



The Shellback

Since 1867

April, 2003

Frances Dugdale, Editor

SPONSORS LUNCHEON: Friday, May 16th

The Master Mariners Regatta **Sponsors' Luncheon** and Skippers' Meeting will be held on Friday 16 May 2003 at the St Francis Yacht Club in the Starting Line Room. The bar will be open from 11:00 am and lunch will be served at 12. Cost is \$35 per person. Reservation requests were included in the race-packets. To reserve seats at this first class event (or enter the Regatta), contact Jeff Stokes at (925) 935-7096.

At the luncheon, Sponsors will meet the skippers of the yachts they are sponsoring and present their "house flags" which will be flown from the sponsored yachts in the Regatta and at the boat show. Flags play an important part in the tradition of Master Mariners. In the early regattas, merchants raced their own working schooners and prominently displayed their flags. Joining us at the luncheon is a way to show thanks to our sponsors for their support. Also at the luncheon, the Regatta trophies will be on show, the Regatta race instructions will be handed out and the "new" 2003 t-shirts, sweatshirts, polo shirts and hats will be on sale.

We are still looking for Sponsors for the 2003 Regatta. Sponsors support the MMBA, both the Regatta and also scholarship programs that advance the preservation of traditional wooden sailing vessels, seamanship and marine crafts. If you know any business or individual who may wish to sponsor, please contact Dee Dee Lozier at (510) 653-8820.

I would like to thank the 2003 Sponsorship Committee, which is comprised of Peter English, Frank Hoburg and Terry Klaus. Also, thanks to Bob Cart for creating a great sponsor database and the foundation work he did last year.

Bar open : 11 am

Lunch: 12 am

Presentations: 1 pm

Ample Free Parking. Location and directions to St Francis Yacht Club, (<http://www.stfyc.com/>)

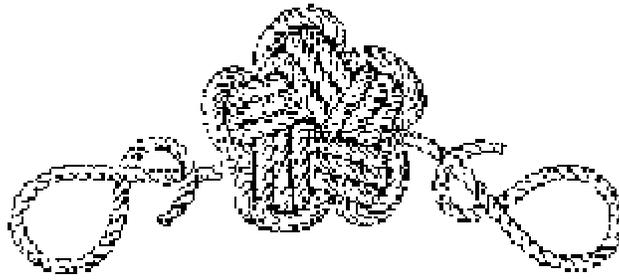
DeeDee Lozier, Sponsor Chairman



Opening Day Parade, April 27th, 2003

The ST/V Irving Johnson, Gaslight and Hawaiian Chieftain in the San Francisco Bay Opening Day Parade. The Irving Johnson is one of two new twin brigantines that have recently been built for the Los Angeles Maritime Museum. The twin is the *Exy Johnson*. The Irving Johnson is visiting northern California till May 2nd. For more information check www.brigantines.com.

Photo by Ariane Paul



From the Quarterdeck

Don't blink. This is a short article this time as I'm headed for the boat yard this week. It's already April and preparations are in full swing for this year's regatta. If you're reading this and have not sent in your race application, please do it **RIGHT NOW!!** For this year, we will accept applications with incomplete measurement forms as we expect the skippers to eventually fill them out completely before the following regatta in 2004. Race applications were given out to those who came to the successful potluck, hosted by Anne and John Tucker, *Duchess*, at the Pt. San Pablo Yacht Club in March and mailed to the rest of you. If you've misplaced the form, contact Jeff Stokes at 925 935 7096 to get another.

In the meantime, Jeff is busy putting the finishing touches on the sailing instructions and race packets and Bob Cart is whipping out the computer programs to handle the handicaps and finishes for this year's race

In numerous late night meetings, the handicap review committee and board of directors has decided on significant changes to this year's regatta.

For the **Ocean Class**, we are going to use the MMBA adjusted rating based upon several data sources and modify the pursuit race format by introducing a corrected time-on-distance finish. This will allow us to adjust the start times closer together (retaining the 5 minute increments) and allow vessels to sail in similar conditions and engage each other sooner during the

race. Those Marconi vessels eligible for the Ocean Class and willing to do

a longer windward-leeward course may sign up to race in the Ocean Class. The Ocean Class vessel getting the gun will be first to finish but may not correct out first of this class. We cannot predict the outcome of these changes to the Ocean Class vessels but believe that this is a step in the right direction to make this regatta more fun. We request written feedback from the Ocean Class vessels on how this new format performs. The future plans involve evaluation of this new format and the handicap system over the next few years.

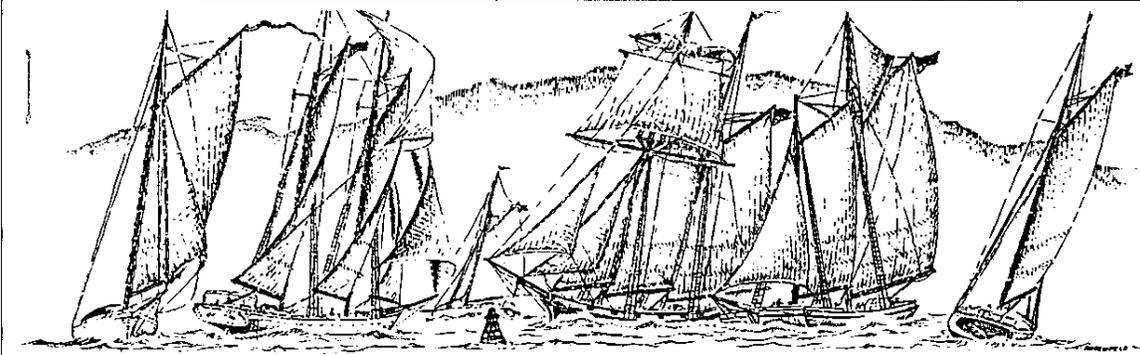
For the **BS, Gaffs, and Marconi Classes**, they will continue to be handicapped based on MMBA performance historical data and the traditional pursuit race format will remain intact. The winner will be the first vessel in each class over the finish line and will be signaled with a gun.

One thing we did not change this year is our sponsorship program. In keeping with tradition, DeeDee Lozier is busy rounding up sponsors for this year's regatta. The sponsorship program is an integral part that supports the regatta and recognizes those businesses and individuals that help maintain the maritime tradition of the Master Mariners Benevolent Association of San Francisco Bay since 1867. Any leads and/or follow-ups would be greatly appreciated.

That's all for now about the regatta. Remember the Annual General Meeting and Boat Show is coming up in June.

We hope to see you at this year's events and wish you smooth sailing.

Ken Inouye Commodore



HAVE YOU SENT IN YOUR APPLICATION THE MASTER MARINERS REGATTA

Saturday May 24, 2003

If you're reading this and you haven't received your race invitation and race application, please call me (925 935-7096). They were handed out to members attending the Spring Potluck March 23rd and mailed the following week to those that did not attend.

There are a couple of important requirements noted on the invitation.

1. You have to be a current paid MMBA member to participate.
2. You should have got your application and entry fee to me by April 30th. *****
3. You need to have 18 inch high numbers for identification. These have to be on a contrasting background
4. Remember, this is a fun race. Take safety seriously and be courteous to other boats

Race packets including the sailing instructions, classes and race courses will be available at the sponsor's luncheon on Friday May 16th and the balance will be mailed out the following week. Again, if you do not receive yours, call me to make arrangements to get yours. Also included in race packets are requests for number of dinners that you and your crew would like at the Encinal YC festivities after the Regatta. There will be a Dixieland band to greet the racers, followed by a steak and salmon dinner and a Hot Stuff Rock and Roll band. See you at the sponsor's lunch and regatta.

If you still want to race, send in your application as soon as possible, regardless of whether the measurements for your boat listed on the application form are available.

******* APPLICATIONS CAN STILL BE MADE TO JEFF STOKES UP TO MAY 10TH
319 Strand Avenue, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523, (Fax: 925 935 0626)**

Absolute and final date to be in Jeff's hands is May 10th, 2003

*Jeff Stokes, Vice Commodore,
Regatta Chairman*

MMBA Spring Potluck Again a Great Success



The Point San Pablo Yacht Club held its eighth MMBA Spring Potluck at the head of the Santa Fe Channel on Saturday, March 22nd. Hosts were John and Anne Tucker (*Duchess*).



A total of thirteen boats sailed in joining the four resident MMBA members. *Nautigal*, *Farida*, *Makani Kai*, *Fandango* and Skip and Pattey Henderson's new schooner *Aida* arrived on Friday. *Valkyrien*, *Stroma of Mey*, *Little Packet*, *La Sirena*, *Sunrise*, *Briar Rose*, *Mossie Estelle*, and new member *Tunami* came on Saturday.



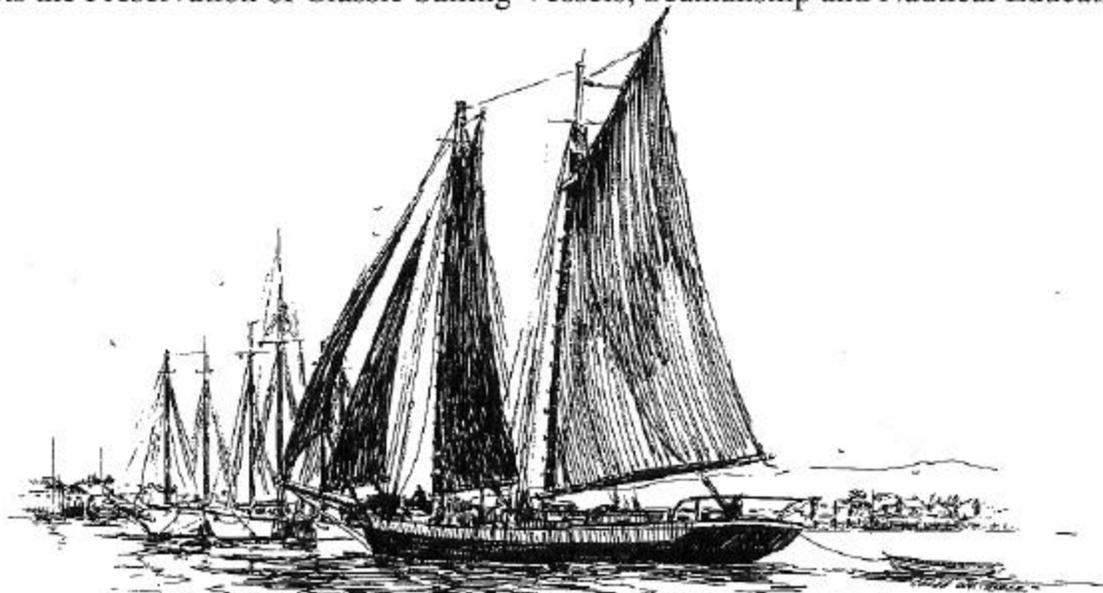
PSPYC's Friday night dinner fed about fifteen MasterMariners. On Saturday night, 75-80 people cleaned up a generous potluck table. Regatta packets were handed out and MMBA teeshirts and sweatshirts were for sale. After dinner Bob Cart (*Mossie Estelle*) gave an overview of the new handicapping system and answered a lot of very good questions. As usual, the bar was the center of activity. PSPYC Fleet Cap't Bob Hillstrom was chief bartender with several assistants on Saturday night, and went the extra mile for the MMBA on Sunday morning. Many thanks to Bob who came to the club for his morning coffee and stayed several hours serving coffee and BloodyMary's to the thirsty sailors. Several boats stayed until Sunday afternoon.



MASTER MARINERS WOODEN BOAT SHOW

Sunday, June 29, 2003

Supports the Preservation of Classic Sailing Vessels, Seamanship and Nautical Education



Corinthian Yacht Club
Main Street, Tiburon
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Admission \$10. • Children under 12 Free & must be supervised.
*A rare opportunity to view and board San Francisco Bay's
classic sailing yachts. Meet their skippers and learn their history.*

Corinthian Yacht Club Outdoor Bar & Grill Open for Lunch.

Sponsored by historic (1867) Master Mariners Benevolent Association

Illustration by MMBA member Caleb Whitbeck

www.mastermariners.org

New Members and Boats

Please welcome the following new members:

Chi, a Bill Garden 34' ketch, owned by William Campbell of Benicia, a member of the Pt. San Pablo YC, who is looking forward to communicating with other wooden boat enthusiasts.

Tunami. Pam DeWitt and Bryan Delaney have joined the MMBA with *Tunami*, an Acorn Class Sloop of only 19'. This very special little boat was designed specifically for the waters of San Francisco Bay by the current owners grandfather Jim DeWitt Sr.

Pam DeWitt states, "we were notified about the availability of *Tunami* after the previous owner passed away. The family wanted the boat to have a good home and they contacted us! Jim DeWitt Jr., my father, who is the Maritime Artist painted a portrait of Luke Lukavich sailing *Tunami* in his Acorn and we traded the painting for the boat! Luke was from Monterey Bay and apparently owned the boat for many years. Before that, a family from Stockton owned the boat and it was named, "Ginger". "*Tunami*" won the Pacific Coast Championship in 1958, and the Lightship Race in 1958-1960-1961. *Tunami* was YRA Champion in 1960 and 1961. From years 1956-1962 the boat raced 1380 miles, raced against 560 boats, in 97 races, coming in 1st place, 45 times, 2nd place 29 times, 3rd place 13 times, 4th place 6 times, 5th place 3 times and once in 6th place ". Many of the above races, were skippered by Ernie Ridout, of Santa Cruz. I understand from his nephew, that uncle Ernie is still winning races at age 85. Pam DeWitt and Bryan Delaney are going to be restoring *Tunami*, and plan to sail in this years' Regatta.

Dick Wrenn, Membership Chairman

Other "Master Mariners"

There are others that go by the title Master Mariner.

The US Coast Guard definition of a Master Mariner has nothing to do with wooden boats- but a rare breed of individuals (there are only three) that have both a Chief Engineer's license for Steam, Motor & Gas Turbine (any Horsepower) and Master (Oceans, Unlimited tonnage) license. One of the most recent members of this elite group is Carol Curtiss, the first woman to possess such status. Her remarkable achievement as a :Master Mariner was written up in the Marine Officer (Jan/Feb 2002), Volume 12 #1.

"Carol Curtiss took it to an extreme. When she enrolled in the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy's dual license program to get a well- rounded education she never knew

how far she'd eventually take it. On January 11,2002, Coast Guard Captain Kevin S. Cook, handed Carol her Chief

Engineer's license for Steam, Motor & Gas Turbine (any Horsepower). Added to her Master's license (Oceans, Unlimited tonnage), earned just over a year before, Carol has scaled to a height few have, and earns the right to be called -"Master Mariner." At the completion of her astounding feat, the Coast Guard concluded that she is one of three in an elite club in this country to currently possess such status. The MEBA (Marine Engineers Beneficial Association) is proud to boast the only woman ever to attain unlimited licenses as both Master and Chief Engineer. "



quote from Marine Officer Vol 12 #1

*Bob Griffiths,
Eventide*

MMBA Annual Meeting (Saturday 28 June) and the MMBA Boat Show (Sunday 29 June)

The 2003 MMBA Annual Meeting and the MMBA Boat Show will be held at the Corinthian Yacht Club, Tiburon. The Annual Meeting and election of officers is held at 6 pm, on Saturday night on the hoist deck at the Corinthian YC before a night with a Caribbean Barbeque and dancing to a Steelband.

This is followed on Sunday by an amazing display of wooden boats. At the Boat Show you can share the history of your boat with other MMBA skippers and with members of the public. Events during the Boat Show include the awarding of the Stone Cup and demonstrations and exhibits by the Arques School of traditional boatbuilding and kid's small boat model making. The show is open to the public from 10 am till 4 pm.

Boat show forms will be mailed out the first week of May. Please complete and return to Terry Klaus if you wish to participate or/and sign-up to help. Hands are needed to help move boats out for the MMBA boats on Sunday-it's a lot of fun.

For information or to offer help, contact Terry Klaus or Craig Swayne

The M M B A WANTS YOU

June is rapidly approaching and with it the Election of Officers at the MMBA Annual Meeting. In accordance with the Association's By-Laws, annually three Directors positions shall be open for election. **Nominations are currently open.** Anyone interested should contact Junior Staff Commodore Bob Rogers at (415) 381-3498 or through the MMBA website. The Master Mariners needs your help and ideas to maintain the momentum. The Association cannot go it alone, it survives through the dedicated volunteers that make our events happen. And one of the keys to making the great events we sponsor happen, like the Regatta and Boat Show, is the dedication and oversight of the Board of Directors. If you enjoy the MMBA and have thought of giving back to the organization, **now is the time.**



Association for years to come.

Directors serve three year terms and are generally responsible for coordinating one event or overseeing one major organizational program annually. Further, the Board of Directors elects from within their ranks the MMBA officers. The Board currently meets monthly (generally on the 2nd Wednesday each month) to conduct the Associations business. One of the most significant projects in recent MMBA history, Handicapping Review, is currently underway and will be one of the primary issues facing the new Board. What a perfect time to get involved and help shape the

Now is the time, nominations are currently open.

*Bob Rogers,
Jr. Staff Commodore*

RIVER RAT CRUISE –JULY 26, 2003: FIRST NOTICE



Time to set your course for the Delta. The 2003 River Rat Cruise will start when we meet at 1000 Saturday, July 26th at Southampton Shoal. We'll proceed upriver to upper Steamboat Slough with the benefit of a good flood current and arrive on a rising water level. Perfect! Stay for a long weekend if you must, but a week or more is a lot better. You can have a car meet you on the levy and even leave the boat up there to get back to reality if you must.

So come bask in the sun and swim in the warm fresh water of Steamboat Slough. The annual Courtland Pear Fair happens on Sunday and is not to be missed. Other activities include crawdad fishing telling stories and exploring the Delta. You won't regret this trip. Promise. For more info contact Bob Cart at bob@thecarts.net
Bob Cart, Mossie Estelle

EIGHT BELLS:

One of our longtime members George Alschuler passed away Saturday, April 12th 2003. He was a very lovable and friendly character and sang with Skip Henderson and The Starboard Watch regularly at Quinn's and on other occasions. There was a memorial for him Wednesday April 16th from 5 pm to 8 pm at McGrath's Irish Pub, Alameda

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

If you want to still receive the Shellback and want to be involved in MMBA activities-you need to be a member. Please mail your membership renewal of **\$60.00 (regulars and cruising) or \$30 (MMBA friend)** payable to "MMBA" (write the **name of your boat** on the Notes section of check) to:

Dick Wrenn, MMBA Membership Chairman
139 Hagar Ave. Piedmont, CA. 94611
(510) 654-7704

If your address has changed, please indicate to Dick so that the database will be updated.

THANK YOU! Another year of great fun and great people lies ahead.

Apologies to those of you who have paid and not received Shellbacks because you have moved-we try

to keep the data base up to date but sometimes addresses fall between the cracks.

Sea Music Festival



Hyde Street Pier,
Maritime Park
Saturday, May 3rd
10am-5pm
\$5.00 Donation (Free to
NPS/Maritime Museum
Members)

"S F Maritime Park presents a one-day musical event featuring renowned singers and instrumentalists performing the unique and varied tradition of music of the sea. Local artists and performers from across the country will bring the 19th century seafaring heritage alive at several stage locations on the Hyde Street Pier." A full schedule and list of performers is at: <http://www.nps.gov/safr/seafest.html>

The monthly chantey sing aboard the CA Thayer that night should be packed with the visiting musicians. It is free to attend, but you need to make a reservation: call: (415) 556-6435 or email: peter_kasin@nps.gov

ALSO: Each week you can hear chanteys at the following locations:

Tuesday nights:

Songs of the Sea - Chantey Jam
McGrath's Pub, 1539 Lincoln Ave., Alameda

Thursday nights:

Notices, Ads & General "What have you's"

MMBA WEBSITE: <http://www.mastermariners.org>
OUR GROUP WEBSITE: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/mastermariners-sf>
GROUP EMAIL ADDRESS: mastermariners-sf@yahoogroups.com
OUR CLUB WEBSITE: <http://clubs.yahoo.com/clubs/mastermarinerssf>

If you aren't receiving any MMBA group emails, I need your address! Please send to: mastermariners@hotmail.com
Material to be published in Shellback, send to Frances Dugdale (fwilkers@sfsu.edu)

Boats for Sale

Alden 1936 LOA 36, LOD 29 she is a beauty, and a past Master Mariner winner!!!
Albin diesel, lots of bronze hardware, teak decks. Previously owned by the Ernie K Gann family (author "Song of the Sirens" a wonderful book about love affairs with boats). She is ready to sail now!!!!!!!, \$12,0000, Call Sergio , (415) 346 4503

Westerly - S&S Design 1939 30' LOD, 26' LWL, 7'5" Beam, 5' Draft, Displaces 12,000 lbs.
Rebuilt mast, new keel bolts, cushions & covers. Recently invested \$20K but, I bought another boat, so must sell for \$18K or best offer. Dan Frederick 707- 642-1792

Landfall is still needing a home. Please see website <http://204.212.231.3/landfall/>
Mary Sale, owner

Orca-1959 Herreshoff ketch,38' o.a.,34' o.d., Alaskan cedar over oak. Excellent condition,possible slip availability in Sausalito. 46K , offers. Gary Bergman, 415 331 3967, cell 707 481 9228 orcaboat@sbcglobal.net, no pressure,just need to focus on our square tops'l gaffer, the Royaliste

Where have all the old boats gone!!!

Many Master Mariners are aware of boats that are for sale and in need of restoration, but for a multitude of reasons are not getting it. We would like to propose that these will be listed in the Shellback, so that word will spread and hopefully some of the grand old vessels will get restored before they fall apart.

Recent Messages mailed to the Master Mariners

"David Simon" davey_n_simon@hotmail.com Just wondering if there are any opportunities to crew during the master mariners race. I have been living overseas and would like to get involved with the Master Mariners again. I raced aboard Talofa during the '99 race.

Mo Newman is a new "Friend" of MMBA. She is an experienced sailor who loves classic wooden boats and she would like to crew in the upcoming Regatta. Mo says she has sailed in Antigua Race Week, and been on big schooners including the Californian. She can be reached at (415) 435-6073 or mewmo777@yahoo.com.

"Sirius" is now out of the KKMI yard where she has been since last November. The restoration is coming along very well, and she is now in sailing condition berthed at the guest floats of the St. Francis Yacht Club. I badly

need two no 22 Bariant winches; self tailers if possible. Some body must have an older pair of them under a work bench or whatever covered with cobwebs and dust . With or without them she will be out for the MM Regatta the end of May. Regards R. C. Keefe, RKeefe669@aol.com