

**For Immediate Release**

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***Legendary America's Cup Winner Headlines January Arizona Regatta***

***Leukemia Cup Regatta Chairman Gary Jobson, World-Renowned Sailor and ESPN Commentator, Coming To Phoenix on January 16, 2010***

When a small band of sailors in the desert raises hundreds of thousands of dollars for a good cause, it's bound to draw attention. Now it's drawn the attention of Gary Jobson, the renowned sailor and national Leukemia Cup Regatta Chairman. Mr. Jobson will headline the 2010 Arizona Yacht Club Leukemia Cup Regatta, speaking to over 400 sailors on Saturday night, January 16.

The Arizona Yacht Club (AYC) has just celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> year of sailing on Arizona lakes and counts some 260 Arizona families as members. Once newcomers get over the shock of discovering an active sailing club in parched Arizona, they're likely to plunge into a fast-flowing stream of events: racing, cruising, teaching, and social. The group offers more than 45 weekends of racing each year, a near-continuous calendar of action. In addition, the subsidiary Arizona Sailing Foundation (ASF) has taught hundreds of people of all ages to sail.

For the past 11 years, AYC has opened the national Leukemia Cup Regatta calendar on the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday weekend, pairing it with the club's long-running Birthday Regatta. Since 2006, the event has expanded to three days, with the addition of the Friday Eventagram Centerboard Challenge for smaller boats. Despite the recession, last year they raised \$78,000, bringing the total to \$500,000 for fight against blood cancers.

Gary Jobson first got involved with the Leukemia Cup Regatta in 1994 and has helped it grow to 42 races around the country and raising over \$27 million to help find cures and to provide information and support to patients and their families.

It was a striking coincidence that Mr. Jobson was diagnosed with lymphoma in 2003, fortunately he has recovered completely. He found himself on the receiving end of the very research he'd been supporting all those years. "A humbling experience," he says.

The regatta will also draw a local celebrity, leukemia researcher and avid sailor, Dr. Raoul Tibes of TGen Clinical Research Services at Scottsdale Healthcare. Dr. Tibes will team up with the top AYC fundraiser and race over the weekend in the Buccaneer class.

"The Leukemia Cup Regatta is a great way for these boat enthusiasts to do what they love while also helping the more than 912,000 people suffering from blood cancers who need our help," said Tim Metzger, Field Director for the Desert Mountain States Chapter.



Desert Mountain States Chapter

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The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's Leukemia Cup Regatta is one of the ways to help blood cancer patients and their families. Visit [www.leukemicup.org/dm](http://www.leukemicup.org/dm) to learn more about the Regatta, or to learn about other LLS fundraising programs, visit [www.lls.org/dm](http://www.lls.org/dm).

### **About The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society**

The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society® (LLS) is the world's largest voluntary health agency dedicated to blood cancer. The LLS mission: Cure leukemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin's disease and myeloma, and improve the quality of life of patients and their families. LLS funds lifesaving blood cancer research around the world and provides free information and support services.

Founded in 1949 and headquartered in White Plains, NY, LLS has chapters throughout the United States and Canada. To learn more, visit [www.LLS.org](http://www.LLS.org) or contact the Information Resource Center at (800) 955-4572, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. ET. [www.lls.org](http://www.lls.org).

### **About Gary Jobson**

Gary has won many championships and one-design classes, the America's Cup with Ted Turner in 1977, the Fastnet Race, and many of the world's ocean races. In college he was an All-America sailor three times and was twice named College Sailor of the Year. He won the Nathanael G. Herreshoff Trophy, US Sailing's most prestigious award for outstanding contribution to the sport of sailing. In 2003 he was inducted into the America's Cup Hall of Fame. He's authored 15 sailing books and is Editor at Large of *Sailing World* magazine.

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