



From the Helm

by Charles Been, Club President

We need to start out by welcoming three new directors to the board; Jon Wilson, Don Wroncy, and Bill Mcleod are the new members of the Board of Directors. They join returning directors; Woody Brickley, Fred Larson, Art Ponce, Bob James, Kris Kinsella and Bernie Zelinski.

Art Ponce will be your new President, Charles Been will be First Vice President and Wayne Slahor will be Second Vice President, Jim Konzal will be returning as Secretary / Treasurer.

Don't forget the Annual Awards Banquet February 9th at the Bali Hi Restaurant. It's a great time to meet new people, and swap lies with old friends. Be sure to get your reservations in to The Marlin Club by February 6th. We are also asking for help with the raffle at the Dinner. If you have an item or items that you would like to donate, please bring it to the Dinner.

This is my last article as your President. I would like to take the time to thank all of you that have helped in the operation of the Marlin Club these last two years. Special thanks go to Penny Olfers and Lil Miller for all the time and effort that they put in trying to keep me straight. Special thanks also goes to Larry Hobbs who has kept the Marlin Club looking the best it has looked in years.

Continuing thanks goes to Dennis Albert who usually patiently waited for my article for the Gaff Line. Also thanks go to the Boards of Directors for the last two years for all their efforts and direction in running the Marlin Club. Another big "Thank You" goes to all the tournament chairmen, their committee members and many other persons that have helped out at the Marlin Club the last two years.

Thank You All
Charles

New Club Hours – Saturday and Sunday 2pm – 6pm

Welcome New Member - Mike Graham

This is an excerpt from the Ken-Dan's full "Final Chapter" by Marty Morris, which you can read at www.ken-dan.com. You can also read many of Marty's fish reports and see pictures of the Morris family over the years.

THE FINAL CHAPTER

It is often said that the happiest days in the life of a boater are the day he buys the boat and the day he sells it. But not always true and therein lies this tale.

In 1963 when I started in practice in Granada Hills, CA I didn't know a billfish from a bullfish and tuna came in cans. My only experience fishing was back in Chicago as a Gill-Netter (for smelt). That first summer one of the local GPs, Dr. Al Figliozzi, asked me if I would like to go Albacore fishing. I winked at him and assumed that this was some kind of a game like Snipe hunting when we went to camp.

So off we went and fished on one of the smaller boats out of Fisherman's Landing with a very low freeboard - so much so that my shoes were soaked by the end of the day. Next stop: purchase fishing boots. We trolled all day and caught one (1) albacore on a boat line.

One day Bob & Janice Flamer asked us to go on a boat ride. They had gotten into boating with Janice losing out on a fur coat - i.e. "My Mink" was the name. We went outside of Marina Del Rey and there were huge gobs of bait (anchovies) everywhere and every group attracting herds of bonita. We dragged small feathers through these groups and it was instant hook-ups. So we (i.e. I) got the boating bug.

Bob introduced us to Harvey Small at the Seafarin Luhrs dealer on Lincoln avenue. So it wasn't long before a 28' single gas engine Luhrs named "Cast Off" (paying homage to the Orthopaedic profession) joined the family. Meanwhile, the Flamers had moved up to a 32' single Diesel Luhrs - "Petty Cash."

For two years we learned a little of this and that, but wanted something to be able to take us out for the Albacore. So we talked to Seafarin and we then became the owners of a 32' twin (Perkins) Diesel Luhrs sport-fisher with the name of "Ken-Dan."

In the summer of 1973 I somehow was in Newport Beach and met Mr. Bob Henry of Yachting Associates, dealers for Pacemaker and Egg Harbor boats. In the front of their lot there was a 38' Egg Harbor Sportfisher. After several trips and conversations he made me an offer I could not refuse by putting an inflated value on the 32' Luhrs.

So through the years we watched the family growing up and a series of "fish" pictures with the respective crews including the various family members watching them grow up over the ages. Kenneth got his 1st Marlin off San Diego on Yom Kippur while Carolyn and newly arrived Melody were still hospitalized. And Daniel got his off the Catalina East End.

Not only did the family age, but so did the boat. You know the saying: "A boat is a bottomless hole in the ocean into which one keeps pouring unlimited funds." After doing a major over-haul on the original Cummins 504 (205 H.P.) engines, we later re-powered with Caterpillar 3116 (300 H.P.) engines. We added a larger refrigerator and an additional freezer to the flybridge preparing for a trip to Cabo San Lucas. We made that trip and kept the boat in the new Marina down there for several months. This permitted us to fly down several times and fish "the Cape." Three years later we did the same and on another occasion we made the trip to "Mag Bay" and back.

I retired from active practice in December 1996 and we moved to San Diego, mooring the boat at the Kona Kai Marina on Shelter Island. We continued with the Albacore and Marlin fishing trips as well as participating in both the Marlin Club's ILTT and the Tuna Challenge tournament sponsored by the Kona Kai Anglers.

Through the years almost every piece of equipment on the boat was replaced. But keeping up with repairs became an insurmountable task, even with the help of various divers, painters, carpenters, electronics personnel, and various "boat people" like Tony London, and best of all, Mark Henwood.

Time also took its toll on not only the boat, but this (getting) older body as well. Major surgeries (Prostate, Coronary By-Pass, Knees, Feet, etc) have alerted this body that the time had come to part company.



Ken Schilling, a local San Diego boat maven, handled the negotiations and the boat will be making its way to Cabo San Lucas where it will join the local Charter Boat fleet. It was a good 34 years and most agree that we got our money's worth out of it. So Bon Voyage to Egg Harbor Hull #38-184 and thank you for everything.

On Thursday, Dec. 13, 2007, Ken (Schilling, that is) pulled her out of the slip and headed south.

Upon his return, we learned that all had gone well except for the main batteries that were not holding the charge and had to be replaced at Turtle Bay. They, too, had worn out.

They were then able to get into the red hot Marlin fishing from "the Finger" bank to the Golden Gate and on to the Cape. So if you get down there look around and see if the old "girl" is still afloat and catering to the public.

And so this "last day" was not a happy one, but, sadly, time to say good-bye to an old family friend.

Martin L. Morris, M.D.

**The Marlin Club of San Diego
Wishes to thank all the sponsors of our Yearbook.**

Belus Family
Alan Beilstein Insurance
Blackman Boats
Blinn Investments
Bucklew Marine Service
Casa Del Mar
Crows Nest, Brokerage
Dana Landing
Dennison Company
Douglas Smith, Insurance
Fisherman's Tackle
G T Frost
Haku Nui Farms
Kona Coffee
Hook Line & Sinker
J P Tackle
Bob James, Lawyer
Lynn James, Realtor
Rich & Marie Johnson
Scott B. Jones, Brokers
Lan Tran DDs

Let's Talk Hook-Up
Pete Grey - Rick Maxa
Al Melone Custom Covers
Mikelson Yachts, Michael Loffer
Nielson Beaumont Marina
Printing on 5th
San Diego Marine Exchange
SeaTow - Channel 16
Mark Stratton
Custom Mounts
T-Bird
Terrafin Sea Temp Charts
Trader Mort's Deli
Ed Waldman Sunshine Co
West Coast Air
The Dudley's
Steve Williams
World Famous Fish Smoking
Yasuda Landscaping
Zukers Lures



The Official Newsletter of The Marlin Club of San Diego

2445 Shelter Island Drive, San Diego, CA 92106

Phone: 619-222-8677 Fish Report: 619-222-2502

www.themarlinclub.com

Words of Wisdom

Give a man a fish, he'll eat for a day.
Teach him how to fish and

you can sell him your old fishing gear!

DATES TO REMEMBER for 2008

Awards/ Trophy Dinner	February 9, 2008
General Membership Meeting	April, 2008
Club Clean Up Day	April, 2008
Open House/Day at the Docks	April, 2008
Potluck	
Spring Shootout*	May, 2008
Don Blackman Memorial	
Halibut Derby*	June, 2008
Potluck	August, 2008
Juniors' Tournament	August, 2008
Couples' Tournament	August, 2008
Labor Day Tournament	September, 2008
ILTT Tournament &	September, 2008
Dinner Awards Banquet	
Small Boat Tournament*	October, 2008

***Open to the public**



THE MARLIN CLUB OF SAN DIEGO
2445 SHELTER ISLAND DRIVE
SAN DIEGO, CA 92106