



SANTA BARBARA

YACHT CLUB

John T. McCurdy, 1921

1860-1925

John was one of the most renowned corporate attorneys of his time, representing several of the largest corporations in America, including General Motors, Michigan Central and Grand Trunk Railways. He also served as personal attorney to William Crapo “Billy” Durant, head of General Motors. John owned homes in both Detroit and Santa Barbara, where he moved in 1919, after he married Helen Newcomb of Los Angeles. As commodore, John launched the first major regatta in Santa Barbara after its ten year break. John’s business background served the Yacht Club well; under his leadership the membership grew exponentially, local merchants volunteered to get on board by donating goods and services for the regatta, and the U.S. Navy’s Pacific Fleet sailed into town to participate in the festivities.