



Pictured from left to right, Jim McCampbell of the Catalina Island Yacht Club Foundation, Stacy Amarantos of the Catalina Island Medical Center, JJ Poindexter of Catalina Search & Rescue, and Jeff Christiansen of the Catalina Island Yacht Club Billfish Invitational. Each are holding checks that will be donated to local charities on the Island. Courtesy photo

Avalon charities get \$20,000 donation

Funds were raised at 24th annual Billfish Invitational

FOR THE ISLANDER

The 24th annual Catalina Island Yacht Club Billfish Invitational took place Sept. 8-9. Eighteen boats and 90 anglers set out in search of the allusive marlin. This year was one of three years in the tournament's history where there were several hookups but no billfish were caught. Last year's winner, Déjà Vu, captained by Dan Whitener will keep the coveted CIYC Billfish Tournament trophy for another year as the reigning winner of

the tournament. The Side Bet Tournament for the largest tuna, dorado, or yellow tail caught was won by team Katie A captained by Bill Holder with a yellow fin tuna weighing in at 36.7 pounds. Team Katie A graciously donated the \$900 winnings to the Catalina Island Medical Center Foundation. The Catalina Island Yacht Club appreciates all the teams and anglers who participated and their continued support making this year's tournament the most successful in the tournament's 24 year history. The tournament donated \$20,000 to help support local charities, such as Catalina Island Search & Rescue, Catalina Island Medical Center Foundation, and C.H.O.I.C.E.S. At Thursday night's captains

meeting and Saturday night's award dinner many raffle items and gift certificates were given away and the bar was hosted by Cheryl Melville, the wife of tournament founder Bill Melville. The tournament committee thanks all the Avalon businesses that donated items and gift certificates to the tournament, including The Lobster Trap, High Tide Traders, Steve's Steak House, Blue Water Grill, Avalon Mooring and Dive Service, Maggie's Blue Rose, Avalon Harbor Department, Avalon Seafood's Rosie's on the pier, Ristorante Villa Portofino, and Seaport Bistro. The club appreciates and thanks everyone who helped make this year's event a success with their kindness and continued support.

Yacht Club raises money for Chimes Tower

Club donated all proceeds from event in August

FOR THE ISLANDER

The Catalina Island Yacht Club held its CIYC Foundation Night fundraiser in August and donated 100 percent of the proceeds to the Catalina Chimes Tower Foundation restoration project. The event included a tour of 223 Beacon, the Schindler-inspired Madam Wolfe House, a new state-of-the-art view home with the infinity pool and gorgeous views from the Beacon hilltop, and drew more than 60 yacht club members. The \$150 ticket price was fully tax deductible, with all of the proceeds going to the Catalina Chimes Tower Foundation. Attendees sipped cocktails and enjoyed hors d'oeuvres as they strolled through the house, before going on to an exquisite dinner at the Catalina Island

Yacht Club. One of the highlights of the party was a presentation by Alison Wrigley Rusack, who began with a tribute to her great grandparents' vision for the Chimes Tower. Then she gave a background on the foundation's work to date, and described the fundraising goal and restoration plans. The foundation is currently working on a high-quality, long-term repair of the existing structure, buttresses, and walls—giving them a fresh clean look—a full repair of the chimes and mechanism, and the preservation and use of existing Catalina tile. Also part of the plan is hand-forged iron work, including a newly designed front door for increased visibility, new grills at the chimes arches, and decorative fencing designed for close viewing access, along with native landscape design and installation and tower lighting. "This was the most successful fundraiser in the Catalina Island Yacht Club's history," said Jim Wachtler, Catalina Island Yacht

Club Commodore, who organized the event. "We are delighted to be able to donate to such a worthy cause," he said. Catalina Chimes Tower Foundation chairman, Alison Wrigley Rusack, expressed her appreciation of the Catalina Island Yacht Club for their ingenuity and generosity in contributing to the project. According to Ms. Wrigley Rusack, "We are thrilled to join forces with clubs and organizations such as the CIYC, who so enthusiastically support our efforts for the restoration of the historic Chimes Tower." **How you can help** To make a tax-deductible donation, please visit CatalinaChimes.org. Contributions can also be mailed directly to the Catalina Chimes Tower Foundation at P.O. Box 677, Avalon, CA 90704. A receipt for your contribution will be mailed to you. If you have any questions, email info@catalinachimes.org.

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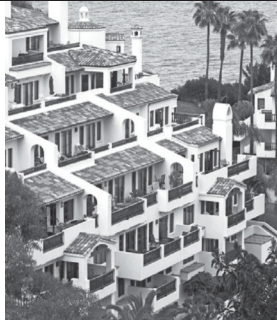
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