

Water Fronts for Dec. 23

The year's top sailboat on the Gold Coast was Angry Hillbillies, an Olson 30 owned by Paul Moore and co-skipped by Deke Klatt. The two Ventura Yacht Club sailors had an awesome year, capping it off by winning the Association of Santa Barbara Channel Yacht Clubs high point championship by a single point. They took Angry Hillbillies to Santa Barbara for the Holiday Regatta and scored 3 points to win the high points championship by a single point, even though they sailed in two fewer events than the second place boat.

Moore and Klatt placed second in the Ventura County High Point Standings, mainly because they sailed in less than half as many races as the champion. They also placed second in the county standings in 2009, sailing a different Angry Hillbillies, a Zapp 26. They will be presented the ASBCYC high points trophy at Ventura Yacht Club's Opening Day ceremonies on April 2.

Hillbillies won the ASBCYC series with 40 points, while sailing in five of the eight races. They finished one point ahead of Out Patient, a Cal 29 skippered by Randy Alcorn of Anacapa Yacht Club. Out Patient sailed in seven races.

Hillbillies placed second in the County High Point Standings behind Out Patient, scoring 138 points in 15 races, to 185 points in 34 races for Out Patient. Klatt & Moore also campaigned Klatt's J-24, Jaded, and they scored 60 points in nine races. Combining Hillbillies and Jaded, Moore and Klatt scored 198 points in 24 races.

Angry Hillbillies, in addition to winning ASBCYC and placing second in the County High Point Standings, won its class while helping VYC win the Ventura Cup; won its class in the Spring Series; won its class in the McCune Memorial Race; won PCYC's Pacific Corinthian Cup; won AYC's Anacapa Island Series; won AYC's Platform A Race; placed second in class in the Milt Ingram Race just 2 seconds behind Dr. Laura Schlessinger's Perfect; won AYC's Wes Golemon Race; won PBYC's Tri Point Race; and won 2 races in the Two Harbor Fall Series while placing second in the series.

The Olson 30 is the third Angry Hillbillies that Moore has owned and raced with Klatt. He owned a J-24 named Angry Hillbillies in 2007.

"I have had many boats, but only one wife," said Moore. He currently owns a Wilderness 21 called Tijuana Taxi, in addition to Angry Hillbillies, and has previously owned an F-27 and Cal 20 in addition to the Zapp 26 and J-24. No one can accuse Moore of not helping the boating industry economy.

Moore, who owns his own metal fabrication business, lives in Ojai with his wife, Lauri, daughters Chelsea and Lisee and nephew Matt.

Klatt, who is single and works as a sailmaker for Gary Swenson's Ullman Sails loft at the harbor, lives in Oxnard. Moore has been sailing for eight years, while Klatt has been sailing for more than 40.

Their regular crew on the latest Angry Hillbillies consists of Jay Cook, Lisa Renshaw, Sam Martin and Taylor Lewis.

Moore said his two proudest achievements in 2010 were "surviving Anacapa to port, blowing in the mid to high 30s was a wild day." He also cited crewing for Klatt on Jaded as they won the J-24 Audi Cup Regatta in Dana Point.

"I am proud of the team we have built over the years," Moore said. "Everybody has put in a tremendous effort. What can you say about Deke who is a great sailor-racer, very competitive and motivates everyone to do the best they can, all with a good sense of humor, not matter the outcome." The outcome on Angry Hillbillies, more often than not, has been a victory.

ASBCYC Top 10

1—Angry Hillbillies, Moore & Klatt, VYC, 40; 2—Out Patient, Randy Alcorn, AYC, 39; 3—XS, Gene Beville, AYC, 31; 4—Veler, Brent Swanson, CIYC, 26; 5—Colt 45, Dan Chepley, VYC, 22; 6—Breezy, Chris Johnston, VSC, 21; 7—R Escape, Verne Haller, PBYC, 20; 8—Pangea, Mike Leary & Dena Mercer, VYC, 19; 9T—Double Down, Brian Kerr, PBYC, 18; 9T—Paradise Found, Jim Albert, VYC, 18.

Others

Perfect 16, Uhambo 16, Tortoise 15, Honukai 13, Jaded 13, Zuma Jay 12, No Regrets 12, Superluminal 11, Blue Star 10, Funatic 10, Sunny Girl 10.

SOLID BOX:

Upcoming Sailboat Races

* Saturday, Jan. 15, VYC Regatta Series 1. This is the first of three regattas in a series, hosted by Ventura Yacht Club for J-24s and PHRF spinnaker and non-spinnaker boats. The next two regattas are on April 9 and Sept. 10. Skippers can enter the whole series or individual regattas. Skippers meetings are at 8:30 a.m. on race days and racing begins at 11. Entry fee for the series is \$60. Entry fee for individual regattas is \$25. There is a discount for early entries. Entry forms can be found on the VYC website at venturayachtclub.org. For more information, contact race chair Stan Whisenhunt at 659-1464 or e-mail him at Swhisenhun@aol.com.

SOLID BOX:

2011 ocean sailboat racing schedule

Jan. 9, AYC/PCYC, TGIS Series 1.

Jan. 15, VYC, PHRF & J-24 regatta (J-24 Series)

Jan. 23, PCYC, Race Management Seminar

Jan. 30, AYC/PCYC, TGIS Series 2.

Feb. 12, PBYC, Spring Series 1

Feb. 19-20, CIYC, Midwinters (Double points; J-24 Series)

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.