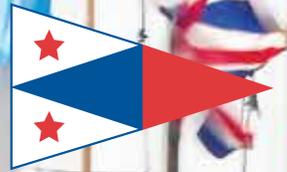
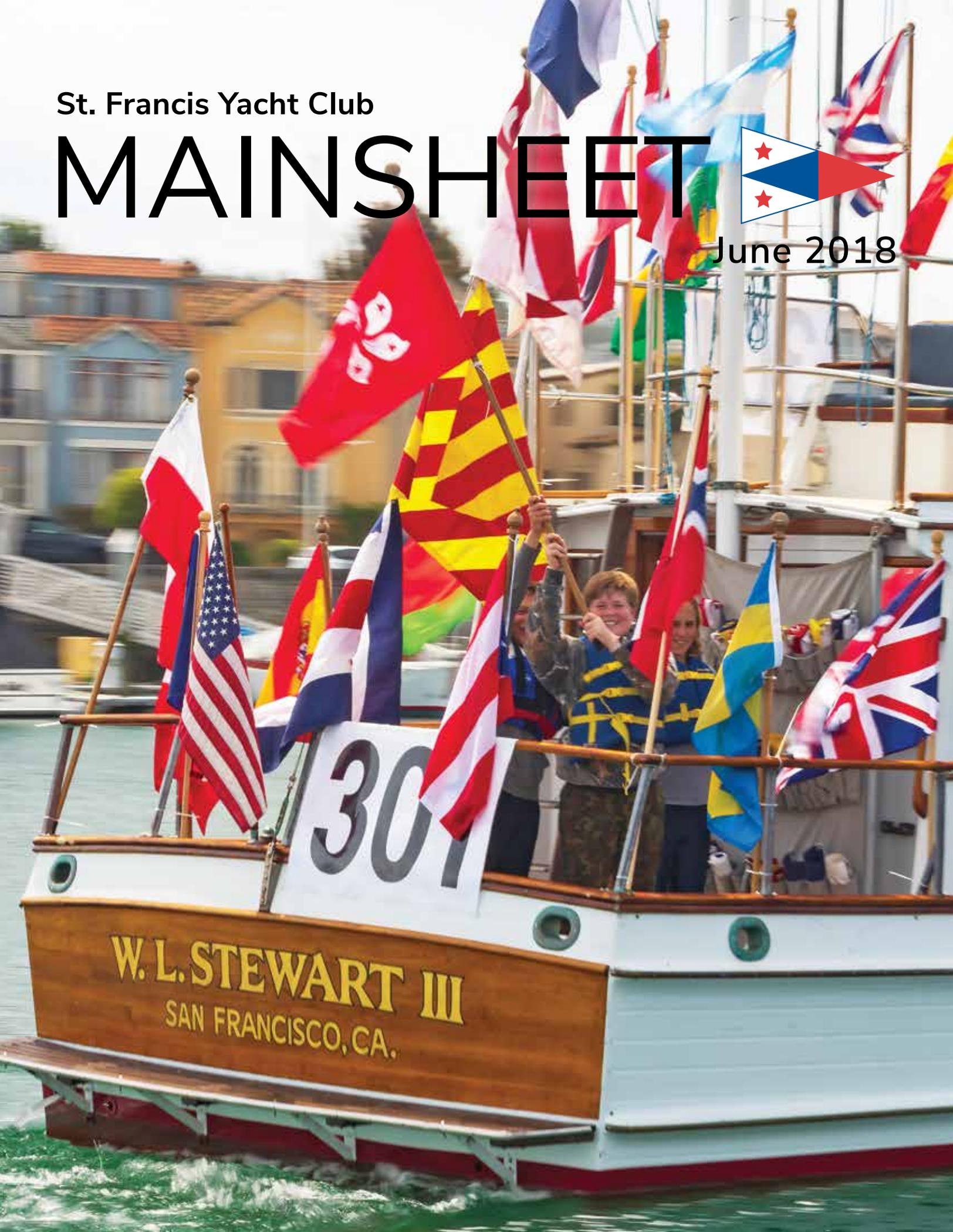


St. Francis Yacht Club

MAINSHEET



June 2018



W. L. STEWART III
SAN FRANCISCO, CA.

RACE REPORTS

By Amanda Witherell, Communications Manager

Lipton Cup Lives!

The Lipton Cup lives, and everyone's invited to watch, to cheer and to party. That's the intention of the Bay sailing brain trust that schemed up the revival of an elegant and historic cup that's been buried by dust in recent years. The revival, and a new three-day format, came from a meeting of Bay Area club commodores and members kicking around ideas about how to engage more people in sailing.

"We all agreed it had fallen on hard times. The Lipton Cup is a PICYA event, but maybe there could be a change in format," said Dick Loomis, of Richmond Yacht Club, the regatta host. "**Russ Silvestri** suggested we make it a one design regatta using StFYC's J/22s and RYC as host. Nobody goes home. All the teams stay and party together with fun events that encourage teams to get to know their competition.

"After that, ideas were flying. We wanted to shake things up a bit. Everyone at the meeting was really enthusiastic about the possibilities, but we were concerned about getting PICYA on board. Turned out PICYA loved the idea."

Commencing on June 15, the new format includes an afternoon distance race for Masters (skippers over 60) from St. Francis Yacht Club to Richmond, a Saturday of umpired open class races on the Berkeley Circle, and a Sunday distance race for women-skipped teams upwind to Blackaller Buoy, finishing off the Club's race deck—all aboard StFYC's J/22s.

"The J/22 was the boat of choice from the beginning," Loomis added. "We wanted one design boats all tuned alike with good sails to level the playing field. We want it to be a test of the sailors."

Silvestri said, "When we put up the boats, it sold out immediately. There were even other clubs who wanted to



participate but couldn't. Saturday's umpired regatta should be exciting because each club will be sending their best." For StFYC, that includes **Jacob Hiew, Alex Nutricy and Pascal Hines**. The women's team is stacked with **Krysia Pohl, Jenny Swett Chrisman, Eric Gray and Maggie Bacon**.

"It's reigniting an old challenge that used to be a big deal," added Silvestri, who will be handling tactics for the Masters team on Friday night, along with **Dick Watts** as Skipper, **John Collins** on bow and **Elizabeth Little** in the pit.

"It's a famous cup and it's been around a long time," said Dick Watts. He's anticipating the downwind leg to Richmond requiring some cunning factoring of tides to edge out the competition, which will be stiff. "Richmond has some really good sailors and San Francisco Yacht Club just beat us in the San Francisco Cup, so there's that."

Participating clubs include StFYC, SFYC, Encinal, South Beach, Corinthian, Santa Cruz, Richmond, Sequoia, Inverness and Berkeley.

StFYC members are encouraged to attend, by land, or by sea in support boats, with friends and a friendly fighting spirit. On Saturday evening, there will be competitions ashore including paddleboard races, tug of war and liar's dice. Berthing will be available for as many support and spectator boats as possible at the RYC; please contact Regatta Chair Kim Desenberg at 510-529-5410 or kimdesen@gmail.com to arrange berthing or to volunteer your powerboat to transport crews and observers. StFYC will also host post-race festivities at the Club on Sunday and each evening will feature a trophy ceremony.

The Lipton Cup, a History

The Lipton Cup started in 1934 with a deed of gift from Sir Thomas Lipton to the Pacific Inter-Club Yacht Association. "There were four PICYA trophies that, at the height of things, everyone sailed for. The Lipton was the 'Big Daddy'" said **Staff Commodore Kimball Livingston**. "It was this insanely grand trophy. There's your starting point for what made it a big deal."

Though the original Cup burned in the 1976 fire and the race took on many different iterations over the years, Livingston says there was no one thing that made the Lipton Cup fall out of fashion, though he points out that the most recent handicap format didn't generate the levels of community and socialization that can bind an event's participants to the outcome. "Each club would put together a team, race a course and go home. Sometimes the people who won wouldn't even go pick up the trophy at PICYA," he said.

The organizing clubs look forward to revitalizing this historic event.

Mahoney Bound for Youth Worlds

Congratulations to Junior Member **TJ Mahoney** who recently qualified for the Laser Radial Youth World Championships representing the U.S. in Kiel, Germany on August 18-25. There will be over 30 countries participating and 200 sailors. TJ was also selected to attend to the US Youth Championship in the Laser Radial Fleet, to be held at Carolina Yacht Club in Wrightsville Beach, North Carolina this June. In all of his racing, TJ would like to thank the StFYC and St. Francis Sailing Foundation for their continued support.



Courtesy TJ Mahoney

UPCOMING REGATTAS

June 1: Slalom Windsurf Series

June 5, 12, 19, 26:
J/22 Summer Series

June 6, 13, 20, 27: Wednesday Evening Series

June 7-10: Hydrofoil Pro Tour

June 14: Opti Heavy Weather Slalom

June 15, 29: Formula Windsurf Series

June 15-17: Opti Heavy Weather

June 21: StFYC Kite Series

June 22-24: Woodies Invitational



Chris Ray

Carmelita Wins Intraclub Regatta

Eleven boats set out on a Chamber of Commerce day to compete in our annual Intraclub Regatta. The wind filled in just before the start and all boats finished within approximately ten minutes of each other. The close finish provided for some tight crossings, as the boats came inside of A Buoy to show off for Club spectators. Ultimately, **Christian Lewis** on *Carmelita* took home the pickle dish, followed by **Odette Brandner** on *Wallopig Swede* and **Morgan Paxhia** on *Penny Pincher* in third. **Jon Paulsen** on *Jam Jam* won the coveted Jar of Pickles for his future wins. Everyone enjoyed a post-race celebration in the Golden Gate Room.

StFYC Wins Top Honors in Opening Day Parade of Boats

It was a great way to ring in Opening Day on the Bay Weekend, in which StFYC won top honors in the 2018 Parade of Boats for the 101st Opening Day. Club boats were considered in two categories: Class 300 (boats decorated to theme by PICYA Club Juniors) and Class 400/500 (PICYA Club Fleet decorated with flags and streamers). Club Juniors decorated the W.L. Stewart from bow to stern, deck to fly bridge, with international flags that they eagerly waved to judges. The Fleet included over 20 member boats and many hosted guests from overseas yacht clubs, here for the ICOYC World Forum. Bravo Zulu everyone!



The W.L. Stewart decked out for Opening Day by our Juniors

Igor Capibaribe

5o5s Most Competitive Fleet at Elvstrom/Zellerbach 2018



Mike Martin and Adam Lowry won the 5o5s with seven straight bullets

Over forty competitors sailing in five fleets competed in the 2018 Elvstrom/Zellerbach Regatta on April 28-29. This annual event was born from two classic regattas: the Elvstrom, named after the great Finn sailor, Paul Elvstrom; and the Zellerbach, the trophy that brought small boat sailing to St. Francis Yacht Club. Each year, the Zellerbach trophy is awarded to the winners of the most competitive fleet which was, in 2018, the 5o5.

The fleets that compete each year shift to reflect what's popular on the Bay and this year, that included

5o5s, C420s, F18s, Lasers and Laser Radials. Not enough Nacras signed up, so the fleet was struck from the lineup, however two Junior Nacra sailors started with the F18s anyway, to give them a run for their money. And run they did!

Shorter courses kept competition flowing for the 5o5 and F18 fleets, which had a wide range of abilities among the sailors. StFYC's **Mike Martin** and **Adam Lowry** won the 5o5s with seven straight bullets, besting sailors from San Diego, Santa Cruz, New York and Encinal. TCDYC's Christopher Green and Shawn Hwang nearly swept the F18s, but the Froeb duo of Charles and Luke took a couple of firsts across six races. StFYC Juniors **Mats Keldsen** and **Jacob Kowalski** ruled the C420 fleet, winning four of their six races. Lasers were likewise dominated 4-6 by Ali Fuat Yuvali, sailing for UCSC. Nicholas Sessions, sailing for SFYC, cleaned up in the Laser Radial class, prevailing over StFYC's **Andrew Holdsworth**, who stole a couple of firsts from him.



Mats Keldsen and Jacob Kowalski claimed victory in the C420 fleet



Twenty-Three J/105s Battle Raw Conditions at J/Stop

At the J/Stop Regatta on May 5-7, twenty-three J/105s gathered on the starting line to duke it out over seven races. Racing began beneath overcast skies and with a tide just turning from ebb to flood. As often happens with this highly competitive fleet, the first start led to a general recall as most boats arrived too early and were pushed over. From then on, Saturday's races were started under the "U" flag rule and the fleet behaved much better. (Under this rule, a boat caught over the line any time after one minute before her start is disqualified, unless the race is restarted or resailed). Raw conditions prevailed throughout the day and sailors were commenting on the cold by the end of four races. Fortunately, the sun broke through in time for post-race beers on the docks.

To the sailors' credit, Sunday's starts were all under the regular "P" flag, with no boats called over early and three races filled out the regatta's final day. Many of the top competitors shuffled first-place finishes, and prizes were awarded for each, so several skippers took home StFYC glassware, including SFYC's Ryan Simmons on *Blackhawk* for races 1-2, and Tim Russell's *Ne-Ne* in races 3 and 7. StFYC's *Donkey Jack*, skippered by **Shannon Ryan** and **Rolf Kaiser**, Walter Sanford's *Alchemy* and **Bruce Stone** and **Nicole Breault** on *Arbitrage* finished first in races 4, 5 and 6, respectively. Though StFYC's **Ian Charles's** *Maverick* didn't take any firsts, they finished second overall in two days of racing, seven rounds total.



Michael Petrikov

Kiters Prepare for Return of the Hydrofoil Pro Tour

San Francisco Bay in general and the St. Francis in particular has been at the forefront of kiting and hydrofoil development since its inception. Continuing with tradition, the Club is preparing to welcome back the Hydrofoil Pro Tour on June 7-10 for the third year in a row. Fresh from the first tour stop in France, about 50 of the top international kitters will be vying for positions in the overall standings during three days of racing off of Cressy Field.

For optimal wind conditions, races will be held on the afternoons of Friday, Saturday and Sunday, with up to five rounds per day. Last year, StFYC's **Johnny Heineken** finished third, with **Joey Pasquali** right behind him in fifth overall; look for both of them on the race course this year, joined by the Regatta Chair, **Seth Besse**, and **Daniela Moroz**, who's been hot on Johnny's heels in the Thursday Night Series.

Looking Ahead to RBBS

Given the superb sailing conditions that the Pac52 class enjoyed during their inaugural Rolex Big Boat Series in 2017, it's no surprise that this West Coast-bred Grand Prix class plans to return to this year's regatta (September 12-16) with additional numbers on their starting line and an added incentive to sail fast—serious bragging rights going into the class's annual Pac52 Cup (September 28-30), also being hosted by the StFYC.

"Last year we witnessed some stunning sailing and impressive displays of breeze-on boathandling from the Pac52s, and I have no doubt they'll be even more competitive this year," said Jenn Lancaster, StFYC's Race Director. "Karl Kwok's Team Beau Geste won all seven races last year, but I'll bet that multiple teams will take bullets this year."

Others agree, particularly because Karl Kwok's Team Beau Geste won't be

competing, however their starting-line spot will be back-filled by new contenders including Austin and Gwen Fragomen's *Interlodge* (USA 5210). All told, at least eight Pac52s are expected this year, up from the five in 2017.

"The competition is only getting tougher," said Tom Holthus, the owner and skipper of *Bad Pak* (USA 60052) and the class's 2017 overall season winner. "There are more boats in the class and lots of rumors of the teams making adjustments to both the boat and crews. We're betting on consistency."

"The Pac52 class is showing steady growth with new boats scheduled to join at various points throughout the 2018 season," said Pac52 class manager Julie Servais. "This growth matches what we saw last season: as things heated up throughout the year, new teams would join the class. This is helped by the amazing venue of San Francisco Bay and the great hospitality of St. Francis Yacht Club at the world-famous Rolex Big Boat Series."

RACING UNDER THE BURGEE

Compiled by Susan Ruhne

SAILING WORLD CUP REGATTA HYERES
Paige Railey, Laser Radial—Bronze

GREAT VALLEJO RACE

1st PHRF 2 – **Tony Pohl**, *Twisted*
1st PHRF 5 – **Aya Yamanouchi**, *Benny*
1st Express 27 – **John Rivlin**, *Peaches*

HIGH SCHOOL SAILING

SILVER FLEET PCCS

1st Grove Trophy – **Reid Wishner** sailing with **Sarah Cuyler**, Bay School

OYRA LIGHTSHIP

1st Division 2 – **Julian Mann**, *Don't Panic*
1st Division 3 – **Aya Yamanouchi**, *Benny*

SSS ROUND THE ROCKS RACE

1st Express 27 Doublehanded
– **John & Michael Rivlin**

STFYC INTRACLUB

1st – **Christian Lewis**, *Carmelita*

ELVSTROM-ZELLERBACH

1st 505 – **Mike Martin & Adam Lowry**
1st 420 – **Mats Keldsen & Jacob Kowalski**

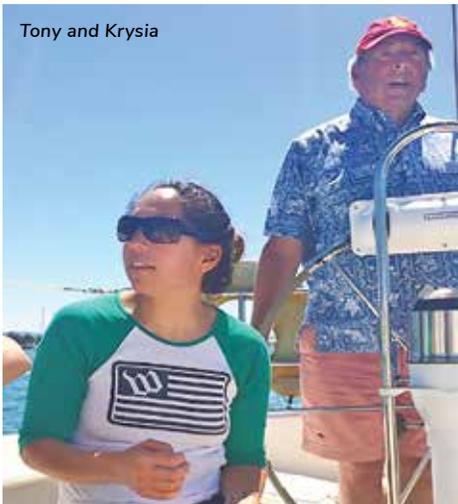


ROLEX/Sharon Green

Sailor Spotlight

TONY AND KRYSIA POHL—LIKE FATHER, LIKE DAUGHTER

By Amanda Witherell, Communications Manager



Tony and Krysia

Tony Pohl, Clipper Round the World racer and owner of the Farr 40 *Twisted*, which has podiumed several times at Rolex Big Boat Series and finished second last year, “fell in love with sailing right from the beginning,” helming Lasers in Lake Ontario. Years later, his daughter **Krysia** would have a similar love-at-first-gybe experience.

“When I was a kid, age 10 or 11, it was either sailing camp or summer school,” said Krysia, “I tried summer school once and I was done. Then I went to sailing camp at Encinal Yacht Club and really fell for it. I loved the freedom and the friendship.”

She continued sailing Lasers and El Toros while her parents maintained a membership at Encinal, but it was a revelatory experience at Tinsley Island that set Krysia’s sailing on a different tack.

“I went to my first real sleepaway sailing camp on Tinsley and the head instructor was Ed Baird, who was a god to me. He’d won the Laser Worlds in the early 80s. He was so kind and such a great mentor. He gave me a signed copy of his book, *Laser Racing*, and it became my bible.”

“After that camp I joined St. Francis Yacht Club and my racing took off from

there. We raced around the country in all of the big regattas as a junior team. My love of racing, I have to say, came from that Tinsley Island camp. It opened my eyes to a level of sailing I didn’t know about.” Krysia would go on to spend five years on the US sailing team, racing in countless ISAF Olympic-class events in Europe and attending the Europe dinghy worlds in Australia, Portugal, Brazil, Canada, Spain and England, as well as the Olympic trials when she was a high school junior.

It would take Tony a few more years to follow in the wake of his daughter and become an StFYC member. “I joined right around 2004 because I was spending so much time at the Club and was so proud of how St. Francis rallied to support Krysia’s Olympic efforts. I really enjoyed the competition and the camaraderie and I told my wife it’s time for us to join, too.”

Tony has a long list of sailing achievements and memorable moments, but one of his greatest was “racing in the South Atlantic between Rio and Cape Town in the 2013–2014 edition of the Clipper Round the World Race. I was Watch Captain on *Henri Lloyd* which was the winning team that year, and what really stands out was a night driving for about four hours. It was so thick with mist you couldn’t even see the companionway and it was sailing just by the feel of the wind on your cheek.”

When it comes to memorable moments sailing with his daughters, Krysia and Jessica, they’re also offshore, albeit in far kinder conditions. “Many, many years ago when the kids were still young, we owned an Islander 36 and we’d take them offshore. We’d put life jackets on them with tethers tied to the binnacle and let them clamber around the cockpit and they were really happy. Jessica always wanted to sail around Alcatraz; she couldn’t say Alcatraz.”

Krysia, who’s made a career of being on the water as a Marine Safety Officer

for the U.S. Coast Guard, continues to race, with upcoming roles on StFYC’s women’s team in the Lipton Cup and racing to Hawaii later this season aboard *Starship*, a Santa Cruz 52.

And, she’s out there every Friday night racing in beer-can races with her family, including her dad. Asked about her fondest memories of sailing with her father, Krysia says they’re happening now. “My whole family is on board, my husband hops on to do bow and my two kids, Sienna and Parker, who are both toddlers, are in the cockpit with my dad, loving it. My kids love sailing and going out on Dad’s boat,” she said, adding that another great memory



Krysia with her family

with him was sailing his Olson 30 in the Spinnaker Cup. “It was a super-fast ride and he was loving every minute of it as his crew was tackling the big waves and the 25-knot gusts.”

Tony said, “I don’t sail with them as much as I’d love to, but it’s an incredible joy when I do. My hope is one day to have one my grandkids doing bow on the boat.” 🇺🇸