

WIND WORDS

Newsletter of the Convair Sailing Club

December • 2024

Introducing the 2025 Convair Sailing Club Board of Directors!

Commodore.....	Tracy Williams
Vice Commodore.....	<i>Open</i>
Rear Commodore.....	John Hysler
Junior Staff Commodore.....	Sandy Leon
Secretary.....	Bob Keefe
Treasurer.....	Omar Del Rio
Director.....	Paul Feldon
Director.....	Rajeev Jain
Director.....	Tom Bedford
Fleet Captain.....	Tom Bedford
Port Captain.....	Mark Sutton
Chief of Racing.....	Sandy Leon
Chief of Instruction.....	John Hysler
Chief of Communications.....	Jeff Nelson
Registrar.....	Rajeev Jain
Membership Chairman.....	Tom Bedford
Chief of Checkout - Ensign.....	Paul Feldon
Chief of Checkout - Victory.....	<i>Open</i>

2024 Board of Directors. Thank you for your leadership.



Bill Burch, Robert Skillings, Rich Gadek, Tracy Williams, Jeff Nelson, John Hysler, Paul Feldon, Sandy Leon, Louis Swanepoel and Tom Bedford

2025 Board of Directors. Thank you for stepping up.



Sandy Leon, Rajeev Jain, Tom Bedford, Tracy Williams, Paul Feldon, John Hysler, and Omar Del Rio

Convair Holiday Party

This year's Holiday Party was attended by over 40 club members and family. Trophies were awarded, people were thanked and the Board of Directors for 2025 was sworn in.

Sandy Leon for the introduction of the outgoing 2024 Board (see photo above). This was followed by the introduction and swearing in of the 2025 Board's voting members.



Registration Day Coming Up In January

Registration Day is Saturday, January 18th at the HIWM poolside from 10:00 AM to Noon with coffee and donuts.

Dues for 2025 will be \$950 plus a \$450 special assessment. Bring your signed application, your old key and a check or cash for your payment. 📄



The dining hall was packed! People got a chance to visit and get introduced to family members they don't always see on the boats. After lunch, MC Terry Edlund made some opening comments and turned the microphone over to Commodore



Newly elected Director and Chief of Ensign Checkout Paul Feldon received the *Shotwell Trophy* for *Sailor of the Year* for 2024. Paul receives this honor for his countless hours of service to the club, including everything from leader-

Continued on Page 6, Column 1.



Work Party Services Entire Fleet.

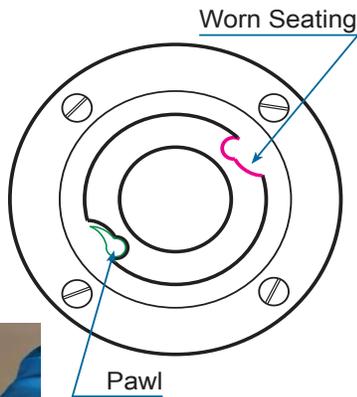
What Do You Need Me To Do?



Above: The Work Party assembles and receives assignments from Dock Master Tom Bedford. For some, it was their first experience with fleet maintenance. .



An example of a challenging task is Winch maintenance. The winch is under a lot of pressure to supply leverage and it relies on a surprisingly small part to do it. Replacing worn pawls and springs is a tricky task.



It was a fantastic turnout on Sunday, October 29th for the CSC Work Party. They accomplished a tremendous amount:

- Engine crankcase and gear oils were changed.
- All the primary winches were serviced.
- Safety items were checked.
- Standing and running rigging was checked.
- Topsides were cleaned.

“We could not have done this without the support of this super team.” said Dock Master Tom Bedford, who planned the event. “We plan to have these events every quarter. Look for the next one coming up in January.”

“We will have a few smaller events before the end of the year to do some additional topside cleaning and needed rigging upgrades.” Let Tom know if you are interested <tombedford@san.rr.com>.

Sunday’s Great Attendees:

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Bob Ceravantes | Kim Reece |
| Bob Lewis | Mark Sutton |
| Craig Unger | Michael Schneider |
| Dan Battisti | Omar Del Rio |
| Dan Hildebrand | Paul Feldon |
| Elizabeth Komives | Sandy Leon |
| Hans Klein | Stepania Alucino |
| Harry Smith | Steven Forbes |
| Hector Smith | Sue Macdonald |
| James Condon | Tom Bedford |
| Jeff Strickfaden | Tracy Williams |

Simple Fix

This small connector broke on the E 2 main. It took about 10 minutes to unscrew the broken part and thread a replacement into the channel on the mast. The hardest part was reconnecting the boom to the mast. 

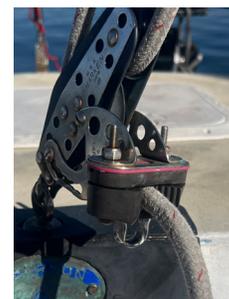


Not So Simple Fix



Tom Bedford and Paul Feldon spent the better part of a day reinstalling the lower section of an outboard engine. The tricky part is lining up the transmission linkage which has to pass through several tight spaces on its way to the motor. It was like a 3D puzzle assembled with needle nose pliers. It even required pulling on the starter rope to align the drive shaft. 

Prevent A Future Fix



Leaving the main sheet in the cleat while docked (as shown here) shortens the useful life of springs in the mechanism.

The boom is already secured to the backstay. Leave it uncleated.

Sailboat Plays “Chicken” With USS Nimitz.



These images were taken from a video shot from the E1122.

The USS Nimitz was cruising west along North Island. The sailboat on the left was sailing directly toward her bow when a Navy patrol boat intervened.

How close are they? Look at the relative size of the people on the sailboat and the sailors on the deck of the Nimitz.



The E 1122 was prepping for a spinnaker run when they sighted the USS Nimitz approaching from about a quarter mile away on the port side. “They were pretty far off to port but we didn’t think it was a good idea to launch the spinnaker anywhere near a Naval movement” said *Menace to Navigation* Jeff Nelson. “I decided to take a video just for fun.”

We all looked on in amazement as a 30’ sloop continued forward into the path of the aircraft carrier. In the

video, a Navy patrol boat (*positioned at right angles to the bow of the sloop*) can be seen with lights flashing, speeding toward the sailboat as the distance between it and the Nimitz rapidly closed. You can see from this frame that they are less than ten boat-lengths from the bow of the warship when they comply.

During the remainder of the encounter, the patrol boat took no chances, escorting them until they were well into the Nimitz’s wake. 

Couple Departs Dock For What Turns Out To Be Excellent Conditions



Sylvia and Jeff depart on second sailing trip.

Twice last month Sylvia Hom, and Jeff Nelson, set sail and enjoyed some of the best sailing conditions the bay offered this year. Sunny and not too cold, winds at 6 to 8 Kts.

On their first sail they headed straight toward downtown San Diego. They had planned to tie-up at the municipal slip on the Embarcadero for lunch, but a cabin cruiser filled with twenty-year olds

Continued on Page 4, Column 3.

Anyone Hungry?

In the August *WindWords* (Pg. 4 Col. 1) we reminded CSC members not to tie up at the Peohé's restaurant because the docks are not designed for our boats. It seems only fair that we should investigate alternative locations.

The *WindWords* Epicurean Department volunteered it's staff to engage in this important research, investigating a series of CSC Compatible Bay Dining Experience. This month we voyaged all the way to the City of San Diego on the far reaches of the bay to the municipal dock on the Embarcadero! This dock is centrally located near a number of



The municipal dock is located at the end of a bay side complex that houses the Brigantine, Portside Pier, Docksides Grill and Miguel's Cocina. There is an amazing assortment of other restaurants within easy walking distance.

restaurants. The dock can accommodate about four of our boats. We approached by making a slow circle toward the dock from the southwest and coming around to face out for



We were the only boat there.



The dock is a bit more popular on Saturday.

a quick getaway. There is a staircase up to the outdoor deck of the Katch Grill, where we chose to eat. (It was close by, the clock was running on our Ensign sign-out and the *WindWords* editor is kind of a pain about "official business lunches").

WindWords Executive Chief Rajeev Jain chose the menu items while Fermented Beverage Expert Tom Bedford selected from the extensive taps. Service was fast and the food was excellent. We sailed away in under an hour. The rigorous demands of our study may force us to return to this location for further research. We have a responsibility to our readers which we take very seriously. 🦋



Continued from Page 3, Column 3.

was staging Instagram shots in front of Miguel's Cocina and effectively blocking them from docking.

"After several attempts we decided to keep sailing". The trip back to Harbor Island, via parts of the southwest end of the bay, offered better winds (8 to 10 Kts.) and heeling of 18 to 20°. "It was a perfect day for sailing. After a few minutes we were happy we hadn't docked." The wind conditions were the kind you hope for on a race day.



Sylvia at the helm of the E 192 with its new extra strength tiller.

Sylvia learned to sail at the Mission Bay Aquatic Center back in her college days. It all came back to her right away and she had no problem tacking west toward Shelter Island. We spent some time sailing out toward Ballast Point and North Island. "We stayed out later than planned because the conditions were so ideal."

The second outing was two weeks later. Amazingly the conditions were even better! This time they sailed the E 2. They found it tied up on the outside dock where the E 722 normally resides. Pulling up to the outside dock is something that has to be experienced to be appreciated, involving a 180° turn **after** you

Continued from Page 5, Column 1.

Alex Leondis Funeral

Long-time CSC member Alex Leondis was laid to rest along with his wife Marny, at Miramar National Cemetery on Nov. 25. In attendance were CSC's current and elect Commodores Sandy Leon and Tracy William and a large contingent of club members.



Lisa receiving the flag from the US Navy Honor Guard

The eulogy was given by his daughter Lisa. He received military honors which included a presentation the flag and a playing of Taps by a

duet consisting of Navy and Marine Honor Guards.

Lisa's eulogy described a long life dedicated to service in the Navy, to the communities in which he lived and most of all to his family. *R*



Continued from Page 4, Column 3.

enter the marina. Tom Bedford and Rajeev Jain helped with the launch and graciously agreed to move boats around to free up inside dock space to provide an easier place for them to return.

The wind conditions got better all day and the E 2 glided over the water no matter which direction they sailed. By 3:45 the water was showing white caps and they decided to call it a day. *R*



Jeff & Sylvia sailing to San Diego in the E 2

November Victory Race Standings.

Skipper	Place	Points
Sandy Leon	1	23
Ryan Drobek	2	36
Peter Wells	3	42
Bruce / Robert	4	48
Terry Edlund	4	48
John K / Joe R	6	61
James Walker	7	69
Craig Unger	8	70
Dan Battiste	9	86
Tom Bedford	10	87
Fred MacDougall	11	91
Joe Curran	12	103
Doug Bass	13	111
Gregory Herbster	14	114
Jack Cabeen	15	115
Greg Roberts	16	119
Tabor's Pirates	17	124
Hugo Day	18	126
Bob Lewis	19	149
Omar & Amy	20	154
Rajeev Jain	21	158
Mark Baker (MBC)	22	187
Kim Carter (MBC)	23	188
Fernando Valera	24	191
J Otto / D Gayon	25	199

Helpful Info.

Convair Web Site:

<https://convairsailingclub.com/contact/>

Convair Sailing Club on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/ConvairSailing>

Convair Address:

Convair Sailing Club
P.O. Box 22981
San Diego, CA 92192-2981

Coast Guard Safety:

<http://www.uscgboating.org> *R*

Lost & Found



This container and shirt were found on one of the boats. They are in the dock-side box. *R*

If you have a story you'd like to see in *WindWords*, text to 760-533-8706. *R*

Continued from Page 1, Column 3.

ship positions to getting his hands dirty and bringing his considerable experience to repairing boats on an ongoing basis.

Then we got a rare glimpse of the Yacht Ayeea Trophy when it was awarded to Tom Bedford. The



Tom Bedford accepting the Yacht Ayeea Trophy, awarded to club members who win a Victory race within six months of qualifying to sail them.

Trophy goes to a member who is able to win a Victory race within six months of qualifying to sail it. Since this does not happen every racing season, the trophy may not be won for years at a time. "I found out about it at the Christmas Party", said Bedford in an exclusive interview with WindWords. "I'd qualified two months ago! I only had four months left!"



Sandy Leon received the Dorsey Cup for the Victory Ocean Race.

The Victory Team Race was run in December. The results were recorded just in time for the Holiday Party presentation. The Team Race is more complex than most races. The results are based on the skill of the sailors and the coordination of actions between boats on the same team. Terry

Accepting the Frank Anthony Team Trophy are Robert Skillings, Terry Edlund and Tom Bedford. Doug Diepholz, Fernando Valera and Jeff Strickfaden were not in attendance.



Edlund's team won. We will attempt to explain the Team Race in the next issue of WindWords.



Sailor of the Year Paul Feldon receiving the Shotwell Trophy

Sandy Leon's persistence and skill paid off again this year, earning him the Convair Cup.



The Convair Cup for Victory Racing went to Sandy Leon.



Frank Long accepting the Ensign Ocean Race Perpetual Trophy.

Frank Long had a stunning victory in the Ensign Ocean Race in November. He and Craig Unger were one crew member short

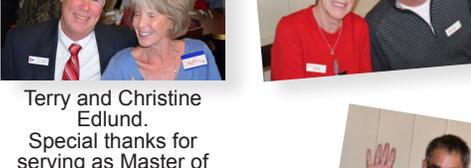
in a race that *relies* on spinnakers. And WindWords just learned that they had a detached boom which they had lashed to the mast before the race!

Terry Edlund dominated most of the 2024 Ensign racing calendar with the exception of July 20th where E 192 received a 6 out of the field of 6 boats. Observers were quick to point out that this was simply because *he did not sail that day.*



Terry Edlund receiving the Ensign Point Series Perpetual Trophy with teammate John Hysler

And To Everyone, Thanks For Attending!



Terry and Christine Edlund. Special thanks for serving as Master of Ceremonies!

