

# WIND WORDS

Newsletter of the Convair Sailing Club

April • 2025

## Commodore's Corner



Dear CSC Sailors,

I'd like to encourage you to RSVP and join our **Opening Day BBQ** on Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup>. It will be fun to see everyone, and the BOD members and I are very much hoping to see you there. We have a more intimate, active sailing membership now and it's important that we use these opportunities to get to know each other better -- even those rival racers we come up against! *And in this case, there really is such a thing as a Free Lunch!*

You may have noticed that improvements are underway on some of the fleet - mainly in the area of painting and varnishing. Often this work needs to be done in workable chunks, so please forgive the inconvenience if the boat you wish to sail is marked Do Not Sail due to painting or other repairs. Improving the condition of our fleet, both visually and performance-wise is a focus area this year.

As you know, the marina will begin its renewal this year. It'll be a multi-year project and we are working closely with the marina office to ensure that our members' needs are contemplated as the construction begins. The good news is that there is a plan to keep our boats in the 1100 docks away from some of the initial

*Continued on Page 5, Column 1.*

## Ensign Race Has Photo Finish

March 15<sup>th</sup> was a big day for sailing on San Diego Bay. The Ensigns raced Course B along Shelter Island from the G17 to the R20, a good idea because there were a slew of boats racing in the space used by Course A. One regatta was comprised of teenagers, and they must have had 50 boats sailing in front of Tom Ham's. There was at least one race of 50' sailboats (*more on that later*).

The start was rotated 90° so the boats could head into the wind. This had the impact of clustering the boats closer together toward the start of the race. As they headed southwest they spread out with the

*Continued on Page 5, Column 1.*

*Race Results and Standings on Page 4, Column 2.*



## March Victory Race

The March race involved two races on Saturday March 1<sup>st</sup>, one at 10:30 AM and the other at 1:30 in the afternoon.

*Results and Standings on Page 4, Column 1.*

## Ensign Free On The Bay Concert Series!



The *Ensign Social Club*, in coordination with the *Rady Shell*\* announces its 2025 **Free Concert On The Bay Sailing Adventure!** The Club is currently accepting suggestions on which concerts to include in its 2025 series!

\*LEGAL NOTICE: Rady Shell Management flatly denies any affiliation with the Convair Ensign Social Club or its members. When asked for comment they said, "I wish they'd stop it RIGHT NOW!"

Convair Sailing Club members are encouraged to view the schedule on page 6 and **click the link to vote** for their preferred concert. Ensign Social Club Senior Management will take these suggestions into consideration when deciding which concerts to sail to.

Here's how it works: Once concerts are selected, members can sign up to attend. We will sail to the concert and anchor just south of the Shell's stage and enjoy the show. We expect to bring more than one Ensign and

*Continued on Page 6, Column 2.*

# Are You Sure We're Doing This Right?

## April Work Party Scheduled. Two Days To Choose From.

Please join us if you have time. Two events are scheduled: one event on the weekend and one during the week.

Here's the schedule for the April Maintenance events:

**Saturday April 5<sup>th</sup>,**  
10:00 AM – 1:00 PM.

General maintenance. We will go through the Victory and Ensign logbook and fix open items; Rigging, sails, engine, etc.

**Friday April 18<sup>th</sup>**  
11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Top off the Ensign fuel tanks and do a visual check of the motors and fuel system

Boat captains are welcome to join in. **If there is anything specific that your boat needs let us know.** 🐾

## Upgrades To The Fleet Continue In March.

One of the big commitments we made for 2025 was to improve the condition and appearance of our boats. Work on the E 2 began with deck painting but an overall assessment showed that woodwork, seat repairs, a new gas tank frame and some hardware issues would have to be addressed before painting could continue.

In early March, work began on the restoration of the E 2.  
Boat Captains are looking at the work that needs to be done to the fleet since the BOD committed to upgrading their overall condition above and below the waterline.

## New Line Cutter



Fleet Captain Tom Bedford received a line cutter as a gift and immediately donated it to Convair. That weekend he built a box so it could

be stowed while it's still hot. When cutting a line, both the cord and the cutter have hot liquid nylon on them. It's nice to have a place to stow the cutter while you deal with the line. You can also use the side of the box as a work surface. 🐾



A weakness in the starboard bench was also discovered on the E 453 by the Fleet Captain while sailing on Wednesday the 19<sup>th</sup>. He assigned repair to the person seated on the bench\*. Repairs to the seat support were completed on the 26<sup>th</sup>.

As was reported in the March WindWords, repairs to the boom on the E 722 were completed in advance of the March race. Frank Long installed it that week.



Above: newly painted fore-deck on the E 2  
Below: replacement of a damaged seat support.

Installation of an automatic, solar powered sump pump on the E 323 is ongoing.

Each repair and restoration we do brings us closer to a fleet we can all proud of. 🐾

\*The person who conducted the repairs insisted that the seat was **already broken** when he sat on it.



## WindWords Apologizes To Paul Feldon


The March issue of *WindWords* ran a photo with a caption which suggested that Paul Feldon, former Fleet Captain and current CSC Board member, was seen removing proprietary racing information from the E 722 during a work party organized by his team member Tom Bedford.

Though it is well known that the E 722 sailed to victory in the 2024 Ocean Race, few noticed that they did so by passing Feldon and his crew on the E 323 in the final leg!

**The offending caption and inaccurately interpreted photo appear below.**



The repairs were done by E323 Boat Captain Paul Feldon, seen here departing the E722 with what appears to be Frank Long's Race Playbook.

On closer examination, it is clear that Dr. Feldon is, in fact, disembarking from the E 323, though it's unclear why he would be removing secret race plans from his own boat. The *WindWords* Editor formally apologized to Dr. Feldon on March 15<sup>th</sup> and agreed to print this retraction. 


*The WindWords editor was relieved of his position and asked to vacate his office in the WindWords Tower. A spokesperson for the publication said, "We're hoping to put this whole issue behind us."*

## A Simpler Time...

Convair Sailing Club used to be located right next to the US Coast Guard station just east of Harbor Island. In this shot you can see five of our Victory boats and a single Ensign. This location served the club when it was part of General Dynamics but, as you can see, it would not be large enough to serve our current needs, even if it was still there. Judging from the photo there is only space for about five additional sailboats.

You can also see the *Reuben E. Lee* docked at the end of Harbor Island. It served as a landmark restaurant for decades, but the *Lee* was not a real ship. It was originally a movie set. The holding company that leased that end of Harbor Island "sold" the *Reuben E. Lee*. According to them, "We were worried that it would sink as it was being moved. The buyer put it at a dock some-



where in San Diego Harbor with the intent to rebuild it. Before they could do so, it sank. And when I say 'buyer', we paid them to take it away". 




The *Reuben E. Lee*, Convair Sailing Club's neighbor of many years. Check out that San Diego skyline in the background!

## New Victory Checkout

Convair welcomes Jack Cohen to the fleet. He joined last July and completed his Victory training and check out on March 15<sup>th</sup>.

His son Jack crewed for him during his check-out. It was a challenging day. In addition to the Ensign Race there was a massive competition taking



place in front of Tom Ham's. And there was a race of 50' boats nearby. **Talk about trial by fire!** 



The Victory fleet sailing in the March race. Conditions were excellent. Also, it looks like they have the bay to themselves.

They enjoyed almost perfect sailing conditions as you can see from these photos which were taken by a *WindWords* photographer from Harbor Island.

Both races showed the high degree of competitiveness. 🏆

### March Victory Race Standings.

Skipper	Place	Points
Sandy Leon	1	5
Bruce / Robert	2	8
John K / Joe R	3	9
Terry Edlund	4	15
Doug Bass	5	18
Rajeev Jain	5	18
Tom Bedford	7	20
James Walker	8	21
Tabor's Pirates	9	23
Craig Unger	10	26
Omar & Amy	10	26
Gregory Herbster	12	39
Bob Lewis	13	40
Ryan Drobek	14	44
Dan Battiste	15	45
Joe Curran	15	45
Fred MacDougall	17	46
Jack Cabeen	18	52

## Race Champ Found Hiding In Mexico

Participants noted Terry Edlund's absence from the March Ensign race. We wondered why, so we sent *WindWords* Senior Analyst Rajeev Jain to find out. Jain tracked him down in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico where he uncovered the truth . . .

Many will be shocked to learn that Edlund leads a double life! He travels to Mexico regularly where he participates in the *La Paz - Puerto Vallarta Challenge* under the name

Continued from Page 1 Column 2.

Boat	Skipper	SAT 15 Mar	SAT 19 Apr	SAT 17 May	SAT 21 June	SAT 19 July	SAT 18 Aug	Ocean 20 Sep	Throw Out Adjust	Total
192	Terry	6								6.0
323	Paul	3								3.0
1122	Hector	1								1.0
2	Tracy / Jeff	2								2.0
722	Frank	5								5.0
453	Bob	4								4.0

Series Scoring: Lowest total score for series wins

DNC	Did not come	# boats + 1
DNS	Did not start	# boats + 1
DSQ	Disqualification	# boats + 1
DNF	Did not finish	# boats + 1
JNS	Justified not start	# boats + 1



Terry Edlund, seen here in the disguise he wears in the *La Paz to Puerto Vallarta Challenge*, an invitational race held monthly between March and August. He has won 15 of the last 16 races, losing once to *Los Hombres Del Spinnaker*, a relatively unknown team from Mexicali.

*Inigo Montoya*. In an homage to the famous swash-buckling hero, Edlund's boat even has the phrase, "Prepare to Die!" stenciled on the bow (at least we think that's why).

"What's the big deal?" said Edlund, when confronted by Jain at the finish line. "There's a lot of money in that race. So I make a few bucks racing in Mexico. You guys didn't miss me did you?"

As a follow-up to Mr. Edlund's question we reached out to Tracy William, Paul Feldon, Hector Smith, Frank Long and Bob Keefe. They all agreed that they sincerely missed Terry but understood his desire to race in Mexico. In fact, they all mentioned discounts on Expedia.com for April 19<sup>th</sup>, May 17<sup>th</sup>, June 21<sup>st</sup>, July 19<sup>th</sup>, August 16<sup>th</sup> and September 20<sup>th</sup>. 🏆

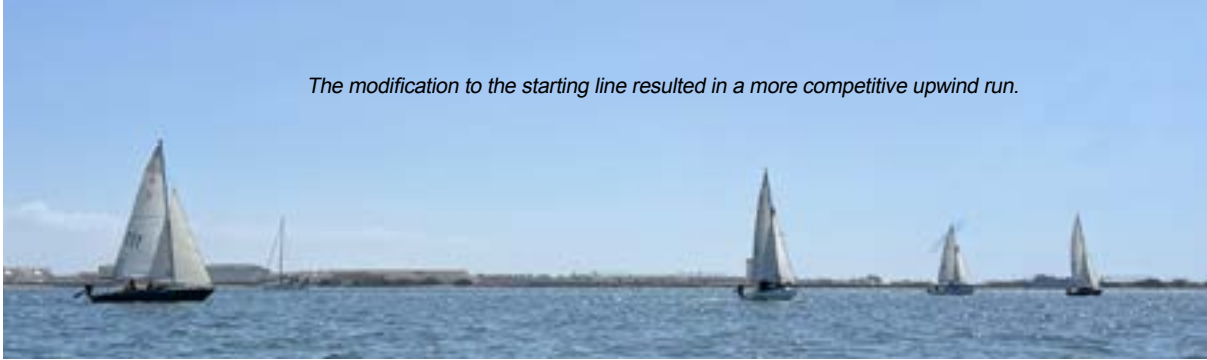


**Seriously though**, Terry and his wife Christine were taking a much needed vacation. By total coincidence, they happened into the same bar!

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E 323 in the lead followed by the 453, 1122 and 722. The E 2 had an excellent vantage point as they brought up the rear. Past the turn at G17 and the beginning of the

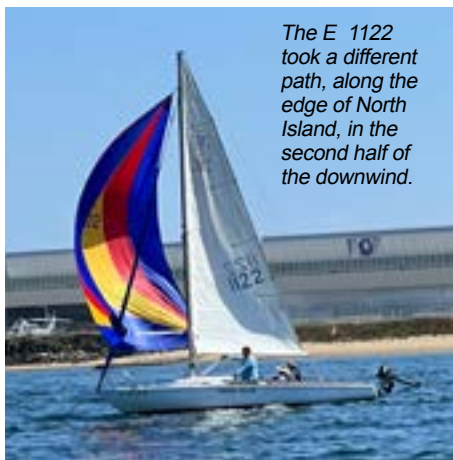
The modification to the starting line resulted in a more competitive upwind run.



The E 323 holding on to second place in the first downwind run, followed by the E 2, 722 and 453.

downwind at R16 things started to change. The E 2 pulled ahead of the 1122 and then the 722 and eventually the 323.

On the second upwind leg the race positions changed again as several boats gained advantage. But during that leg, the aforementioned race of 50' sailboats crossed **right through our race!** One boat threaded its way between (and within feet of) the E 2 and 1122, forcing them to alter course.




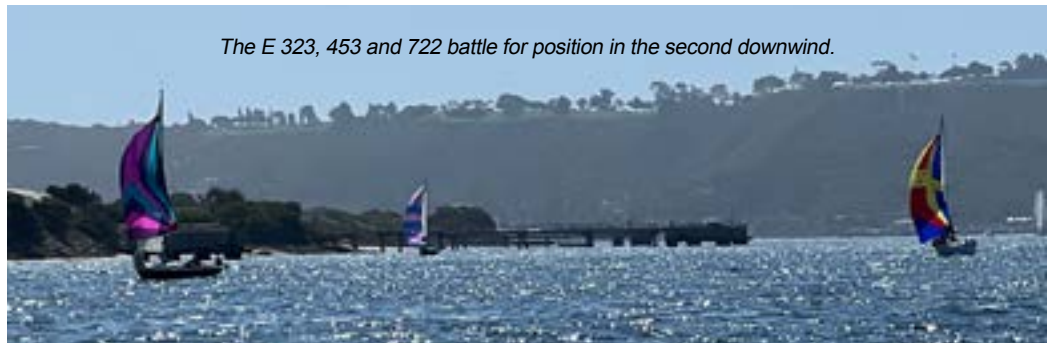
The E 1122 took a different path, along the edge of North Island, in the second half of the downwind.

At the top of the second downwind the E 2 pulled ahead and enjoyed a substantial though temporary lead. The E 1122 relentlessly closed the

distance while the 722 closed on them. All the boats formed into a line in the middle of the channel but the E 1122 took a different path, hugging the top of North Island - and a direct line to R20.

The other Ensigns could see the E 1122's spinnaker collapse more than once in the slower, more disrupted wind. The other boats enjoyed stronger winds - but a longer

trek with a jibe to starboard. The E 1122's strategy worked, they made the turn first and sprinted to the finish. The E 2 rounded next and began closing the distance. The two boats were within feet of each other as the E 1122 crossed the line. 



The E 323, 453 and 722 battle for position in the second downwind.



This photo - taken from the 1122 - shows their advantage approaching the finish line. The 2 is approaching the turn at R20. They had just dowsed their spinnaker and their jib was still furled.

PHOTO FINISH: Jeff Nelson and Robert Skillings photographing each other's boat just after crossing the finish line.



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construction, which should give us about one year of buffer from the activities that are projected to start in the 100 dock areas and gradually move eastward.

It's likely that starting in June we will need to park on one side or the other of the parking lot as work on the buildings begins. We will also likely find a new temporary home for our blue key box at that time.

For the next 60-80 days, there should be no changes. But thereafter we will start to see activity -- so please read the monthly newsletter since I will keep you posted with relevant details here.

*I hope to see you on the 26th!*

Thank You!

Tracy 



Click On The Blue Text Below To Access The Voting Google Sheet. Then Record Your Recommendations.


*If you don't have a preference but want to be on the list, just add your member number.*

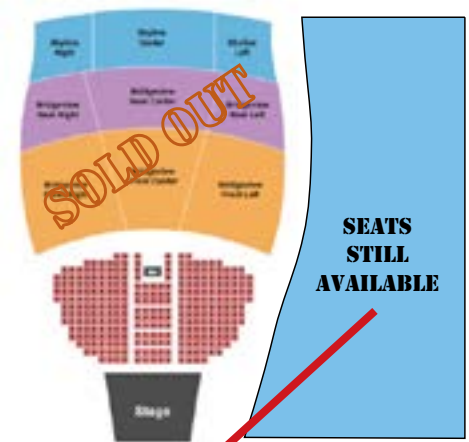
Continued from Page 1, Column 3.

"raft" them together. Each Ensign can comfortably seat six guests.

The Rady Shell concert schedule for 2025 is below. Select your shows and vote by clicking the link at the bottom of the page:

We will review the member's votes and start the scheduling process. When you vote you will be added to our email list so we can keep you posted (*you can opt-out of the list at any time*).

Don't worry about sailing there or back. The Ensign Social Club will provide the skippers. 



**Here is the list. The Link is the text string at the bottom of the page.**

Date	Day	Time	Group
28-Mar	Friday	7:30	San Diego Symphony; A Princess Bride
10-May	Saturday	7:00	James Taylor
11-May	Sunday	7:00	James Taylor
29-May	Thursday	8:00	Hauser
5-Jun	Thursday	7:30	Ludacris
7-Jun	Saturday	6:00	Trombone Shorty
10-Jun	Tuesday	6:30	Tash Sultana
14-Jun	Saturday	6:00	Mariachi USA Festival
20-Jun	Friday	7:30	Classic Albums Live performs David Bowie
27-Jun	Friday	7:30	San Diego Symphony; Opening Night
5-Jul	Saturday	7:30	San Diego Symphony; The Music of ABBA
6-Jul	Sunday	7:30	Earth Wind and Fire
11-Jul	Friday	7:30	San Diego Symphony; Top Gun Maverick
12-Jul	Saturday	7:30	Alison Krauss and Union Station
13-Jul	Sunday	7:30	San Diego Symphony; Beethoven by the Bay
18-Jul	Friday	6:00	Maoli
19-Jul	Saturday	7:30	San Diego Symphony; The Lion King
29-Jul	Tuesday	7:30	San Diego Symphony; Beck
31-Jul	Thursday	7:30	Maren Morris
2-Aug	Saturday	7:30	San Diego Symphony; The Music of Tina Turner
8-Aug	Friday	7:30	San Diego Symphony; Chicago the Musical
9-Aug	Saturday	7:30	The Beach Boys
10-Aug	Sunday	7:30	Gipsy Kings
11-Aug	Monday	7:30	San Diego Symphony; King Gizzard and the Lizzard Wizard
16-Aug	Saturday	7:30	Smokey Robinson
23-Aug	Saturday	7:30	San Diego Symphony; Jurassic Park
26-Aug	Tuesday	7:00	Mt Joy
29-Aug	Friday	7:30	Wierd Al Yankovic
10-Sep	Wednesday	7:30	Chicago
13-Sep	Saturday	6:30	Tribal Seeds and the Movement
20-Sep	Saturday	7:30	Classic Albums Live; Purple Rain
23-Nov	Sunday	7:30	John Legend

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1XG8Mw6UY5gyvNMHmtGSW9QJh35prFBbqU-fgKZV5ILc/edit?usp=sharing>

# Convair Sailing Club Opening Day

**Welcome All:** Convair Sailing Club's Opening Day is the start of our racing season. Drop by, take a look at our fleet and facilities, and talk to current members about affordable sailing on San Diego Bay. Join the club, have fun, meet new friends and sail *very* inexpensively.

**Where:** Harbor Island West Marina  
2040 Harbor Island Drive, San Diego, CA 92102

**When:** Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2025 from 11:30 AM. - 2:00 PM.

**Details:** Our BBQ will be poolside on the east side of the building. We will have information on the club, photos of club events, and membership materials. If you want, we can escort you to the dock area to see our fleet and even take you for a short sail if time allows.



**Further info:** If you have questions or to R.S.V.P., email the club at:  
[ConvairSailingClub-info@GoogleGroups.com](mailto:ConvairSailingClub-info@GoogleGroups.com)  
Find out more about Convair Sailing Club on our web site:  
[www.ConvairSailingClub.com](http://www.ConvairSailingClub.com)