to getting out from under this pandemic, I have observed a positive affect it has had in strengthening the sense of community between ABYC and residents. Not only on the Peninsula, but Belmont Shore and Naples Island as well.

This season, ABYC's electric Christmas tree has sent out a positive message to our local friends and neighbors in wishing them and their families a wonderful holiday time, and a happy new year.

Happy Holidays everyone, and may God bless you and your families and keep you safe.

Rick

commodore's compass



We are about to start a great new year hope you are looking forward to it as well. I am writing this on my Birthday (day after Christmas). We will be putting away the lights soon, so long big light tree in our yard. You did your duty and brightened up many lives. Your resurrection will come again next year, hopefully.

As I have said, I cannot get enough of the tree in our yard. I feel we have done a great job in bringing a "Griswold" lighting vibe to the Club. Also, by all accounts we are a hit with most of the neighbors as well. Thank you, Gabe, Melissa, Ruta, and Martina for stringing those and the host of others that helped to hang them.

I want to thank all those who are supporting a slightly different communications scheme for the Club. We are now available on Zoom, Instagram, Facebook, Weekly Reader, as well as the Sou'Wester. It may seem as though most of those were already in place...they were. We are picking up the gauntlet again for better communications to and between our members.

Zoom has been used for meetings. We had our last Board Meeting on Zoom. The Changing of the guard on Zoom. Next General Membership meeting, January 15th, will be on Zoom. Trial Friday evening on Zoom. Maybe an hour with the Commodore in the future as well.

There are a nice group of members making sure our Facebook page is kept nice. On Facebook do a search on "ABYC is the place to be". We will be tapping into as much social media bandwidth as we can muster keeping you all informed and entertained.

If you have been to the Club lately you may have noticed holes in the yard. We do not have gophers knowing how to dig a 10-foot matrix of holes. We are getting a new sprinkler system in. Instead of many small sprinkler heads we will be using fewer with a longer reach. In the past it has been a pain to chase and fix problems with so many different sprinkler heads. We will be down to a handful and a half going forward. We will also be thatching and planting more lawn right after this so we can be a springtime showpiece...right Teri?

I will say it again. If you have not seen Patience, our committee boat, you should! She is like a princess getting ready for the ball. Each day she is nicer.

Hope your holidays have been good, looking forward to getting back to our passion...the water.

If you would like to contact me, I would be happy to hear from you.

Dan DeLave





We've moved a few boats within the last few weeks to better accommodate all needing space. Thanks to Bryce Hans, Matt Rustigan and Keith Polmanteer for helping me and Jenny out with the logistics. I have also worked with Rick Roberts to manage the ficus trees hanging over the wall. There are a few boats and trailers in the yard that look like they haven't seen any movement for quite some time. If that sounds vaguely familiar to you please make a run down to the club and see that your boat and trailer are in good shape.

I have to say the winter weekends at the club, even with the not-much-activity-going-on, are really nice. We are lucky to have mostly blue-skies and sun and the club is a very peaceful and beautiful place to hang out. It is fun to watch the boats go by as well as the dock activity.

You can offer your encouragement to the amazing Patience crew, Kevin Brown and Chuck Clay, who I've seen on several weekends there making her shine. Thanks to you both, and the others, who are diligently and lovingly getting her ready for ABYC racing madness when life comes back on-line.

Wishing the best to all for 2021.

Cheers,
Brooke

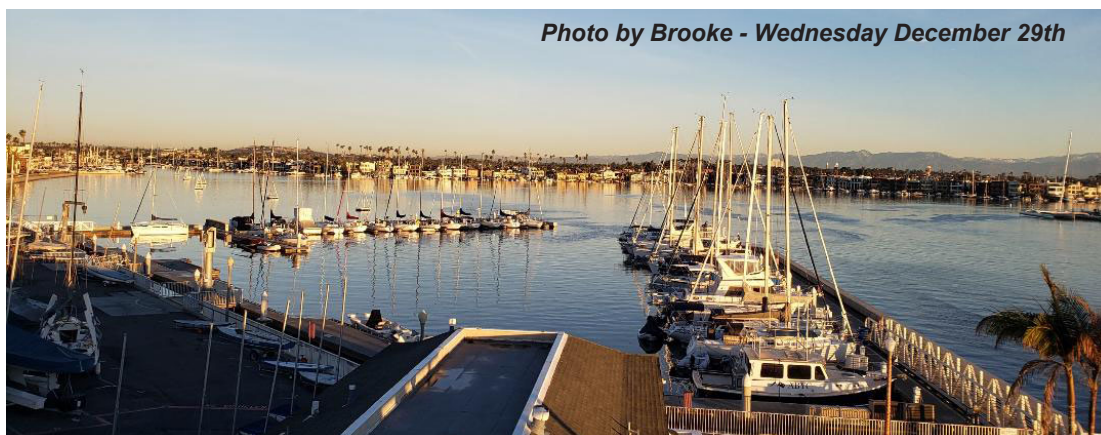


Photo by Brooke - Wednesday December 29th

Sou'Wester DEADLINE

January 24, 2021 is the deadline
for the February Sou'Wester.

Help us to Help you!

Please keep your e-mail address current
with secretary@abyc.org to receive all of
the weekly news and events. Thank you.

2020/21 OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

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Happy New Year. I sure hope 2021 brings us more time together on and off the water. It sure has been a long year and we miss our friends and family. My resolution for the New Year is to not procrastinate and be prepared for the eventual reopening and getting members engaged again!

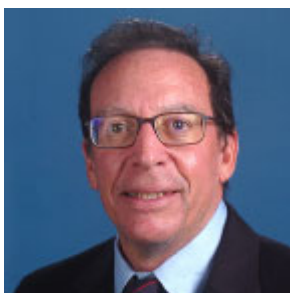
Sawyer has been organizing and putting the final touches on our Spring Jr Program. The focus will be 8 weeks of sailing of singlehanded sailing. We will be offering Lasers coached by Paul outside, then advanced Opti's coached by Sawyer and beginning sailing coached by Charlie. We will be adhering to strict C19 guidelines. Look for the flyer.

The Jr Board will be meeting this month to lay out tentative activities to participate in the club and community. This is a very capable group of young people looking to get involved. I want to thank Wendy Drake for keeping the fires going during this second wave and shut down of the Club.

I want to shout out again to Kevin and Chuck for their work on Patience. We've had several nice days in the month of December, and they took advantage of it by doing the bright work. She will be in Bristol condition before we know it. We are very fortunate to have very talented members willing to volunteer to help. Thank you.

Cheers,
Mike

fleet captain's



Gabe Ferramola

Happy New Year, and wishing all of us a prosperous sailing season sooner rather than later! The whalers are ready to rock and roll. Well, most of them are, with only a couple more maintenance items to go. Patience is looking fantastic, and so ready for her maiden regatta. For all the fleet captains, make sure you contact Nick Kofski, and work with him to update all your fleet information in the club website. Look for having the ABYC website useful for all of your fleet events, results, pictures, social media links and whatever you and Nick can create.

Once again, wishing you all a wonderful New Year, and hoping to see you all at the club soon!

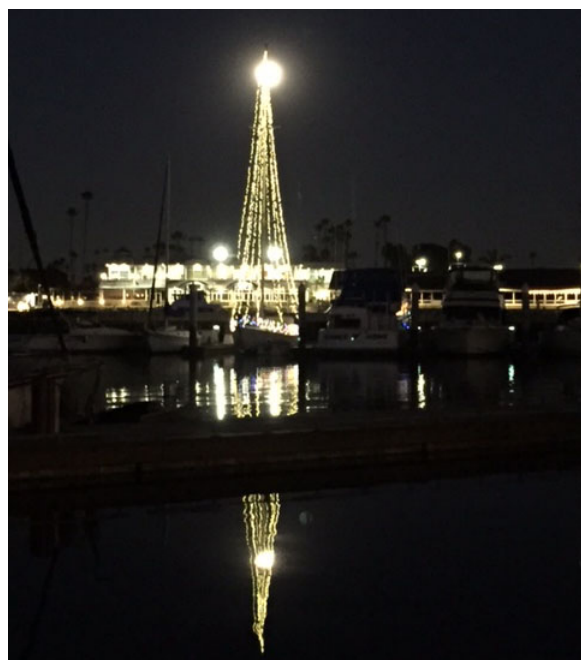
thank you from our staff

Dear Alamitos Bay Yacht Club Members,
The ABYC staff would like to thank all of you who contributed to this year's Staff Christmas Fund. It is greatly appreciated and makes our Christmas brighter, especially during these challenging times.

We would also like to thank the club's officers and directors for their ongoing support this year and are looking forward to a better 2021.

We hope you all had a Merry Christmas, Happy Holiday and a prosperous, healthy and Happy New Year!

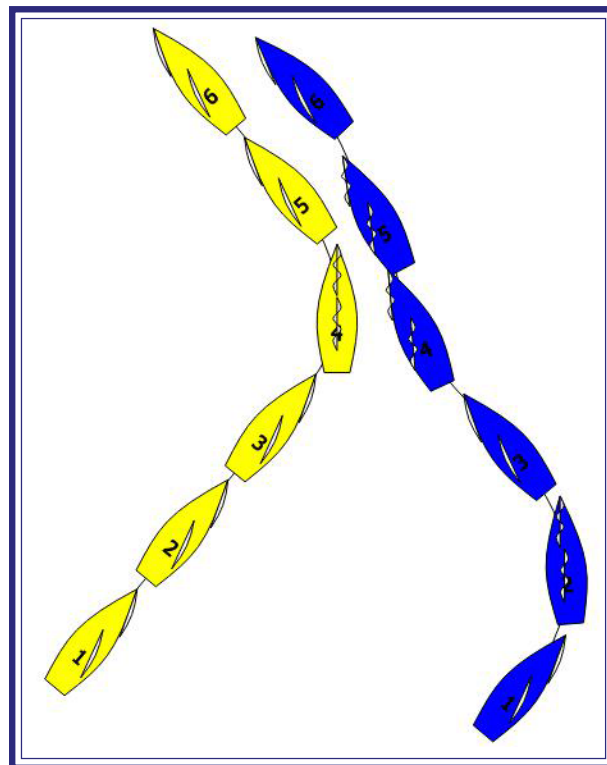
A heartfelt thank you, from your ABYC staff.



Pat McCormick took this wonderful photo of the full moon over the Bishops' boat. Quite a tree topper!

Yellow and Blue are sailing on port tack on a windward leg. Blue tacks onto starboard close to Yellow. When Blue completes her tack onto starboard, Yellow immediately has to luff and tack away to avoid contact. Blue has to luff to avoid contact with Yellow.

How should the protest committee rule? See if you can figure out the relevant facts, conclusions and decision.



amazon smile

Alamitos Bay Sailing Foundation is registered on AmazonSmile. If you want Amazon to donate to Alamitos Bay Sailing Foundation, start each shopping session at the URL <http://smile.amazon.com>, and Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible purchases. You do not need to set up a new account or login. Please see <http://smile.amazon.com/about> for program details and how to always start with a smile.



Here's a incredible shot taken by John Gresham's son, Will, from his apartment overlooking Alamitos Bay.

the bay clogger

The doors are locked, and the lights are off, but not for long! We're prepped and ready for the start of our Spring Sailing Program starting February 6. This year's Spring Program will of course be a bit different from years past with the majority of instruction being on the water. Our goal is to create a safe learning environment for our Sailors while offering critical skills to prepare for a fun summer of sailing. My coaches and I are so excited to finally get back on the water with everyone and look forward to seeing you all on February 6.

Sawyer



junior perspective

Jen Christopher photo

Santa Barbara Laser Regatta

A couple of weeks ago I participated in a big Laser regatta in Santa Barbara called the District 25 Championships. This regatta had 52 boats registered with all of the top Laser radial sailors in California. They had all been training in the boat for a while, much longer than me. About 8 months ago I had sailed my last Optimist regatta in Spain and was finally moving into Lasers. I sailed a bit of Lasers before the summer but didn't have much coaching until then. What got me really ready for the regatta was training with Paul Didham at ABYC all summer. The summer helped me have good boat speed which was going to be very important and helped me feel confident. I didn't really know how well I was going to do because this was my first Laser regatta with a big fleet. I didn't have any expectations on what place or how well I could do.

The first day everyone was expecting very light wind but as we were going out, the wind switched directions by 180 degrees, and it was blowing 14-16 knots. When the first race started, I was mostly focusing on having a clear lane to the right. I started in the middle of the line and was able to tack out to the right in a good lane which got me to the windward mark in about 10th place. I kept this place until the last downwind where I went really far left and was in more wind passing 4 boats. After the race the wind had died, we waited a couple hours to see if we could get any more wind but there was none left. I finished the day in 6th place which was pretty exciting.

For day 2 I knew I was doing well, and I just needed to have good starts and boat speed off the line so I could choose where I wanted to go next on the course without bad air. The next day we got lucky with the wind again and it was blowing a good 10-14 all day. We did 4 races the second day. First race I was a little slow finishing in 12th. The second race Nick Mueller and I had won the boat. We were probably 1st and 2nd off the line. It was a super cool moment seeing this big fleet behind Nick and I and knowing how the two of us had grown up together sailing at ABYC. The wind was very right all day, so we tacked off to the right. That upwind I was very fast and was able to round the windward mark in 2nd. The next downwind I stayed again to the left and was able to pass the boat in 1st, catching every wave. I was able to keep my lead on the boats right behind me trying as best as I could to stay in between them and the windward mark. I was able to do it and won the race! I really could not believe that I had won a race; it was the greatest feeling ever. The next race I was able to do something similar and finished in 5th after passing 5 boats on the last downwind! It was the last race I didn't



know where I was in the results and how tight the top of the fleet was. I ended up not having a great start and race finishing in 15th. I was looking at the results afterwards seeing I finished in 6th, I was super stoked! I figured out that if I had gotten just 3 places better in the last race, I could have gone all the way up to 2nd overall!

Over the years I have noticed there are a lot of little things in sailing that get you from a couple places back to a couple places forward. During the summer I think that training really helped me understand a lot of little techniques in the boat. Especially on the downwind I didn't know how crucial the downwind was until Paul taught me all the little techniques that helped me pass those few boats and finish in a better place in a lot of races. My biggest takeaway from the regatta is that it is important to believe you can do well and also be able to focus and do the work to be able to execute on it. It was a super successful regatta, and I couldn't have done it without my amazing coach Paul.

Tate Christopher, age 14

What's a yacht club without Cruises? Alamitos Bay Yacht Club announces the formation of a Cruising Club. Whether you are a sailor who enjoys the leisurely journey of cruising, or you are a power boater who relishes the destination, or your days on the water are behind you, but you still want to enjoy the comradery of longtime boating friends, all ABYC members are welcome to join the Cruising Club.

The ABYC Cruising Club will provide a full schedule of annual cruises to many of Southern California's hot spots, including Avalon, Newport Beach, Marina del Rey, Howland's Landing, Dana Point and San Pedro. We are also looking at extended cruises to points north and south such as the Channel Islands/Santa Barbara, and Mission Bay/San Diego.

A "Land Cruise" to wine country, such as Santa Barbara or Temecula will be on the agenda.

Rendezvous will include informal gathering where members can come together by yacht, and sometimes by car, to enjoy cocktails, a great meal and the company of their fellow members.

ABYC has many members who cruise nationwide and internationally and enjoy all the reciprocal privileges that belonging to ABYC afford you. The Club intends to explore national and international cruising and charter opportunities and events.

We hope to offer cruising seminars, on boating safety, local weather and wind, radio usage, anchoring/mooring and provisioning. Seminars to be held at the Club, online, or in conjunction with local area yacht clubs to inform and educate both old and new cruisers.

The Cruising Club is a social club under the auspices of ABYC's Social Activities Committee. The initial formation committee includes Melissa Kirby (SAC Chairperson), Ron Clanton and Alan Cunningham.

If you would like to stay up to date with all events and activities that we have planned for the group, please send your email address to "alanesq@hotmail.com", subject "ABYC Cruising Club 2021" and we will add you to the email list.

Here is a proposed Cruising Schedule for 2021. Of course, this schedule is subject to the current pandemic situation. ABYC is committed to the health and safety of its members and guests. All health protocols will be followed, restrictions obeyed, and all precautionary measures will be implemented.

Here's hoping for a brighter 2021 and a terrific year on the water!

Alan Cunningham



ABYC Cruise Calendar- 2021

April 23-25, 2021—Newport Beach

May 14-16, 2021—Avalon - Catalina Island

June - Date - TBD—Dana Point

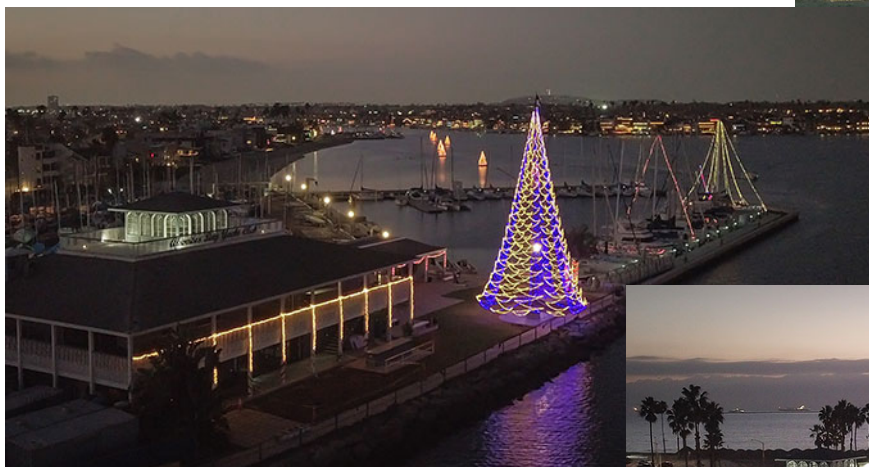
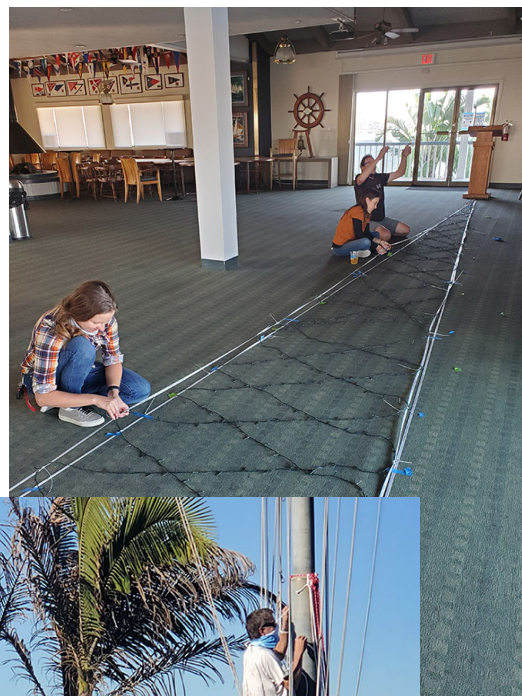
July 17-18, 2021—San Pedro

August - Date - TBD—Marina Del Rey

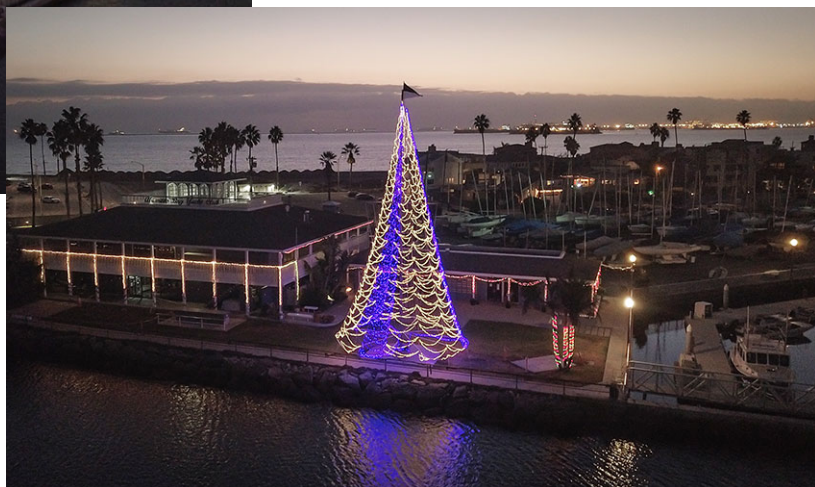
September 24-26, 2021—Howlands/Emerald Bay - Catalina Island

Extended stay-September 26-30 @ Two Harbors - Just prior to Buccaneer's weekend





Mike Shea Aerials



CLEAN OUT THE GARAGE!



***Please Donate a Sabot and/or
Parts for the ABYC Junior Program!***

Used Sabot Sails

Masts & Booms (Wood/Metal)

Leeboards & Rudders

Leeboard Handles

Mast Cans (Adjustable or Fixed)

Small Blocks, Cam Cleats, Etc.

Any Sabot Parts!



Please Email/Call:

***Kathy Weishampel
kathywdesign@yahoo.com
(262) 719-8438***

***Sawyer Gibbs
juniors@abyc.org***

***Tom Newton
tjn8343@gmail.com
(562) 519-3189***

A boat is not required to anticipate that another boat will break a rule. When a boat acquires right of way as a result of her own actions, the other boat is entitled to room to keep clear.

At position 3 Blue acquires right of way through her own actions and must initially give Yellow room to keep clear. After position 3, Blue was unable to 'sail her course with no need to take avoiding action;' therefore, Yellow broke rule 10. However, as Yellow was sailing within the room to which she was entitled under rule 15, she is exonerated under rule 43.

If Yellow has to take avoiding action before Blue completes her tack at position 3, Blue breaks rule 13.

If at position 4 the boats are so close that there is risk of contact, or Yellow had to tack in an unseamanlike way, then Blue breaks rule 15.

A boat acquiring right of way may comply with rule 15 by altering course herself. This principle applies on any leg of the course.

CONCLUSIONS

1. Yellow on port failed to keep clear of Blue on starboard, and broke RRS 10.
2. Yellow broke RRS 10 while she was sailing within the room to which she was entitled.
3. When acquiring right of way through her own actions, Blue initially gave Yellow room to keep clear, as required by RRS 15.

DECISION

1. Yellow is exonerated under RRS 43.

See you on the water

Mark Townsend

membership report

Happy New Year to all of you! Despite the COVID restrictions, the club is fairly active from a sailing perspective. Socially however, we are still locked down and restricted against club-sponsored activities. Of course nothing is stopping any of us from gathering as a family or household on the deck benches or Ken Hodges table at the quarterdeck corner. Movable deck tables and chairs, BBQ, and fire pit are still not available for use but many of us have found a spot to relax and enjoy the recent fair weather.

New membership has been on a nice upswing lately with several new members. For December/January we welcome new regular members Anatolii Nosar, a Finn sailor sponsored by Roland Fournier, Chris Green sponsored by Pete Melvin, Thomas Dorman sponsored by Sam Bell, Jessika Werchik sponsored by Gabe Ferramola, Sanjai Kuhli sponsored by Jorge Suarez and Jesse Sukman sponsored by myself. New junior member Mason Storr sponsored by Stephen Mueller will also become a new member. In addition Scott Ramsey and Nikki Kolhoff will be joining as they take over their father Tom Ramsey and Rob Herron's memberships respectively. Approved for 30 day posting is returning member Rachel Ellis.

As we ring in the new year I want to wish everyone a happy and healthy beginning to 2021. Your club is anxiously awaiting and ready for the end of the restrictions. 2021 will be a great year at ABYC.

Mike Shea, Membership Director

mikesheaphoto@gmail.com, (562) 900-0234

hails from the fleets

L¹⁴

Lido Love



Twas the week before Tday and all
through the bay
Not a Lido was sailing, not even Close

Shave;

The marks were hung from the bay barge with
care,

In hopes that M. Bookwalter soon would be there;

The virus was spreading all over over the place
While restaurants shut down at a very fast pace;
With Helen in foulies, and sunscreen on face,
Had just prepared Short Bus for the upcoming race,
When out from the backpack arose such a clatter,
I sprang to my phone to see what's the matter.

Away to the email I flew like a flash,
Got through the screen lock and opened the app.
New messages loaded and filled up the screen,
Mostly ads and junk mail, some even obscene,
When what to my wondering eyes did appear,
A message from Ken Reiff, organizer premier,

Through written words the latest news came,
He addressed the entrants and called them by name,
"Now Greshmam! now Vrooman! now Johnson and Kirby
On, Ryan! on Little! on Selvin and McGhee!
From governor Newsom and Mayor Garcia,
New directives have come down with no logical reason,
The regatta is cancelled, no more sailing this season!
Kevin Thomas

hails from the fleets

Kathy Robinson photo



Saturday, December 12th, was the **unofficial Christmas Cal 20 Fun Run**. The **Holiday Committee** of **Wendy and Sophia Corzine** used their own Christmas decorated whaler to run 5 practicesails in the turning basin area of the bay. **Nine Cal 20's** came out for a lovely, warm day on the water. After an initial delay waiting for wind, things got started with double lap sails using the fixed marks.

Wendy did a great job being flexible and using the VHF radio to communicate with all the sailors. She even had trophies for the top four finishers, and a trophy for last place as well. It was great to see class veterans and new sailors alike out having a great time! Thank you to Wendy and Sophia for all your efforts to create a wonderful day for all!

First place went to **Ron & Mike Wood** on #69 Lickety Split, 2nd was **Chuck Stevens & Keith Ives** on #9 Rubber Dog. New to the fleet **Jason Sumpter** & crew Colin showed most improved in the newly refurbished and brand new looking boat #385. Full results to come out later.

Thank you everyone for donating toys to the Spark of Love campaign.

Also thank you to Todd & Cathy Black-Smith for collecting and delivering what turned out to be a huge sack of toys to the LBFD on behalf of Fleet 1.

Cal 20's, what a fun boat!

Jeff Ives, Cal 20 Fleet Captain



December was a quiet month for the Sr. Sabot fleet. We are all looking forward to 2021 and hopefully more time on the water as soon as conditions allow.

Mark your calendars for Sr. Sabot Nationals to be held at ABYC June 5-6 (the first weekend of June) 2021.

Kathy Weishampel and Tom Newton continue to work on getting donations of good Sabot boats with hopes of having good boats available for charter by Juniors and Seniors that want to experience the Sabot. If you have a Sabot, or Sabot parts that could be used for this purpose, contact Kathy Weishampel.



sou'wester sponsors



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*Comforting those in their time of sorrow as
God has comforted us in our sorrow. 2 Corinthians 1:4*

Instructions for Member Ads page

Submit your business card, 3.5" x 2" .jpg, .tif, .png or .jpg file to the club secretary at abyc.secretary@gmail.com or the Sou'wester editor at sharonpea@aol.com

Rates:

\$50/3 months

\$125/year

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Contact the club secretary at abyc.secretary@gmail.com for non-member rates