



CONNECTIONS

March 2007

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PORT ROYAL YACHT CLUB Redondo Beach, CA

A Friendly, Casual, Fun-loving Group Devoted to Social and Boating Activities

Port Royal Yacht Club

555 N. Harbor Drive
Redondo Beach
CA 90277
310-372-3960

PRYC OFFICERS

Commodore
Penny Towne Vowles

Vice Commodore
Pat Paxson

Rear Commodore
Shawn Milligan

Secretary
Jan Pokk

Fleet Captain
Mike Williams

Junior Staff Commodore
Sue Meyer

Quartermasters
Jack Laisure

PRYC DIRECTORS
Andy Davidson
Mike Williams
Kevin Herink
Jack Laisure

Judge Advocate
Tree Curtis

Treasurer
Chris Dalziel

Race Captain
Dave Coleman

Newsletter Editor
Amy Myers

Website Manager
Cathy Mueller

Historian
Lou Toth



COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

Port Royal Yacht Club had a glorious Opening Day.....

It would have been perfect, except for a bit of wind and an overcast sky with a few clouds. We have so many beautiful days in this Marina, I guess we shouldn't complain. Despite the weather not cooperating, we still had a wonderful day. In fact, rumor has it, we had one of the best Opening Days ever.

If you weren't there, you missed a great ceremony and party. It took a lot of us to get to that day, a lot of organization, elbow grease and team work. Thanks to everyone who helped get us there. The Club looks great!! And, congratulations to JSC Sue Meyer being inducted into the International Order of the Blue Gavel....way to go Sue, you did a great job!

The best news is that we have 11 new members!! I think that we have some great new people who will participate and enjoy our Yacht Club experience.

We are now open for the Yachting season and we're planning a lot of events, I hope that you plan on joining in on the fun.

Our Cinco de Mayo party was a success. Kevin, Kerry, Pat, Tree, Jan, and Jack did a great job of pulling it all together for a good time. We used the occasion to introduce some of our new members. I think they're glad that they joined the Club!! They sure had a good time.

In June, we have the Plastic Classic Race on June 16 and the Cal Yacht Club Cruise on June 22. Two events that are traditional at Port Royal and keep just getting better.

We will start our Officer of the Day in June. Rear Commodore Shawn Milligan will be contacting you to host one day on a weekend during the summer. If you have never done this, now is the time to sign up. The sign-up sheet is at the Club

UPCOMING EVENTS

JUNE 16 is our Third Annual PLASTIC CLASSIC.....

The Plastic Classic is a race for boats whose design is 25 years or older and made of fiberglass. It doesn't have to be built 25 years ago.....just designed 25 years ago. We will have a spinnaker and mariner class for this race.

But, we're adding the Father's Day Race to the agenda this year. Any sailboat is eligible for this race. We don't care year, make, or model. Just come on down and enjoy the water. *Come join the fun.....race, awards, dinner, a band.....*

Registration from 1000 hours to 1200 hours
Race starts at 1300 hours
Awards at 1600 hours

JUNE 22—24 is our CAL YACHT CLUB CRUISE.....

Join us on our annual cruise to beautiful Cal Yacht Club in Marina del Rey. The Cruise starts on Friday, June 22.....cruise on up to Marina del Rey and on Saturday, we have a dock party...bring your favorite hors d'oeuvres, drink and enjoy the day. After our day on the dock, we go to Cal Yacht Club for dinner. If you can't boat up there, join us by car.

Contact Bruce Stafford at lastresort@jps.net for details and to reserve a slip.



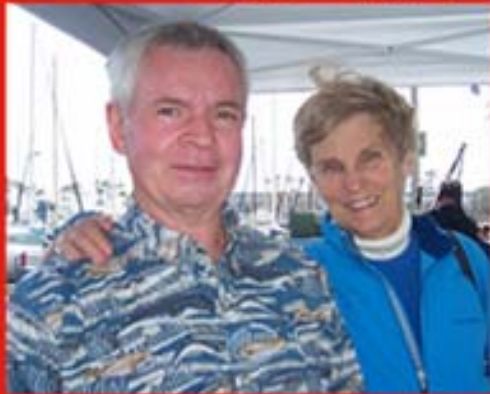
777!!!! Yep, July 7, 07 falls on a Saturday and we've picked that day to have our **RAT PACK PARTY** - Yeah, baby, swing to the tunes of Frank, Dino, and Sammy, try a Martini from our cool ice slide and graze from all your favorite foods from the 50's and 60's—fondue, prime rib carving station, mashers in a martini glass, and whatever else we can dream up. Ideas welcome!!!

Starting next issue, monthly installments from the true story of the Dominator by the man who tried to salvage the ill fated vessel.....it makes great summer reading!!

OFFICER OF THE DAY STARTS JUNE 2ND

First up, Pat on Sat. June 2nd and Amy on Sun June 3rd. Stop by for a bite. Don't forget to sign up with Shawn for your day.

Welcome New Members!*



* not all pictured here

*I would like to introduce our new members...
WELCOME to Port Royal Yacht Club!!!!
We hope you enjoy the club as much as the
rest of us..... See you at the club
Commodore Penny*

William Lakoff and Ilga
Roger Fox
Tom Adamski and Barbara Smith

Darell Yocom
Jeff and Barb Saunders
John and Mary Nelson
Tony and Amy Meador
Brooks and Christine Vogt
David Randrup
Ray Karimoto
Tim and Lynn Philpott

Aren't we
just too cute!



I'M THE PROUD PAPA!!



NESTING EAGLES MAKE HISTORY ON CATALINA

FOR FIRST TIME IN 50 YEARS BALD EAGLE CHICKS BORN WITHOUT HUMAN HELP

By Lee Patterson, *STAFF WRITER*

DAILY BREEZE

A bald eagle couple accomplished something over the weekend that hasn't been done on Catalina Island in probably more than 50 years. In a remote nest along the Southern California island's rugged coastline, they hatched their own chicks -- without human help.

The unassisted birth of two bald eaglets marks a major milestone in recovery for the raptor, which had been wiped out from Catalina and the other Channel Islands by the early 1960s, likely due, scientists say, to the presence in the environment of DDT pesticide. The pesticide is known to thin the birds' eggshells and leave them too weak to withstand the pressure of incubation.

The first gray, downy eaglet emerged from its shell sometime from Friday night to Saturday morning, followed by its sibling. Within hours, the bald eagle parents had delivered fresh-caught fish to their newborns, reported wildlife biologists on the island. For 27 years the Institute for Wildlife Studies has worked to restore the island's bald eagle population by releasing juvenile and adult birds, and fostering incubator-hatched chicks into eagle nests.

"After 27 years to see this happen in nest is pretty incredible," said Dave Garcelon, president of the Institute for Wildlife Studies. Since 1989, the institute's wildlife biologists have gone to great lengths to ensure eagle offspring on the island. Either hiking in or getting lowered from a hovering helicopter, they reach the nests to remove the eggs as soon as they are laid, and swap in faux eggs for the eagles to sit on. Incubating those eggs or eggs from zoos, the wildlife biologist will return about a month later to foster in the chicks.

This year, institute biologist Peter Sharpe let one of the island's five bald eagle nests keep its eggs, to see if they would hatch on their own. Garcelon said in recent years, that nest has produced healthier eggs if they would

hatch on their own

The bald eagle is proposed for removal from the federal endangered and threatened species list. On Catalina and the other Channel Islands, the progress has been slower. While bald eagles elsewhere in the United States rebounded from the environmental insult of DDT, locally the birds are beset by the presence of a massive underwater DDT dump off the coast of the Palos Verdes Peninsula.

A lawsuit settlement over that dump paid for the institute's eagle project on Catalina for many years, but funds were cut off in 2005 because the birds still required so much human assistance to produce eaglets. Funds were shifted to Santa Cruz Island to the north. And last year, that island had its first eagle chicks hatched in 50 years. Like the Santa Cruz eaglets, the Catalina chicks are the offspring of eagles that had been released years before on Catalina Island.

There are five nesting pairs on Catalina, with several more eagles that have yet to settle down. Later this month, Sharpe will put chicks back into the other four nests and, about two months later, those birds will be striking out on their own.

The restoration of bald eagles on Catalina has garnered widespread attention, especially when funding for the program was cut off. Ann Muscat, president and CEO of the Catalina Island Conservancy, said the dedication of the Institute for Wildlife Studies is paying dividends, especially with this recent news.

"We're thrilled," Muscat said. "We asserted all along that given the data that IWS was collecting that there was a chance that this could turn around in the near future." She said she's hoping that the trustees of the DDT settlement reconsider their funding decision. "We should continue to give these birds a chance."

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Story submitted by Fleet Captain Mike Williams, thanks.....ed.



**OPENING DAY
2007**

