Opening Day on the QUEEN MARY

I had not been on the Queen Mary for twelve years and my memory of her was that she was a bit run down. Having heard rumors of her financial troubles I was prepared to be disappointed. I had completely the opposite experience. She was beautiful and the service we had was very good thanks to Christine’s arrangements with the management. After a bit of initial confusion they opened the Observation Bar two hours early, just for us. We had this spectacular room all alone for an hour before our lunch. They make quite a good Bloody Mary, how appropriate.

After cocktails we all moved down the Promenade Deck to the Chelsea Room for our private luncheon. This is another great room with a terrific view across the Queensway Bay to the City of Long Beach skyline and Shoreline Marina and Village. During lunch the Long Beach Harbor fireboat saluted the Queen and all on board with a high spraying water show. It was wonderful to have such a great turnout. Most of our active members and quite a few newer members came out to start the 2009 season off in fine fashion.

Besides being and an amazing piece of marine history, the Queen Mary appeals to what we all love about classic yachts. She is graceful in a traditional way. Space utilization is not as important as tasteful design. A feel of luxury that modern ships attempt to recreate but don’t often capture. For the Art Deco lovers amongst us she is a treasure chest of Art Deco elements. Everywhere you turn one finds lovely bits of trim and sculpture to admire. I look forward to returning again soon and think spending the night in the Hotel would be a lot of fun. More photos on page 6.
Note from the Bridge,
Commodore, Dennis Ballard

Commodores Report

Well summer is here, and we have two events behind us to start the season. Opening Day was a wonderful venue due largely in part to the hard work of Rear Commodore Christine Rohde. The RMS Queen Mary was a treat to tour after the event, and most stayed and did their own self tour of this great ship. We had a burgee to present new members Paul and Sandy Fredericks for their classic Alura II. A new Affiliate Don Kennedy, sponsored by Tom Brown, was also present. Good food and great company, on a great ship, this is what the CYA is all about.

April was a successful month for our organization, as we covered two events again, with our Auction and Affiliates Barbeque. Rick Olson and Elissa Cruz were the hosts again at California Yacht Marina in Wilmington. Co-auctioneer Jim Butz helped with the arrangements, and Member Owen Bullen along with Jim’s neighbor Joyce, helped Rick and Elissa with the food prep. This year featured a dog show before the auction and along with the human guests, all the canines were tropically dressed. I would like to thank both members and guests for their generous response this year. The punch, dogs, and auctioned items were all top notch this year. Many thanks to all who contributed and volunteered; they made this event a great success.

On May 16th we came together to honor Scottie Dobson’s final wish, which was to be buried at sea from a CYA vessel. Scottie wanted this done so that we could still stay in touch with her when we walked on the beach. The scheduled Predicted Log Race was postponed and a fleet of classics assembled to pay homage and show respect to a truly courageous Lady. Close to fifty CYA members and Scottie’s family assembled at Cabrillo Marina San Pedro to share their memories and say goodbye. Peter Riess delivered a moving eulogy on the dock, featuring a poem selected by Bruce Dobson. Scottie would have approved of both the eulogy and the fact that this tribute was on time, as scheduled. CYA International Historian Margie Payton, and her husband CYA International Treasurer Jim Payton were guests along with the Dobson family members, aboard Riptide. Madrigal, Mindful, Gracie, Enchantress, and Miriam joined in the farewell parade as we left Angels Gate. It was both an honor and a privilege to take Scotties ashes from her beloved Bruce and inter them to the sea. There is a void in our fleet now that only cheerful smiles and warm regards can fill. Our deepest sympathy goes out to Bruce Dobson and family over their loss. We have all learned a lesson in courage and dignity from our beloved Scottie.

This June Members and their boats will visit Emerald Bay as guests again of the Corsairs Yacht Club. This event is a great reason alone for staying as members of the fleet. The Ashbridge race is Father’s Day weekend and Commodore Bill Owen has invited our boats to join in. If we are lucky this year, we will leave the Santa Ana winds and fog behind. I look forward to this and all the summer upcoming events.

Smooth cruising,
Commodore
Dennis Ballard

“The Brain Trust”, a monthly board meeting is held at Peter and Dennis’s home in Los Angeles. Members welcome.
Scottie Dobson  First Lady of the CYA

December 14, 1930 to March 26, 2009

Southern California Fleet, Event Coordinator-Port Captain- Historian-Rear Commodore-Vice Commodore-Fleet Commodore - Staff Commodore.
National CYA Historian for more then ten years.

Thank you Scottie for your happy smile and all the joy you brought to the people you now.

Buried at Sea
May 16, 2009
With an escort of CYA Classic Yachts.
Scottie Dobson Cruise
Opening Day on the Queen Mary

The Observation Bar
Affiliate’s Barbecue and Landlubber’s Auction

It was a beautiful day in April for a Barbecue! The donations for this year’s auction were really outstanding. There were many items on the block that were really worthy of a good bid. In all of these CYA auctions that I’ve attended, I don’t remember items selling for $20, 30, 50, and 75 dollars. The old auctions norms were $2, 5, and 10 dollars. This is our only fund raiser and the treasury really improved reflecting the enthusiasm shown during the bidding and the great donations to the auction block. Thank You all.

Besides the auction, we try to make the barbecue something fun and different. This year’s Hawaiian doggy show was a crazy idea that turned out to be a lot of fun. Again, it was because of all of you getting behind it and bringing your happy little canine friends. Not being a dog owner myself, I wasn’t sure if I was asking for trouble by inviting a dozen dogs to our barbecue. It worked out surprisingly well. All the dogs were well behaved as well as were their owners. Speaking of getting behind my theme, we noticed this year, that there was an increase of interest in rear ends than at previous CYA barbecues. Dog will be dogs I guess. Dogs that attended were as follow: Sparky, Uma, Cupcake, Lillie, Lucie, Rissy, Ochie, Boggie, Haley, Van, Rosie, and Mattie.

The food was really good this year thanks to Owen’s barbecue talents. We seem to be really getting this down after ten years or so of practice. Everybody seemed to enjoy the green Mai Tai concoction served from Ricky’s Bar. We went through five gallons.

Great Job
So. Cal. Members!!
Christine's Corner
Available through Christine are the following two CYA items.

- Brass CYA name tags, perfect for all events, everyone should have one..........$ 10.00
- Embroidered CYA “Blazer Crests”...................$25.00

Call or e-mail Christine Rohde to order.

(310) 429-3028 or sparklechristine@gmail.com

A fisherman's prayer

"God grant that I may live to fish until my dying day,

"And when it comes to my last cast I then most humbly pray,

"When in the Lord's safe landing net I'm peacefully asleep,

"That in His mercy I be judged Good enough to keep."
In Channel Islands Harbor, Paul and Sandy Fredericks, ALURA II, have been spending quite a few weekends on their boat. Even though only one of her twin diesels is operational, they have learned how to take ALURA out for harbor cruises on a single engine. We’re glad your enjoying the boat. Once you get that second engine going you’ll be able to “turn around” and have even more fun. Jim Butz is on the go again. He is vacationing in France. Rob Layne, UP TO SNUFF, and girlfriend Athina showed up to the BBQ/Auction a little late. Rob is a pilot for Jet Blue and that morning had been in Seattle. He said that he really had the airplane “punched” order to get down to Southern California and make it to the Barbecue. I bet you thought it was the jet stream that made some flights quicker then others. Turns out that the pilot is just late for a party. Anna Erving reports that all the Koi are gone from the pond in front of her Palm Desert home. Apparently the migrating Herons and Egrets though it made a good lunch stop. Bye, bye Koi. Elissa told me to pack for the tropics but she would not tell me where she was taking me for my birthday. We were headed for the Burbank Airport when she said that she had to stop and drop off so papers at friends Mark and Sheila’s home in Sierra Madre. That is when I found out that they were also “in on” the surprise along with other friends John and Alishia. All of us “boys” are turning 60 this year and trip had been organized and arranged by Sheila. Four of the six didn’t know that we were off for a week on the Island of Bora Bora near Tahiti in the French Polynesian Islands. Bora Bora is a extraordinarily beautiful bit of paradise. We had a great house with an infinity pool that was only about 100 feet from our own private beach at the lagoon’s edge. We snorkeled with the tropical fish and coral, ate and drank way too much, and kept saying our favorite line for the week, “this doesn’t suck”. The resort uses some French built boats for shuttling guest around the island. These boats had a very nice old wooden yacht look. Some designs just look right. They’re “classic”. I took a few pictures of this magnificent place. It is no wonder that the BOUNTY’S crew mutinied, none of us wanted to go home either.

—Rick Olson, Cub Reporter
Get Ready!! Summer Fun Events are Here~

**Commodore’s Cruise to Emerald Bay**

June 19th - 21st

Join this fun weekend hanging out with the Corsairs Yacht Club at their Emerald Bay Cove. Go swimming, canoe paddling, or just work on your tan.
Dennis Ballard for info (323) 841-9879

**Old Fashion Days in the Park**

July 25th - 27th

REMINDER!! "Old Fashioned Days in the Park" Burton Chace Park, Marina del Rey. Come and enjoy one of the nicest venues in Southern Calif. to display classic boats, cars, motorcycles and steam engines. The fun will begin Friday, July 24th with morning early arrivals, Saturday morning breakfast ala Peter and Dennis, boat preparation in the afternoon, and a Bar-B-Que on the docks that evening. The main event takes place on Sunday, July 26th with boats on display at the docks and cars and all else on display in the park. Then, Sunday night, usually an "well done " party happens and maybe even some Rick Olson " mud slides " Cost for the entire weekend is a meager $30 . Contact Jim Butz @ 626-335-8843 or Cell 6326-513-3582 for Reservations and details It’s gonna be FUN !

**Long Beach SEAFEST**

August 1st - 3rd

Bring your boat and a smile and join us at the annual Long Beach SEAFEST held at Shoreline Village and Rainbow Harbor. This joint event with ACBS and Shoreline Yacht Club is always a winner. For more details:
Scott Robinson: (562)595-7408 or (562) 619-4016

**Marina Pacifica**

August 15th-16th

Relax in the calm clear waters of Marina Pacifica Channel. This kicked back weekend is one of everyone's favorites. Just read a book or polish up your social skills going boat to boat and enjoying the company of good friends. It's a good area for dinghy cruising in all the Bay's backwaters. Don't miss this Dog Days of Summer event.