



FAIRWIND YACHT CLUB

NEWSLETTER

September 2007

Editor: Robert Baron

Vol. 35 No. 9



FLEET CAPTAIN'S LOG

By Jenson Crawford

BOAT SELECTION SURVEY

As Fairwind 30 continues to age (don't we all!), the board has created a boat selection committee to look at the possibility of replacing her with another boat. The boat selection committee has released survey on-line as well as mailed it to members without email access. Thank you to everyone who has taken the time already to complete the survey.

If you haven't received an invitation to participate, contact Fleet Captain Jenson Crawford at fleetcaptain@fairwind.org. Your participation is vital to understanding the needs of all the members—when you get the survey, please take a couple minutes to complete it.

READY TO CHALLENGE AN ASA CERTIFICATION?

If you're ready to challenge an ASA certification (101, 103, 104 or 105) contact Fleet Captain Jenson Crawford at fleetcaptain@fairwind.org and we'll schedule a challenge.

NEW ASA 101 CERTIFICATION FEE STARTING OCTOBER 1ST

The ASA is instituting a new \$39 certification fee for students achieving the ASA 101 certification beginning October 1st. Fairwind will be passing the cost of the fee on to students getting ASA 101 certification after October 1st.

The \$39 certification fee is not an ASA membership fee. It is a one time processing fee to set students up in

FYC MEETING SEPT. 19

On Wednesday, Sept. 19, the Fairwind Yacht Club Board of Directors and General meetings will meet at the Marina Venice Yacht Club (MVYC) located at 4333 Admiralty Way located in the Marina City Club's West Tower in Marina del Rey.

The Board meeting will start at 6:30 pm. The General meeting will start at 8 pm. All members are invited to attend.

To attend the meeting enter Marina City Club's main gate. Tell the guard that you are going to the yacht club. The guard will give you a parking pass and a map.

Once parked, go to the West Tower, south side. Take the elevator or stairs up to the G2 level.

ASA's online system. Each student will receive an ASA membership as part of this fee, but the student will not be required to renew or maintain an ASA membership after the first year should they not be interested in doing so.

There will be no change in certification fees for any other ASA certification level.

If you're ready to get your ASA 101 certification, and want to do so before the additional \$39 certification fee goes into effect October 1st, contact one of our instructors or Fleet Captain Jenson Crawford at fleetcaptain@fairwind.org.

ELECTION UPDATE— NOMINATING COMMITTEE'S CANDIDATES

Every year in September, Fairwind Yacht Club elects its board of directors. Commodore, Vice Commodore, Rear Commodore, Fleet Captain, Secretary, and Treasurer will be elected for one year terms.

The nominating committee's normally difficult job was made more difficult by Dave Lumian's extended absence to care for his ailing mother. Dave had indicated a desire to step down as commodore, but the original assumption was that he would be available as junior staff commodore (immediate past commodore) to assist in the transition. Dave's absence has a great deal to do with the selection of the slate of candidates put forth by the nominating committee.

Three candidates are running for their current posts to help us with continuity during this year of transition.

- Candidate for Rear-Commodore: Susan Bonner
- Candidate for Fleet Captain: Jenson Crawford
- Candidate for Treasurer: Hartmut Eggert

We have three posts running for new, or different posts:

- Candidate for Commodore: Warren Smith, past commodore, has agreed to run for commodore one final year.
- Candidate for Vice Commodore: Marv Brown brings years of administrative experience.
- Candidate for Secretary: Ken Murray will add his enthusiasm and hard work to the board.

In addition to the announced slate, nominations for all offices may be made on the floor at the September meeting before the voting. If you're interested in nominating someone, please make sure that they are willing to run before you nominate them. The election committee will draw up a ballot with the slate and leave room for floor nominees.

Fair winds,
—FYC Nominating Committee



CATALINA'S BUFFALO

By Ken Hoover

You may have seen the article in the South Bay Daily Breeze about the 24-year-old hiker gored by a buffalo on Catalina Island in late August.

He and friends had trekked across the island to Little Harbor to snorkel. When they arrived, they were confronted by a group of buffalo standing between them and the water.

The victim got too close. He told the newspaper he made eye contact with one of them, and it charged. He turned and ran, but the buffalo was faster. It gored him in the back, lifting him onto its head, and with a flick, hurled him to the ground.

He had to be airlifted to a hospital in Long Beach.

Frequent Catalina visitors know the story. A group of buffalo were brought to the island in the 1920's for the filming of a Western movie. Left behind, they thrived, growing to a herd of about 200.

I spotted them twice on the island this past summer. In June, friends and I made the same hike to Little Harbor. We saw a group on an adjacent hill, grazing near a water truck. This past year, with its lack of rain, must have been brutal on Catalina's wildlife. The island is bone dry.

If you make this hike, be sure you're fit, have suitable shoes and take plenty of water. There are long, grinding hills, and once you get to the top of one, there's another right around the corner. But it's worth the effort. Catalina's interior and Little Harbor, with its turquoise water, are truly beautiful. Relaxing there, it was hard to imagine we were only 30 miles from one of the world's biggest cities.

The second encounter was two weeks before the goring incident. A friend and I had gone ashore to buy a bag of ice from the general store at the Isthmus. We passed a boy about 10 or 11 walking in the opposite direction.

"Look, dad, there's a buffalo," he said.

Confident the kid didn't know what he was talking about, we didn't bother to look around.

"It's probably a cardboard cut-out," said the dad.

But sure enough, on our way back to Island Side, there was a lone buffalo resting near the end of Cat Harbor. Stupidly, I had forgotten my camera. About a dozen



bay restoration foundation

STEWARDS OF SANTA MONICA BAY

santa monica bay restoration foundation 320 west 4th street, ste 200; los angeles, california 90013
213/576-6615 phone 213/576-6646 fax santamonica.org

Kayak Clean-up in Marina del Rey

Want to get out on the water this summer?



Since 1989 the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Foundation has been working to make Santa Monica Bay and Southern California coastal waters safe and healthy for people and marine life.

This summer, we are organizing a marina cleanup in Marina del Rey as part of Heal the Bay's Coastal Cleanup Day, an international program that is carried out in 90 countries worldwide. Following is the date and time:

Saturday, September 15th, 2007, 9:00am-12:00pm.

The Marina del Rey site is unique in that it is the only site in the Los Angeles Area that is conducting a kayak/dinghy/small boat cleanup. We will provide kayaks and life vests to have volunteers remove debris and pollution directly from the water rather than just from the land. We encourage you to bring your own kayak or dinghy if you have one. Last year, more than 7,500 volunteers participated in Coastal Cleanup Day in Los Angeles County alone, where 58 cleanup locations gathered an astounding 109,000 pounds of trash and recyclables and kept it from polluting the local coast.

Coastal Cleanup Day is a one-day event great for any age, for both amateur and expert kayakers alike, and for individuals and large groups. This event is safe, fun, and meaningful. We encourage anyone interested to join us to create a cleaner coast for us all.

If you have any questions or would like to RSVP, you may reach Justin Bilow at jbilow@waterboards.ca.gov or (213) 576-6614.

our mission: to restore and enhance the santa monica bay through actions and partnerships that improve water quality, conserve and rehabilitate natural resources, and protect the bay's benefits and values



people were gathered around. A few moved tentatively closer. The beast rose it its feet.

Aware buffalo will charge, I decided it was time to hustle back to the boat.

There are some lessons here: When going ashore, always take your camera. If you spot buffalo, admire them only from afar. And avoid eye contact.

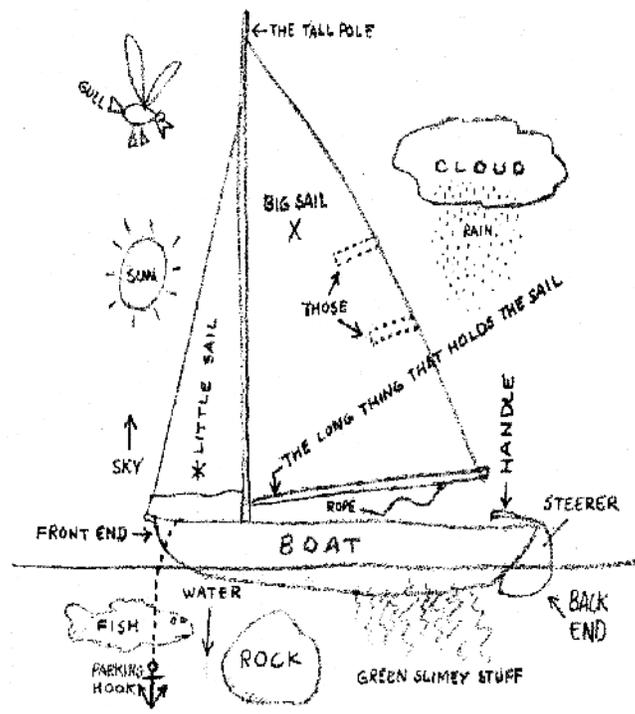
ASA 103 BASIC COASTAL CRUISING STUDY GROUP FORMING

Margaret Pommert

The ASA Basic Coastal Cruising certification tests a sailor's ability to be "Able to cruise safely in local and regional waters as both skipper and crew on an auxiliary sailboat of about 20 to 30 feet, in moderate winds and sea conditions". 'Auxiliary sailboat' may sound like an inflatable sailing dinghy you keep in your trunk for emergencies. But it really means an auxiliary powered sailboat; in other words, one with an engine.

ASA 103 certification is a pre-requisite to being checked out on the Fairwind mid-sized boats. Unlike most commercial sailing schools, Fairwind doesn't do formal classroom sessions to teach students what they need to know to pass the written ASA 103 exam. The ASA text for 103, the later chapters in "Sailing Fundamentals" are really intended to support or supplement a sailing instructor's classroom instruction... not replace it. This basically leaves Fairwind members with two choices; enroll in a formal ASA 103 course at a commercial sailing school, or be proactive in finding and studying reference materials covering the required curriculum as laid out on the ASA website and logbook.

A 'study group' of members who are interested in preparing to take the ASA 103 written exam in the next month or two is forming. Members will help each other prepare for the exam. In addition, I'll be acting as a mentor for the group and drafting a self-study syllabus. We may have one or two face-to-face meetings, but mostly we'll be a 'virtual' group. This will allow everyone to study on their own schedule. Please drop me an email if you'd like to join us!



CRUISING

Ken Murray, Cruise Chair kmurray@pol.net

The end of our Cruising Program is rapidly approaching for this year!

September 9 will see our annual dinner cruise to King Harbor, always a fun day. We typically have over 20 participants. We'll sail down sometime in the afternoon, dock at King Harbor, go to a nice restaurant for dinner, and then sail back in the dark. Due to the lack of overnite issues, I can probably squeeze in last-minute participants. CALL ME if you want to go, and you are not already signed up!

October 12-15 The rarely visited San Clemente Island. It will require an overnite cruise to get there, and the island area is closed by the military for our scheduled date of Oct 11th. So we will move the 4-day cruise to Oct 12-15, when it will be legal and safe to go there. No landing is allowed on the island, so it will be an all-water weekend. Steve Mandel will skipper the Mark III and Marv Brown will skipper Island Side. We also have the 270 and the 38 reserved. The cut off for sign-ups on this cruise will be Oct 1st, because of the greater commitment required in planning and scheduling for all involved. This cruise, to a much larger degree than any other Club cruises that we do, simulates a long, open-water passage.

WRITING FOR THE NEWSLETTER

by Ken Murray, author

Regular readers of the newsletter have noticed a lot of print devoted to my ramblings and musings. I had set a goal of submitting two articles per month, in addition to my administrative reports. I've gotten lots of comments, and I'm sure I've bored some to tears... sorry if that is you! However, I wanted to mention that writing for the newsletter is a great thing for members to do! It is a burden for Bob, our editor, to get material, as it true of every newsletter editor that I've ever met. It's our job to help him out! While some may not read our newsletter, many of our members do. It sure breaks the ice in meeting other Club members, which also helps when you call an instructor for training, and they've actually heard of you, and know that you've contributed to their Club. People wonder what they might contribute: practically anything that was an interesting thing for you, something that happened on a sail, a new technique, anything that you might have been surprised to learn.

I've submitted things that Bob didn't use, because he thought I was insufficiently clear. I'm positive he won't let anyone publish anything that would embarrass the author! I think it is great for diverse perspectives to get to print, whether it is something that could be better, or something that you find great. I'm a professional editor and writer, and I'm used to putting words down. I often circulate articles to others for review before submission, and if anyone would like me to take a look and make suggestions, I'd be happy to do so and get it right back to you. I love to read about others' experiences, particularly as they discover the world of sailing, and I'd like to read about YOURS!

Thanks Ken!! All contributions are gratefully received.

Bob, your editor.



After school captains picture

OLD MARINER'S LORE

by Ken Murray MD, Fleet Surgeon

From the Norse came the use of a single steering oar or sweep on the right or "steer board" side of their vessels. Everyone followed this design. It was found awkward to put a vessel alongside a dock on the side this oar was shipped. Thus ships were put alongside, starboard side outboard. A plank was put across from the dock to ship. This plank or board was called the "ladeboard" or "loadboard," later "larboard." There was doubtless much confusion over the use of the terms "larboard" and "starboard," but after a period there came relief. The French with their high ships' sides devised a shortcut to handling cargo: they cut a loading door or "ports" in the ship's side. To mariners, this became the "portside."



Who didn't pump the head!!

CALENDAR

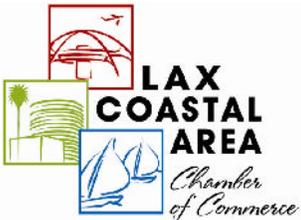
Friday-Sunday, Sept., 14-16, 2007	Indian Summer Splash Race	
Sunday, Sept. 16, 2007	Oxnard Workday / Club Sail Day 9:00 AM	Channel Islands Yacht Club 4100 S. Harbor Blvd Oxnard, CA 93035
Wednesday, Sept., 19, 2007	Board meeting 6:30 PM, General meeting 8:00 PM	Marina Venice Yacht Club 4333 Admiralty Way, MdR
Saturday, Oct. 6, 2007	MdR Workday / Club Sail Day	Dockside 9:00 AM till ???
Friday-Monday Oct. 12- 15, 2007	San Clemente Island Cruise	Dockside
Wednesday, Oct. 16, 2007	Board meeting 7:00 PM	Marina Venice Yacht Club 4333 Admiralty Way, MdR
Sunday, Oct. 21, 2007	Oxnard Workday / Club Sail Day 9:00 AM	Channel Islands Yacht Club 4100 S. Harbor Blvd Oxnard, CA 93035

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Robert Baron, Editor
1425 Stanford St., No. 3
Santa Monica, CA 90404



Association of Santa
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Yacht Clubs



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