



SANTA BARBARA

YACHT CLUB

Ronald E. Strahl 1983

1942-2018

A licensed professional engineer, Ron came to Santa Barbara in the late 1960s and established a consulting firm. Coming from the desert area of Redlands, California, he became hooked on sailing and joined the Yacht Club after crewing Wet Wednesdays. He sailed in the Flattie Fleet for several years, and co-owned several sloops: Sakitumi, Gefion, and Radiant. After twenty-five years, Ron closed his practice and accepted a Regent's appointment to assist in the development of the capital portion for the long-range plan for the University of California's Santa Barbara campus. Since 1991, Ron has overseen one billion dollars in design and construction. During his commodore year, a number of physical improvements were made: the addition of the east Harbor Room to the clubhouse, the rebuilding after the 1983 storm, and the subterranean rock revetment for the parking lot. His Commodore's Ball at Birnam Wood Country Club included a country western band (in tuxedos and white 10-gallon hats!) with Fess Parker as master of ceremonies.