

John Edwards, 1911

(1884-1951)

Edwards was the grandson and namesake of a Welsh '49er who married into the prominent Sexton family of Goleta Valley. Like his father, George Sexton Edwards, and his uncles Albert and Charles, John was a banker. It was John Edwards who really started the ball rolling in local waters when he had Don Leach build his catboat Volga in 1906. Other members saw the smart little boat and wanted one of their own to sail, and they were off to the races ... or regattas. As commodore, John presided over the 1911 South Coast Regatta.