

BEARINGS™

American Sailing Association Affiliate & Instructor Newsletter

ASA's National Meeting in Las Vegas



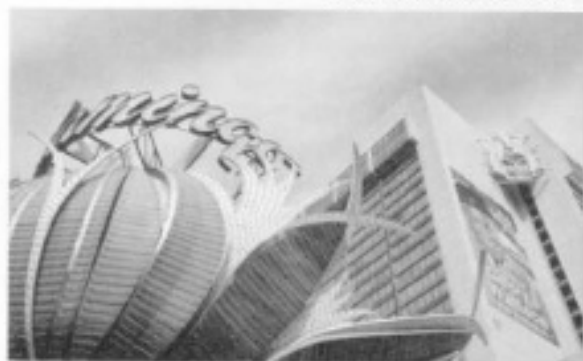
Now that was fun!! Did you miss it? ASA Instructors, Affiliate owners and operators gathered for a weekend of socializing, business development strategies and an update on the many projects of the American Sailing Association and its Affiliates. Sailors and educators came from all parts of the world, including Japan, Taiwan, Alaska and Annapolis. The program started with an optional free day where a group led by Charlie Nobles went via bus to visit the Hoover Dam. Friday the IE Summit was conducted by Duncan Hood and Dave Lumian.

We had 19 Instructor Evaluators who are dedicated to improving the many aspects of our Instructor Qualification Clinics, testing and site visits of new ASA Affiliates. We greatly appreciate all who attended and contributed.

Charlie Nobles led an Affiliate Workshop on Friday for those who were not ASA Instructor Evaluators. He focused on getting suggestions and discussing ways that ASA can improve our online system and other programs.

A special thanks to Roger Buenslow for his "How to Make the Most of PowerPoint" presentation. Saturday and Sunday the group met together to hear a very strong line up of speakers. Highlights included Jeffrey Hoedt from the USCG discussing the Strategic Plan and ways that ASA can help promote boating safety, and Bob Bitchin' showing examples of his success with Latitudes and Attitudes and grassroots marketing.

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The meetings were held at the Las Vegas Flamingo Hotel.



Pictured on the optional day outing to Hoover Dam is ASA Instructor Lisa Batchelor Frailey

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ASA Japan Hosts 5th Annual Instructor Meeting and Conducts Safety at Sea Demonstration in Osaka

by ASA Instructor Gregory Martin

Since its founding in 1999, Aoki Yachts American Sailing Association affiliate sailing school has been actively promoting the sport of sailing throughout Japan. Over the weekend of February 5-6, 2011 Aoki Yachts hosted the 5th annual ASA Japan instructor meeting in Osaka. Yoh Aoki, President of ASA Japan

met with his staff and network of ASA certified sailing instructors to discuss instructor techniques and how to best practice the ASA system of sailing instruction in Japan.

Instructors and staff discussed techniques and the format in Japan for the Basic Keelboat 101 course and the Safe Boating and Docking endorsement and conducted instructor demonstration lessons. The group also became familiar with Aoki Yacht School's new web-based student and instructor communication tools and devoted some time interpreting changes in Japanese safety equipment requirements, which differ slightly from the standards in the United States.

Aoki-san also reviewed with his staff and instructors lessons learned from a Safety at Sea demonstration, which was also held in Osaka in August. This demonstration was similar to a Safety At Sea Seminar which many American sailors are familiar with, and was conducted by Aoki Yachts ASA instructors for the public.

The demonstration topics included water survival and a practical evaluation of crew recovery techniques, in which



a swimmer was rescued and hoisted aboard a yacht doing both the Figure eight and quick stop methods of recovery. Aoki Yacht School's Safety At Sea demonstration was featured prominently in the popular Kazi Japanese yachting magazine.

Aoki Yacht Schools' ASA instructors came to the annual instructor meeting in Osaka from all over Japan. The meeting was also an opportunity for the two new instructors who joined the team or participated in one of Aoki Sensei's two IQCs in the past year to meet with the rest of the team. Yoh Aoki is also an ASA Instructor Evaluator and has conducted eleven IQCs in Japan, certifying 41 instructors since 1999. IQCs are held regularly in Osaka and Yokosuka in Japanese and in English for foreigners living or working in Japan.

Aoki Yachts ASA Sailing school is the largest recreational sailing school in Japan and has issued over 2500 sailing certificates since it became an ASA affiliated sailing school in 1998. The complete range of ASA courses are regularly taught in Osaka, Tokyo, Yokohama and Okinawa in Japanese and English. Aoki Sensei translated all ASA course materials into Japanese and even wrote the sailing textbooks, Inner Sailing 1, 2 and 3 as the Japanese version of ASA's sailing textbooks. Sailing courses are taught on a variety of types of sailing craft, including the new Aoki- designed Zen 24 auxiliary electric sailboat. Aoki Yachts is also a Japanese government boat licensing school and full service boat brokerage.

As an island nation, Japanese culture has always been intimately tied to the sea. As a recreational activity, the



Greg Martin is a USCG and Japan licensed Captain who teaches ASA courses for the Aoki Yacht School in Okinawa aboard his electric powered sailboat, Intrepid.

He is also the founder and President of Electric Seas, a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting electric propulsion for watercraft.

sport of sailing has been steadily gaining in popularity in Japan in recent years. If you are looking for a truly unique and unforgettable sailing vacation or if your sailing cruise takes you in the direction of this part of the globe, please visit www.aoki.us and Yoh Aoki and his dedicated ASA instructors would be happy to go sailing with you and show you the beautiful sites of Japan.




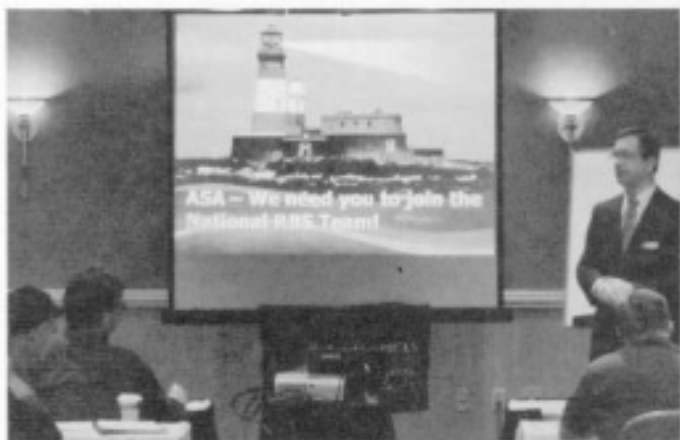
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ASA's National Meeting in Las Vegas

Our own Chris Tucker from ASA SailTime Channel Islands did an excellent presentation on social media. High marks were also received from Duncan and Charlie's Marketing ideas discussion. Dave Lumian reviewed his work as our Government and Regulatory Liaison. Bob Ross of Seattle Sailing Club discussed his success with Groupon.

Everyone loved Yoh Aoki's presentation on the Zen of Sailing with help from Greg Martin and G.D. French. Thank you to all the speakers...many of which we did not mention here. You were great!

We are beginning to think about the next one...right now we plan to go back to having both a West Coast and an East Coast meeting in order to keep it more accessible to our instructors and schools. We have penciled these meetings in for October 2012, but we are accepting feedback and welcome your input. We would like to announce the dates over a year in advance so that you can adjust your busy schedules to attend. It is really the coming together as a strong association that has the most value. Please plan to attend our next meeting. More details to follow. 



Jeffrey Hoedt did a great job discussing the USCG Strategic Plan and ways that ASA can get more involved.



ASA Executive Director with George Bonelli discussing how to better improve the current online system.



Dianne and Duncan Hood at the dinner. Many of the participants brought guests and took in the shows and other sites.



Chairman of the Board Lenny Shabes traveled from Southern California and was an active participant in the lively discussions associated with the lectures.



Pictured from left to right: Speaker Yoh Aoki, ASA President Cynthia Shabes and ASA Founder and Chairman of the Board Lenny Shabes



ASA Staff and Instructors at the group dinner at Margaritaville Dinner on Saturday night. The food and company were excellent!



ASA Instructor Evaluators Bob Diamond and Yoh Aoki attended the IE Summit on Friday.

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Learning Modalities

Auditory learners are best when they can listen. Go ahead and speak to them, read aloud, or help them discuss the points you wish to cover with other students. You can even have them teach a topic to the others. It is a proven fact that those things we teach we will retain faster. Also, instead of just reading about sound signals, use a small bell or horn to illustrate it. Anything you can do to trigger aural responsiveness will be helpful to this student.

Many, if not most, learners are a combination of the various learning styles discussed and do not fit neatly into one or another category. For this reason, it is best to use a combination of different activities and approaches from several of the modalities.

Read the parts of the boat from the book, but then go outside and physically point them out as you move about the boat. Discuss the man overboard drill; then move your water bottle or other manipulative.

When you are working, especially with children, you need to provide lessons including as many of these styles as possible. If you have the space and want to try something new and interesting, take children out to a grassy area and ask them to act out the man overboard drill or the points of sail. This will be great fun and give everyone a laugh or two, as well.

Giving students the ability to experiment and experience learning in this way will tremendously increase their retention of the information studied.

For more information on multiple intelligences please see *Frames of Mind: The Theory of Multiple Intelligences* by Howard Gardner, who discusses eight intelligences including linguistic, bodily-kinesthetic, spatial, musical, logical-mathematical, intrapersonal, interpersonal, and naturalist. 