



DEKE KLATT

Waterfronts, Jan. 1

I could just repeat last year's column about the County High Points champion, because nothing has changed.

Deke Klatt of Ventura Yacht Club won the County High Point Championship for the third year in a row. He also won the Association of Santa Barbara Yacht Clubs' high point series for the third year in a row.

The 57-year-old sailmaker who works at the Ullman Sails loft at Ventura Harbor seems to be forever young.

His achievements this year alone would make a nice career resume for most successful skippers.

Klatt sailed his J-24, Jaded, to the two championships mentioned previously and he also won the local J-24 Fleet 145 season championship for the 15th consecutive year. He won all three races in his class to lead VYC to victory in the Ventura Cup. He also won the SCYA Midwinters, hosted by Channel Islands Yacht Club and the Sail Fest Regatta, hosted by VYC.

Jaded is just one of the boats in Klatt's personal fleet. He sailed his Pyramid 660, Squirt, in Wet Wednesday races and, no surprise, won that series in his class. Recently Klatt bought a Wylie Wabbit, so now he has three different boats to choose from when he races. Oops, I forgot. Klatt also has a Laser racing dinghy, so his fleet stands at four. And when he's not racing, which seems to be every Wednesday during the summer and almost every weekend the whole year, he's an avid bicyclist. Maybe by the time he's eligible for Medicare he might slow down a bit. But don't count on it.

Placing second and rightfully claiming "top amateur" honors in both the county and ASBCYC high point series was Mike Hopper, who races a J-22 called Majic Dragon.

County Top 10

(Number of races in parenthesis).

1--Jaded, J-24, Deke Klatt, 77 (10); 2--Majic Dragon, J-22, Mike Hopper, 62 (10); 3--E Ticket, Santa Cruz 37, Tom Hudson, 59 (10); 4--Out Patient, Cal 29, Randy Alcorn, 54 (10); 5--Wild Flyer, Pearson Flyer, John Roland, 50 (10); 6--Rival, J-35, Dave Boatner, 39 (10); 7--Troublemaker, Schock 35, Rod Abbott & Roxanne Vettese, 34 (10); 8--Pangea, J-30, Mike Leary & Dena Mercer, 33 (6); 9--Tortoise, J-24, Suzi Ramey & Stan Whisenhunt, 32 (10); 10--Disheveled Rogue, J-24, Garrett & Christina Baum, 31 (7).

Other high scores

Superstition 29, Sunrise 28, Fat Tuesday, 25, Joyride 25, Rambunctious 24, Tunzagrunt 23, Predator 24, Moore On 22

Recent champions

2013—Jaded; 2012—Jaded; 2011—Velero; 2010—Out Patient; 2009—Sisu; 2008—Perfect Balance; 2007—Bikini Machine; 2006—Deception; 2005—Funatic; 2004—XS; 2003—Rambunctious; 2002—Prime Time; 2001—Lina; 2000—XS.

ASBCYC Top 10

1—Jaded 35; 2—Majic Dragon 24; 3—Pangea 18; 4—California Zephyr, Santa Cruz 27, Doug Stelck 14; 5T—Bullet, J-24, Thomas Tunberg 13; 5T—E Ticket 13; 7—Troublemaker 12; 8—Out Patient 11; 9T—Tortoise 10; 9T—Tunzagrunt, Melges 24, Joe Joines 10; 9T—Wild Flyer 10.

SOLID BOX:

Upcoming Sailboat Races

- Sunday, Jan. 4, TGIS Winter Series 2. Hosted by Pacific Corinthian Yacht Club, this is the second in a four-race series. The best three races will be scored for the series so skippers can still enter the series. Entry fee for the series is \$40. Entry fee for individual races is \$15. The other races will be on Jan. 25 and March 15. Starts and finishes will be in the vicinity of Channel Islands Harbor's outer breakwater. The skippers meeting is 11 a.m. Racing begins at 1 p.m. For more information contact Gene Beville at genebeville@aol.com or call 469-9549.
- Saturday, Jan. 24, Regatta Series 1. Hosted by Ventura Yacht Club, this is the first of three windward-leeward regattas for PHRF spinnaker boats. There also may be a J-24 class and PHRF non-spinnaker class if enough entries. The other regattas in the series are on April 18 and Aug. 29. Entry fee for individual regattas is \$25, or \$60 for the series. The skippers meetings will be at 8:30 a.m. and racing begins at 11 a.m. in the vicinity of the Mandalay buoy. For more information, contact Race Chair Stan Whisenhunt at 659-1464 or email him at Swhisenhun@aol.com.

(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).