

Waterfronts, Jan. 22

Former commodore, boat yard owner and highly successful sailboat racer Chuck Stanton died recently. He will be honored both on land and sea on Saturday.

On land, family and friends will gather at Ventura Yacht Club for a celebration of life.

At sea, area racers will honor Stanton's memory by spreading flowers near the Mandalay buoy starting area of VYC's regatta. The club is dedicating its opening race of the year to Stanton and will have a moment of silence in his honor at the skippers meeting.

Chuck and his wife, Irene, moved to Ventura in 1978, coming from Woodland Hills in San Fernando Valley. They purchased Anchors Way Marine boat yard that year and also joined Ventura Yacht Club, where he was a moving force on numerous projects and flew the club burgee in numerous blue chip sailboat races. He became commodore in 1989.

Stanton started sailing in Beverly, Mass, when he was 10 years old and sailed his whole life. He bought his first sailboat in 1968, a Coronado 25, and sailed out of Marina Del Rey until 1978. While at Marina Del Rey he also owned an Ericson 30 and then a PT 30, Chubasco. After moving to Ventura he first campaigned Chubasco, then a Wilderness 40 called Falcon, and finally a J-24, Chuck Wagon. For several of his racing years, Chuck had the pleasure of having son Chip aboard as one of his trusted crew members.

After he "retired" from racing, he became extremely active with race committee work, becoming the only member in VYC history to have won the Glen Chambers award for yeoman committee work on the water. Irene was at his side as they served as co-principal race officers for two years in the club's popular Wet Wednesday Series. She was awarded the prestigious Pop Massa award, twice, the only member in the club to be so honored.

Richard Countess, race chair at Pierpont Bay Yacht Club, where Stanton also was a member, said, "We knew Chuck and Irene for many years. He was the person who guided us through receiving our Seafarer 30 from Detroit on the transport full of snow and covered in diesel exhaust in November, 1980. Our boats have been serviced (at the boat yard previously owned by Stanton) yard ever since."

SOLD BOX:

Upcoming Sailboat Races

-- 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. This race is being dedicated to the memory of the late Chuck Stanton, staff commodore and active racer and race committee worker at VYC .For more information, contact Race Chair Stan Whisenhunt at 659-1464 or email him at Swhisenhun@aol.com.

-- Sunday, Jan. 25, TGIS Winter Series 3. Co hosted by Anacapa and Pacific Corinthian yacht clubs, this is the third in a four race series. The skippers meeting is at 11 a.m. and the first start will be at 1 p.m., outside Channel Islands Harbor. Entry fee is \$15. There will be an after-race party at AYC. For more information, contact Gene Beville at 469-9549.

(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).