

## Water Fronts for April 15

A pair of racing sailors were honored during opening day ceremonies last weekend.

Deke Klatt was inducted into Ventura Yacht Club's Helm of Fame on Saturday. On Sunday, Tim Haapanen was awarded the Association of Santa Barbara Channel Yacht Clubs high point trophy during ceremonies at Channel Islands Yacht Club.

Klatt, a sailmaker for Gary Swenson's Ullman Sails loft at Ventura Harbor, became the third recipient of the Helm of Fame Award. Earlier recipients were P.K. Edwards, who is still winning major ocean races as an octogenarian, and Bill and Jean Crew who have circumnavigated the world in their 60-foot sailboat, Pelican Express.

Klatt began sailing Sabots as a 10-year old. Some 40-plus years later, he has won just about every race in the area as well as many regional and national titles, including The J-24 North American Championships, the Western Regionals, SCYA Midwinters and numerous Fleet 145 Championships. Last year during the Ventura Cup he skippered the Zap 26, Angry Hillbillies to victories in all three races to help Ventura Yacht Club retain the Cup.

"He is a mentor and loves to share his knowledge with the kids on sabots and Lasers and adults on racing and cruising boats," said Staff Commodore Jeff Stansfield in presenting the award. "Most of all he is humble about his accomplishments, he believes that he is only as good as the crew he races with and routinely gives the credit to them."

Stansfield, as junior staff commodore of ASBCYC, also had the privilege of presenting the ASBCYC high points award on Sunday to Haapanen.

Haapanen skippered his Catalina 27, Sisu, to both the County and ASBCYC high point championships last season. He won the county title by a narrow 4 points over Angry Hillbillies, owned by Paul Moore and co-skippered by Klatt.

Haapanen comes from a family of sailors going back to his grandfather in Finland. He bought Sisu in 1995 with the idea of using it for fishing and cruising and to race her someday. He obviously did that quite well in 2009. Haapanen gave the boat a "Finish" name, which roughly translated means "special strength and stubborn determination".

In addition to VYC and CIYC, other local yacht clubs celebrating opening days last weekend were Anacapa, Harbour Island, Navy Yacht Club Channel Islands, Pacific Corinthian and Pierpont Bay.

### SOLID BOX:

County High Point Standings:

Out Patient, Cal 29, Randy Alcorn, 47; Tortoise, J-24, Whisenhunt & Baum, 33; Angry Hillbillies, Olson 30, Moore & Klatt, 32; XS, Mull 30, Gene Beville, 29; Funatic, Choate 48, Rod Abbott, 28; Breezy, Catalina 27, Chris Johnston, 22; Perfect Balance, Olson 30, Richard Sharpe, 20; Veler, Islander 29, Brent Swanson, 19; Jaded 18; Rival 18; Majic Dragon 15; Quiet Times 15; Paradise Found 14; Zuma Jay 13; R Escape 12; Maine Squeeze 10.

### SOLID BOX:

Upcoming sailboat races:

-- Sunday, April 18, VYC Regatta. This is the second in a three-regatta series hosted by Ventura Yacht Club. There will be a J-24 class, a PHRF spinnaker class and a PHRF non-spinnaker class. Three races are planned in the vicinity of the Mandalay buoy. Entry fee is \$20. Skippers meeting is at 8:30. Racing begins at 11. For more information, contact Stan Whisenhunt at (805) 659-1464 or e-mail at [Swhisenhun@aol.com](mailto:Swhisenhun@aol.com).

-- Saturday, May 1, Port Royal Regatta. Hosted by Channel Islands Yacht Club, this regatta will feature a buoy course and a random leg course. There will be PHRF spinnaker and non-spinnaker classes. The entry fee is \$30 (\$25 for U.S. Sailing members). Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. and the skippers meeting will be at 9. Racing begins at noon in the vicinity of the Mandalay buoy. Four races are planned for the spinnaker and non-spinnaker classes. One race is planned for the cruising class.

### SOLID BOX:

2010 ocean sailboat racing schedule:

April 18, VYC, PHRF & J-24 Regatta Series 2.

April 17-18, AYC, Channel Islands to Newport Beach

May 1, CIYC, Port Royal Regatta, PHRF & J-24.

May 5, AYC, Wet Wednesday Series begins (thru Sept. 29).

May 5, VYC, Wet Wednesday Series begins (thru Sept. 8).

May 8, PCYC, VCORC Random Leg, PacCorCup 2.

May 15, PBYC/SBSC, Hardway Race (Island Series 1). (Double points).

(Fax your race announcements, results and other information to Stan Whisenhunt at 659-3058 or call him at 659-1464.

His e-mail address is [Swhisenhun@aol.com](mailto:Swhisenhun@aol.com)).