



# CLASSIC TIMES

WINTER 2022-23

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA FLEET ♦ CLASSIC YACHT ASSOCIATION

OUR 54<sup>TH</sup> YEAR



*"No CORKAGE, No Problem!"*

*- photo by Rick Olson*

## BLACK HULLS

# Cover Story



The Cris-Craft hulls of  
**NO CORKAGE**  
and **COMOCEAN**.

**COMOCEAN**  
had been black hulled  
prior to its restoration.

- photo by Cathy Yatch

## The Hull Truth And Nothing But The Truth



*From an Internet forum on the  
topic of black hulls:*

"It does take a little effort to keep them looking good but it's worth it. One key point is to have a couple coats of a good sealant or wax on them and wipe them down when you're done. I use speed gloss and others here have had good success with hot sauce."  
**Is that true?**

Not sure about the hot sauce, but shipwright and CYA member Wayne Ettel otherwise concurs. *"Black hulls are not good in Southern California waters as the seams crack more quickly. This is due to the black color becoming hotter and drying out the hull."*

# BLACK HULLS



Bobby Green's **GEPPETTO'S STILLETTO** gentleman racer's dark green hull



BLACK DOUGLAS

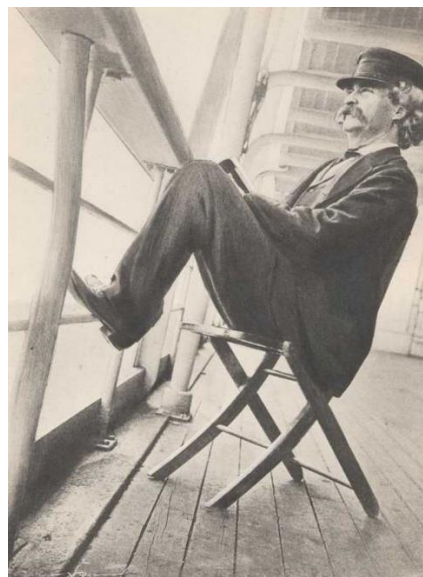
- photo by Cathy Yatch

*“How gloriously he would go plowing the dancing seas,  
In his long, low **black hulled** racer, the Spirit of the Sea.”*

“THE ADVENTURES OF TOM SAWYER” Mark Twain



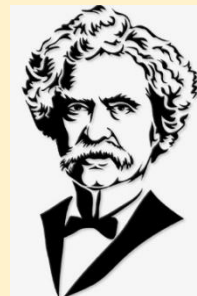
Although most identified by her triple red stacks, the **QUEEN MARY**'s black hull gives her a stately elegance as she reigns over the Long Beach harbor.



Mark Twain:

*There are three kinds of men.  
The one that learns by reading.  
The few who learn by observation.  
The rest of them have to  
pee on the electric fence  
for themselves.*

## Mark Twain at Sea



Growing up along the banks of the Mississippi River, Sam Clemens was at home on the water,

whether at play or at work. He got his license as a steamboat pilot on the Mississippi in 1859 at the age of 23 and plied his trade for another two years.

Over the next five decades he crossed the Atlantic twenty-nine times, and crossed the Pacific and Indian Oceans as part of one complete round-the-world circuit. Whether aboard the great steamers of the period or yachting with friends, he always enjoyed the leisurely, carefree, and sociable shipboard life.



# View from the Helm

by Commodore Dianna Ettel

## CANADA COMMITTEES CALENDAR

I hope everyone had happy holidays and are drying out from the recent rains. John Peckham, Rick Olson, Janet Beggs, Wayne and I escaped from rainy LA to go to rainy Vancouver, Canada for the Association Change of Watch.

The Canadian fleet did a fantastic job putting together another very enjoyable Change of Watch. Vancouver is beautiful even in the rain, and we did have one day of sunshine with glorious skies. Many thanks to Rick for being our chauffeur and tour guide on our extra days there. We gained a new member as well, as Brynn Rovito, who is in Honolulu and owns the 1929 Stephens VIDA MIA, decided that the So. Cal. Fleet should be her home fleet. Welcome Brynn! Let's have a cruise in Honolulu!

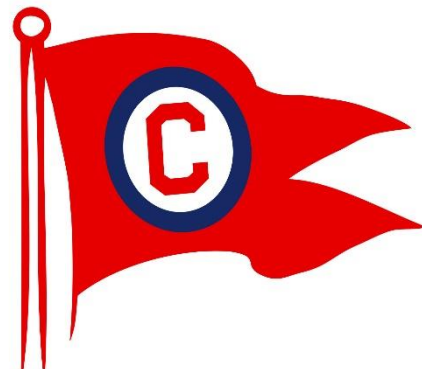
Everyone should have received their winter issue of CLASSIC YACHTING (note: all issues are also posted on the CYA website under Publications). I would encourage you to read Scott Andrews well written article on the front page. He describes the work the committee did over the past year to come up with a Strategic Plan for the club and also explains the concept of the working groups that will be formed to help implement the ideas in the Strategic Plan. Please consider getting involved with a working group or two. This is not the commitment of joining a committee or the board - these groups will be more brainstorming sessions. You can try a group, and if you feel it isn't what you want to participate in, try another.



Your hardworking So. Cal. Fleet Board has come up with a **Calendar of Events** for the coming year. We are back to a full schedule of events, including our longest running event, Old Fashion Day. You will also note that the Wooden Boat Show at Balboa Yacht Club is back this year, and Balboa Yacht Club is excited to host us. Let's get our boats polished up and make a good showing for Classic Yacht Association!

In January 2024, it will be the So. Cal. Fleet's turn to host the Association Change of Watch. We have selected San Diego as the location for the event. Rick made the announcement at the meeting in Vancouver, and everyone was excited to come. Several people mentioned that our Fleet puts on a good party, so we have a reputation to uphold. We will be working on this throughout the year, please let Rick or myself know if you would be willing to assist. We really would like to have a good turnout from our fleet (people, not necessarily with their boats).

Again, I would encourage everyone to get involved. We have a great group of people, come join us at our events!



Check out the Calendar of Events on Page 5

# Classic Yacht Association

## Calendar for the Southern California Fleet's 2023 Yachting Season

Date	Event	Coordinated By
April 16 (Sunday Brunch) (boats may arrive Friday)	<b>OPENING DAY</b> @ The Brass Room, Los Angeles Maritime Museum, San Pedro	Janet Beggs <i>Janetbeggs17@outlook.com</i>
May 12-14 <b>ART DECO BALL</b> is Saturday, May 13	<b>ART DECO CRUISE AT CATALINA</b> Catalina Casino Harbor @ Avalon Art Deco Society Ball is Saturday	Wayne Ettel <i>wdettel@gmail.com</i>
May 26-29 (Memorial Day weekend)	<b>LA HARBOR FLEET WEEK</b> Fleet Week hosted by Port of LA	John Peckham <i>Spaceway199@yahoo.com</i>
June 10	<b>WOODEN BOAT SHOW</b> Balboa Yacht Club	Rick Olson <i>rickofoto@gmail.com</i>
June 17-18	<b>FATHER'S DAY</b> <b>WOODEN BOAT SHOW</b> @ Koehler Kraft, San Diego	<a href="https://www.koehlerkraft.com/woodenboatfestival19">https://www.koehlerkraft.com/ woodenboatfestival19</a>
July 23 (Sunday) (arrive July 21, depart July 24)	<b>OLD FASHIONED DAY IN THE PARK</b> @ Marina Del Rey	Rick Olson <i>rickofoto@gmail.com</i>
August 18-21	<b>LBYC RENDEZVOUS</b> <b>@ LONG BEACH YACHT CLUB</b>	Janet Beggs <i>Janetbeggs17@outlook.com</i>
September 22-25	<b>MARINA PARK RENDEZVOUS</b> @ Newport Beach	Jim Kroeger <i>jimkroeger@sbcglobal.net</i>
October 14	<b>"SUDS BY THE SEA"</b> <b>BEER, BRATS &amp; BOATS</b> @ West Harbor Long Dock or Downtown Marina, San Pedro	Dianna Ettel <i>wdettel@gmail.com</i>
November 4	<b>FLEET CHANGE OF WATCH</b> @ [TBD; great sites being considered]	Rick Olson <i>rickofoto@gmail.com</i>

**SAVE THE DATE**

**CLASSIC YACHT ASSOCIATION CHANGE OF WATCH, January 12-14, 2024.**

Our Southern California Fleet will be hosting the Association's Change of Watch in San Diego. Please put this on your calendar and plan on joining us. We would like a good turnout from our host fleet members!

# PAST EVENTS – CYA CHANGE OF WATCH

CYA's Canadian Fleet hosted this year's Change of Watch, selecting the beautiful waterfront city of Vancouver. Commodore John Peckham (from our Southern California Fleet) ended his term on the Association bridge. Directors who are currently serving the Southern California Fleet are Rick Olson and Dianna Ettel.

Brynn Rovito, whose Hawaiian-based yacht VIDA MIA hosted CYA at the last COW, has not only now joined the CYA, but has officially joined the Southern California Fleet and expects to fly in as often as possible for our events. Commodore Peckham, whom we know to be very creative in his flag and pennant company, created and presented a special pennant for the occasion.



Our lodging and meetings were on Granville Island. One activity was planned to the Maritime Museum. But the So Cal Fleet is never one to sit around twiddling their thumbs and are much more adventurous than just finding food and libation!



Rick Olson arranged our entry into the **Royal Vancouver Yacht Club.**

We were met at the front door for an extensive private tour and then escorted into the dining room overlooking the bay. After enjoying a wonderful lunch, we were informed that we were guests and there would be no bill sent to the table. Those classy Canadians!



Situated amongst mountains and waterways, we caught a glimpse of only one wooden vessel.



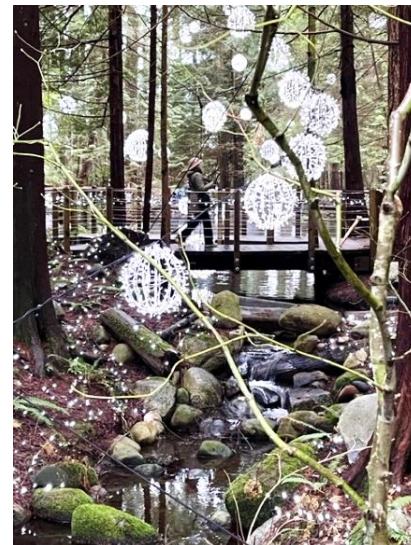
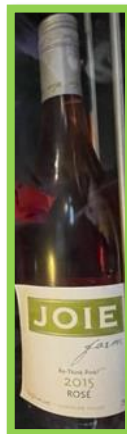
We spent a rainy morning in the **Bloedel Conservancy in Queen Elizabeth Park** enjoying the tropical foliage and many colored parrots inside this beautiful dome sparkling atop the highest point in the city.

The **Capilano Suspension Bridge Park** was an amazing experience of history, natural beauty, captivating light shows, and thrilling adventure.



Named for the Squamish word which means “beautiful river,” the first version of the suspension bridge was erected in 1880. The gorge is an exhilarating wonder of natural beauty. Even with all the modern steel cabling,

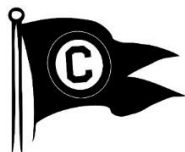
the bridge has a somewhat steep descent, sways under footsteps, and is just a bit scary.



A fairyland of dandelion lights float in the forest on the other side of the gorge.

# Past Events – So Cal COW Dinner

All members of the Classic Yacht Association's Southern California Fleet were invited to attend the Change of Watch dinner which was held November 5, 2022 at THINK RESTAURANT in San Pedro. Commodore Dianna Ettel welcomed guests, spoke about the annual awards that remain in the deserving hands of their previous recipients, and thanked the members of the bridge who are continuing in their roles. Eight Bells were rung and Bill Brantley was memorialized.



# Past Events – Calendar Planning



The dedicated bridge of the Southern California Fleet met to plan the calendar on a chilly day in January. Hosted by Commodore Dianna Ettel aboard their tugboat home, the group huddled around this warm stove in Wayne Ettel's woodworking shop.

We hope that you will make an effort to include these events on your personal calendar. Our events are planned to not only get you out on the water and rendezvous our boats, but to be of interest to those who don't happen to own boats but are wooden boat enthusiasts and appreciators of the yachting lifestyle.





# Winter Reading: Queen Mary

The RMS Queen Mary, a storied vessel that transported the elite across the North Atlantic, also served as a legendary troop transport ("the largest and fastest") during World War II, made 13 voyages after the war carrying 20,000 war brides and their children, and now resides in Long Beach, California.

The QUEEN MARY is an Affiliate Member of the Southern California Fleet.

*The following is excerpted from the IMAGES OF AMERICA series of historic local interest books.*



In 1944 a British soldier found himself clinging to a raft in high seas when his ship was torpedoed by a German submarine. As he lay there, the QUEEN MARY came by. Its commanding officer sent this message to the almost drowned victims: *"Sorry. Cannot stop! Will report your position"*

The father of the stranded Englishman happened to be the chief engineer of the QUEEN MARY. When he visited his wife after this particular trip, he had the pleasure of reading the following in a letter his son had sent to his mother: *"Our ship was torpedoed and sunk by the Germans. We drifted on a raft for several days while awaiting rescue. Then there came into our distracted view the good old QUEEN MARY, and we knew that we would be saved. But the chief engineer, my useless father, would not stop to pick us up. Why don't you get a divorce?"*



*Photos contributed by Rick Olson, whose classic yacht ONO, is docked within view of the QUEEN MARY.*

# Name Game

Interesting / Ironic / Insane

Do you remember the MR. BELMONT episode of "Friends" when Joey unintentionally bought a boat at a charity auction?

Joey: Look at this clown. Just because he has a bigger boat than us, he seems to think he can take up the whole of the river! Get out of our way you jackass!

Rachel: Joey, that is the Coast Guard.

Joey: Well, what are they even doing out here? The coast is way over there!



## DID YOU KNOW?

THE SMITHSONIAN confirms that the only appetizer famed chef Julia Child ever set out was goldfish crackers.

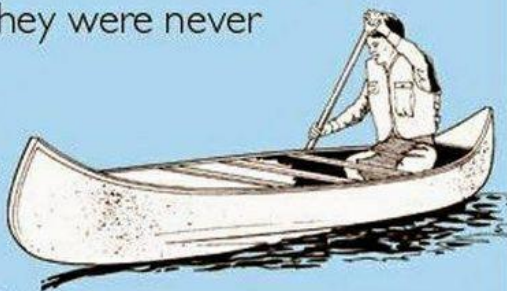


Not only were they served as a preamble to her dinner parties, but always at Thanksgiving. She was even known to put them in a martini glass and serve them along with cocktails.

SEA BOARDER takes this a step further and always mixes Pringles chips in with the goldfish creating "Fish & Chips".



Don't be afraid to rock the boat once in a while. If someone falls out then obviously they were never meant to be in your boat in the first place.



## Classic Times

is the quarterly publication of the Classic Yacht Association ♦ So California Fleet which rendezvous throughout the year with and without vessels.

Commodore Dianna Ettel  
Vice Commodore Rick Olson  
Rear Commodore

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