

## SPOTLIGHT – SAN JUAN 21

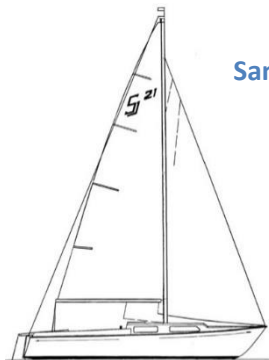
MARCH 2021

The San Juan 21 was the first of a family of San Juan boats designed and built by the Clark Boat Company in Kent, Washington. Bob and Coral Clark had been sailing and building boats since the 1930s when “a young, growing middle class in America was discovering that you could do more with water than drink it and bathe in it.” “The age of the inexpensive trailer sailor” (*San Juan Sailboats and Clark Boat Co., Mike Robinson, rev. 5-2008*) became a growing market for small sailboats in the 1960s.

The Clarks had successfully manufactured Thistles, C-Larks, Lightnings and 505s until 1970 when the San Juan 21 was showcased at the Seattle Boat Show in the same year and which gained the boat much attention among first time sailors. The ease of trailering – riding between the wheels, not above – catered to its mobility which allowed adventurous sailors to launch in as little as 25 minutes into 2’ of water in different locations each weekend, and without paying slip fees or membership dues.

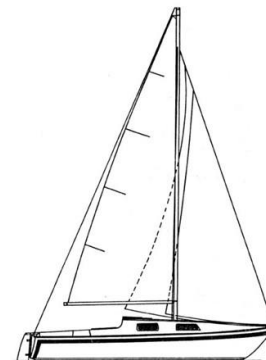
The design of the SJ21 did change through the years they were produced from 1970 – 1984 by Clark and 1984 – 1988 by San Juan Manufacturing. Three designs came to be known as the Mark I, Mark II, and Mark III as sailors’ objectives varied. Designed to sail predominantly in the Pacific Northwest, hull and cockpit areas denoted the main changes to accommodate racing and day sailing around the islands of the Puget Sound in inclement weather. The minor differences of the three designs of the 2,600+ boats built are summarized below.

Thus, the San Juan 21 was born and today is popularly sailed across Canada and the United States, on rivers, lakes, bays, and reservoirs. The relatively inexpensive costs to purchase – \$2,000 - \$4000 – and maintain only adds to the continued enthusiasm of the SJ21 in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.



San Juan 21 Mark I

- Built from 1970 – 1977; 1,000 built
- No forward hatch until 1973 redesign
- Longer cockpit, 18”
- Walk around ledge on cabin top
- “Said” to be a better race boat



San Juan 21 Mark II, III

- Built from 1973 – 1988, abt. 1,600 (incl. a few during those later years which were custom built)
- Longer cabin, 18”
- Foredeck one continuous line from mast to bow
- Cabin sides flush with the hull sides
- “Said” to be a better cruising boat
- Lazarette (storage) located at transom
- No external differences between Mark II and III except the II has a rear lazarette (storage) at rear cockpit
- The Mark III keel winch is located on aft of mast post

**“The right place at the right time”**

The Clark Boat Co.



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### General Specifications:

Length	20.5 ft	Mast height	25' 8"
Length of waterline	17'	Ballast / keel weight	400 lb
Beam	7'	Sail area	190 sq ft/
Draft	4', keel in fully lowered position	Hull speed	5.5 knots
Displacement / weight	1,250 per specs, 1,400 actual	Handicap, baseline	252
Rigging type	Fractional Sloop, allows mast to bend more easily; smaller forestay	Sails	Main, jib spinnaker, genoa

**Another favorable attribute** of the SJ21 is that it's design lends itself to be self-righting. The boat easily and comfortably sails at 15 degrees, but when heeled to 40-50 degrees will automatically point windward. However! Self-righting boats can capsize as CBYC Club members witnessed once at S. Tenmile Lake. Ask Tom Kyle to tell you that story! (NO! it wasn't his!).

**Some notes on rigging a SJ21** – The boat was designed to use standard rigging, making it very available and affordable. It can be tailored to your sailing objective if you are racing, day sailing, or single handing. It can also be specially rigged for lowering sails quickly during races, dropping the mast by yourself, trailering, overnight stays, etc.

**TIP!** The best way to learn about rigging or modifying your SJ21 is to walk around the dock and look at other boats' rigging, ask other skippers, YouTube videos, and message boards (see resources below).

## THE SAN JUAN 21 ARRIVES AT THE CBYC!

The first SJ21 boats began showing up at the Club in the early 1970s with the first Club Championship held in 1975. Several members including Tom Stamper, Dave & Bonnie Morgan, Kurt Hohman, Steve Herman, Tom Kyle, Dick Vigue and many others became avid SJ21 sailors and built the fleet which still has many original boats today from that era. At one point, there were 33 SJ21 boats and skippers at the CBYC! Today our fleet has roughly 25 boats and is seeing a resurgence in popularity.

The CBYC is the original home to many of the SJ21s you see there today. George Tinker brought "Mas Atlas" to the Club in 1981 after purchasing nearly new and sailed it for almost 40 years! Now you can see her sail #2466 out there finishing races with new skipper Gary Vonderohe at the helm. Tom McAndrew's "Tomfoolery" is the oldest SJ21 with sail #311 and is an original 1971 Mark I. Until a few years ago, Tom Benz owned sail #2600, the last SJ21 – and one of the few Mark IIIs – made by Clark Boat Co. Ann & Spence Kershaw's "O" and sail #439 is one of the original 1972 Mark I's brought to the Club by Harry Heidenreich in 1981, then sold to his daughter and son-in-law Glenn & Kathe Tiege. It passed hands once more to Leo and Mary Fernandez before the Kershaw's bought it in 2011. It is always nice to see these old boats staying in the CBYC family, and even better to see them with wind in their sails!

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## **THE SAN JUAN 21 ARRIVES AT THE CBYC!**

*A narrative history as told by Tom Kyle, CBYC Member since 1975.*

We joined the Club in 1976. Our introduction to the Club was by Kurt Holman. I was working on the same project in Bandon with Kurt. We talked during Lunches and Breaks and he told me about this new Sailboat that he had ordered. He told me about the Yacht Club and how much he enjoyed Sailing.

One day he told me that the Sailboat he had ordered was going to arrive the next weekend. He invited Jean and I to help him launch the boat at the County Dock and Sail it to the Yacht Club.

My and Jean's introduction to Sailing was a Launch at the County Dock and a Down Wind Sail to the Yacht Club. A gentle comfortable Sail with warm sun and a stable (non-tipping) boat. A short turn to the Dock and we were sold on Sailing. We joined shortly later that Summer. We had no idea what a change in our lives we had started. We now realized that a majority of our social contacts are from our involvement with the Yacht Club and the extended family that we have met from attending sailing events. We have rarely meet anyone at any sailing activity that we would not invite to visit us at our home.

The Boat was a San Juan 21, hull number 1505. This was the second San Juan to arrive at the Club. The first was Osprey, hull number 1515 now owned by Sean Randle.

Hull Number 1515 has been owned by Tom Stamper, Mike Miller, Bob Mason and Sean Randle.

Hull Number 1505 has been owned by Kurt Holman, Paul Burgett, a couple of members in between, jointly by Tom Kyle/Tom Benz, Tom Benz, Richard Rudder and now by Greg Collins in Klamath Falls.

I believe that the third San Juan was Dave Morgan #1835 followed by Nick Nickson #1836, Steve Herman 1541 and Dick Vigue, Hull #1838. We did not own a San Juan until about 1981.

The Coos Bay Yacht Club has developed a number of Championship San Juan 21 Sailors. Kurt Hohman, Tom Kyle, Brian Gunnari, Tom Mills, Sean Randle, Chris Gedrose and I'm sure I missed someone. Several have won multiple times.





## SAN JUAN 21 FLEET 43 – COOS BAY, OREGON

MARCH 2021

The Coos Bay Yacht Club San Juan 21 Fleet 43 supports the fleet activities and contribution to the Club. Membership in the National and local fleet is a requirement to race in the Western National Regatta. The local fleet dues supports the annual Fleet 43 trophy presented at the Commodore’s Banquet. Dues are \$10/yr. and deposited in an account titled “San Juan 21 Fleet 43” at First Community Credit Union.

Fleet 43 has hosted the National Championships four+ times and the Western Regionals seven times! The following is an excerpt from Neal Barkley, Midwest Vice-Commodore September/October 2007 SJ21 Jibsheet, and describes the CBYC as a most desirable location:

*“The venue, which is situated just inland from the beautiful Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area, is renowned for its strong and shifting winds – a challenge for any sailor – as well as a beautiful clubhouse and grounds situated on a bluff overlooking the lake.”*

### How the Local Fleet Helps the CBYC

In recent years, the local income has been a loss to cover the trophy with typically few members paying. The local dues have supported the boat hoist construction, cradle, electric hoist, power washer located there and other contributions to CBYC. The accumulation of dues and past regatta earnings provides the "upfront funds" to host the next San Juan 21 regatta at CBYC.

In summary, the Fleet needs **member support** by paying dues and participating in CBYC regatta hosting events to build reserves to fund facilities that help skippers and crew maintain, store and protect their boats!

Fleet 43 needs some revitalization! Active local fleets are the underpinnings of a strong National SJ21 Class!



### Coos Bay Yacht Club San Juan 21 Club Championships - 1975 to Present

2019	Chris Gedrose	1996	Joe Cortez
2018	Chris Gedrose	1995	Nick Nickson
2017	George Tinker	1994	Nick Nickson
2016	George Tinker	1993	Nick Nickson
2015	George Tinker	1992	Dick Vigue
2014	Jon Richards	1991	Kevin Hedgepath
2013	Tom McAndrew	1990	Kevin Hedgepath
2012	Sean Randle	1989	Tom Kyle
2011	Jon Richards	1988	Ron Wardman
2010	Jon Richards	1987	Ron Wardman
2009	Jon Richards	1986	Dave Morgan
2008	Butch Gulseth	1985	Dave Morgan
2007	Butch Gulseth	1984	Nick Nickson
2006	Butch Gulseth	1983	Nick Nickson
2005	Jon Richards	1982	Dave Morgan
2004	Butch Gulseth	1981	Nick Nickson
2003	Butch Gulseth	1980	Nick Nickson
2002	Butch Gulseth	1979	Steve Herman
2001	Butch Gulseth	1978	Tom Stamper
2000	Butch Gulseth	1977	Kurt Hohman
1999	Dean Webb	1976	Kurt Hohman
1998	Dean Webb	1975	Tom Stamper
1997	Joe Cortez		



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## **SAN JUAN 21 NATIONAL ASSOCIATION - [sj21class.org](http://sj21class.org)**

The National San Juan 21 Class Association organized in 1971 in Seattle, WA and today is continually active with hundreds of members from all parts of the United States, Canada and US Territories. The Association is comprised of over 60 Local Fleets within 3 regions – Western, Midwestern, and Eastern. Each year Regional Championships are held and in the early 1990s the North American Championship was established and is hosted by each Region on a three-year rotational basis.

All Championship Regattas include a “Working Sails” (main and jib) and an “All Sails” (main, jib, spinnaker / genoa) class. As mentioned, the CBYC has hosted several SJ21 Class Championships since 1975. The last Western Nationals occurred in 2018 and included 10 Club boats and 15 visiting boats. Skippers at CBYC have traditionally participated in the Working Sails class.

The Club boasts numerous champions in Western Regionals including Kurt Hohman (honorary), Brian Gunnari (inactive), Tom Kyle (3x), Butch Gulseth (inactive), George Cardas, Tom Mills (3x), and Jon Richards. Oscar Barney (inactive), Sean Randle and Tim Mills have battled it out to take Firsts in National Championships.

Several Club members have and continue to support the Fleet at Local, Regional and National levels.

- Chris Gedrose, Western Vice-Commodore, present
- George Tinker, Fleet 43 Captain, present
- Jon Richards, National Commodore, 2010 and Western Vice-Commodore, past
- Tom Kyle, Western Vice-Commodore, past
- *Please forgive if you were forgotten here!*

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## **YOUR PARTICIPATION IN THE LOCAL 43 & NATIONAL ASSOCIATION**

***A message from Chris Gedrose, Western Vice Commodore and avid CBYC SJ21 Skipper –***

We could all do more to activate our on-line presence, take some photos (thanks Dirk!) Post some how-to articles; we have some very clever people in our group who have decades of experience with the boat. Write a quick recap of our regatta (thanks Dirk!) I think we could also talk the Class into hosting classifieds for boats, trailers, sails etc. The link to the web master (Kris Barker) is on the class website, and I will be meeting with the National Class leaders in coming weeks if you have anything for them.

Whether you are a current San Juan 21 Class member renewing your membership or a San Juan owner who has not yet joined, it is important to join and renew your membership. Being a member strengthens your investment in owning a San Juan. Every San Juan owner can benefit from connecting with other owners across the country.

For those of you who have just purchased your first San Juan start here [San Juan 21 Class Association \(sj21class.org\)](http://San Juan 21 Class Association (sj21class.org)), The San Juan Class needs your membership support to be a resource to you.



## SAN JUAN 21 – RESOURCES / BIBLIO

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- National Class – [sj21class.org](http://sj21class.org)
- SJ21 Fleet 1 – [www.sj21fleet1.org](http://www.sj21fleet1.org)
- San Juan Sailboats and Clark Boat Co., Mike Robinson, rev. 5-2008 – PDF
- SJ21 Mark I Manual – PDF
- SJ21 Mark II Manual – PDF
- SJ21 Class Association Handbook (Original Drawings) - [http://sj21class.org/pdf/san\\_juan\\_21\\_handbook\\_jan06\\_2006.pdf](http://sj21class.org/pdf/san_juan_21_handbook_jan06_2006.pdf)
- Rigging Ideas – <http://www.sj21fleet1.org/tips-and-tricks>
- Single Handed Mast Stepping Help - [http://www.geocities.ws/sj21fleet1/single\\_handed\\_rigging.htm](http://www.geocities.ws/sj21fleet1/single_handed_rigging.htm)
- Single Handed Mast Stepping Help Message Board - <http://www.sj21class.org/phpbb2/viewtopic.php?t=10193>
- SJ21 Registry, Brian Larson, upd. May 2008 – <http://sj21class.org/boats.php>
- SJ21 Specifications - <https://sailboatdata.com/sailboat/san-juan-21>
- SJ21 Specifications – <http://www.tommysolomon.com/sj21info>
- SJ21 Wikipedia contributions – [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Clark\\_Boat\\_Company](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Clark_Boat_Company)
- **GO HERE TO REGISTER YOUR SJ21 –**  
[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeUZ\\_F4jMvTeHbZGiguUbZvZbGCcRCSogo1mq3lonkOVxmbZQ/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeUZ_F4jMvTeHbZGiguUbZvZbGCcRCSogo1mq3lonkOVxmbZQ/viewform)

**\*\* Please email [membership.cbyc@gmail.com](mailto:membership.cbyc@gmail.com) to receive any PDF files listed here.**

### SAN JUAN 21 Class Association

DUES FORM ..... Coos Bay Yacht Club Fleet #43 For year 2021

Association dues are payable prior to January 1, each year. You are NOT a member if dues are not paid. Please use this form. A National Association membership subscription supports the "SJ 21 Jibsheets" on line at <http://sj21class.org> and participation in a Western and/or National regatta. Local membership includes sailing with friendly sailors, and provides for the CBYC Fleet 43 trophies..

Name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (h) \_\_\_\_\_ (wk) \_\_\_\_\_ (cell) \_\_\_\_\_

Sail # \_\_\_\_\_ Boat Name \_\_\_\_\_

Categories: (choose one)

Active Member: San Juan owner

Skipper attached to a fleet or unaffiliated..... \$25.00

**Payment through: [www.sj21class.org/join.html](http://www.sj21class.org/join.html)**

LOCAL DUES..... \$10.00 **\$ 10.00**

Total Enclosed **\$ 10.00**

Send check for \$10 payable to: "San Juan 21, Fleet 43"  
1856 Cottonwood Ave.  
Coos Bay, OR 97420

(Checks will be deposited to the Fleet 43 account.)



# Yacht Yak

Coos Bay Yacht Club Newsletter

**MARCH 2021**



"Oregon Sail" – Steve & Dave



"Viper" – Rowdy & Wendy



"Gemini" – Dean & Crew



"Pilot Car" – Tom & Dannett



"O" – Ann & Blake



"Mas Atlas" – George & Bob



"Toadie Juan" – Tom & Laura



"Muskrat" – Oscar & John



# Yacht Yak

Coos Bay Yacht Club Newsletter

**MARCH 2021**



"Hot Juan" – Butch & Crew



SJ21 sails or angel wings?



"Juan" – Dirk & Crew



"Tomfoolery" – Tom, Brian & Nicole



"Tomfoolery" – Tom & Crew



"Margarita" – Craig & Shari



"Cool Juan" – Chris & Linda



"A Crewed Interest" – Tim & Lisa



"Sweet Juan" & "Tomfoolery"



# Yacht Yak

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**MARCH 2021**



"Mas Atlas" – Gary & Michaela



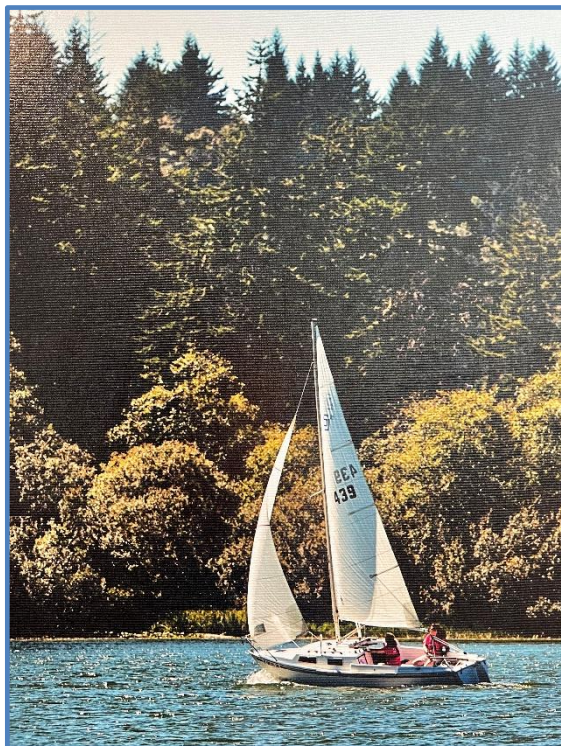
"Mas Atlas" & "Toadie Juan" looking for clean air, or just air ??



"Juan" – Dirk



"Relentless" & "Toadie Juan" after a close rounding during Western Nationals



"O" – Colleen & Ann - Girl Power!!



"A Crewed Interest" – Laura & Crew  
"Pilot Car" – Tom & Crew



"Toadie Juan" – George C & Ann



# Yacht Yak

Coos Bay Yacht Club Newsletter

**MARCH 2021**



"Relentless" – Jon & Kathy



"Viper" & "Pilot Car"



"Sweet Juan" – Jim & Crew



"Toadie Juan" – Tom & Anjo



"Viper" – Rowdy & Wendy – It was a most awesome day!



"Osprey" – Sean & Jessica  
"Relentless" – Darin & CC



**A big THANK YOU to all contributors!**

- |               |                |
|---------------|----------------|
| Angela Cardas | George Tinker  |
| Chris Gedrose | Spence Kershaw |
| Gary Hodson   | Tom Benz       |
| George Cardas | Tom Kyle       |



**MARCH 2021**

**2021 San Juan 21 Nationals in Klamath Falls**

Fleet 51 is putting together a great event at Klamath Yacht Club. Mark your calendars for June 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup>, with Sunday the 13<sup>th</sup> as a reserve day. Regatta information is on the San Juan 21 Class web site and [2021 San Juan 21 National Championship Regatta: Klamath Yacht Club](#).

**Klamath Yacht Club**

**San Juan 21 North Americans**

**June 10 thru 12, 2021**

For NOR, SI, and registration see link below.

<https://www.regattanetwork.com/event/21701>



**Further info contact, Greg Collins, [gcklinker@yahoo.com](mailto:gcklinker@yahoo.com)**

To see Fleet 61's Notice of Race for the Western Nationals go to:  
[https://www.regattanetwork.com/clubmgmt/regatta\\_uploads/21701/NORNA.docx.pdf](https://www.regattanetwork.com/clubmgmt/regatta_uploads/21701/NORNA.docx.pdf)