

SAN FRANCISCO MODEL YACHT CLUB

NAUTICAL NEWS

Mailing Address:

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San Francisco Model Yacht Club



Spreckels Lake

Established 1898

Golden Gate Park

Click: <https://www.sfmvc.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/2025SFMVC-CALENDAR-Rev-2.0-1.pdf>

**to view the latest Calendar of events, races & meet-ups, & see the SFMYC Web Page.
For input to the Calendar, contact Ryan Schofield at rssailor@yahoo.com**

Advise us of your new address when moving! sfmvcnauticalnews@gmail.com



Nautical News

SAN FRANCISCO MODEL YACHT CLUB

Spreckels Lake - Established 1898 - Golden Gate Park

Volume 127

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Number 12

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Wahlander, Sam Bryan

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(Open Position)

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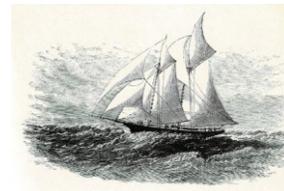
Rick Weiss

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The deadline for items for the Nautical News is the 25th of each month. Send photos & copy to our editor EdSFMYC@sonic.net & CC: sfmycnauticalnews@gmail.com. We reserve the right to edit submissions, based on space available. See new Ad posting requirements in "For Sail"

Commodore's Corner, by Colleen Stobbe

First thing on our calendar for December is the Power Squadron Holiday Lighted Boat Parade on December 7th, starting at 5:00 PM. Decorate your boats and share the joy of the season with your model boating friends and the public. It's sure to be a festive time for all!



Next will be the December 13th Membership meeting and Annual Awards Luncheon! This is a terrific event in the clubhouse. The Membership meeting will start at 11:00 AM. The primary focus for the meeting will be our election of Board members. As per the November report, there is currently one member running for each position on the Board. That being said, there is still time to nominate someone for the slate. Your participation and interest in the stewardship of the club is greatly appreciated. Contact one of the Nominations Committee (Lee Duvall—tugboatdrv428619@gmail.com, Mike Stobbe—mwstobbe@comcast.net, and Kate Ettinger—bottleyachtregatta@gmail.com). There will also be time at the beginning of the December 13th Membership meeting for nominations from the floor accompanied by a second. After voting is completed and any other required club business, the meeting will be adjourned. Then the special fun begins!

Our lunch is to arrive approximately at 11:30 AM. We will have blank name tags for each of you to fill out, so old and new members alike can easily make connections. Before and during lunch, in addition to greeting old friends, please introduce yourselves to our newer members and make them welcome in the SFMYC community. They are an important part of the strong future for the club. After lunch we will have a program to acknowledge the achievements of our most skilled members, those who have made special contributions, and more.

There is still time/space for you to sign for the Annual Awards Luncheon! Below is the link for online registration and card payment. The mail-in form is below the link. Please come and join in the festivities and this great club event!

<https://form.jotform.com/253173208108148>

Fill out & mail the Reservation/Registration Form below and include your payment of \$10 per person, so that it arrives no later than December 6, 2025. Make out your checks to: SFMYC. After December 6, 2025 cost will be \$30.00 per person!

Mail to:
SFMYC Annual Banquet
PO Box 16762
San Francisco, CA, 94116-3223

----- (cut here) -----

Reservation/Registration Form

YOUR MEMBER NAME: _____

Total in your party: _____

Total Payment (\$10.00 per person) included: _____

----- (cut here) -----

On Sunday, December 21, there will be casual Santa Barbara sailing at 1:00 PM. Check it out! As always, rain or shine, ODOM sailors will be out on Tuesdays and Victoria sailors will be out on Wednesdays.

Looking ahead to 2026...

Through an all-member email in January we will be launching an online Volunteer Survey as a way for members to indicate areas of club support in which they have interest. We need you! The SFMYC is propelled by your volunteer efforts, and there are so many tasks. The Volunteer Survey lists general areas for you to check as an area of interest for volunteering. Once we know who might be interested in what areas we can work with you to match your interests with a specific need. It's your contributions that will keep the SFMYC a thriving organization. Thanks in advance for watching out for the Volunteer Survey and responding generously of your time to support the SFMYC!

Membership Report

by Mike Stobbe, Membership Secretary

We had two new members last month, both successfully using the Club's new online application process.



Michael Driscoll, of Watsonville, is new to model sailing, but is an experienced sailor on SF bay. He has recently acquired a Star 45 and has tentatively tried it out at Watsonville's Pinto Lake. He is also interested in other activities that the Club has on offer. Michael has shop space, tools, and is currently working on a (scratch built!) clipper ship model.

Robert Youngjohns hails from Sausalito. He is interested in RC, both sail and power, with an eye to steam power. Robert has indicated an interest in all sorts of Club activities, particularly

with IT and web design, so we'll have to take good care to keep him happy! A hearty welcome to both Michael and Robert.

The Club's annual membership renewal process is just around the corner. There won't be any surprises: the fee schedule and PayPal invoice process will be exactly the same as last year (and the year before that). I'll be making up individualized member invoices in December, which should appear in your email mailboxes on January 1st. If you've done or plan to do anything that will affect your renewal amount, such as change your boat storage or add a locker rental, let me know so your invoice will be correct. Remember, your renewal invoice will **not** come from SFMYC. Look for service@paypal.com in your in-box. You do not have to have a PayPal account to pay your invoice. PayPal accepts credit cards, and if you do not want to pay online, you can download your invoice, print it out, and mail it to the Club's P.O. box with your check. One thing you cannot do, however, is pay a different amount. PayPal only accepts the exact invoice amount. If you think your invoice is incorrect, contact me and I will send an amended invoice. There's no rush, as the Club's grace period is a long one: memberships expire on March 31st.

Rec & Parks Liaison Report

by Joseph Minafo, Liaison

On November 25th, Colleen Stobbe, Joe Minafo and Dave Iribarne, Superintendent of Golden Gate Park, met for our quarterly meeting to discuss ongoing issues. Below are the updates from that meeting.

Lake Edge Repair: There was just the normal construction delay in lake edge repairs. Testing of the sandbag dam is taking place now.



Dave will continue to keep SFMYC up to date on progress of lake construction. SF Rec & Park will provide members with access to the lake outside of the construction area.

Aeration and Water Management Plan: Further discussion on hold until lake edge repairs are completed.

Goose Poop: SF Rec and Park consider the string line goose deterrent installed in Foster City to be unsafe. Search for a goose solution for Spreckels and other park lakes continues.

Sign on Pole: Dave Iribarne sent reminder to Raul Ayala Rivera that the sign needs to be replaced.

Interpretive Sign: SFMYC board has decided on two interpretive signs. At the start of the year, the SFMYC will share more details about their preferences with SF Rec and Park. Funding is available and no longer an obstacle.

Glass Block Repair on Back Wall: An in-person meeting to discuss the back wall is set for January 7th, 2026. David Iribarne, Keith Roberts, Martin Hickey, Vincent McEvoy, and Joe Minafo will meet at SFMYC Clubhouse.

Friends of SFMYC: Nothing is on the agenda right now.

Banner Mount Broken: Banners are available to install, but unexpectedly lower pole supports are being stolen throughout the park and will need to be ordered and installed.

Bicycle hoop: Dave has requested bike racks from SFMTA. Joe Minafo will also request racks on behalf of SFMYC.

SF Rec and Park website: SFMYC has supplied new wording for SF Rec and Park website for Model Yacht Sailing. Elton Pon has received the update, and Joe Minafo will follow up.

General Signage: Dave sent a request to Keith Roberts to have “No Bikes Path” stenciled around the lake. Signs will be readable from both directions. SFMYC will supply Dave with any additional signage.

Future Meetings:

February 3, 2026, May 5, 2026, September 8, 2026, November 24, 2026

In Memorial – Eight Bells

Dave Sands, Dear friend, Fellow Sailor, SFMYC Commodore, and Treasure by Jim Harvey



David Sands was born June 3, 1935, and passed over the bar on the afternoon of November 9, 2025 while walking from Spreckels Lake back to the SFMYC Clubhouse. It was a beautiful day, and Dave was out supporting the Bruce Ettinger Bottle Boat Regatta. He enjoyed the festivities and chatted with friends. Dave was a great supporter of club events. Dave is preceded in passing by his wife, Yuri, mother of their two sons, David Jr. and Michael.

Dave & Yuri sands

Dave grew up on the East coast in Boston and, like many others, came to San Francisco for work. Dave trained as an architect and was very proud of

his work as construction manager of the of the San Francisco TransAmerica building.

Dave and Yuri were both enthusiastic Freesailors. Dave sailed X, M, and 36R Freesail boats and Yuri sailed a 36R and was often a winner.

Yuri won many plaques and got her name up on the front wall, although Dave never won a sailing championship, over the years he always tried consistently and patiently with a good sense of humor.

Jim Harvey, Bruce Ettinger & Dave Sands
sailing Freesail X Class boats.

Dave also was an avid RC sailor with his Victoria, Star 45, ODOM, and Santa Barbara. Between Freesail and RC sail, Dave made many wonderful friendships.

Dave had many close friendships in the Power Squadron too. He had a beautiful power boat collection and joined the power boat gang on Sundays for boating and good times on Spreckels.

Dave was unique among members, in that he participated in all three squadrons, and he



was a lead in our Club. He was Commodore for two years and Treasurer for nine years for which we are very grateful.

Clearly, Dave had a very special love of the club. Because he lived so close to Spreckels Lake and the clubhouse, he would spend many days at the Clubhouse meeting friends, participating in both Power and Sailing events, and taking care of the Clubhouse by often thoroughly cleaning, as there is no designated position within the SFMYC for keeping the Clubhouse in order.

Jerry Pugh, Tony Dobson, and Dave Sands
Sailing Victorias

Dave was always available to volunteer and help in many Club activities. Commodore Colleen Stobbe shared that she could always rely on Dave to stop by the clubhouse if a member was needed to meet an individual or group, count supplies, report on the

condition of the lake, or any of a number of things that came up. She would give Dave a call, chat a bit, ask for his help and he'd say 'Sure.' Dave was dedicated to the SFMYC and a friend to all. When Dave was no longer able to sail his boats he often came to the lake to watch Freesail, RC, and Power and give support. Dave last wishes were that Yuri's extremely fine-tuned 36R, Kamikaze, and his own 36R boat both be donated to the Club.

Dave's dry and sharp sense of humor and his warm and gracious camaraderie will be sorely missed.

Remembering Norman Tuck

By Colleen Stobbe



Jeff and I have known Norman for many years through the San Francisco Abingdon Rough Riders whose members own MG TCs. Jeff often thought that Norman would like model boating. After repeatedly talking to Norman about joining the club, Norman gave it a go in October of 2019 and never looked back. One of Norman's early explorations was in Freesailing. He was fascinated by how the vane was constructed, and how it worked. We enjoyed many Freesail races with Norman.

Norman with his 1948 MG TC & his wife, Brenda

Norman was also an RC sailor. Jim Forbes shares a special remembrance of Norman..."As was his habit, one Sunday afternoon, Norman came by the lake to purchase an Annie's hot dog for dinner. A group of us were informally racing our Santa Barbara's, and Norman came over to watch us. Toward the end of the day, I offered Norman my radio and told him to give it a whirl. The first time he ever sailed a Santa Barbara, he won the race. I told him to sail another race, and he won that one too. Norm was well on his way to becoming an avid Santa Barbara sailor and sailed the club Santa Barbara in every sail thereafter until he became too ill to do so. A good and extremely creative man." Past Commodore Rob Weaver dubbed this Santa Barbara feat as "Norman Tuck Day" in the Nautical News article that brought Norman tremendous joy.



Norman and Jim Forbes

Santa Barbara sailing



Norman went beyond right from the start by stepping up to help out with Bottle Boats. Kate Ettinger shares... “In 2019, when Secretary Bruce Ettinger put out a call for SFMYC members to work on bottle boats with 6th graders from Presidio Knolls School (PKS), Norman Tuck, an acclaimed sculptor and past artist-in-residence at the Exploratorium, raised his hand. Dick Hunter recalls, ‘Norman was present on the very first day when we all met to talk about building bottle boats. He was a tremendous inspiration to all who participated.’

When we started the Bruce Ettinger Bottle Yacht Regatta in 2021, Norman generously shared his curiosity, creativity, building skills, his shop, and his magic-making mind. Curious about how to build a bottle boat with "off the shelf" items from Home Depot and basic tools, Norman made at least 10 bottle boat prototypes over the years.

His greatest invention was for his boat, The Foamie. He discovered that builder's foam worked as a strong binder to secure components for a balanced boat while also making it unsinkable. His innovation became a trend, and foam day is the highlight for new builders. Known as our ‘Master Innovation Mentor’, Norman was an invaluable contributor to Norman & Proud PKS Bottle Boat Builder Team, our bottle yacht success.”

Kate’s thoughts are echoed by Wally Wahlander... “Norman could always be trusted to show up and help with the sailing community. I knew him as a member of the Victoria fleet, the PKS bottle boat group, and later in the bottle yacht building community. Norman was a team player and loved to experiment with exotic designs. He and Bruce designed, built and sailed trimarans



and catamarans. If the bottle boat group member needed a part, such as a keel bulb, Norm could produce it in his workshop.”

In the short time that Norman was in the SFMYC he made a big impact—as a fellow sailor and friend, a curious learner and innovator, a talented artist and mechanical wizard. Norman is deeply missed.

Below is an obituary that shares with us Norman’s interesting and prolific life before coming to the SFMYC.

<http://www.legacy.com/Link.asp?I=LS000210295365>

The Work Shop

Chessie: A Modern Version of the Colin Archer Motor Sailer – Part 2

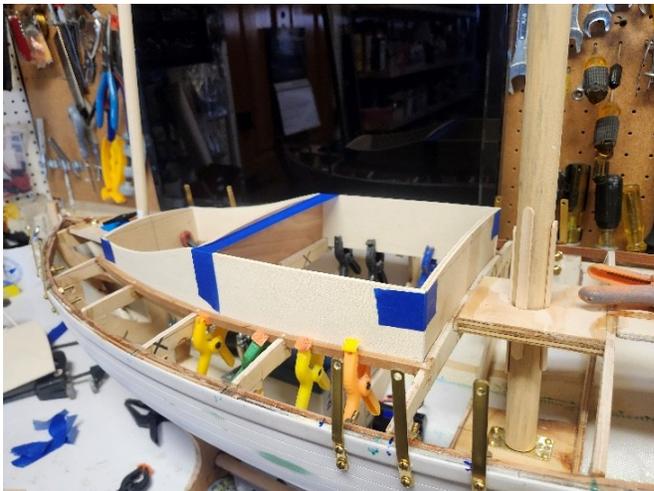
Cabin Design, Deck, Planking, Electronics & Sea Trials.

by Bob Pearsall, photos by Lin Pearsall, Harold Hasselbach, and Ken Knipmeyer.

Original RS-1 built in Rekkevik – Norway 1893

Recap - Last year, my good friend Blaine Russell, gifted me a hull for a Colin Archer Motor Sailer (RS No.1). The Colin Archer has always been a favorite of mine, but I hesitated building one for many years. It exceeded my building skills and I just couldn’t figure out how to get past many of the challenges that this boat build would present. Over the years of boat building, solutions to the many engineering problems would arise in other models, and those solutions could be adapted to the Colin Archer! I no longer had any excuses to not do the build, and before I knew it, it was time to get started.

Let’s talk about some history.



The full-scale boat was originally built in 1893 and served as a rescue vessel for 40 years for the Norwegian Sea Rescue. For the last 50 years, the boat has been owned by the Norwegian Maritime Museum in Oslo. This is a very famous boat. Over the years, many versions of the boat have been built, and many of them had cabins on them.

Cabin design

Cabin Design - The cabin design also features a coaming to help make sure that water would have a difficult time getting into the boat. There is also an adjustable mast step, to give me the option to move the mast, if the scale location didn't work properly. On all of my other boat builds, the scale location has worked out as planned, but this allows me some flexibility if something goes wrong. Clamps hold the cabin in position which lets me see (and experience) how my access to the hull will be before everything is closed up. The cockpit floor will be an access hatch for the motor and universal. The shaft lube tube will be located inside the rudder servo house, just behind the cockpit (on deck).

Deck - The deck was sheeted in 1/16" plywood and planked with Cherry and Poplar. Curved planks run along the sides of the deck and the center planks are straight. Larry Cuneo made a plank bender for me out of a piece of plywood, with a curve routed into the surface. Each plank destined for a curve, was soaked in hot water, and then forced into the curved plank mold for at least 20 minutes. The curved planks were then put in place and glued in with Titebond III glue and square/round toothpicks to act as trunnels (tree nails).



The deck

Planking - The deck is one of my favorite parts of boat building. I like seeing the various tones of the wood, and the patterns that the shapes take, as the deck turns from imagination into reality. At the frame locations, there is a small piece of popsicle stick wood that acts as a spacer to keep the planks separated evenly. These spacers stay in place and are glued in, along with each plank. Trunnel holes are drilled through the plank and deck, so that each plank can be treenailed to the frames. Once the deck is planked, some quality sanding time takes place to make sure that



everything flows smoothly from plank to plank. The deck is now given a couple coats of clear polyurethane to seal up the wood and to get the boat ready for grouting. I use interior/exterior Spackle to fill the gaps between planks. This usually takes at least three separate applications of Spackle and lots of messy sanding. The deck is then sealed with many coats of polyurethane.

Deck planking.



Here is the Mark IV Plank Bending Tool & all of the other tools that I use to plank the deck.

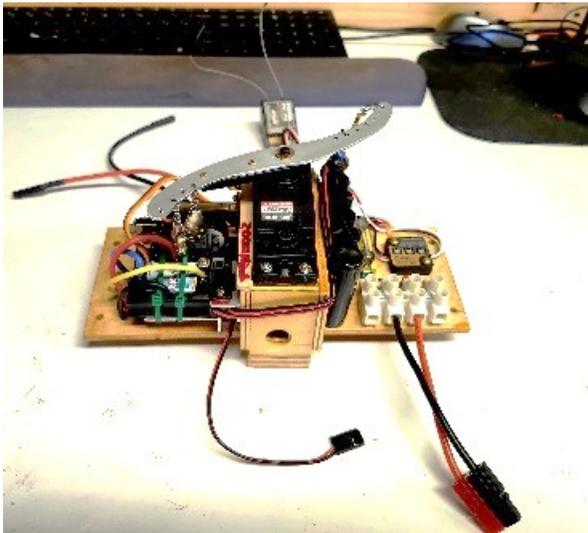
The plank bender can bend four planks at a time, and it works out that I can set up a production line where planks are in the bender, and the ones that came out are getting installed on the boat. It takes me about 20 minutes to place four planks, so that is just enough time for the bend to set in the wood that is in the bender. The planks closer to the right side of the bender are used in the bow and stern.

The softer bend in the middle makes planks for the middle of the boat.

Finishes - Pretty soon, it would be time to do the bodywork on the hull and get the hull and cabin into primer and finish coat. The color scheme was decided upon, and she would end up with a white hull, white cabin, silver boot top, and green bottom paint. Her graphics came from Callie Graphics.



The Colin Archer was named after my Grand Niece, Francesca (Chessie for short).



Servos - A waterproof Hitec D646WP servo handles the rudder, and a HS-805BB Mega Quarter Scale Servo is converted into a sail winch servo, using a Bilda Servo Travel Tuner.

This part of the build is still an experiment, since my favorite Hitec Sail Winch servo was not available anymore. The mega quarter scale servo plugs into the Servo Travel Tuner to increase the throw of the servo. These parts came from ServoCity.

Here is a link to this product:

<https://www.servocity.com/servo-travel-tuner/>

Rudder & sail winch servos

{A note from the future} The Servo Travel Tuner and the HS-8055BB Mega Quarter Scale Servo convert nicely into a sail winch and worked great! It was really nice to be able to control the throw of the sail winch servo by turning the screws on the tuner.

Moment of truth -- I think I need to build a bigger bathtub!

Not too much room to spare, as the tub is maxed out for a test float. The radio gear, servos, batteries, and lead were added to the boat to bring her down to her waterline. She looks viable. It is always nice when they float.

Her name was the last part of her build. Sea Trials would come next.

Sea Trials - Normally, I would let a newly built model boat sit for a week, so that I could lose those new captain jitters and forget how much work goes into building a model boat. Between park events, doctor visits, scheduling conflicts, weather reports, and family activities, it seemed to take forever for all of the stars to align....but that day finally came.

Early one morning, just prior to the “crack of dawn”, my alarm sounded and it was time to mobilized the family for a trip to the lake. After battling morning commute traffic, we finally arrived at beautiful Spreckels Lake. It was a peaceful morning (like most), and there was a hint of breeze blowing out of the West. Skies were clear with some patchy fog. Best of all, my boating buddies were already at lakeside and having fun with their boats.

One of the best parts of being part of this club, is the camaraderie that is displayed by our members on a daily basis. It was very heartwarming to know that there is such support for our common interests.

Within about 20 minutes, the boat was rigged, the drive battery installed, and the radio range was checked. All looked good. With no pomp and circumstance, Chessie was gingerly placed in the lake and her waterline was checked. A gentle wind filled her sails, and before I knew it, she was off. I wiggled her rudder to see what kind of control I would have and she easily changed direction with every tug on her rudder. I advanced the throttle to see how she would handle under power and she sped up with the push of the throttle stick. The throttle was returned to neutral, and some hard left rudder was applied to bring her about. She drifted into her turn and her sails gently crossed over to the other tack. I pulled her sails in for close hauled sailing and she cooperated fully. She leaned into her bow wave and cut a nice line through the water. She not only sailed nicely, but she powered just as well.

My wife, Lin, was acting photographer, and our little dog Eli, took on the supervisory role to make sure that I was doing everything right.



After a few minutes of sailing, it was time to gather the group and do the official launch ceremony. The big clue on when it is appropriate to do the Christening ceremony is based on the time old tradition of checking the bilge and finding it dry...it is time to go.

With the group gathered round, I placed a rose on the deck of the boat and recited her name.

“Chessie, you are launched today. This rose represents the land, and may you always return your crew safely to shore”. At this point, Lin poured some champagne over her bow as a tribute to the Gods of the Sea to always allow Chessie safe passage. The winds filled Chessie’s sails and she sailed out into the lake. Special thanks to Ron Weyhrauch for supplying the launch ceremony refreshments.



Sea trials - Within about 20 minutes, my jittery captain’s nerves settled down and I realized how well behaved this boat is.

Her wide beam lets her lean over with every gust & when she gets to a certain point, she stops healing over, her sails spill the gust, and she takes off.

I felt so confident in her abilities, and the abilities of my fellow skippers that I started handing her transmitter off to anyone that wanted to take her for a sail.

One of the many tourists that came to the lake that day was from New York. She was visiting the lake with a group of her friends, and she got to take home a memory of sailing Chessie on Spreckels Lake.

Chessie was so balanced, that a “newbie” could feel comfortable taking the controls.

It is always fun to share the experience of model boating with new and old friends alike.

Thanks to my fellow club members for making this such a special day. It was a great day to be messing around with boats.





From Left to right: Bob Heacock, Harold Hasselbach, Gerry Bowen, Ken Knipmeyer, Ron Weyhrauch, Bob Pearsall (and Eli), Blaine Russell, and Jim Forbes.

Bob Pearsall poses with Chessie.



Bottle Yacht Regatta

5th Annual Bruce Ettinger Bottle Yacht Regatta

by Kate Ettinger, Colleen Stobbe & the Bottle Class

On a gorgeous fall day, the Bruce Ettinger Bottle Yacht Regatta had its 5th birthday.



2025 Bruce Ettinger Bottle Yacht Regatta Sailors. photo by PF

This winter, 12 new bottle yachts were built during our mentor sessions. All novices built freesail bottle boats. Master Freesail Mentor Ed Schoenstein upgraded the model with a new self-steering mechanism that works with a cat rig or a square rig fostering creativity in the building process.

Several past sailors returned to mentor new bottle boat builders. After completing our learning paradigm “see it, do it, teach it,” our mentors earned bottle class badges. Congratulations and big thanks to our mentors Adlai & Nina Manzo, Jonathan & Daniel Crosby, Xinhang Li, Trevor & Melissa Choy, Peter Li, Wally, Ed, and Bob Pinotti.

Congratulation to our builder award winners:

Most Thoughtful Designer - Ben Boudin
Junior Assistant Builder - Levon Hartman
MacGyver Award - Patrick Lam

Most Initiative - Austin Langehennig
Most Determined Freesailor - Henry Li
Teamplyer - Patrick Sui

For our trophy, the Stobbe Congeniality Award was given to Tom and Jason Ford for helpfulness in cleaning up at mentor sessions and for being a delightful, enthusiastic bottle boat builder team.

The Hunter Builder Award for a beginner went to Santino McCauley, who built a freesail boat including a homemade keel bulb and an experimental cat rig. Santino is the great grandson of the late SFMYC Member Tony Marshall. And to Russel Sui, who built an advanced RC boat and is editing a video for future builders.

Daniel Crosby, photo by PF

The Bottle Class Perseverance Award is a new trophy awarded to sailors who persevere after a tough race and return to sail. The 2025 winner is Daniel Crosby. Retroactive awards were given to Trevor Choy 2022, Nina Manzo 2023, Xinhang Li & Adlai Manzo 2024.



2025 Freesailors: Tom & Jason Ford, Levon & Rachel Hartman, Austin & Fred Langehennig, Ben & Kate Bourdon, Patrick Sui (front), Nina Manzo, Andromeda & Sean Diamant, Santino McCauley, Patrick Lam & Marianne Reyneker, Peter & Henry Li. Photo by PF

Tuck Multihull Race (Freesail)

To test the wind's direction of the wind and sail-ability of the proposed north -south course, Freesail Race Director Mike Stobbe started the multihull race.

The BruKa NorEd Trimaran repurposed a keel/rig from Bruce Ettinger's monohull, added pontoons foamed by Norman Tuck, and used Ed Schoenstein's steering mechanism-rudder combination. Kate Ettinger, Norman, and Ed collaborated on the design.

The trimaran meandered around Spreckels Lake before crossing the finish line in a fiercely contested race against naysayers to win 1st place.



BruKa NorEd Trimaran

Schoenstein Freesail Race

The sunny weather was accompanied by aberrant and absent wind. Our 10 freesail boats launched from the North Shore and sailed toward the South shore with the finish line at Punto Blanco refereed by Jonathan Crosby with Josh Cohen on Video Assisted Referee (VAR).



Freesail Race

Jim Harvey led a pre-race freesail tips session. Commodore Colleen Stobbe, Jim & Kathy Harvey, Ed Schoenstein, and Steve Ma were sailing coaches.

Freesail Race

With a tie for 1st place between a cat rig and a square rig, Race Director Mike Stobbe led a coin toss. Andromeda Diamant won 1st place with Kitty Cat, also Best Design award winner.



Andromeda Diamant 1st



Santino McCauley 2nd



Nina Manzo 3rd

Wahlander Advanced RC Race

RC sailors had a pre-race sailing tips session with Rob Weaver. RC Race Director Jason Spiller set the race as three short courses with increasing difficulty. RC sailing coaches included Bob Pinotti, Steven Ma, Jim Harrold, and Wally Wahlander.



Advanced RC Sailors: Trevor Choy, Xinhang Li, Russell Sui, Daniel Crosby, Mike Kelly, Peter Li



Advanced RC race & Advanced RC Spectators



Advanced RC Race Winners



Xinhang "Simon" Li 1st



Daniel Crosby 2nd



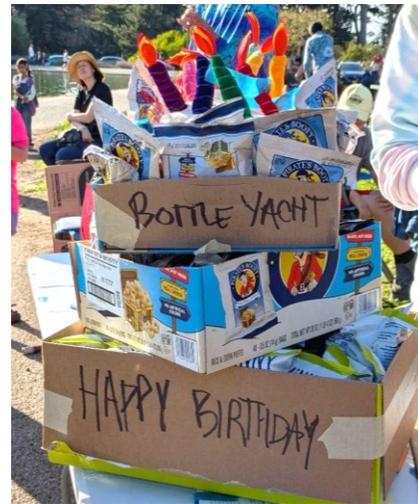
Russell Sui 3rd

Learn to Sail

Learn to Sail gave members of the public a chance to sail an RC boat with a mentor thanks to RC sailing coaches: Wally Wahlander, Jim Harrold, Stephen Ma, and Bob Pinotti.

Notwithstanding lackluster winds and the late afternoon tragedy acknowledged elsewhere, our 5th Annual Bruce Ettinger Bottle Yacht Regatta was a spectacular day at Spreckels Lake.

Thank you to our SFMYC members who volunteered and a special thanks to our regatta volunteers: Jay Manzo, Kathy Harvey, Josh Cohen, Michelle Wong, Ryan Ramseyer (rescue tugboat skipper), and our photographers Josh Cohen and Paul Frankenstein (PF).



Pirate's Booty Birthday Cake

Congratulations to all of our bottle class families who made this 5th year a special celebration!

Power Squadron Report

by Jeff Raymond, PSO

Hello all,

Even though we end a challenging year we are moving forward with a new perspective on obtaining goals and resolving challenges.

First-off, I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the passing of our dear Board member David Sands. Dave was our club treasurer and member for many years and a good friend. Dave was a crossover model boater running both power and sail boats. The entire membership rings our club bell for Dave, an honorable "8 Bells" (End of Watch) on his continuing journey through the next experience.

Please come to our annual Model Boat Lighting Parade on Sunday, December 7. This event will begin at approximately 1700. Members are welcome to bring Christmas goodies, cookies, egnog, etc., but please no alcohol. After all: "What would you do with a drunken sailor"?

Happy Holidays to our entire membership!! Everyone is welcome to attend our last meetings of the year in the clubhouse and our club luncheon on December 13.! To attend our luncheon please see the Commodore's Corner in this newsletter for details. BBQ theme will preside again this year. Our annual awards will be given out as well.

Note: I, myself will be stepping down as the club's Power Squadron Officer. A new person has been nominated and will be voted in at the General Meeting. A replacement for Dave Sands will also be voted in. Don't forget to pay attention and support our new officers as this will be a busy coming year with the MODEL BOATS ON PARADE in September, and all the other events as well.

The Board now has a 'volunteer survey' for various volunteer jobs that any member can sign up for. We need your help! The volunteer survey will be available in January.

Don't forget the start of our next year with the Frostbite Regatta in February 2026. Details will be available in the January Newsletter with the new Power Squadron Officer.

Wishing everyone a Happy Holiday season and prosperous New Year!

See you at the lake!! Happy sailing!! Jeff Raymond, PSO, SFMYC.

Freesail Squadron Reports

by Bernard Price, FSO

2025 was a fun season for Freesailing. Most notable was the new wind patterns, which have been often discussed in these pages, brought to us courtesy of a late 2024 storm, which brought down many of the trees that previously sheltered the lake from the ocean breeze. The wind, while generally more reliable, came from new directions causing us to re-think our strategy for sailing beats and runs compared to prior seasons. Of course, strategy has limitations in Freesailing – “best made plans” and all of that, but we always try!

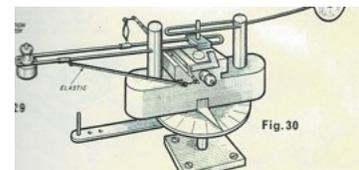
Below, you will see the results for 2025. My congratulations to our new Champions and to all who participated! Awards will be presented at our annual Awards Luncheon during December.

SFMYC 2025 Freesail Season Championship Series Scoring:

The Freesail Season Championship series consisted of six scheduled race days per fleet. Season Championship points available for each race were based on the number of skippers who participated on race day with points awarded in descending order from first place down. For example, if there were seven participants on a particular race day, first place was awarded 7 points, second was awarded 6 points and so on.

There is one throw-out for each series with a minimum of six races completed. The X and 36R Classes unfortunately only sailed 5 races during 2025 so did not have a throw-out for their series.

Season Championship tie breakers were decided by who won the beat when tied skippers were matched during the last race day of the series.



A “Single Race Entry” is a guest skipper who is not a member of the SFMYC and therefore is ineligible to earn Season Championship points.

The skipper accruing the highest number of points in a particular fleet series after the throw out (where applicable) is Season Champion.

X Boat 2025 Season Championship Results

Place	Skipper	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	Total Points
1	Jason Spiller	3	2	4	4	0	3	16
2	Mike Stobbe	5	3	0	5	0	0	13
3	Jeff Stobbe	1	0	1	1	0	4	7
4	Paul Staiger	2	0	2	0	0	2	6
5	Colleen Stobbe	0	0	3	3	0	0	6
6	Jim Harvey	4	0	0	2	0	0	6
7	Dan McCormick	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
8	Bernard Price	0	0	0	0	0	1	1

5 races sailed, no throwouts. Season ties settled in R6

M Boat 2025 Season Championship Results

Place	Skipper	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	Total Points	With Throwout
1	Stephen Ma	4	4	0	7	3	5	23	23
2	Mike Stobbe	2	7	0	5	1	4	19	19
3	Jason Spiller	5	3	2	2	4	3	19	17
4	Rick Weiss	6	2	0	6	2	0	16	16
5	Jeff Stobbe	0	5	3	0	0	2	10	10
6	Colleen Stobbe	0	6	4	0	0	0	10	10
7	Bernard Price	3	0	1	3	0	1	8	8
8	Jon Rosen	0	0	0	4	0	0	4	4
9	Jim Harvey	0	1	0	1	0	0	2	2
10	Sean Visser	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
11	Richard May*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Six races sailed, one throwout. Season ties settled in R6

* = Single Race Entry (SRE), No Season Championship series points earned

36R 2025 Season Championship Results

Place	Skipper	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	Total Points
1	Mike Stobbe	4	9	5	4	0	8	30
2	Stephen Ma	8	8	2	0	0	5	23
3	Bernard Price	7	7	3	0	0	6	23
4	Mary Rose Cassa	5	5	1	2	0	1	14
5	Jim Harvey	3	6	0	0	0	4	13
6	Jeff Stobbe	1	4	0	0	0	7	12
7	Jason Spiller	2	3	4	1	0	2	12
8	Colleen Stobbe	6	1	0	0	0	3	10
10	Dan McCormick	0	0	0	3	0	0	3
11	Kathy Harvey	0	2	0	0	0	0	2

5 races sailed, no throwouts. Season ties settled in R6

Farewell, Friend

“Aw! No! Boat? What are you doing? C’mon!” he often shouted to his boat as it misbehaved on the water- with a wry smile and a twinkle in his eye... David Sands was always fun to sail with

and, even after he retired from Freesailing, would regularly join us for the afternoon at the lake to watch the boats and socialize. We enjoyed his friendship and he will be greatly missed.

– Bernard

Dave was a great friend at the lake. He was always there helping out whether he sailed or not. Lately he had mastered the banjolele and I was going to join him in some duets, if I had ever learned how to play mine – Rick Weiss, editor.

Victoria Fleet Practice October 8th

by Michael Fischer



Brisk, then windless. Then, a blow-down blast! And lumpy? Oh my! Occasionally we were sailing submarines – see photos:



Sailing in Central Park New York City. They rent the RC Lazars to passersby.

Letters to the Editor

Send your comments, opinions, innovative ideas & suggestions to the News. We reserve the right to choose and edit appropriate submissions based on space availability. Send your letters to the editor at: EdSFMYC@sonic.net. You might be famous!

Wanted / For "Sail"

For more long term advertising, we suggest that you move your ads to one of the online free forums or the SFMYC web site 'For Sale' page. If your ad hasn't been posted for three consecutive issues of the News, it can be posted again for 2 more issues.

Please do send your 'wanted' or 'for sale' ad(s) with 3 lines only, one photo that will get edited and sized down to fit, plus, include your email or contact info.

For Sale



- Club Apparel - 25% Reimbursement -

(See Commodores' Corner for more details)

The provider of embroidered club jackets, vests, hats, windbreakers, etc. is

Catto's Graphics, at cattosgraphics.com.

To place your order, choose your garment selection from the Catto's website, then email Debbie Diaz at debbie@cattosgraphics.com and tell her what you want. They are happy to do customized requests. Catto's will also embroider items you send to them for about \$25.00. They can embroider most anything.

Catto's has six logo choices on file. Four logos are the ones shown here and are appropriate for the front of jackets or on hats, etc. The other two logos are of the longitudinal upper logos shown here and are enlarged enough to fit on the back of a jacket. Many thanks to member Brian Munger who paid for Catto's set-up of the two enlarged logos. Depending on the color of the garment, the lettering will be either black or white. You can also have Catto's embroider your name, if you wish.

To get a 25% reimbursement paid to you by the SFMYC, first pay Catto's the full amount for the item and embroidery and keep your receipt. Then proudly don your new apparel and approach our club treasurer, receipt in hand. He will confirm it displays the logo, sign your receipt, and hand you a check.