Elissa Grand Boat Parade
&
The Centennial Year Opening Day Weekend
April 19-20, 1997

Opening Day is going to be a special day for the club. The eleventh annual Elissa Regatta has been moved to Opening Day and combined with the traditional San Jacinto Regatta. In recognition of our centennial celebration and appreciation for our fund raising efforts in the past, the Texas Seaport Museum is bringing the Elissa to Upper Galveston Bay.

Opening ceremonies, Sunday, April 20, 4:00, will be attended by many dignitaries, including State Representatives, State Historical Commission personnel and representatives of Past Commodores all the way back to 1897. Music will be provided by the University of Houston “Cougar Brass”.

News media, photographers, aerial photographers, television crews, dignitaries, politicians, historians, and real people will be everywhere. An “Eyes of Texas” crew will be filming a segment about the HYC Centennial.

Please dress ship all weekend!

The Elissa will arrive Saturday April 19, 1997 at about 10 a.m. and drop anchor between “G” mark of the Olympic circle and marker “6” of the Bay Port Channel. At anchor her three square rigged 100 foot masts will be in plain view from the club house.

Saturday will be the first day of racing in the Elissa Regatta. In the afternoon between 6 p.m. and 10 p.m. there will be a BBQ lawn party with reggae band for $10 per person. Tickets will be sold for outside food and drink, all proceeds go to the Elissa.

Sunday at 9:30 a.m. there will be a single file boat review with photo opportunity while the Elissa is at anchor. Follow the West Point, our Centennial flag ship, and the race committee boats as they pass in review of
the Elissa. The HYC flag officers will be on board to salute each vessel. A cannon will be fired for each boat. The Observer will be near by with spectators and photographers on board.

After passing in review, proceed to your race course if you are participating in the Elissa Regatta, or assemble south of Red Bluff and wait for the beginning of the Grand Boat Parade.

At 10:30 a.m. the Elissa will begin to lift her anchor, a process that takes about 1 hour. She will move to the Bay Port Channel near marker “6” and proceed out to the ship channel, turn left and head toward Morgan’s Point. She will be escorted by a the West Point, the Observer, a Coast Guard boat, four Coast Guard Auxiliary boats, and four parade marshal boats. Please follow their directions! Avoid the racing areas, try to stay out of the ship channel and look out for commercial traffic!

The Coast Guard and parade marshal boats will direct spectator boats to wait south of Morgan’s Point (out of the ship channel) while the Elissa, West Point and press boats proceed up to the Fred Hartman Bridge.

The Elissa will turn around and go back down the ship channel to be rejoined by the armada of spectator boats which may follow her as far as Galveston.

Most boats will break off south of Red Bluff so that they can be at HYC before 4:00 p.m. to witness opening day ceremonies, trophy presentation for the Elissa Regatta, and a State Historical Marker dedication.

The parade will take about three hours which may be joined or left at your leisure!

The HYC office will collect prints and negatives taken by a volunteer on the Observer. Call the office in a couple of weeks and collect the photo and negative of your boat.