

PRESIDENT Park Densmore 3645 Via Palomino Palos Verdes Est. CA 90274 (213) 378-8640

VICE PRESIDENT



REP. DISTRICT 1 Steve Mason 12 Ash Avenue Kentfield CA 04004 (415) 456-2849

Kelly Robinson

(408) 375-1036

Monterey

CA 93940

701 Fernwood Ave.







CHIEF MEASURER Leland Pollard 1208 Union Street Alameda CA 95401 (415) 865-0947



SEC. TREAS. Ray Johnson P.O. Box 216 Carmel Valley -CA 93924 (408) 659-4669





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REP. DISTRICT 2

REP. DISTRICT 3 Ed. Vernon 729 Woodland Dr. Santa Barbara CA 93108 (805) 969-4123

REP. DISTRICT 4 Austin Lysight 19538 Strathern Reseda CA 91335 (213) 886-5367

REP. DISTRICT 5 John Bock 11455 NE 124th Kirkland WA 98033 (206) 822-8860

CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES



August 15-16-17, 1975 at Santa Barbara

The greeting was, "Welcome to beautiful Santa Barbara.

The response was, "AL-O-HA".

The Mercury Class Yacht Racing Association was returning the National Championship series to Santa Barbara. Previous series had been sponsored by this fleet in 1960 and 1968.

A beautiful brochure gave the schedule of events. Thursday August 14 - Measuring sails and weighing boats. At 1900 hours a spaghetti dinner at the Santa Barbara Yacht Club.

Friday August 15 - Skippers meeting -Roger Roessler ably predided as Race Committee Chairman. Then two races as decribed on the following pages. At 2000 hours - dinner and dancing with the Santa Barbara Mercury Fleet as host.

Saturday there were two great races - at 1800 hours No Host Cocktails, then 1900 hours the Annual Dinner.

Sunday the one race after a late start. A very impressive score board gave the current score and standings of each skipper immediately after each race and the final standings after this last race.

Trophy presentations were made and speeches given. All toasted the new Champion, John Grether - with magnums of Champagne.

THE RACING

A large fleet of 35 finely tuned Mercurys eagerly participated in the 1975 Mercury Yacht Racing Association - National Championship.

Each year they get better and after the Nationals each year the sponsors for the next year say "We hope we can do as well" - they do. Every area is different and each Nationals bears the location or home fleet atmosphere.

However, the Home fleet is not always blessed with the winner. This year was close, John Grether first sailed his Mercury in Ventura. Although his studies have landed him in the Sausalito Fleet, he could be condidered home grown. At any rate John did the job with Dave West crewing. Dave is a new Mercury owner from the Richmond Fleet.

Roger Roessler as Race Committee Chairman did a spectacular job and earned the right to repeat in 1976 at Huntington Lake, - the entire Santa Barbara fleet did a super iob.

