



Compass Points

The Journal of the Arizona Yacht Club

May 2011 Compass Points

May 2, 2011 3:20 am

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- 2) Olympian Mark Reynolds Gives AYC a Perfect Day
- 3) Welcome New Members!
- 4) No May Membership Meeting - VOTE COUNT!
- 5) Eight Bells - Farewell Frank Bigelow
- 6) AZ High School Sailing Championship & ASF Picnic
- 7) Fleet of the Month - Thistle!



Congratulations AYC 2011 Fleet Champions

[CLICK HERE](#) for download

Olympian Mark Reynolds Gives AYC a Perfect Day

May 2, 2011 3:18 am

PHILIP FREEDMAN

The Perfect Day with Mark Reynolds;



So here I am in the desert away from the ocean and yet I am spending more time around sailing than I have in the last ten years. Coaching the Arizona State Sailing Team and learning about sailing in the desert has been something very special for me, but when I heard Mark Reynolds was coming to speak to our yacht club the wheels of time stopped. 25 years ago I was racing against Mark trying to make the US Olympic Team, and now, here he was coming out here to visit us in the Arizona desert!

Mark Reynolds is simply the sailor's sailor, as pure as it gets. Two Gold Medals, one Silver Medal and four trips to the Olympics. He is definitely one of the "big boys" of sailing.

On Tuesday April 12th my daughter Carina and I picked up Mark at the airport and brought him to the Tempe Town Lake marina where the ASU sailing team was waiting. The kids were thrilled - and a little nervous - to meet him. He spoke about his college sailing experiences and answered questions for almost an hour.



He explained the importance of having the boat ready to race including the sanding down to 600, polishing and finally the coating, and explained how hard the jib works and how it gets three times more wear than mainsail.

We took photos with everyone showed him the ASU campus and then were off to dinner with AYC Commodore Joe Motil and his wife. Over the course of dinner it became very clear how surprised Mark was at the active sailing community we have here. He said he had no idea this much sailing was going on in Arizona.

At the yacht club meeting Mark spoke for over an hour and you just knew that this was something very special. I have never watched everyone so on the edge of their seats at a club meeting. He talked about the Olympics, about working and sailing with his dad and Dennis Connor, Malin Burnham, Lowell North and many other stars of our sport.

It was especially interesting and exciting hearing how after being in eighth place after two days of racing in the 2000 Olympics he was still able to turn it around and win gold. Persistency wins!

Mark attributes much of his success to his sail design innovations and one of his loves is still sail making. He also remains active in the Star Class working with the International Olympic Committee to keep the Star Class sailboat in the Olympics.

After his presentation Mark took questions and signed posters for the kids, and it was truly breathtaking to see one of the great stars of sailing right there in the room with us all at that moment. Mark Reynolds at the Arizona Yacht Club. Truly we do have an amazing club, and for me, with all of you and Mark together, it was simply a perfect day.

Welcome New Members

May 2, 2011 3:17 am

Please welcome our newest members: Chad Cornell, Patrick Byrnes, Philip Freedman, Viviana Pinilla and Charley Laman, to the club.

Chad has been sailing his whole life and wants to get out on the water. He's interested in racing and in helping with club social events.

Pat Byrnes is the father of fellow club member and ASU sailor Gerald Byrnes. According to Patrick: "With a good chunk of my childhood spent on South Padre Island, TX, I grew up around power boaters, anglers, and beachcombers with a rare few trips on a sloop named "Traipsing." An attempt to become a sailor in college many years ago came to grief on congealed committee boat french fries at the Frozen Butt Regatta in Galveston Bay, so it wasn't until we moved to New Mexico that we bought our first boat. Since then, Carol Anne, Gerald, and I have done a bit of cruising and racing here and there from Texas to California. I've also served in office in the Rio Grande and New Mexico sailing clubs, helped teach some "Boating Basics" safety classes, and done regatta planning and committee boat work as a race officer. We're interested in exploring new horizons and would love to try out different boats and pick up some new skills. Our son Gerald no doubt is better known in the club than Carol Anne and I and has been having fun taking his ASU team to California a few times a year and helping with the high school program at TTL. He started sailing when he was nine and didn't take long to graduate to sailing with other racers and cruisers at Elephant Butte Lake in southern NM."

Viviana took the start sailing right class this Spring. She's interested in club equipment maintenance, selling club merchandise and helping the club with social events. She wants to get out and sail!

Philip Freedman started sailing at the age of 6 off of Balboa Island in Southern California where chocolate dipped frozen bananas are the mainstay. He has raced and taught sailing for over 50 years winning many events. After being a finalist in the 1988 US Olympic Trails in Star Boats he started and was CEO and skipper of the 1992 America's Cup Team Betsy Ross. His syndicate broke America's Cup tradition and history by being the 1st America's Cup team to name women onboard an America's Cup boat. He is the former owner of the America's Cup 12 meter AMERICA 2 US-42. While he owned the 12 meter America 2, his boat was renamed GERONIMO and was the winning boat in the sailing movie classic WIND starring Jennifer Grey, Matthew Modine, and Cliff Robertson in which he served as technical adviser. He is currently retired from USAirways and is the racing coach at Arizona State University in Tempe Arizona.

WELCOME!

No May Membership Meeting - VOTE COUNTING

May 2, 2011 3:16 am

Remember that May is Commodore's Celebration on May 14, and that the normal 2nd Tuesday General Membership meeting will not be held.

Instead, on Tuesday May 10, 2011 at 6pm the AYC 2011-2012 Election Ballots will be counted and for our new Board of Directors.

Formal induction of the new Board will be performed at the Commodore's Celebration.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER FOR THE COMMODORE'S BALL!](#)

Eight Bells - Farewell Frank Bigelow

May 2, 2011 3:15 am



Frank Bigelow — AYC Commodore 1989-90

Frank Bigelow

BORN: October 9, 1931 DIED: March 30, 2011

Frank was one of our few AYC "Honorary Life Members", an AYC member since 1959, AYC Commodore 1989-90, the man who was "Mr. AYC" to many of the club's long time members.

He passed away with his family at his bedside Wednesday March 30, 2011 due to complications from pneumonia.

CELEBRATION OF LIFE: Many long-time members of the Arizona Yacht Club joined with Frank's friends and family for a Celebration of Frank's life, attendees included Don Defreze, Tia Renshaw and Mike Yarnell, Joe Laux Jr., Tony and Phyllis Siros, Patty Rosky, Dave and Debbie Nowak, Steve and Angela Nahkala, Don and Faye Hueble, Al Lehman, Wayne and Dottie Tucker, Dennis Lynde, and in spirit, Frank Bigelow.

AZ High School Sailing Championship & ASF Picnic

May 2, 2011 3:11 am



Tom Ohlin, also an Honorary Life Member, recalls Frank for us....."Frank's dedication to the AYC over the last 50 years has been immeasurable. He was a friend and teacher to all that knew him. His Saturday night socials at his camper at the old Lake Pleasant ramp 2 were legendary.

Each Saturday night after much discussion of the day's races, and the arrival of darkness, we would break out the dice cup and a pen light to pursue the game of Liar's Dice; in the darkness (the guards thought we were crazy). Quite often on slow/large games Frank would take a cat nap between turns. One such night when the cup got around to Frank, he was abruptly woken and given the dice cup and pen light, which he immediately grabbed and began stirring his drink with it!



Another time, I was discussing with Frank the problems I had had sailing a sabot off the Rocky Point beaches. We always started into the wind (east or west) and by the time we were ready to head back to camp, the wind would reverse and we would have to beat back. Frank's solution to the problem; "sail downwind first, you might get two downwind legs".

Frank has received about every honor the AYC can bestow, and we still owe him more.

Frank; may you sail into a red sunset with the wind at your back.



The third double handed (two person) sailing championship was held in the east basin of Tempe Town Lake on Saturday April 16th 2011. Parents and friends cheered on their favorite sailors from the blue shade umbrellas on the north shore (just below the east basin condo development).

Alexia Lorch won with crew Scott Soethe. Alexia is a junior at Xavier College Preparatory and Scott attends Brophy College Preparatory. A perpetual trophy to display at the school of the skipper for half the time until next years race (the other half of the time to be displayed at the school of the crew) was presented after the races. Individual trophies were presented for the winners to keep.

Four boats sailed with eight students on board. The last two years had six boats racing in the championship. We hope to have more than six in 2012. Two races were held in the morning with very light wind. A one hour lunch break was taken before three twice around races in freshening afternoon breeze (6-8 MPH). Three different boats scored first place finishes. There was a chance for a lead change in the last race, but Alexia and Scott managed to hold off the competition in variable strength wind that was changing direction frequently.

FYI for next year....the race is NOT LIMITED TO ASF HS SAILING CLASS STUDENTS, however we're pleased to note that this year's winner was a student in 2010.

Information about High School Sailing Classes is available at <http://www.arizonayachtclub.org/Education/hsclass.shtml>

There are decorative blue shade umbrellas on the north shore (just below the east basin condo development) where many parents and siblings cheered.

As of now, unless some special Tempe event forces a date change, the 2012 championship will be held on Saturday April 22nd

2012.



AFTER THE RACING.....it was time to PIG OUT! The Arizona Sailing Foundation and Arizona Yacht Club joined together for a very nice Spring Picnic. High School Sailing Championship participants, Start Sailing Right spring class students and a menagerie of AYC members, families and friends enjoyed an afternoon of sun and sailing on the "Grassy Knoll".



Many thanks to ASF Board President John Mayall and his picnic team: Rick Lake, "Pig Master", Dave Christensen, "Grill Master", and Lisa Lake, Wendy Larsen and a host of other helping hands! Congratulations to ASF for ending the spring season in excellent fashion!

AYC 2010-2011 Fleet Champions

May 2, 2011 3:09 am

Over 400 races were run by the Arizona Yacht Club for the Fall and Spring Series....DESPITE having an empty TTL for half of the fall series.

Congratulations to all of the winning fleet champions.

- Buccaneer - Matt Davis
- Capri 14.2 - Mike Ferring
- Catalina 22 - Martin Lorch
- Laser - Mike Bernard
- Merit 25 - Roger Butterwick
- PHRF Non-Spin - Mike Ferring
- PHRF - Dave Christensen

- Portsmouth - Joe Motil
- Thistle - Skip Kempff
- Viper - Charles Kaye

The AYC Championship will be held May 7-8, 2011 at Tempe Town Lake. First horn for racing is at 11am. For more details see the 2011 Championship NOR

Fleet of the Month - Thistle!

May 2, 2011 3:08 am

The Thistle is a 17-foot open dinghy designed for racing and daysailing. The sail plan consists of a main, jib, and spinnaker. The large sail area makes the boat fast in most winds.

The original boats were built in the 1940's, constructed of wood and are still very competitive. Thistles are now built with fiberglass hulls, but still use wood for the rails and gratings. The boats are fast and beautiful.

The Thistle class is a national organization. It's broken into districts throughout the United States, each district made up of several fleets located in separate cities.



Thistle cluster elbows for room at the leeward mark. Photo: Chrisann Tortora

Fleet 127 (part of the Southern California District) in Phoenix, Arizona has 12 boats, including new boats built in 2000, older wooden boats, and everything in-between. Our skippers have just as wide a range of experience from novice to very experienced.

If you're interested in racing or daysailing please **Contact Fleet Captain** Trey Harlow for more information. Or click to the Thistle national site.

For Sale! Classified Ads!

May 2, 2011 3:07 am



Boat For Sale: Reigning four-time AYC PHRF Non-Spinnaker fleet champion, 1978 O'Day 25 *Melissa Kay*. Proven race winner plus commodious cruiser all in one, complete with bimini and barbeque. With fresh North radial-cut main, excellent North 100% jib, and highly dubious North 155 genoa. Harken traveler and jib tracks, adjustable backstay, Boomkicker, with halyards and vang led to the cockpit. 4hp, 4-stroke outboard. Well maintained. \$5995 or best offer. Available for viewing and purchase at the Sail Boat Shop 928.501.7245. Questions: Mike Ferring, day 602.257.0141 or mike@ferrings.com.

Boat For Sale: A fast, easy to launch 2003 Capri 22, "Kicks". Fully equipped to race [incl. spinnaker gear] or cruise. Full inside/outside cushions, stainless BBQ, etc... \$ 15,000.00. Boat is in A1 condition and can be seen at the "Sailboat Shop": Call Tom at 928-501-7245.

VALLEY MARINE

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