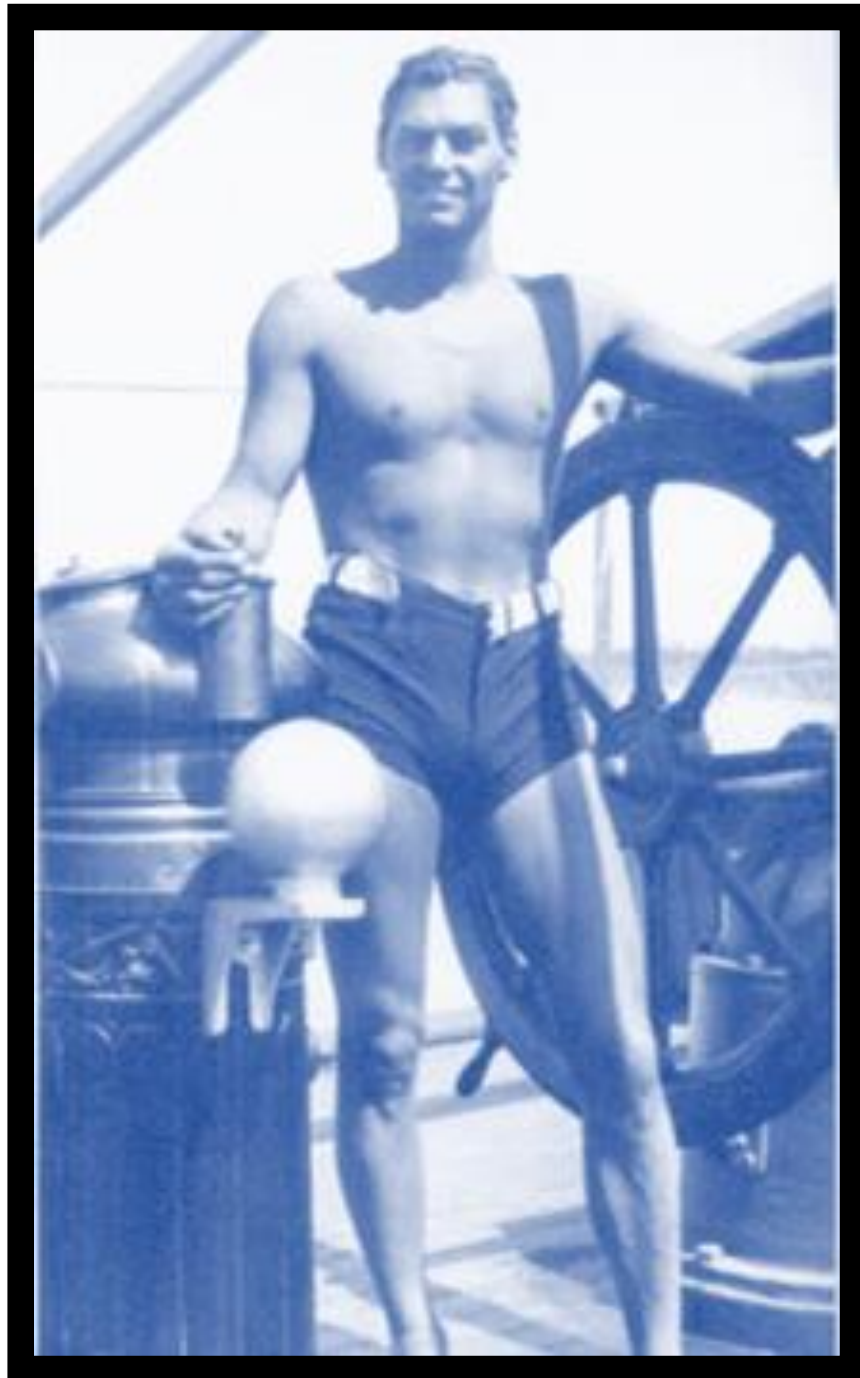


CLASSIC TIMES

SPRING 2022

NEWS MAGAZINE OF THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA FLEET ♦ CLASSIC YACHT ASSOCIATION

OUR 53rd YEAR



ALLURING

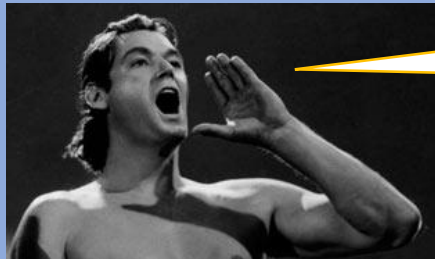
Cover Story

Why is Johnny Weissmuller on the cover of **Classic Times**?

The grandson of Johnny Weissmuller, in a quest to find his grandfather's fabled wooden boat, ALLURE, contacted the Classic Yacht Association. Through several e-mails and several of our commodores, Detective Wayne Ettel finally deduced that **THIS WAS A CASE OF TOO MANY ALLURES**.

When the story began with a fear that ALLURE was about to hit the chopping block and inquiry was made of CYA, the So Cal Fleet assumed it was ALLURA II which had been impounded by the Long Beach Marine Bureau and offered several times at public auction. Eventually Detective Wayne Ettel determined it was a case of too many Allures as the grandson of ALLURA II's original owner was simultaneously seeking a vessel facing a salvage yard.

An Olympic Gold Medalist and never beaten swimmer, Johnny Weissmuller saved several lives in several situations. Most notably, while training for the 1927 Chicago Marathon, he saved 11 people from drowning after a boating accident on Lake Michigan.



Allure?
Is that you?



Johnny Weissmuller's **ALLURE** had ended up in San Diego Harbor with an owner who wouldn't sell but wasn't caring for her. Fortuitously, in February 2022, the Harbormaster of San Diego Harbor who had removed the slowly dying schooner to a trailer, handed her over to Adam Weissmuller.

See restoreallure.com website for restoration updates.

ALLURA II, Classic Yacht No. 2, was owned by Buzz & Anne Olson and harbored in San Diego and then by Bill & Anna Erving in the Channel Islands Marina.

Following a succession of non-CYA owners, one engine failed and the vessel fell into disrepair. Eventually she became abandoned in the Long Beach Marina system. By this time the yacht was being propelled by an outboard motor attached to the swim step. Although the exterior varnish had been painted over with dark blue paint, the interior mahogany remained original and in decent shape. We believe she has been hauled to a yard as scrap.

ALLURE, is a 1931 Stephen in CYA's Northern California Fleet. We last saw her at Dick Stephen's 100th birthday celebration. She is in good shape and being well taken care of.



The city of Tarzana in Los Angeles County was created when the "Tarzana Ranch" owned by Edgar Rice Burroughs, the author of TARZAN OF THE APES, was subdivided. Although Tarzan's creator lived there, Johnny Weissmuller - the most famous Tarzan - never did.



View from the Helm

by Commodore Dianna Ettel

Ah, Spring! The smell of fresh varnish and paint is in the air! MV ATHENA is sporting a fresh coat of varnish and new topside paint. Her Captain and First Mate have been doing various upgrades including (finally) upholstering the seat backs in the main saloon, and there may be new vintage style lighting there as well. Unfortunately, reinstalling the mast remains in the discussion stage.

Our 2020 yachting season started with a bang thanks to Cannon Master (and Staff Commodore) Jim Kroeger! A huge thank you to everyone who helped make this year's Opening Day a success-especially Rear Commodore Glen Varcoe, Staff Commodore Janet Beggs, and the members and staff at HUNTINGTON HARBOR YACHT CLUB. Hopefully we'll have a few more of our boats back in commission and in the water for our upcoming events!

We had the wonderful opportunity to travel north to Santa Barbara to celebrate the return of RANGER to the Southern California Fleet. We were graciously hosted by the **SANTA BARBARA MARITIME MUSEUM** and given a private tour by Greg Gorga, the Executive Director. If you haven't visited SBMM you should. It is rated as one of the top 10 Maritime Museums in the United States and is the home of the First Order Fresnel Lens from the Point Conception Lighthouse. The lens was built in Paris in 1854 and is magnificent.

The exhibits at SBMM range from displays of early Santa Barbara and Channel Island history, including Chumash Indian exhibits, hard hat diving, navy, surfing, fishing, whaling, seafaring, plus the prime exhibit of the 1917 RANGER. There are many interactive displays: I sat in one of RANGER's fishing chairs and tried my hand at deep sea fishing, and I got a (very temporary) tattoo.



Speaking of Maritime Museums, if you are heading north, you should also check out the **CHANNEL ISLANDS MARITIME MUSEUM** in Oxnard. Former CYA-SC Commodore Susan O'Brien is the President of the Board of Trustees. They have a lovely collection of maritime art and ships' models among their displays.

Closer to home, the **LOS ANGELES MARITIME MUSEUM** in San Pedro has reopened after a two-year closure while the Port of LA constructed a new plaza and completed the infrastructure for the planned West Harbor development. The LAMM took the opportunity to refresh their exhibits and we are looking forward to touring it again, perhaps during **Fleet Week**?



Among the **UPCOMING EVENTS** is the **Nautical Treasures BBQ** at Wayne's boatyard. The lunch and nautical auction are a fundraiser for our fleet, so please invite people who you feel might be interested. The costs for Change of Watch and Opening Day went up this year and the Board decided to keep the ticket price the same and pay the extra costs from Club funds. We are also planning to host the **Old Fashion Day in the Park** event, and we provide breakfast for the car club attendees plus the attendance plaques. Please plan to bring nautical items for the auction and plan on bidding on those must-have treasures!

*In the meantime,
fair winds and following seas,
and get those boats ready!*

Past Events - So Cal Opening Day

March 26, 2022 @ Huntington Harbor Yacht Club



Rear Comm Varcoe: Pledge of Allegiance



CYA Comm Peckham: Raising the Colors



Gun Master Kroeger: Cannon



Captain Misterly surveys the harbor and declares it free of ice and debris



Comm Ettel declares season open



Olson Lifetime Members



Rear Comm Varcoe starred



The traditional
saber
ing
of the cake
welcomes
our newest vessels

Rear Commodore Glen Varcoe
Captain Ted Herrick of NAN
Membership Ambassador
Kroeger stands in for DIONYSUS



Past Events - Ranger Reception

April 10, 2022 was a beautiful day in Santa Barbara, California. RANGER, one of the So Cal Fleet's original vessel members, was officially welcomed back into the Fleet after an absence of a few years via a few owners. Now in the extremely capable and loving hands of the SANTA BARBARA MARITIME MUSEUM, RANGER floats at its front door.



The Museum hosted a cake and champagne reception. Museum Director Greg Gorga welcomed their members and benefactors and the So Cal Fleet. Commodore Dianna Ettel replied, Vice Commodore Rick Olson presented a beautifully mounted bell for RANGER, and Staff Commodore Janet Beggs was asked to share the Fleet's ceremony of sabering the cake. Rear Commodore Glen Varco, who has become a dramatic master of the saber, stated he had never seen such a turnout for a Museum patio event.



Upcoming Summer Events



and Potluck

★ ★ ★ RSVP to Commodore Dianna Ettel ★ ★ ★
wdettel@gmail.com

Your e-RSVP gets you detailed directions
to the BoatsWayne Shipyard
(Believe me! You'll want them!)

**AND
Nautical
Treasures
Auction**

Bring + Buy

Practical Things You Didn't Realize You Needed *

Gems from SPARKLE

Maritime Antiques from
Jim Butz Collection
including wooden boarding ladders

Nautical Décor

Even Some Fashion

★ Yachtsmen ★ Landlubbers ★ Guests ★ Your nautical high bidding friends
Luau Shirt Wearers ★ \$\$\$ Auction Bidders
ALL ARE WELCOMED

SATURDAY JUNE 11 @ NOON

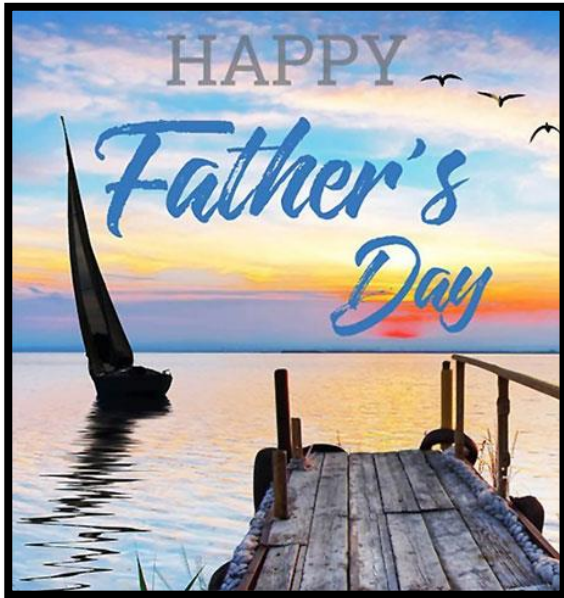
\$ 15/person

includes Huli Chicken Sandwiches, Aloha Burgers, beverage, rum punch

* New fenders and dock lines, Radio, Walkie Talkies, Search Light, Glassware, CYA Collector Classics, **Etc. Etc. Etc.**

Kindly bring your own patio chair

Upcoming Summer Events



2 Wooden Boat Shows 2 Choose From

Father's Day Wooden Boat Show
Channel Islands Maritime Museum
3900 Bluefin Circle @ Oxnard

Several members attended last summer and loved it. Very impressive museum with history and maritime-inspired works of art. And vintage cars parked in the park.

Father's Day Wooden Boat Festival
sponsored by Kohler Kraft
2302 Shelter Island Drive @ San Diego

Members of the Bridge will be heading South to shake hands and scope out the possibility of So Cal hosting the CYA Change of Watch in the San Diego area of our Fleet Map.



Make your individual plans or make contact with
Commodore Dianna Ettel
wdettel@gmail.com



@



Aug 19 - 21, 2022

Specially arranged by CYA's Heather Perloff Hospitality Award Winner, Carol Anne Williams,
it's sure to be a fun, fine, fabulous weekend

Limited dock space is available but there's lots of dinner space and always a combination of friends, fun and relaxation on the docks!

Docktails begin pouring @ The Classics 5:00 pm
Fine Dining @ The Clubhouse 6:30 pm



Kindly **RSVP** to Janet Beggs (janetbeggs17@outlook.com) to indicate if you are *bringing your classic yacht* and/or if you are *bringing your classic self* to Saturday night dinner at the LBYC Clubhouse.

~ Jackets are required for Gentlemen; no caps in Clubhouse ~

Upcoming Summer Events

Following the loss of Cris Rohde followed by two pandemic years, creating **Old Fashion Day in the Park** is quite a challenge. Vice Commodore Rick Olson is heading up this event and all available hands and volunteers are needed. Please contact RICK OLSON at rickofoto@gmail.com and see if there is ANY way that you can help. We need you!

Welcome Back— 44th Annual Old Fashioned Day in the Park

 Classic Yacht Association
Presents: **Classic Yachts and Antique Cars**

Sunday, July 24th
Free Admission
-tour the yachts-

Burton Chace Park
Marina del Rey

10 am to 3 pm

for more info: rickofoto@gmail.com



Forever Beautiful – Again

Bobby Green reports that FOREVERMORE is comfortably housed in its very own Seattle boat house and that restoration is coming along nicely.



Here's a close-up of the beautiful tear-drop window of the distinctive Shain Monk design.



Ranger Revs Up for Yachting Season



Glen Varcoe reports that RANGER got a sprucing up in preparation for hosting the Classic Yacht Association for a Champagne Reception. RANGER's volunteer maintenance crew painted the decks and worked on the mahogany trim in the galley.

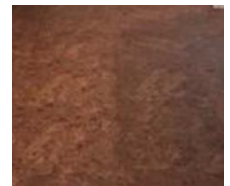


Enchantress is Electrifying

Drew Miser asks, "Is anyone else finding that the substantial price increases and decreased availability of parts is becoming an issue?"

ENCHANTRESS has additions and changes to her mast-mounted equipment: radar, VHF, AM-FM antenna, GPS, XM weather, XM music, and 5 sets of LED lights each with specific functions.

Drew Miser reports that the electrical retrofit of ENCHANTRESS has boxes of parts and materials stacked high in the main salon. "The structural reinforcement project damaged the wood floor in the galley so after the work in there is complete, I'm going to be replacing the flooring throughout the boat with a cork look interlocking vinyl flooring." Here's a sample:

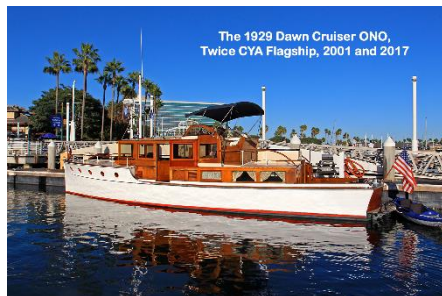


All this work and retrofit is in preparation for Drew's 2025 retirement plan to cruise ENCHANTRESS to the PNW and Alaska.

ONO Gets a Galley

-Rick Olson

Over several months during the Covid lockdown I rebuilt the galley on our 1929 Dawn Cruiser ONO. It had been somewhat redone back in the sixties. I have thought from when we purchased the yacht, that it needed a makeover. It wasn't very period, and it wasn't at all practical or user friendly. It had no hot water, it had a modern chrome facet and a square stainless sink. It had a gimballed propane stove and oven that that didn't work and that really belonged on a modern sail boat. There was no refrigerator. Cabinet space was minimal. Counter space was non-existent. I had a piece of plywood over the not working stove to provide some countertop working area.



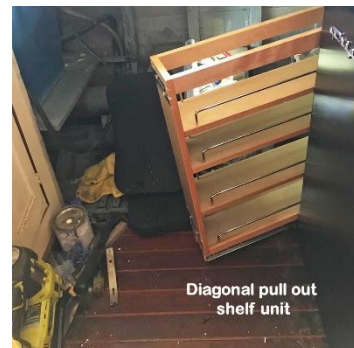
In this little tiny room all of this needed to be resolved. Dynamite would have worked the best but would have damaged the beautiful mahogany walled Salon and rest of the yachts great interior. I began to carefully disassemble using such delicate tools as a sawzall, big hammer, and a crowbar. Most of the screws had been painted over so many times that the idea of unscrewing them was impossible.



To the forward side if the galley out near the hull was an old 1920's style built in "ice box". It was being used as the small pantry. It had a two-inch-thick door and very thick walls which made its interior space rather small. I didn't realize how it was built until I began to tear it apart. The ice box had been built

then the walls of the galley had been put around it. Back in the 70's the inside had been fiber glassed. Under the fiberglass was a layer of 1/2" thick wood. Under the wood was the folded sheet metal galvanized steel box. It had an upper and lower section and a third section that ran forward through the bulkhead and under the seat in the wheelhouse that is just forward and above the galley. Under this stout steel box was an inch thick glued in

layer of cork. Then the outer frame of the box that is the same 3/4" thick mahogany that the entire interior is built from. I won't go into detail but three days of cutting, bending and prying was involved in extracting this from the walls of the galley without destroying the whole boat in the process. There were countless painted over screws and over a hundred nails holding it all together. All had been in there for 91 years.



After extracting all the ice box parts I found that a carpenter had scrawled the date on the back wall of this cabinet and his writing was still there. Mai 1, 1930, and a picture of a face with pointy little teeth. The spelling of May as Mai might indicate that, in the Bronx where she was built, the carpenter was likely foreign born. This adds confusion as to whether she is a 1929 or a 1930. I speculate that the keel was laid in 1929 and the interior was completed in 1930. Dawn Boat Co. built 49 yachts of this configuration in 1929-30, but only 7 boats total at the start of the depression from 1931-1933. Can you imagine the complete chaos in that boat yard building 49 large yachts in two years?



Eventually I had the galley stripped down to the ribs of the hull. Stove, plumbing, crappy Formica counter top, old water heater, and all cabinet doors were gone.

Time to build a new galley with a refrigerator, new copper sink, quartz counter tops, working water heater, and four new outlets on three new electrical circuits. I built all new cabinet doors. I used as much of the old original hinges and hardware as I could salvage. Where the old ice box had been there is now a much-enlarged pantry. The stove is gone and the cook surfaces are induction plates that tuck away under the counter when not in use.

- continued next page -

Boat Beautification: continued page 3



Mocking up cabinets



3/4 Baltic Birch base for counter

Some time ago Elissa and I were in a restaurant that was themed as an old Speakeasy. They had used glass that was vertically ribbed and we loved the roaring twenty's period look. I incorporated this glass in the new countertop cabinet sliding doors and the bottom of the pass through



Salon room divider glass

cabinet sliding doors and the bottom of the pass through between the galley and the adjacent salon. We're very happy with the upgrade. It more appropriately fits the interior of the boat and has such niceties as hot water and refrigeration.



Ribbed glass sliding doors



ONO's next project will be an ice maker under the wheel house seat.

Name Game

Interesting / Ironic / Insane



The Port Captains of the Southern California Fleet have reported no concerns or malfeasance. Apparently the harbors are ready for summer!

WHERE DO BOATS GO WHEN THEY FEEL SICK?



The lounge @ Marina Shipyard in Long Beach features some great summer reading!

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	Glen Varcoe

Website: <https://classicyacht.org/southern-california-fleet>

Editor: Janet Beggs

janetbeggs17@outlook.com ♦ 626-773-2806



THE ART DECO SOCIETY'S AVALON BALL ON CATALINA ISLAND

