

Stars & Stripes USA-11 (Raced in 1992 by Dennis Conner) Brings the Experience of Yacht Racing to San Diego Bay

*** * MEDIA ARE INVITED ABOARD! * ***

WHAT:

Authentic yacht sailing adventures on board Stars & Stripes USA-11 (formerly owned and raced by Dennis Conner)

WHEN:

Most Sundays at 12:30pm – call to confirm

WHERE:

Leaving from the Kona Kai Marina on Shelter Island, sailing San Diego Bay

DETAILS:

Sail USA 11, owners of Stars & Stripes USA-11, has teamed up with the Cortez Racing Association (CRA) to promote yacht sailing in San Diego. This weekend the board of the CRA will sail Stars & Stripes on San Diego Bay and invite you to join them.

The goal of the owners and crew of Stars & Stripes USA-11 is to provide sailing enthusiasts with a real-life hands-on experience in sailing a racing yacht. Passengers will be offered the opportunity to crew the boat (depending on their level of experience) during a fun ride on the bay. The owners, Steve Pattison and Mark Niblack, are launching Sail USA 11 out of a pure love of sailing and this boat.

With the next America's Cup challenge just a few months away, Sail USA 11 and the CRA hope to renew San Diegans' interest in the races and the sport of yacht racing.

Background:

Although he was outspent by billionaire Bill Koch by nearly 10-to-1, Dennis Conner's lone boat, Stars & Stripes USA-11, still made it to the finals of the Citizens Cup defense series in 1992 before being defeated by Koch's America3.

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Conner continued to sail USA-11, which was designed by David Pedrick and built by Eric Goetz, as a trial horse in his 1995 America's Cup campaign before selling her to the US Virgin Islands America's Cup Challenge. After surviving several hurricanes in the islands — including one which sunk her — USA-11 was purchased, shipped back to Miami, stripped of all her gear and completely refurbished. In 2002, Stars & Stripes USA-11 was a member of the IACC San Francisco Challenge Series, before making her return to San Diego in late 2006.

Stars & Stripes USA-11 is owned by sailing enthusiasts Mark Niblack and Steve Pattison, who sail her each weekend with other sailing enthusiasts under captains Lynn Hanna and Annie Nelson (1995 Women's America's Cup team navigator), one of the best women sailors in the world. A member of the 1984 U.S. Olympic team, Nelson garnered a silver medal in the Board Sailing exhibition and holds five world titles. She was named Yachtswoman of the Year in 2006.

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