



# Radon Team

Issue No. 14 Spring 2004 Editor: Joshua Radon

## President's Message

While working on Harbor Patrol, Fire, or Rescue boats, (either building new boats or repairing existing ones), we meet many outstanding Harbor Patrol employees. We are constantly impressed by their dedication and hard work. They are truly the “unsung heroes” of the boating and fishing community; they risk their own personal safety to attend to the needs of the public. On one hand, they address everyday issues, such as collaborating with us on the placement of a fire pump or cleat. On the other hand, they deal with catastrophic events, such as a capsized boat (see photos below). These brave souls face these issues and events with great professionalism. We consider ourselves very fortunate to know many of these people, and we would like to take this opportunity to salute them.

## Don Radon



A 1983 front page photo from the *L.A. Times* shows a whale watching boat capsizing in the Morro Bay harbor mouth. Note the 21' Radon patrol boat in the foreground - the Harbor Patrol officers on that boat rescued 32 people from the perilous waters that day.

## E-mails



*From Sean Martin, Senior Lake Lifeguard, Castaic Lake*

“Hi Guys,

Enjoyed reading the past newsletters. I wanted to send you the picture of our Radon Lifeguard Patrol Boat “Bravo II”. We are proud of our new boat and hope to get another real soon. We are complemented on the vessel all of the time, too bad we are limited to Castaic Lake. We would love to make a run to the Channel Islands on our boat. Keep up the good work!!”

## Newsflash!

For all of you *C.S.I.* watchers: the Castaic Lake boat was in an episode of *C.S.I.* a couple of months ago. We didn't even know the boat was in that episode until we were watching a rerun and spotted it. Don't blink, you might miss it if you don't pay close attention. (for those of you that don't watch TV - *C.S.I.* is a show about crime scene investigators)

# Fish Rap Radio!



On Valentines Day, Don & Linda were the featured guests on *Fish Rap Radio*, a local radio show. Tom Raftican hosted the show that day; he very kindly honored Linda's request to limit his questions directed at her. Don, however, was his usual chatty self. When asked if we had a showroom, Don replied ““The *ocean* is our showroom” That pretty much sums it up!

Morro Bay Harbor Patrol boat restoration

Those of you who are regular readers of the *Radon Team* newsletter may remember the Morro Bay Harbor Patrol boat re-power that we did a while back. Now we are doing a full restoration of that boat. The first photo shows the boat as it was when they brought it to us. The second photo is of the gelcoat being stripped down to the nub. We will show you the finished product in our next newsletter, promise!



Salmon!



Salmon season is here and many of our customers are on their boats, lines out. We were lucky to have a taste of the first catch this week - Kevin Costner's boat captain, Bill, brought us some nice filets from fish that he and Kevin caught. There is nothing like fresh salmon!

[Meet Our Crew](#)



**Ignacio Lopez “Nacho”, Fiberglass foreman**

**Birthday: 7/20/45**

**Hometown: Mexico City**

**Height: 5’8”**

**Nickname: See above**

**Hobbies: Watching sports**

**Favorite part of working at the boatyard: The art of boatbuilding**

**Favorite musician/group/rapper/performer: Conjunto Primavera**

**Favorite movie: A Walk in the Clouds**

**What was your first boat trip like? Scary**

**What did you know about boats before you started working here? (How to) glass & paint them**

**Editor’s inside info on Nacho: He likes to sing while he works and he has a good voice**



**Rene Melgoza - Assistant fiberglass foreman**

**Birthday: 3/29/77**

**Hometown: Lompoc, Valley of Flowers**

**Height: 5'6"**

**Nickname: Ren**

**Hobbies: Father my kids, air brush, barber, chef, landscaper, painter, music producer, gardener, clothing designer**

**Favorite part of working at the boatyard: Is to see the outcome of the finished product**

**Worst part of working at the boatyard: Is having to do something twice**

**Favorite musicians: Roger Troutman and Earl Stevens**

**Favorite movies: Boulevard Nights and American Me**

**What was your first boat trip like? It was a good refreshing rip**

**What did you know about boats before you started working here? That a boat could also be someone's home**

**Editor's inside info on Rene: He is Jose's brother and he is a very talented artist**



**Jose Lopez**

**Birthday: 4/22/80**

**Hometown: Lompoc**

**Height: 5'7"**

**Hobbies: Playing Play Station 2, making babies**

**Favorite part about working at the boatyard: Learning how to build boats and build lots of things & watch them as they are being created**

**Favorite musicians: Rap, GRR Klikk, 50 cent, Cash Money, 2-Pac**

**Favorite movies: Scarface, American Me**

**What was your first boat trip like? Fun & exciting**

**Editor's inside info on Jose: He is Rene's brother and you always know where he is around the boatyard because he is so exuberant and vocal**



**Kate Radon**

**Birthday: 12/1/81**

**Hometown: Santa Barbara**

**Height: 5'8-1/2"**

**Nickname: Budgins**

**Hobbies: Swimming, free diving**

**Favorite part about working at the boatyard: The people, other workers, customers**

**Worst part about working at the boatyard: The heat in the summer, the itch**

**Favorite musicians: Radiohead, White Stripes, The Cure**

**Favorite movies: Donnie Darko, Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas**

**What was your first boat trip like? I was an infant so I don't remember**

**What did you know about boats before you started working here? Everything my dad had told me**

**Editor's inside info on Kate: She has the most infectious laugh you have ever heard**





**John Ziegler**

**Birthday: 3/25/53**

**Hometown: Los Angeles**

**Height: 5'10"**

**Nicknames: Zig, Banjo**

**Hobbies: Writing fiction, study music, surf, fish, free dive, go to the islands**

**Favorite part about working at the boatyard: Watching our relationship grow with our customers as the project moves forward, trusting us to do a good job with their boat**

**Worst part about working at the boatyard: Making sure everyone is wearing proper protective gear and properly handling the materials we use**

**Favorite musicians: Bela Fleck and the Flecktones, Pat Martino – jazz guitarist**

**Favorite movies: Telephone Booth (with Rip Torn), Deliverance**

**What was your first boat trip like? To the (Channel) Islands – 19' glass over wood Radon. In 1979 experiencing a new "great unknown" matched the anticipation of getting there for the first time.**

**What did you know about boats before you started working here? Sailed most days alone in my boat from 9-13 years old. Sailed semi-regularly into my 20's. Sailed around the South Pacific (1978) – 32' West Sail, 41' Piver Trimaran, 78' Schooner.**

**(It was then) I realized I could have a great adventure like the South Pacific in a weekend. So I bought a 17' Radon from Don in 1979. Don helped me sell that boat in 1985, which allowed me to own the first molded Radon Sport 21'. I still love, cherish and enjoy it today.**

**Editor's inside info on John: He is a great cook and plays a mean harmonica**



**Alfredo Cruz, Jr. "Freddy"**

**Birthday:** 4/13/80

**Hometown:** Lompoc

**Height:** 5'9"

**Nickname:** See above

**Hobbies:** Watching the Raiders and Lakers play, clubbing and relaxing with my kids

**Favorite part about working in the boatyard:** Seeing the boats when they are finally done

**Worst part about working in the boatyard:** Itching from working with fiberglass and getting dirty

**Favorite musician:** Cash Money and G-Unit

**Favorite movies:** Scarface and Colors

**What was your first boat trip like?** *Tight*

**Editor's inside info on Freddy:** He is very dedicated to being a good father



**Matt Reid**

**Birthday: 1/21/77**

**Hometown: Santa Barbara**

**Height: 6'**

**Nickname: Matty**

**Hobbies: Fishing (Tuna!)**

**Favorite part of working here: Working on amazing boats – installing engines**

**Worst part of working here: Not being able to have one of those boats**

**Favorite movie: The Abyss**

**What was your first boat trip like? Rock cod fishing at the 12 mile reef in a 19' center console Proline in 12' high seas**

**Editor's inside info on Matt: He always knows where the bite is at any time for any type of fish**



**Jeremy McCune**

**Birthday: 4/30/76**

**Hometown: Santa Barbara**

**Height: 5'11"**

**Hobbies: Hunting, fishing, hiking, camping, weight lifting**

**Favorite part of working at the boatyard: A sense of accomplishment when completing a project well**

**Worst part of working at the boatyard: Having to do something more than once because it wasn't done right the first time**

**Favorite musician: Neil Young**

**Favorite movie: Jeremiah Johnson**

**What was your first boat trip like? Got sea sick but caught a salmon so it was worth it**

**What did you know about boats before you started working here? Less than I do now**

**Editor's inside info on Jeremy: He has lived in many places including Alaska & Montana; he is very knowledgeable about vitamins and nutrition**



**Michael Gasca**

**Birthday: 8/13/75**

**Hometown: El Centro**

**Height: 5'10"**

**Nickname: Mike**

**Hobbies: Play basketball and handball**

**Favorite part of working at the boatyard: Building and helping the "Team"**

**Worst part of working here: Grinding fiberglass**

**Favorite musician: Old School**

**Favorite movie: Bad Boys**

**What was your first boat trip like? Never been on a boat trip (Editors note: We'll have to take care of that soon)**

**What did you know about boats when you started working here? Boats float on water**

**Editor's inside info on Michael: He is our newest employee**



**Josh Radon, Editor**

**Your birthday: 5/14/78**

**Hometown: Goleta!**

**Height: 5'10" (+ or - one inch)**

**Nicknames: Yoshi, March Hare, Asshat**

**Hobbies: Guitar, video games, reading, teaching**

**Favorite part of working here: (For me there is) No manual labor! Just writing!**

**Worst part of working here: It's all good**

**Favorite musician: Radiohead**

**Favorite movie: The Empire Strikes Back**

**What was your first boat trip like? I don't know, I was like 4 months old**

**What did you know about boats before you started working here? That they were the reason I was able to go to college**

**Don & Linda's inside information on Josh: He is a first class mimic – just ask him to do an imitation of our governor, ARNOLD or Karl Malone, NBA player**

## **Update on the *Radon 33'***

Since our last newsletter we have started the rigging process on the 33'. The engines are installed, as well as the electronics and many of the other options. We will show you the finished product in the next newsletter.



Here you can see the Radon 33' in the background.  
In the foreground is the 33' customer's first Radon 22'.

## Photo archive





This photo of our 17' Radon was taken off the coast of Santa Barbara in the mid 1980's. If you are not able to read the side of the boat, it says "Radon Team" The more things change, the more they stay the same!

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This is the end of this issue. More to come next time!