

Water Fronts for Feb. 25

Susan Taylor of California Yacht Club isn't much bigger than a winch handle but she casts a large shadow on the racing scene. Taylor brought Take Five from Marina Del Rey over the weekend and won the J-24 class in the Southern California Yachting Association's Midwinter Regatta, hosted by Channel Islands Yacht Club.

Taylor prevailed by two points over Ventura County's top J-24 sailor Deke Klatt of Ventura Yacht Club and Santa Barbara Yacht Club's Pat Toole, in the four race regatta. Additional races were scheduled for Sunday but stormy conditions caused the race committee to cancel the second day of sailing. There were also PHRF spinnaker and non-spinnaker classes, which sailed a single 12 mile race on Saturday. Shelly Johnson of Channel Islands Yacht Club won the PHRF spinnaker class in Zoarces, while Randy Alcorn took the non-spinnaker class in Out Patient. Just 12 seconds behind Out Patient on corrected time was Kevin Dickmann's Cal 25, Zuma Jay. Nine J-24s battled it out, with two boats from Marina Del Rey, two from Santa Barbara Harbor and one from Las Vegas, in addition to four boats from Ventura Yacht Club.

Taylor got off to a shakey start finishing fourth in the opening race behind 3 Big Dogs, Tortoise and Jaded in that order. Then then won the second and fourth races and prevailed by two points over Jaded and 3 Big Dogs and four points over Tortoise. The four boats battled it all all day Saturday, with Taylor prevailing. She is so small that she was able to have a crew of six and still be under the 880 pound J-24 crew weight limit. Klatt, after third and fourth place finishes aboard Jaded in the first two races, stormed back for a victory in the third race and lost to Taylor by just 3 seconds in the final race. Another race winner was Pat Toole of Santa Barbara Yacht Club who took the opening race in 3 Big Dogs. Toole was leading the third race with Tortoise close behind and Jaded and Take Five a fair distance behind. A huge wind shift reversed the positions with Toole and Tortoise slipping to third and fourth, while Jaded and Take five snatched first and second. The PHRF boats sailed a course around the weather mark and oil rig Gina and back to the finish. The fastest boat on the water in the PHRF class was Brian Kerr's J-92, Double Down, while sailed the course in 2 hours, 2 minutes, 22 seconds, while correcting out to second place. Just 15 seconds behind on elapsed time was Harry Krum's Beneteau 38, Fusee.

Results:

J-24 Class: 1—Take Five, Susan Taylor, Marina Del Rey (4-1-2-1); 2—Jaded, Deke Klatt, VYC (3-4-1-2); 3—3 Big Dogs, Pat Toole, SBYC (1-2-3-4); 4—Tortoise, Whisenhunt & Baum, VYC (2-3-4-3); 5—Blue J, Cecile Schwedes, VYC (7-6-6-5); 6—Geraldine, Daniel Tierney, Santa Barbara (5-5-10-6); 7—Slippery When Wet, Pierson Jacquelin, Marina Del Rey (6-8-7-9); 8—Platinum, Jim Rosaschi, Las Vegas, (8-7-8-7); 9—Radio Flyer, Carlos Brea, VYC (9-9-5-8).

PHRF spinnaker: 1—Zoarces, Shelly Johnson, 1:37:59; 2—Double Down, Brian Kerr, 1:44:22; 3—Paradise Found, Jim Albert, 1:44:58.

Non-spinnaker: 1—Out Patient, Randy Alcorn, 1:31:03; 2—Zuma Jay, Kevin Dickmann, 1:31:15; 3—Velero, Brent Swanson, 1:32:35; 4—Breezy, Chris Johnstan, 1:38:27; 5—Fusee, Harry Krum, 1:41:01; 6—Quiet Times, Tom Warshauer, 1:54:50.

SOLID BOX:

The U.S. Coast Guard Auxillary will have a two-day sailing skills and seamanship course March 21 and 22. The classes will be from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. both days at the Coast Guard Recruiting Center, 4202 Victoria Avenue at Channel Islands Harbor. The fee is \$60 per person (or \$100 for two people), which includes a light lunch and the 2008 Coast Guard Sailing Skills and Seamanship book. For more information, contact Jeff Berry at 607-5235 or Neptune22@verizon.net or Bob McCord at 653-6020 or RLMcCord@sbcglobal.net.

SOLID BOX:

County High Point Standings:

Out Patient, Cal 29, Randy Alcorn, 20; Tortoise, J-24, Whisenhunt & Baum, 19; Jaded, J-24, Deke Klatt, 18; Velero, Islander 29, Brent Swanson, 15; Breezy, Catalina 27, Chris Johnstan, 10; Blue J, J-24, Cecile Schwedes, 9; Angry Hillbillies, Olson 30, Moore & Klatt, 8; R Escape, Catalina 320, Verne Haller, 8; Rival, J-35, Velthoen, Boatner & DeFreitas, 7; Fusee 6, XS 6, USA 3324 Ryan Cox 5, Funatic 5, Quiet Times 5, Zoarces 5, Majic Dragon 5.

SOLID BOX:

Upcoming sailboat races:

* Saturday, Feb. 27, PBYC Spring Series 2. This popular three race series is hosted by Pierpont Bay Yacht Club. The final race will be March 20. The skippers meeting for each race is at 8:30 a.m. and racing starts at 11 in the vicinity of the Mandalay buoy. All finishes will be in the Ventura Harbor entrance channel. Entry fee for individual races is \$30 (\$25 for USSA members). For more information, contact Richard Countess at (818) 889-2669 or at Rcountess@aol.com.

* Saturday, March 13, AYC Saint Patrick's Day Race. This race will be followed by a corned beef and cabbage dinner. One crew member from each racing boat will be treated to a free dinner. The skippers meeting is at 8:30. Racing will begin at 11 a.m. in the vicinity of the Mandalay buoy. Entry fee is \$35. For more information, contact Gene Beville at 985-7921.

SOLID BOX:

2010 ocean sailboat racing schedule:

Feb. 27, PBYC, Spring Series 2

Feb. 28, PCYC, Racing Rules Seminar

March 13, AYC, St. Patrick's Day Race

March 14, PCYC, Regional Training Race

March 20, PBYC, Spring Series 3

March 27, PCYC, McCune Race, PacCorCup 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).