California Yacht Club is honored to host the 2014 USODA Nationals sponsored by Jim and Nelly Kilroy’s Foundation on Sunday, July 20, through Sunday, July 27. Over 200 young Opti sailors from North America are expected and will be competing in four different fleets. The Opti is the boat of choice internationally for young sailors.

CYC members are invited and welcome to attend all events during this exciting week of sailing.
Racing

Team Race National Championship
*-sponsored by John and Susie MacLaurin*
**Sunday, July 20, to Tuesday, July 22**
Sailing outside the breakwater
Measurement on Saturday, July 19

The first place U.S. team meeting the Team Race Eligibility requirements from the Gold Fleet will qualify to represent the USODA at the BMW Team Race Championship in Berlin, Germany, during October 2014.

USODA Girls National Championship
*-sponsored by Doug and Judy Levi*
**Wednesday, July 23**
Sailing outside the breakwater
Measurement on Tuesday, July 22

This is a one-day only championship just for girls. Three to five short races, followed by the best awards dinner of the week.

USODA National Championship
**Thursday, July 24, to Sunday, July 27**
Sailing outside the breakwater
Measurement on Wednesday, July 23

This regatta is a USODA Team Trials Qualifying (TTQ) event. The top 50% of Championship Fleet Team Trial Qualifying competitors will be eligible for entry into the 2015 Team Trials to be held at Coral Reef Yacht Club, Florida.

Green Fleet
**Thursday, July 24, to Sunday, July 27**
Sailing inside the breakwater

The Green Fleet is intended for younger, less-experienced sailors and provides opportunities for learning and competition. All Green Fleet sailors earn USODA medals for their participation.

US Sailing’s Reach Program

Sailing into STEM Carnival
**Friday, July 25, 3:30 to 7p.m.**

3:30 to 6 p.m. After racing, sailors are invited to a carnival of multiple interactive hands-on activities based on US Sailing’s Reach Program featuring STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math). Stations will feature the STEM subjects as they relate to sailing. Racers who visit all STEM stations will be eligible for prizes! Light hors d'oeuvres will follow.

6 p.m. Featured speakers: One design expert Chris Snow of North Sails.

Awards Ceremonies and Dinners

Reservations for those not competing in the regatta may be made by contacting the front desk at 310-823-4567.

**Team Race National Championship**
Tuesday, July 22
Awards ceremony and dinner $30 inclusive

**Girls National Championship**
Wednesday, July 23
Awards ceremony and dinner $30 inclusive

**Welcome Dinner**
*hosted by the CYCWA*
Thursday, July 24
$20 inclusive
Keynote speaker: Jim Kilroy

**Dinner and Party on the Pool Patio**
Saturday, July 26
$30 inclusive

**Closing Award Ceremony on the Front Lawn**
Sunday, July 27
All competitors, families, volunteers, and CYC members welcome to attend. No charge.

For more information on US Sailing’s Reach Program, STEM competencies, and Jim and Nelly Kilroy’s Foundation’s involvement in these initiatives, please see the interview with Mr. Kilroy on pages 16-17.

For more information on the 2014 USODA Nationals visit the CYC website USODA Nationals on the Regattas tab under Sailing or http://usodanationals-2014.org.

For information on sponsorship opportunities and raffle prize donations, please contact S/C Frank Glynn.

*Jim and Nelly Kilroy*
A nationally recognized movement to improve STEM skills (science, technology, engineering, math) in today’s youth has inspired government, corporate, and school-based programs to change the education landscape in the U.S. The U.S. Congress Joint Economic Committee noted in an April 2012 report that technological innovation improves the competitive position of U.S. industries, drives export growth, and supports high-quality jobs. The report stresses that tomorrow’s workers (today’s youth) must be equipped with the knowledge and skills needed to work effectively in jobs requiring STEM competencies.

Altering this downward educational trajectory requires new thinking and new partners. The sense of urgency is high and dynamic, unconventional programs to integrate STEM education into each student’s daily life are being implemented across the country. STEM in after-school programs, STEM with sports, STEM as a community commitment bringing business leaders, educators and community service providers together in a shared commitment to ensure that American children are competitive in the global economy.

At the forefront of innovation is a program inspired by legendary ocean racer Jim Kilroy. Thanks to funding from the John B. and Nelly Llanos Kilroy Foundation, US Sailing has created the Reach program, to challenge today’s youth to reach higher academically, further intellectually, and develop a daily practice of discovery. The curriculum aligns national education standards to sail training techniques. The excitement and novelty of sailing inspires the learning of critically important skills as well as fostering the development of self-reliance and discipline.

The habits and behaviors learned while sailing lead to lifelong success. Through sailing, students experience the importance of planning and charting their course. They develop the courage to embark on a new journey, the confidence to do so, and the persistence to finish no matter how difficult the conditions. Each student is on their own passage through self-discovery, exploration, and self-confidence while learning to respect the world around them and the flexibility to adapt to surrounding conditions.

When asked about the Reach Program Kilroy had the following to share:

**US Sailing:** What is your inspiration for US Sailing’s STEM education program, Reach?

**Kilroy:** My vision is that it introduces young sailors into the many variables of sailing, weather, equipment, and its use, in a simplistic understandable and mathematical way, one step at a time.

**US Sailing:** You have achieved great success in business, sailing, and life, if you pass along your wisdom to the youth of the future, what is one thing you would tell them?

**Kilroy:** Study the project that fits your desires, and challenges your mind. Keep your mind open. There are so many changes that will need to be made. Sailing is complicated yet uncomplicated. One must understand the variables with a flexible plan.

**US Sailing:** You have an amazing gift of bringing the right people together to move your ideas forward. What leaders in Sailing and STEM would you like to see join you in your support of the Reach Program?

**Kilroy:** I would like to see those who have the tactical wisdom; personal motivation, high energy, and interest to get involved and support the program. Through a greater number of individuals generating questions about the future of the program, new answers will be extended. An excellent example would be the Kialoa crew, all amateurs, all able to express their ideas and then unify as a team in a defined on-board verbal communication system. They would pre-discuss all issues when possible. There are too many names, all excellent sailors and communicators, to list just a few.
US Sailing: In your book, “Dare to Win,” you mention focusing on the 1/10th of a knot rule. How can you translate this internal drive to encourage youth sailors today on the water and in business?

Kilroy: The 1/10th of a knot rule is to maximize your potential thought and in function individually or as a team, thoughtfully. By making the additional effort to organize and streamline procedures your efforts will provide the focus to your team achieving success. For example, on Kialoa by streamlining the changing of shifts in the night, each person could focus on their task resulting in no loss of speed or tactics through the change in shift.

US Sailing: In your lifetime you have consistently merged the worlds of science, technology, and engineering. How did STEM help you achieve greatness in business and in sailing?

Kilroy: My desire as a child was to be in the world of science, which required innovation. Yet, in the 1930s and 40s, during the Great Depression and wartime years, my brother and I had to work to live. I always looked for new answers and I wasn’t afraid to fail. I was always asking how can we improve, how can we increase boat speed, what is the latest in technology. My advice would be to try an idea, don’t be afraid to fail, keep expanding your ideas and growing.

More on Reach

Over the last two years, 300 sailing centers implemented Reach, building STEM skills for 8,000 middle school students - 50% of whom are considered “at risk.” Using sailing as the educational platform, youths of all backgrounds experience education in an entirely different, hands-on, experiential program.

Reach fosters a love of learning and encourages youth to envision a future with productive careers built with STEM competencies. Through the Reach Program youths are introduced to the sport of sailing, provided support and mentorship for learning in critical academic and life skills and finally engage with experienced mentors - comprised of sailors, business people, scientists, and community leaders creating a pipeline for lifelong learning and support.

While sailing each day, youths absorb the Reach curriculum through inquiry-based learning. Without experiencing the curriculum as “education,” they learn math (sail area, perimeter, sail angles), physics (simple machines of ropes/pulleys/rudders, the Bernoulli principle, wind direction, vectors, buoyancy/density), environmental science (water quality testing, impacts of marine debris). Certain Reach modules touch on broader, career-related subjects; for example, underwater exploration and ROV (Remotely Operated Vehicle) technology, wind energy/power, as well as how to chart a course and execute a plan.

The Reach Program gives educators and program directors the tools to make STEM and sailing relevant to students and fosters new connections with the environment. With a solid foundation of ten learning modules, an educator guide, and training initiatives, Reach has quickly become the gold standard in STEM sailing. Capitalizing on this success, US Sailing is launching a robust funding campaign to dramatically and rapidly expand access to the Reach Program in cities all across America.

Sailing into STEM Night

Please join US Sailing, California Yacht Club, and United States Optimist Dinghy Association (USODA) for Sailing into STEM Night on Friday, July 25, at the California Yacht Club. Participants at USODA Nationals will have the opportunity to engage in hands on activities investigating the science of sailing from 3:30 to 6 p.m., followed by STEM and sailing presentations from leaders in the industry. Chris Snow of North Sails will present on the science and technology of Opti sailing.

To learn more about the Reach Program or make a contribution to the program, please contact Jessica Servis, US Sailing’s Reach Program Manager, at JessicaServis@ussailing.org.