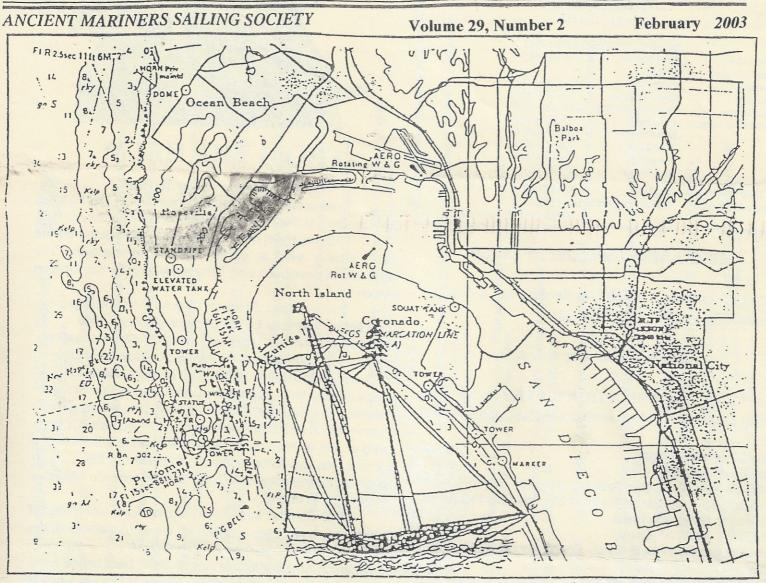
ALBATROSS



ANCIENT MARINERS SAILING SOCIETY
P.O. Box 6484
San Diego, California 92166





Edward Barr 2390 Shelter Island Dr. San Diego, CA 92106 Bout 2003

The Albatross is the official publication of the Ancient Mariners Sailing Society. Mailing Address: P.H. Johnson, Editor P.O. Box 6484, San Diego, CA 92166 AMSS Ship-to-Ship VHF Common - Channel 68 General Meetings: First Thursday of every month at: Southwestern Yacht Club, 2702 Qualtrough St., San Diego.

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Interesting articles (and pictures) are always welcome.
They should be e-mailed to p-nj@cox.net
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San Diego, CA 92106

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2003 AMSS Calendar of Events

See the enclosure which lists the date and a Point of Contact for all 2003 AMSS events



OTHER ORGANIZATION'S EVENTS IN 2002 2003 Updates will be provided as they are available

One More Time Regatta March 2			
American Schooner Cup April 7/8			
Wild Goose Chase, San Pedro to Newport (W.H.Y.C.) TBA			
Heritage Regatta- Show (Newport Hb. Nautical Museumpr?			
Newport - Ensenada Race Apr 26			
LUDERS INVITATIONAL May 18			
Eric Erickson Oil Island Race, Long Beach (W.H.Y.May 18			
Master Mariner's Race May 25			
Koehler's Wooden Boat Festival June 15-16			
Howland's Landing WHYC Catalina Cruise July ?			
McNish Classic Yacht Race (Channel Islands Harbor) Aug 3			
Bishop Rock Race (SDYC) Aug 23			
Nautical Heritage Society - Long Beach Schooner RaceAug			
WHYC Dana Cup Sept ?			
S.W.Y.C. Ensenada Race Oct 5			
Termite Triangle Race Nov 5			







FROM THE HELM

by Commodore Greg Stewart

Time is sure flying by. It's seems like I just finished the January "At the Helm" and it's time for February's.

I am happy to report that AMSS has started off the 2003 season with a great deal of momentum. The Committees have been very busy organizing for this exciting season.

Tom Jackson, Program Director, has lined up a great set of programs for the General Meetings. See enclosed attachment. Listed are the 2003 AMSS speakers as well as the complete 2003 AMSS schedule of events. The reverse side of this attachment is an invitation to attend this month's program by Dan Brown retired Scripps Institution of Oceanography researcher. Dan will be giving a presentation about the local Wind and Tide patterns and has a wealth of information he will be sharing with AMSS. I am sure Dan has some ideas about how to sail the upcoming Commodore's Cup out to the Coronado Islands. Please plan to attend.

Deb Dominci and Minka Francis, Co-chairs of the PR Committee, have been working on the 2003 version of the AMSS Brochure. Deb has also really put some time into updating the AMSS Website which will be back online soon.

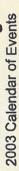
The San Diego Maritime Museum Display working party is making very good progress on the AMSS display. Deb Dominici, and myself have concentrated on the display portion of the AMSS exhibit while Doug Jones, Pat Johnson, Tom Jackson and myself are in the process of restoring and updating the Yesteryear Trophies that will also be displayed as part of the exhibit. The goal is to have this exhibit done ASAP.

Doug Jones, Race Director, is planning the Commodore's Cup that will be sailed on February 15th. More information follows on the enclosed page.

Bill Clarke, Membership Chairman, is busy processing new applications and is working on some new membership solicitation ideas.



Ancient Mariners Sailing Society





Everyone is welcome to attend!

Evening Programs are on the first Thursday of every month. Location: South Western Yacht Club

"March's meeting will take place at Koehler Kraft on Shelter Island. Come earfyll Grilled hamburgers donated by Koehler Kraft!!
"April and August will be located on the ferryboat BERKELEY at the San Diego Marttime Museum.

Please phone Tom Jackson at (858) 454-5459 if you have any questions about this year's programs.

Pat Johnson and Greg Stewart are updating the AMSS database and the 2003 Roster is in the works. Please be advised that part of this process will be a trimming of the AMSS mailing list to "dues paid members" before sending the March Albatross. If you have not paid your 2003 AMSS dues please send them ASAP.

I want to thank all of the 2003 BOD and 2003 Committee Chairs for all of their hard efforts and commitment to AMSS. I know that a twice a month Thursday commitment is significant but am very confident we will see the fruits of this labor throughout the year.

Please feel free to pass along any comments, ideas, etc. The best way to reach me is at "Greg Stewart"<nmyd@cts.com>

Greg



Reminder!

Members are reminded that 2003 dues must be received by February in order to continue receiving the ALBATROSS.







A Board of Directors Meeting will be held the 20th of February. Members are welcome



2002 Half-Pint-O-Rum Participation Trophies

Commodore Stewart will be bringing the un-claimed Participation Trophies to the February General Meeting. Members may also call Greg at 619) 224-6347, extension 2, to arrange delivery.



Commodores Cup February 15, 2003

The first race of the year is coming up. The Commodores Cup is typically the Commodores choice. Commodore Greg Stewart has decided this year that an Offshore Class and Inshore Class should be offered instead of Racing and Cruising Class so racers can enter the venue they want.

The Offshore Class will race out to North Coronado Island leaving the Island to port with the finish between North and Middle Islands. The start will be a line bearing East to West from Buoy "SD 1". Keep Buoy "SD 1" to port and stay with in 200 yards. The finish line will be set up such that you take your own time (corrected to Pacific Universal time) when the north end of North Island and the north end of Middle Island line up. Call 619-294-2244 and leave a message with your name, boat name and finish time. The Inshore Class will also start at Buoy "SD 1". The line will be a bearing South to North out 200 yards from Buoy "SD 1". The course is the Navy Mooring Buoy off of hotel Del Coronado to port, Buoy "6" to port, the Navy Mooring Buoy off of the Ruben E Lee to port, finish at Buoy "17" to port. The finish will be a line bearing east to west from Buoy "17" with in 100 FEET of the Buoy. Take your own time (corrected to Pacific Universal time). Call 619-294-2244 and leave a message with your name, boat name and finish time.

There will be a skipper's meeting at Southwestern Yacht Club Saturday morning in the lounge/bar to hand out Sailing Instructions. Will also hand out Sailing Instructions at the General Meeting before the race on Thursday Feb 6. PACIFICA will sound the horn to start both classes.

I hope the membership will come out and race. Keep in mind that this is the only "Offshore" (out of the Bay) race that AMSS offers. This is an ideal opportunity to start the new year right and by testing your straight line speed and crew work since there is not a lot of tactics involved.





20 Guinea Cup Series

The AMSS is running a new set of races this year called the 20 Guinea Cup. Rod Latimer started this series a number of years a go but has languished this last year. The Perpetual Trophy is a Turkish tee pot.

There will be three races: One in the spring (March 8th), another in the summer (July 26th) and the last in the fall (October 25th), see Calendar of events in the ALBATROS. These races will be raced using working sails only.

These races are meant to bring out people who need an excuse to go out sailing and have fun, train crew, and raft-up after the race. These races are not meant to be highly competitive. No Spinnakers, Mizzen Staysails or Gollywoblers will be flown. There will be a number of different courses to choose from. The starts will be at Buoy "17" and the courses will be in the Bay and out to the end of the jetty. The course length will be 6 to 12 miles depending on the conditions that day. Skippers will need to read the sailing Instructions carefully there may be some tricks.

The 20 Guinea Cup will be a high point scoring system, first place points will be awarded the number of boats in the fleet, second place awarded the number of boats in fleet minus one, etc. Last will be awarded one point. Trophies for 1st through at least 3rd place will be awarded at the end of the year at the December General Meeting. The 20 Guinea Cup Perpetual will be awarded to the top overall finisher.

For questions call Doug Jones, Race Chairman at 619-294-2244, in the evenings.



PORT CAPTAINS REPORT by Deb Dominici

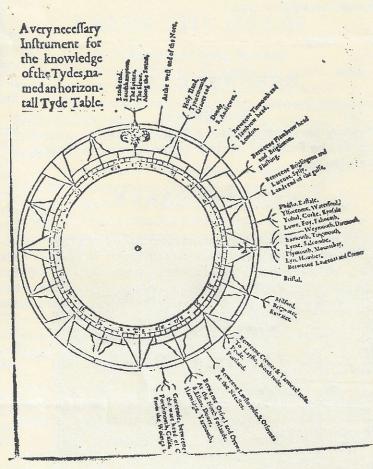
Some interesting reading from the web at: http://www.mcallen.lib.tx.us/books/seasecr/dseasec0.htm

Seamans Secrets by John Davis - transcriber's introduction (in part)

The Seamans Secrets is a navigation manual, written by English seaman and navigator, John Davis. His letter of dedication to Lord Charles Howard, Baron od Effingham is dated 19 August 1594. One of the tables included in the text is for 1593. (Note for purists these dates are old calendar-before England adopted the Gregorian Calendar.) Earlier navigation manuals were available in England, but they were translations of Spanish works. There is some indication that Seamans Secrets was deliberately written differently from the Spanish translations so as not to violate their copyright status in England. There were many editions of the Seamans

Secrets over a span of more than 60 years. It is interesting to note that although Copernicus had already written De Revolitionibus, Seamans Secrets still operationally worked under the theory of an Earth centered universe . . .

The reason for the transcription is that the transcribers acquired the copy and found it unreadable in any normal sense. The typography and lack of quality in the reproduction left one picking out meaning letter by letter rather than getting the sense of whole sentences. The transcription, done in the very early 1990's was done to make it readable. It is shared here for all to enjoy, and to enhance the understanding of marine navigation in the late 1500's and early 1600's.



[Editors note: I hope this isn't too blurry to read...]

