



Internet: <http://www.iyc.org>

ISLAND YACHT CLUB'S

MAINSHEET

Issue Six

Volume 33

Alameda Marina

June 2004

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Remember these Dates!

- Jun 26 General Meeting** 1830 hrs
BBQ ribs and brisket! Yum.
- Jul 3-5 Cruise to Half Moon Bay**
Pillar Point—fireworks!
Dock space or raft-up.
- Jul 30 Friday Night Races** 1825 hrs
The first race of the
Summer Series! BBQ!
- Jul 24 Auction !!** 1630 hrs
IYC's Huge Annual Sale.
Dinner & General Meeting.



I'm ba-a-a-ack!

By Janet Frankel, Editor (Publications Chair)

I've been out of town a lot. Mostly visiting family, which is a mix of a vacation and not-entirely-vacation. So I hadn't been to the club in a while when I attended the last Friday night race and BBQ of the Spring Series. I had SUCH a good time! If you have not been by the club recently, I suggest you make a point of attending our dinner this Saturday night. Peter, our Vice Commodore, is cooking, and there is no better dinner deal to be had.

Le Menu:

- BBQ ribs, Memphis style
- BBQ brisket, Texas style
- BBQ salmon, Cuban style

(Peter pointed out that they don't have salmon in Cuba, but they have fish, and so we're having BBQ Cuban style fish).

Hot links (available if someone wants a hot link).

- Watermelon
- Corn on the cob
- Taters

Special chocolate brownie surprise

And all for one low price: \$12 !

I have to tell you, Dear Reader, it was hard to type up that menu without running out to lunch. Next month, Italian Food! Stay tuned for more info.

> A Celebration of Ron McClure, page 3

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Hasta Luego El Salvador

By Frank & Ellen Atteberry, Cruisers

We have our Zarpe and an appointment with Murray and Collette to lead us over the bar into the ocean at 10 AM on Saturday. They have purchased a Travel-lift for 66 tons and plan to open their Island Marine Boat Yard in August. Their beautiful A-Frame house on 5 acres on the island across from the peninsula where Hotel Bahia del Sol is located will be the office for the boat yard. Murray has obtained permission from the government to set up his facility as a Free Trade Zone and import and sell boat parts, paint, etc. at a duty free discount. This is great news for cruisers and he has also obtained Blue Water Insurance rating as a Hurricane free zone for boat storage, etc.

> 30 Inch Machetes, page 4

All Ashore That's Going Ashore!

By Malcolm Sowers, Dinghy Purchase Reporter

Ever hear the question: If God is all-powerful could he build something so big he couldn't lift it?

Well, a few years back it seemed that he didn't build much that Malcolm couldn't lift. Lately, for some strange reason, that is changing. - as when I went to Sal's Inflatables, near Svendsen's in Alameda. I had definite ideas: A roll up dinghy with a hard transom inboard of those pointy things, capable of holding 3 adults, and not too heavy. Sal Sanchez sold me what I asked for. Weighing 63 pounds, 75 with all its accessories. A wee bit bulky but 4 person capacity, Picture in brochure of two nubile smiling young women carrying it in its container, not even looking like they were straining.

Two very husky young men put it in my car. Two others helped me get it on board while I experimented with a 4:1 block and tackle. Verdict: too heavy and bulky, Boat could sink before I could even have gotten it out of cabin. No way could I ask my wife or elderly friends to lift one end of it.

Solution? Bigger boat with davits? (No!) Smaller Dinghy? (Sadly, Yes.)

SAL GRACIOUSLY AGREED TO LET ME EXCHANGE THE BIG ONE FOR A SMALLER ACHILLES within the lifting capacities of my present ancient status. 38 pounds, no hard transom, no pointy things, room for only 2 people; but rolls up into a much less bulky package. Went to my boat, commandeered the strongest young man on the dock who helped me get the big one on a cart to take back to Sal's in Alameda.

SAL WILL EVEN SEND ME A FULL REFUND CHECK FOR THE DIFFERENCE IN PRICE. I told him I'd let the whole world - or at least the whole Island Yacht Club - know about his graciousness and considerateness.

—Malcolm Sowers, *Sinaloa*

Nacing Ruse & Other Mewesings

Joanne McFee, Racing Co-Chair

This has been a time of sad and happy. We were all shocked and saddened by the sudden passing of Ron McClure and our hearts go out to Diane.

The happy was the wedding of Ben Mewes and Lucie Van Breen. I'm calling it "The Wedding of the Century". As usual, I was running late when my ride called and said they were half an hour away. So it's only natural that two (two!) people called for fashion advice (Yes, Janet, Tony should wear a blazer). I was on the run when the knock came at the door. But it wasn't the face I expected!

There, on my doorstep, stood Tom and Yvon Gaines. I was (yes, me) speechless for five minutes. They surprised us all, including the groom. I hadn't seen Yvonne in seven years! If you don't know, Yvonne was one of the founders of the Women's Sailing Seminar and chaired the second year. She and I wrote the budget that year on a bar napkin and came within three dollars! Their appearance brought even more glee to the festivities, which also became a reunion.

Oh, and a wedding broke out. The bride was lovely in a pink suit and the groom cleaned up well. Larry Catron (another IYC alumni) was Best Man and Scott Tipper was a groomsman. IYC friend Joan Byrne was Matron of Honor and Dawn Chesney gave a reading all about submitting (Ephesians V20). We'll see about that.

It was a fine do. Ben and Lucie are leaving on Tuesday, June 29 to race to Hawaii in the Pacific Cup. Hopefully some of us can go to the City Front that day to see them off.

Okay, other racing. Ben, Lucie, Heidi Schmidt and John New raced on the 12th, the day of the wedding. They all had lovely rosy cheeks. I'm sure many other IYCers were racing too. Coming up June 26th, IYC is running a YRA race from Golden Gate Yacht Club's deck. I'll need about eight people to start the race and four to finish it. If you can help, call me (925-254-5384). It's fun!

Also on the agenda is another YRA race, July 10, also at GGYC. Then we have the "biggie", the Silver Eagle on July 17. This is our second premier race and we need to put all our best feet forward for this one. Again, call me.

As you read this, the first half of our Friday Night Races are done. We had great turnouts, barbeques, pictures at the bar, raffles after dinner. Special thanks to Debbie Ratto, Joan Wetherell, Rich and Shirley Ahlf, Peter Linehan, Ben Mewes and EVERYONE who helped on Race Committee, behind the bar and in the gallery. Thanks, too, to Dave Blumhorst, computer guru.

Tata for now. Go Sailing

Joanne

A Celebration of Ron McClure

(Continued from page 1)

I know this is mentioned elsewhere in this newsletter, and that most of you received notification via email or telephone or some other method of communication, but I must share some sad news: Ron McClure, the husband of our lovely Commodore, passed away on Sunday, June 6.

Ron was our Membership Chair, a frequent presence on Race Committee Decks, and often sold dinners and raffle tickets at the door for club events. But most important, I think, was that Ron made Commodore Diane happy. In fact, his wry sense of humor seemed to sort of create a bubble of good humor that surrounded him wherever he went. We will all miss him.

A good number of IYC members were able to attend to the "Celebration" of Ron's life, which was held on June 10th. I must tell you about this event, for it was extraordinary. A few people stood up and told "Ron stories," and they ranged from bittersweet to downright funny. All of them painted a portrait of a sweet, patient, capable, good humored man. A long-time friend and co-worker of Ron's stood and told several stories which had me laughing out loud. (I am certain of this because I felt a bit self-conscious about guffawing at a memorial service, but it just couldn't be helped!) Anyways, those of you who were able to attend can attest to the fact that it was a fitting and touching service.

For those of you who may wish to make a contribution in Ron's honor, Diane has suggested a donation in Ron's name to your favorite charity. We also are planning to do something special for Ron; come to the Board meeting this Saturday to find out more.

Also, Yours Truly has given Diane a short hiatus on newsletter article duties.

And now, a few brief words (what? You don't think I can be brief?) on my recent whereabouts. Tony and I were in the French West Indies the last week of May and the first week of April for a wedding. We went to Puerto Rico, St. Barth's, and St. Maarten's. Puerto Rico had a McDonalds and a Wendy's every mile, or less. St. Barth's was beautiful, expensive, and the mosquitos welcomed me with open beaks. St. Maarten's, which is 1/2 Dutch and 1/2 French, was picturesque and interesting. Although we spent hours each day in the water, we did not go sailing! Probably a flagrant violation of some IYC rule – I expect I will hear about this.

Last Friday I sailed on Jeff Blowers' new Olson 30, *Nu Damè!* Brian Grainger joined us for a thrilling, speedy ride around the race course! Things were happening so fast that none of us thought to look at the course flag – so we simply sailed them ALL, and still got the gun! (... we lost, on corrected time, but the sound of gun was exciting....!)

I also spent a weekend in southern California. My grand-

> Try Shooters for a Thrill, page 4

Preparing for the Pacific Cup

By Lucie and Ben Mewes

We want to take a moment from our PacCup preparations to thank our friends for sharing our wedding celebrations, be they the SSS In The Bay race which we completed during the day (placed 4th in division), the ceremony and party and its perfect warm weather, or the many "congratulations" following. There were a couple of wonderful gifts which were separated from their cards, and so are unthanked as yet, but we will find many occasions to use the lighthouse salad bowl set and lovely vase.

Yvon and Tom Gaines surprised everyone with their visit, and passed along this piece of wisdom. (insert attached Ten Steps for a Successful Marriage). As you can see, it is making its way from yacht to yacht.

We leave for Hawaii on June 29th, and will see you on our return mid-July.

Lucie and Ben Mewes

Steps for a Successful Marriage

By Tom & Yvon Gaines, S/V *Amola*

Thanks to Linda & John, S/V *Nokia*

- 1) Choose your destination together.
- 2) Overcome all obstacles.
- 3) Chart your course.
- 4) Weather the storms.
- 5) Savor the passages.
- 6) Have a flexible itinerary.
- 7) Never go off watch without fully briefing your relief of current conditions.
- 8) Embrace change.
- 9) Respect your mate as you would your best friend.
- 10) Tame many and frequent bearings!

PICYA Yachting Yearbooks for Sale

Purchase your very own at the Bar! \$10/pop.

The PICYA Yachting Yearbook has everything about all the boating and sailing clubs in the Bay Area. Members' names, boat names, berth locations, club memberships, and more.

The books are available for sale now, at the Bar. And, if you come to club when the Bar is not open, use the honors system: Put your money in an envelope and drop it in the Honor Bar slot behind the Bar.

—Ted Crum, PICYA Liaison

Try Shooters for a Thrill

(Continued from page 3)

mother took me shopping and told off-color jokes at lunch. My grandfather tried to stop her, which was even funnier (just TRY to stop my grandmother....)! Tony and I went down to Laguna, where Tony persuaded his nephew to join him in a climb on the rocks out at Woods Cove; the life-guard was not pleased. But rather than climb back, they simply sprang off the rocks into the surf. Tony guided his nephew to a hidden rock in the waves, called *Shooters*, from which one is supposed to balance precariously and then jump into the curling surf at just the right moment. It was something to watch, for sure. I dug in the sand, found a worm, called it a good day.

--Janet

PFDs Recalled

By John Ratto, Alert Member

If you are the proud owner of a self-inflating PFD with the brand name SOSpenders, there is a recall of about 7000 of them. To see if your PFD is subject to recall, for which you can get a refund, please check out the following link:

<http://sospenders.com/recall/index.html>.

30 Inch Machetes!

(Continued from page 2)

El Salvador is such a great place: it is cheap (as long not imported) and friendly. However, there is still a linger from the Civil War and there are a lot of guns and machetes around for no apparent reason (lucky us??). There are many sugar cane fields around, but almost every male has a 30 inch machete with decorative holster on his back, and they do not work the sugar cane fields. Carla, the receptionist at the Hotel gave us a ride to the local Mercado down the road in her car; Ellen in the back seat sitting on a 40 inch machete; Carla said it was for protection since she worked late. We had bought a 30 inch machete in Mazatlan with leather holster for ??, and Carla said she would teach us some moves. Don't get this wrong; this is just a country in transition; they know Oly North!! and the US military is still in the jungle watching for cocaine. However, the entire day, Friday, was devoted to the Reagan Funeral on local TV. Maybe something is wrong here, but it seems safe for now; like Iran many years ago????

However, it is great here: temp's in the high 70's, but humidity in the 70's also. Rain almost every day. Easy to buy property, cheap labor, cheap food, big smiles on everyone. Sitting in the anchorage here in the river next to the hotel is best of many options: anchorage is free, use of dinghy dock is free along with pool, showers, etc. as long as you spend about US\$5 per day at the hotel restaurant, gas dock, or bar. For cruisers all prices are discounted 30% from listed prices. Nearby, at Barrilla's Marina, it is 2.5

> *Cruising and Bicycling, page 5*

Port and Starboard

By Glen Krawiec, Port Captain, as told to Joanne McFee

[Before they left on their land cruise Glen called me with some words of wisdom. Pam and Glen will be gone four to five weeks. I'm sure we'll have great stories as we did last year.—Joanne]

Glen met with Harbormaster Wayne Milani. Wayne was very interested in our success on opening day and was happy with what IYC had accomplished. They discussed the need for new flooring in the gallery and men's bathroom. After some talk Wayne offered to provide the materials if IYC would provide the labor.

Since weekends are busy for all of us, Glen is proposing weekday work evenings to do the floors and general maintenance. It will take more than one night. Speaking for myself I'll be really glad to see a new galley floor and I understand the men's room is in dire need. So come July, all you able-bodied workers put aside some time and expect phone calls. IYC needs your sweat equity!

—Glen

Boating Accidents in 2003

By Louis Gerlinger, PICYA Log News Service

Log News Service - In 2003, 963 boating accidents were reported to state officials in California - the highest total for any year since accident statistics have been recorded. Although not setting an all-time record, the state Department of Boating and Waterways reported in its 2003 California Boating Safety Report that the number of boating accidents in 2003 broke the previous record of 925 accidents reported in 1997.



The 963 boating accidents that were reported in 2003 resulted in 61 deaths, 502 injuries, and \$3.82 million in property damage.

"One reason for the increase in accidents is improved accident reporting," Boating & Waterways director Raynor Tsuneyoshi told *The Log News Service* May 26. "We're also seeing a trend toward more towing sport-type accidents, as wakeboarding and kneeboarding increase in popularity. Fishing-related fatalities also remained high.

Tsuneyoshi said another disturbing trend is an increase in the number of PWC fatalities.

"While the number of PWC accidents rose only slightly, the number of fatalities increased from seven to 12, the highest number on record," he added.

> *Alcohol Continues to be a Factor, page 5*

Cruising and Bicycling

(Continued from page 4)

hours to San Salvador and very remote. A Cruiser here said she liked to use her bicycle daily for exercise; it was great, but the armed guard had a tough time keeping up with her. You do not move without a guard with gun along with you. Down the road at the puparia, pupusa's are US.30 each (El Salvador version of Mexican taco). At one of the Super Mercado's in El Salvador produce is like US.50 for a giant broccoli; US.20 for a giant bunch of Swiss chard; US2.40 per Lb for smoked pork chops; US.30 for a big bag of green beans. Pilsener beer for US3.60 per six pack; Russian Vodka, Stoloy, US4 per bottle. Down the road, Shrimp med-small US1.50 per Lb.; whole fresh fish, much less depending on what has been caught. Young live chickens real cheap. Internet cafe, US1 per hour. To live here on the boat would cost about US400 per month or less, as long as you did not rent cars, and did not need US imported foods (Lays potato chips, US 6.00 per bag at Price Smart). Down the road in San Marsellino, the surf is huge, bigger than Mavericks. Last week, another cruiser was sitting in the beach restaurant and watched a panga being launched; it went into the surf, up a wave about 25 ft. and did an back flip. About 10 fishermen went into the surf and rescued the boat and driver. The taxi into San Salvador, Jose, is US40 for all day, buy Jose lunch, and he knows where to go for what you need. Share with another cruiser, then its US 20 for all, all day, no matter how far you go. The big ACE hardware store in town is unbelievable; everything you could want and good prices: 15/16 deep socket (Stanley) for US 4.00. Let him pick the lunch place; do not go to Gringo restaurants. Salvadorians do not want to follow nonsense directions for cooking and you will get sick.

Not buggy, as long as you don't linger on shore near to mangroves with no breeze. On the boat, fine. We make water on a good incoming tide, and run the genset. Outgoing tide has too many coconuts, leaves, and debris. At 6AM every morning, you hoist a yellow flag (quarantine) and a panga with three guys will honk a bicycle horn and bring you a bag of fresh made torpedo buns, 10, for US.50; still warm. Is this paradise????? But it is on to Costa Rica, tomorrow. Ever seen a 30inch machete used to clean fingernails???? or trim grass from between bricks in a driveway???

Love,
Ellen and Frank, *Hot Ice*, El Salvador

IYC's FAMOUS YEARLY AUCTION

Clear out those dock boxes and garages!

Auction July 24th

Dinner and General Meeting After
Call Joanne McFee
925-254-5384

Don't Drink and Drive

(Continued from page 4)

Alcohol Continues to be a Big Factor

"In addition, 70 percent of the personal watercraft involved in accidents were borrowed or rented. This information will help us to tailor upcoming safety campaigns to reduce the number of boating accidents, injuries, and fatalities in California."

Open motorboats were involved in 51 percent of all accidents; PWC were involved in 27 percent, and water skiing in 17 percent.

Alcohol continues to be a big factor in boating accidents. Twenty-one percent of fatal boating accidents involved alcohol. One-third of the victims were passengers, all of whom contributed to their deaths due to poor judgment related to alcohol consumption.

Drowning continues as the leading cause of death in fatal boating accidents - 37 in 2003 compared to 33 in 2002.

The report has a word of warning for boat owners who allow someone else to operate their boat or PWC. One third of all vessels - 70 percent of PWC - involved in accidents were being operated by someone other than the registered owner.

Based on the 2003 Safety Report, it appears that it is more dangerous to boat in Northern California than in the southern part of the state.

Reviewing Accident Stats Gives Strong Message

The department reported that 67 percent of all fatalities (41), 54 percent (518) of the accidents, and 56 percent (282) of the injuries reported in 2003 occurred in the northern counties.

Of the 41 fatalities that occurred in Northern California, 22 occurred on lakes, seven on northern rivers, five along the coast, four in San Francisco Bay, and three in the Delta.

Napa County reported the most accidents (60) while Placer County and the San Francisco Bay reported the most fatalities (four each). Three of Northern California's most popular lakes - Lake Berryessa, Lake Shasta, and Folsom Lake - each reported two fatalities during the year.

Off all Northern California accidents in 2003, 59 percent involved open motorboats, 24 percent involved PWC, and 21 percent involved water skiing.

Boating-accident statistics are compiled by the department under a state law requiring that a boater who is involved in an accident file a written accident report with the department in the case of death, disappearance, or injury requiring medical attention beyond first aid or damage to a ves-

> *Boating Safety Report Available Online, page 6*

However dull it may appear to be to read, the 2003 California Boating Safety Report has a strong message for the boater seeking to better his or her odds for a safe-boating experience:

Better Odds For Safety

Reviewing accident statistics may seem dull and to some people even morbid. But, it should be a priority for the boater wanting to better his or her odds of not appearing as a number in a future report.

sel or other property exceeding \$500 - or complete loss of a vessel.

(Continued from page 5)

Boating Safety Report Online

A six-page summary and the complete 2003 California Boating Safety Report are posted on the department's Web site at www.dbw.ca.gov/SafetyReports.htm.

- * take an approved boating-safety course,
- * be a sober skipper and insist on a sober crew,
- * wear a life jacket and require all passengers to wear life jackets - when on deck or in an open boat,
- * don't engage in horseplay with friends aboard other vessels,
- * don't let a friend operate your boat or PWC, and
- * keep ahead of the curve at all times - skipping a boat is enjoyable but demanding of your time and skills.

MAINSHEET

Island Yacht Club
Alameda Marina
1853 Clement Avenue
Alameda, CA 94501

Board Meeting
Jun 26, 2004—1700 hours

Upcoming Dates to Remember

- Jun 26 **Board Meeting, then Dinner & General Meeting!**
- July 3-5 **Cruise to Half Moon Bay—Dockside or Raft-Up!**
- July 24 **IYC's Annual Auction! Plus Dinner & General Meeting.**
- July 30 **Friday Night Summer Series—Race #1**