ISLAND YACHT CLUB
MainSheet
BROWSER EDITION
February 2011 Alameda Marina, Alameda, CA Volume 40 Issue 1

BROWSER EDITION:
This Mainsheet is one long strip, designed for easy scroll-downward reading in Adobe Acrobat or your browser! (You will never have to scroll UP to finish an article.) This version is not designed to be easily printed, but just visit the IYC Website at www.IYC.org to download our printer-friendly version!

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Mainsheet is published monthly by:

Island Yacht Club, Inc.
Alameda Marina
1853 Clement Ave.
Alameda, CA 94501

www.iyc.org

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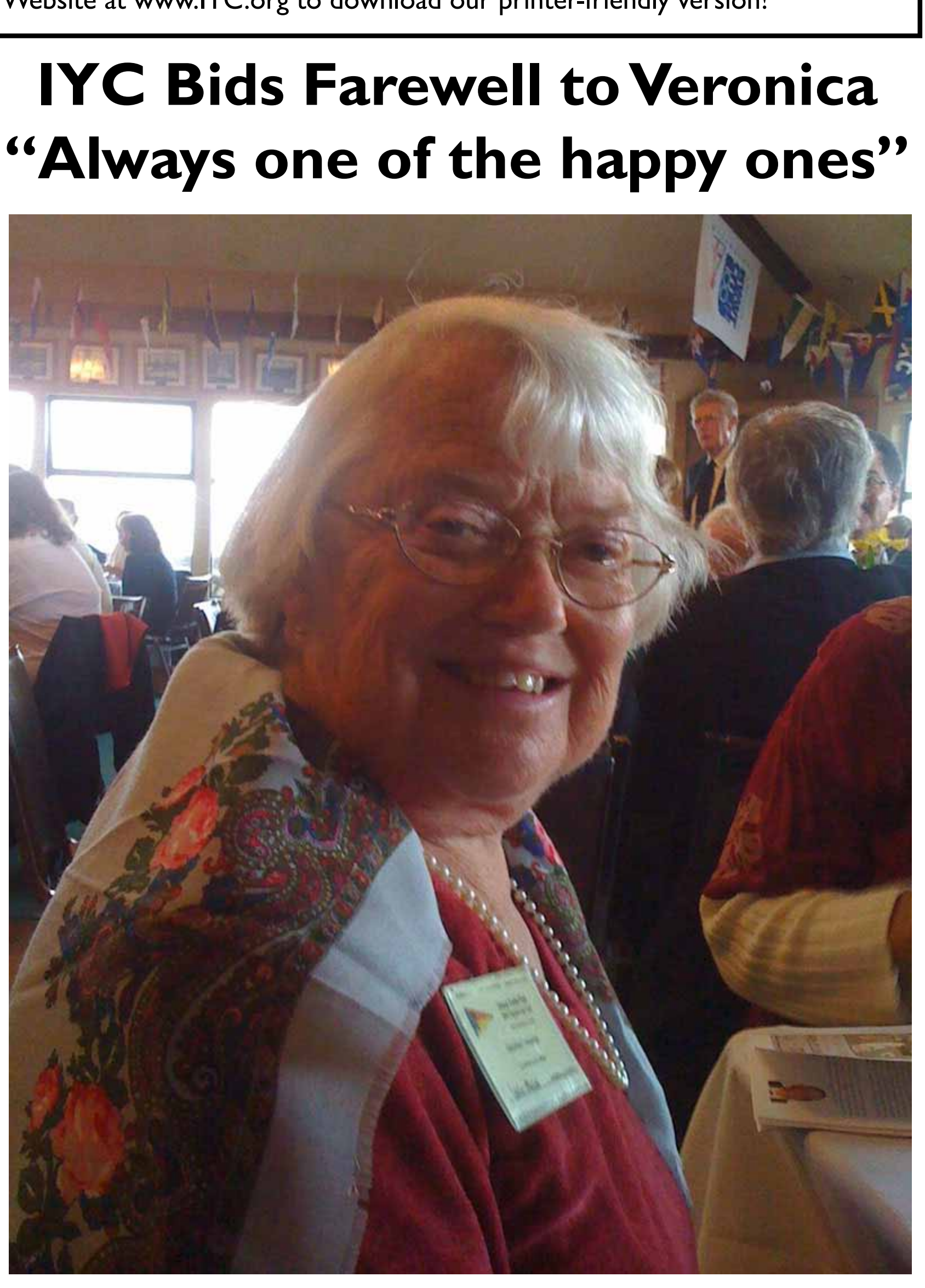
IYC Bids Farewell to Veronica
"Always one of the happy ones"



Two articles in this issue commemorating the life of **Veronica Cocksedge,** who passed away in January:

Janet Frankel talks with several of Veronica's close friends including past IYC Commodores.

Joyce Brack gives us a personal look at Veronica's creative and energetic work building IYC's Opening Day Decorated Boat entries in 2008 and 2009.

IN THIS ISSUE:

Commodore's Corner *by Dave Bloch*
RENEWAL REMINDER
Racing Notes *by John New*
From the Galley *by Brendan McKenna*
Farewell to Veronica *by Janet Frankel*
A Friend to Many and an Inspiration to All *by Joyce Brack*
Alaska Cruisers to Present March 26
Nametags & Magnets & Pins, Oh My
Dockwalker Training Program
***Image scan:* Veronica's Memorial Mass**
Photo Section

FEB/MARCH EVENTS CALENDAR

Sun Feb 6 Super Bowl Party
Tues Feb 8 Board Meeting
Sun Feb 13 *Island Days* Race #4
Sat Feb 26 Sadie Hawkins Race / Chowder Cookoff / Membership Dinner / Speaker: Alaska Cruise
Tue Mar 8 Board Meeting
Sat Mar 12 Sea Scouts Crab Feed
Sat Mar 13 Island Days Race #5 & Awards!
Sat Mar 19 Membership Dinner/Speaker
Sat Mar 26 Doublehanded Lightship Race

Commodore's Corner
By Dave Bloch

Seven weeks since the last *Mainsheet* as I move it back to a first-of-the-month schedule. That means lots of time for stuff to happen!

The huge thing, of course, is the announcement of San Francisco as the home for America's Cup 34. As you've heard me say at the last couple of membership meetings, it's really important that all the yacht clubs in the Bay Area plan to make use of the worldwide attention that will be focused here for the next two years. More people are going to be thinking about sailing, hearing about it, reading about it and seeing it all over TV and the Web. There's a great article in the February issue of *Latitude 38,* and they have created a new section on their Website that will be dedicated to AC34, starting with a very well-organized FAQ page. Go **visit http://latitude38.com** and click on **America's Cup**.

The Round the Island Circumnavigation took place on New Year's Day. Speranza and I were back early from Mexico (a long story, that one) and woke up from our late-night arrival in time to see a parade of boats motor out the San Leandro Channel behind our house. We blacktopped over to the **Ballena Bay Yacht Club** in time to catch a group of IYC folk enjoying Bartender Tinker's special brand of egg nog and other delights, then saw our sailors off on the rest of their trip. Although a gray day, it was a fun one!

One of our biggest social events and fundraisers of the year is the Crab Feed, and this one really turned out great! If you were there, you know all the food was outstanding—not just the crab, but the pasta, salad and garlic bread all were prepared with a lot of extra care by Galley Manager Brendan McKenna and the whole volunteer staff.

But there was lots of work done beforehand as well; phone calls, flurries of Emails, shopping (including by Bar Manager Joan Wetherell who was unable to attend but still had the bar stocked and ready) and arranging all the bits and pieces that go into an event like this one. **Thank you** to everyone who helped, and who attended!

There was a pause in the evening as former commodore Dawn Chesney offered the traditional Eight Bells ceremony for long-time IYC member Veronica Cocksedge, who passed away in January at the age of 76. Janet Frankel and Joyce Brack both wrote articles on Veronica in this issue.

Good happenings balance bad ones, with Lucie Mewes' unexpected and wonderful news about her health! This newsletter goes on the Web so I won't go farther than that here, but there have been big smiles all around as we look forward to Lucie getting back into full sailing form once again!

Lots more on the Crab Feed and upcoming culinary experiences in Brendan's *From the Galley* article in this issue!

Interesting Links...

A couple of very interesting links you might take a look at:

The first is of our own **Dawn Chesney** appearing full-page in the January issue of *Alameda Magazine*! This link will open a facsimile of the printed magazine right your screen; I can't guarantee it will work with all devices: http://tinyurl.com/dawninalamedamag

This one came from **Nancy Hird**; a page of photos of a fully-functioning boat built to look like it is sinking! The Email was titled "I'll bet the Coast Guard loves this guy..." Take a look and see if you agree. http://tinyurl.com/loveloveboat

See you round the Clubhouse!

RENEWAL?

Hey folks (you know who you are), there are still a whole bunch of IYC members who have not sent their renewal form and 2011 dues in to Membership Chair Cindy Wagner. All our plans for the year are basically "just air" until we have a real handle on what our dues revenue is; the Board can only take its best shot at predicting how many IYC'ers we'll have.

This is a reminder that any non-renewed member has to be **suspended March 1**. That means rejoining the club will cost you the Initiation Fee again, and nobody wants that.

We've made renewal as easy as we can. You can go to **iyc.org** and download the Renewal Form, or pick one up at the clubhouse. You can pay your fee right on that same page of the Website using PayPal, or avoid their $10 charge by sending the form and check to Cindy.

If you are having a real problem pulling the dues together, we don't want to lose you! Email Cindy and let her know; we'll try hard to make it work.

Thanks to all!

--Dave

Two tables full of IYCers, New Year's Day at BBYC

Racing Notes
By John New, Racing Chair

The **Island Days Race #3** had some good wind and some good holes, with a surprise finish that had *Wuvulu* and *Dire Straits* coming from the rear to take first places in the Class C and 168 starts.

Wuvulu had a decent start (for a change). The wind veered wildly as we tacked upwind with the left side of the estuary favored and then the right. We traded places with *Lelo too*, Bill King's Santana 525, and the Santana 22s to the weather mark #2 at Zazoo's. The downhill spinnaker run to the leeward mark had even bigger wind shifts with the wind eventually going too far forward to keep the spinnaker up.

The class C boats were joined, at the tip of Coast Guard Island, by the 168 fleet that had been sent into the basin on their course. Debby Ratto rigged the light-air spinnaker in case the wind shifted again. Fortunately for *Wuvulu* (and unfortunately for the boats in the lead that had sailed into a big hole), the breeze filled from the west bringing *Wuvulu* and *Dire Straits* and a few other boats with spinnakers up speeding through the parked fleet bunched around the east end of Coast Guard island. The mixed fleet, now with lots of wind, set their spinnakers and converged at the leeward mark *en masse* with gnashing of teeth and calls for "Inside!" and "Room at the mark!" and other salty remarks not printable here.

Crazy Eights took first in A fleet, beating out Greg Nelson's new J, which is so new to the bay it's still sailing with a provisional PHRF rating.

Glen Krawiec and **David Hand** did race PRO duties with **Thom Mantooth** scoring and **Commodore Dave** assisting. **David Ross** helped yours truly set the marks.

Next *Island Days* is February 13. **Sadie Hawkins**, our woman skipper/full crew race is on the February 26 along with the Chowder Cookoff and our February membership dinner.

Glen Krawiec will be hosting a **Race Committee training class** around 11:30 before the next *Island Days* race on the 13th! Come on down if you would like to be part of the Race Committee.

The photo below is not of the start of this race; it's the crowd all racing to the downstream mark at the ***END****. The RC agreed they had never seen an Estuary race end like this one!*

It's Sadie Hawkins Day
And You're MINE!

Coming February 26!

2011 Racing Calendar

2/13, 3/13: ***Island Days*** **Estuary Midwinters** Sunday afternoon beer can racing

Feb 26: ***Sadie Hawkins*** **Woman-Skippered Race** on the Estuary, full crew

Mar 26: **30th Annual Doublehanded Lightship** to benefit United Cerebral Palsy

Apr-Sept: **Spring & Summer *Island Nights*** Friday evening beer can racing on the Estuary

Apr-Sept: **Interclub Races**

July 9: ***Silver Eagle*** **Long Distance Race,** Classic Course and Shortened Course

Oct 1 & 2: ***Northern California Women's Sailing Seminar,*** "Capture the Power," with flatwater Estuary racing on October 2

Nov 6: **Jack & Jill + One** Woman-Skippered triplehanded race on the Estuary

Nov'11 thru Mar'12 - ***Island Days*** **Estuary Midwinters**, second Sundays of each month

From The Galley
By Brendan McKenna, Galley Manager

The Crab Feed on January 22 was a great success, with over 60 satisfied members and guests. Thanks to all the members and guests who attended.

Following that I would like to also thank my many helpers. **John New, David Ross** and **Dave Bloch** set up the tables and got everything ready in the morning and afternoon. After receiving and icing the crab in the morning, John returned for yeoman duty in the late afternoon. He boiled buckets of pasta, ladled in all the sauce and cheese and got it all into the oven just in time. **Kristen Soetebier** did a great job slicing many loaves of sourdough bread (while helping out at the bar) and my wife **Carolyn** dressed and wrapped the bread to get it all into the oven without disturbing the pasta. **Speranza Avram** did her usual run for last-minute supplies and helped **Jane Brown** at the door. Everyone pitched in to clean up…not just taking out the trash but with the pots and pans too!

The **Sea Scouts** volunteered to help serve and their able hands were most welcome. Their preparation and serving of the crab platters, cocktail sauce and drawn butter allowed all the club volunteers and even my **sous chef Michael Hite** to have a seat and enjoy the meal. All of the tables were full to overflowing. Many thank to scouts **Zach, Isaiah, Katie and their friends and Katie's mom** for all their help.

Don't forget that the Sea Scouts have their annual Crab Feed at the IYC on **Saturday March 12**. One more chance for a great Crab Feed.

The next galley event at the club is the **Chowder Cook-off** following the **Sadie Hawkins Day Race** on **Saturday February 26**. A membership dinner follows and usually incorporates the efforts of the Cook-off. If you plan to compete in the Chowder Cook-off please email me at **bmckenna@yahoo.com** or call 415-621-6643 so we can plan for your entry. You can also RSVP for the Cook-off and the February 26 Membership Dinner to the same email of phone or use the club's PayPal account. **RSVPs are always helpful for planning and purchasing.**

[Editor's note: we get the PayPal screen set up a couple of weeks before, so watch for the info in Kristen's weekly IYCee What's Up Email!}

Looking beyond February, I am planning *Boeuf Bourguignonne* accompanied by a fine California, Oregon or Washington State Pinot Noir for the March membership dinner.

Omelets *for the April 2* ***Decorated Boat Kickoff Breakfast*** *anyone?* After the barbeque, breakfast eggs are my #2 specialty, and I can cook 'em to order. Anyone who gets up that early to help plan for the club's parade entry deserves a good breakfast and I will oblige.

Happy Ground Hog Day, *Go "Stillrs"* and all the best to the QB from Cal we could have had, Aaron Rodgers!

Brendan (back to camera), Mike, John and Carolyn on Saturday afternoon in the Galley.

Chef Brendan and Sous Chef Mike

A packed dining room! (This is just the left half...)

Farewell to Veronica
By Janet Frankel

Hello there, Dear Reader, it's been a while. And here I am, just in time to remind you of the fun we've had. And we sure have had some fun, haven't we? As you well know, the more time and energy you expend at Island YC, the more fun you have. I can think of no-one who appreciated that more than our lovely **Veronica Cocksedge**.

Veronica was one of our most giving and joyful members. Her calm exterior belied the adventurous spirit inside. Just this morning (January 21, 2011), I talked with **Linda Newland** (former IYC Commodore – hope it's not too cold up there in Port Townsend, WA, Linda!) who said, "Veronica just had such a lust for life!" **Diane Duey** [another former IYC Commodore] told me that she went sailing with Veronica about six months ago, and Veronica needed a lot of help "… but once she was aboard and settled in, she was so happy to be on the water."

Veronica was always calm, pleasant, willing to pitch in and help. I never heard her utter a negative word, except for when she expressed her frustration that her body no longer could keep up with her desire for more adventure, and to be of more help with projects at the club.

I wrote to **Peter Linehan** (another former IYC Commodore) and told him about Veronica's passing, and I told him the story I'd heard from Graham (which I'll get to in a minute, Dear Reader, I promise!). Peter said, "That is a classic Veronica story …. I was sad to hear that she died, she was always one of the happy ones at the club and never failed to lend a hand. I seem to remember her telling a story once about an eagle, who was in fact a seagle (sea gull)… I'll miss her."

I talked to **Helen and Malcolm Sowers**, too. Helen said, "Veronica was British, born in South Africa. But she lived all over the world, in several countries: Gibraltar, England, Egypt, another country in Africa, and an island in the western Indian Ocean." Helen couldn't remember which island it was, but eventually she and Malcolm decided, "It was probably Mauritius, but it might have been the Maldives." Helen went on, "Veronica was trained as a nurse in England, and she was a psychiatric nurse at Eden Hospital in Castro Valley when Malcolm met her." They did a lot of sailing together, and Malcolm and Veronica did a lot of skiing together. Helen remembered, "Veronica had a camper and she went camping with a group she belonged to. We camped in her camper once, in a campground outside Placerville. Also, we drove in a car and tent-camped all the way up to the San Juans, where we chartered a sailboat together for two weeks."

On January 11, 2011, Veronica's family held a memorial service in Pleasanton. I called **Pam Krawiec** (yes, another former IYC Commodore); she wasn't sure she could get away from her duties at the Oakland Museum. She didn't know whether **Glen** would be able to go, either. Helen and Malcolm Sowers said they were going, but the logistics for carpooling were too complex. My car was in the shop, so **Tony** lent me his.

En route to the Church, **Lucie and Ben Mewes** (two MORE former IYC Commodores!) said they were on their way and to save them seats near the back. When I arrived, I was happy to see IYCers all around. Diane Duey looked glamorous in her long winter coat. **Joyce Brack** walked right past my car but didn't see me sitting inside. I saw Helen packing up some gear to bring inside.

The service was at St Augustine's in Pleasanton. I was surprised to learn that Veronica was very committed to her religion. Her family (children and grandchildren) were gracious and warm. Veronica's granddaughter **Melissa** looks just like Veronica. It was nice to see that.

I sat with Joyce, near the front, behind Malcolm and Helen and Diane. It was a nice, simple service. Everyone made a point of coming over to give big hugs to Malcolm and Helen, who were very close friends with Veronica. I was happy to see **John New** and **Dawn Chesney** come in and sit near the back. A few minutes later, Pam and Glen joined them, and then Lucie and Ben Mewes. When I snuck back to say hello, Glen asked me if Tony had come, too. I told him no, and Glen ever-so-sweetly expressed some heartfelt feelings about THAT.

Veronica's son **Roger** stood up and spoke, and briefly thanked us all for coming. Later, at the reception, he told me he used to be a biker, before his accident. He told me a story about Veronica, when he came home with a motorcycle at a young age. He laughed as he mimicked his mother's British accent and squeaked, "Oooooo, I've always wanted to learn how to ride a motorcycle! Please teach me!" So, he did!

After Roger said his few words, son **Graham** stood up and spoke. Graham told us, "Mums always told me, I'm the Number One son!" Behind him, Roger was holding up 2 fingers, mouthing quite clearly, "I'm Number Two. Number Two!" This resulted in impious giggling from me and Joycie. Then Number One Son Graham told a very apt Veronica story; everyone laughed and nodded when Graham imitated Veronica's accent and tone perfectly.

Here's the story: They were skiing. Veronica fell 150 feet down the slope. Graham rushed to her side, worried that maybe she'd broken her neck. Veronica looked up at him, arms and legs akimbo, and said, "Oh dear, I think I've lost an earring. Can you help me find it?"

Fair winds, Veronica, say hello to Shirley … to Joanne … and to Ron … from all of us.

A Friend to Many and an Inspiration to All!
By Joyce Brack

I was lucky enough to have a few very special days with Veronica, as I'm sure many of you experienced and treasure also! When Veronica was around, the whole room lit up! She was full of wisdom, love and a sense of humor we ALL loved! Veronica touched my heart!

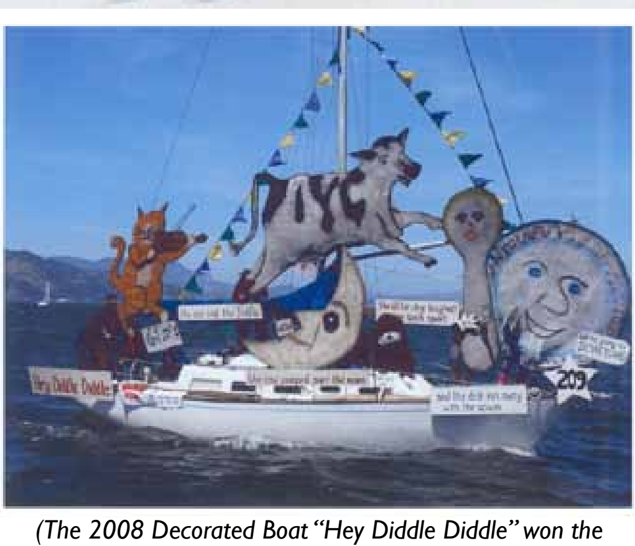
I met Veronica the first year I joined IYC, when I was calling the members to see who wanted to help with the Opening Day Decorated Boat contest. Glen Krawiec helped me understand who had helped in the past and what volunteers would need to do. He told me Veronica would help. Sure enough, Veronica picked up the phone and when she heard it was a call from IYC, she immediately volunteered.

She was quick to want to help and had endless energy. She spent weekends painting the characters and the signs, and we so enjoyed her company. She always had such great advice and could tell you stories from Africa to Europe.

Veronica had a very loving way of listening and providing helpful guidance and advice. She worked hard and showed up on the weekend of the BIG event ready to assemble the boat and the next day—we proceeded out for the contest! It was a great day on the Bay and IYC members had a terrific time, with one of our most favorite members, Veronica Cocksedge.

Veronica who will be sorely missed….at the Club and on the water —besides just in our lives! But Veronica will live on in our hearts and memories by each one of us she touched. Our Angel now, and constant Inspiration forever!

The following year (2009) Veronica again helped with the Decorated Boat, *Finding Nemo*. She came in from Dublin on the weekends and painted alll the big white glove hands that we waved from the boat. She was not able to participate the day of the 2009 contest. So, if you see any of those white hands around IYC, know they were created and painted by Veronica with the love she had for IYC and for sailing. She loved her sailing life and she could share stories of her adventures! We are going to miss her so much! Ann Veronica Cocksedge—Our Angel!



(The 2008 Decorated Boat "Hey Diddle Diddle" won the Best Overall trophy. Veronica appears here in the cockpit, holding up the "notes" sign underneath the cat.)

Speaking of Opening Day:

PICYA has announced that the 2011 theme for Opening Day is **Giants of the Bay**. Those rascals at PICYA always try to come up with themes that have lots of potential meanings!

Our Decorated Boat Kickoff Breakfast is Saturday April 2, and Galley Manager Brendan McKenna has volunteered to make omelets for all attendees! Think GIANT for the next two months and see what ideas you get.

A scan of the announcement of Veronica's memorial mass is included later in this *Mainsheet*.

Alaska Cruisers to Present at our February 26 Membership Dinner

Guests: Ronn Patterson and Richard Foregger, Dolphin Charters

Editor's Note: these are the folks doing the trawler training cruise up to Alaska that they spoke of at the Crab Feed. Info is available at the Clubhouse or at **http://dolphincharters.com .**

In 1981 Ronn Patterson formed Dolphin Charters to offer travelers a rare combination: the enjoyment and celebration of the earth's wonders and a sound natural history education. From October through late April, Dolphin Charters offers cruises in the San Francisco Bay, Sacramento River Delta, and the Pacific Ocean as well as Mexico and the Galapagos and Southeast Alaska.

One of his favorite cruising areas is the Inside Passage from Southern British Columbia to Ketchikan, Alaska. Lots of interesting characters and lifestyles as well as magnificent scenery and anchorages define the more remote reaches of this watery wilderness.

Ronn Patterson and Richard Foregger will present slides, video and their comments on cruising these Northern waters, some of the best sailing areas on the West Coast. They both hold-100 ton tickets and have extensive experience with both offshore waters and the many nooks and crannies of the East coast of Vancouver Island and Southeast Alaska.

Island Yacht Club Nametags and Magnets and Pins, Oh My...

New tags are almost here! Existing members will be given the opportunity to purchase one of the new ones if desired.

The new tags include the little gold burgee that some versions of our current tags have. We've ordered an additional 50 of these gold pins that can be purchased and worn as lapel pins or tie tacks.

Several members have also requested magnetic backs for their name badges that won't damage clothing. We're buying a couple dozen of these as well; it's very easy to razor-blade the existing pin off your name badge and stick one of these on instead. If those really are popular, the Ship's Store can buy some more.

Watch *Mainsheet*, the Website and Emails for availability and pricing of these items at the Ship's Store!

Dockwalker Training Program

The California Department of Boating and Waterways and the California Coastal Commission's Boating Clean & Green Program in partnership with the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Foundation, the Keep the Delta Clean Program, the US Coast Guard Auxiliary, the US Power Squadrons and many more organizations listed below will conduct more Dockwalker trainings this year.

Dockwalkers will be trained to engage members of the public and the boating community in adopting clean boating practices. Once training is complete, these volunteers don their official "Dockwalker" hats. Dockwalkers share clean boating information with boaters and distribute educational materials (boater kits) while visiting marinas, launch ramps, marine supply stores, boat shows and special events (regattas, opening days, among others). As you realize, "Dockwalker" is only a generic term because you do not necessarily have to "walk the docks" in order to talk to boaters about safety and clean boating practices. Your club members will have tons of opportunities to share clean boating information with other boaters at regattas, opening days, club presentations, among others. Remember safety and the environment go hand in hand.

Training is FREE and Dockwalking is a fantastic way to interact with boaters to help keep California's marinas, waterways, and ocean clean and healthy. The training provides an overview of environmentally-sound boating practices, information about how to conduct Dockwalking, and educational materials that Dockwalkers will distribute including the 2011 boater kits. These boater kits include: Reusable Canvas Tote-bag; *A Boater's Guide to Keeping Pollutants Out of the Water*; 2011 Tidebooks; Oil Absorbent Pillow to capture oil leaks and drips in the boat bilge; a variety of informative Clean and Safe Boating Resources including the new publication produced by the Boating Clean and Green program, the *Environmental Boating Laws Every Recreational Boater Should Know*, the *ABC's of Boating Law*, among others. Depending on your region, we may also provide the Delta Clean Boating map, the San Francisco Bay Area Clean Boating Map or the new edition of the *Southern California Boater's Guide*.

In the last five years, more than 500 Dockwalkers have distributed over 90,000 boater kits statewide. and invested thousands hours training or educating the public qualify as community service.

This program provides tons of benefits to boaters, marina, yacht/fishing club operators, US Coast Guard Auxiliary, US Power Squadrons, marine supply stores, mobile services, local governments, aquatic centers, boat dealers, among others. But some of the benefits the Dockwalker program will provide to ***you*** include:

- Supporting your current efforts, enhancing and broadening your clean and safe boating mission
- Working with boaters as partners in the clean marina/club effort
- Sharing resources such as the boater kit (important in these tough economic times), a valuable education and outreach tool to attract boaters' attention and conduct face-to-face boater education.
- Providing you with more educational resources for your boaters, members, regattas and other public events and presentations
- Offering an additional method to protect our waterways

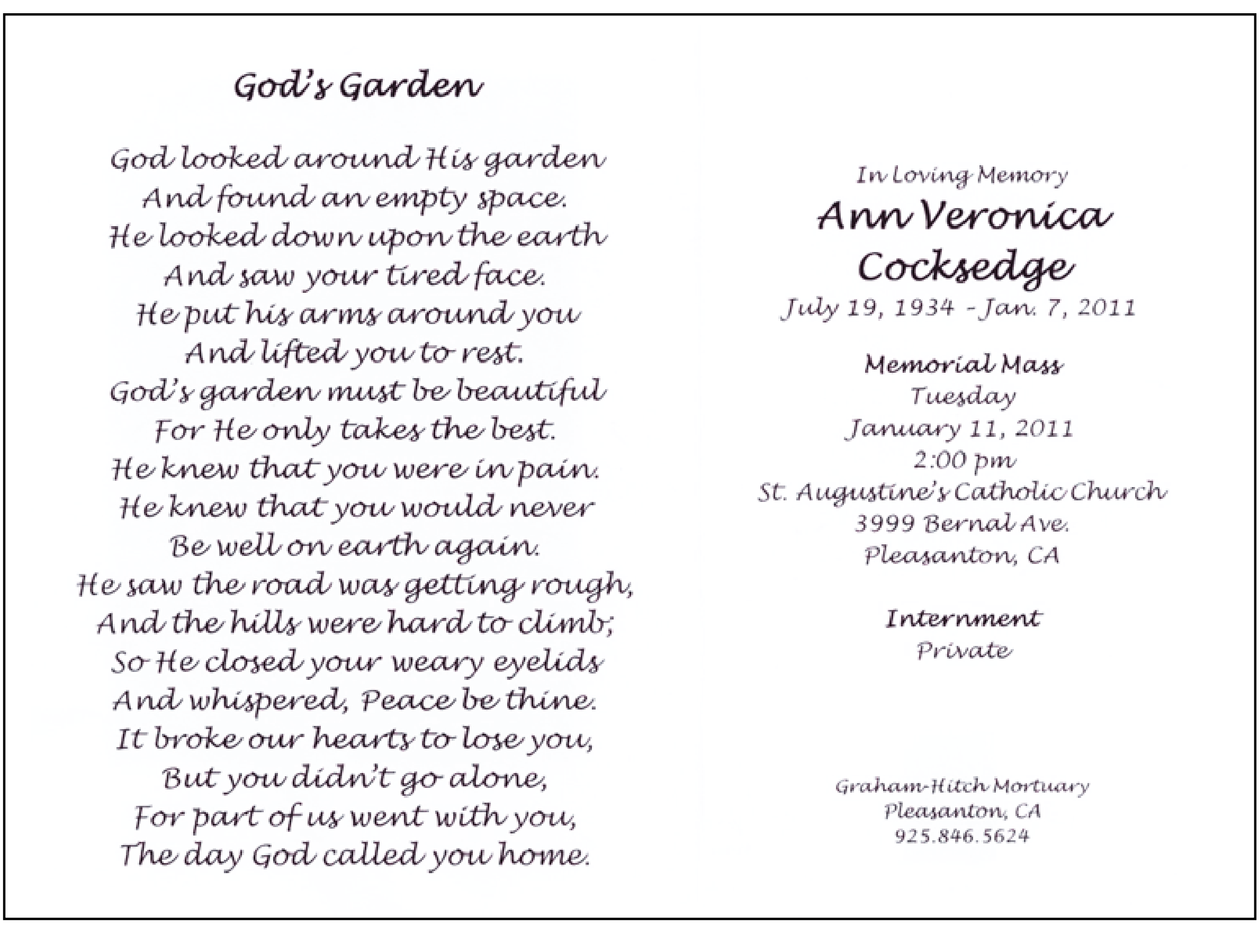
Upcoming Northern and Southern CA 2011 Dockwalker Trainings

March 1, 2011 – Stockton
7:00 p.m. – 8:40 p.m.
Village West Yacht Club (6633 Embarcadero Drive, Stockton, CA 95269)
Partners: Keep the Delta Clean Program, US Coast Guard Auxiliary and Village West Yacht Club.
Flyer: http://www.coastal.ca.gov/ccbn/Stockton_2011_Dockwalker_Flyer.pdf

April 7, 2011 Redwood City
7:00 p.m. – 8:40 p.m.
Sequoia Yacht Club (441 Seaport Court Redwood City, CA 94063)
Partners: Sequoia Yacht Club and US Coast Guard Auxiliary
Flyer: http://www.coastal.ca.gov/ccbn/SequoiaYC_2011.pdf

Dockwalkers at a California marina.
(Photo courtesy of Boating Clean and Green Program (coastal.ca.gov)

Announcement of Veronica's Memorial Mass, January 11 2011



God's Garden

God looked around His garden
And found an empty space.
He looked down upon the earth
And saw your tired face.
He put his arms around you
And lifted you to rest.
God's garden must be beautiful
For He only takes the best.
He knew that you were in pain.
He knew that you would never
Be well on earth again.
He saw the road was getting rough,
And the hills were hard to climb;
So He closed your weary eyelids
And whispered, Peace be thine.
It broke our hearts to lose you,
But you didn't go alone,
For part of us went with you,
The day God called you home.

In Loving Memory
Ann Veronica
Cocksedge
July 19, 1934 - Jan. 7, 2011

Memorial Mass
Tuesday
January 11, 2011
2:00 pm
St. Augustine's Catholic Church
3999 Bernal Ave.
Pleasanton, CA

Internment
Private

Graham-Hitch Mortuary
Pleasanton, CA
925.846.5624

PHOTO SECTION
More from the Crab Feed:

Gathering at the bar before dinner

The Eight Bells ceremony for Veronica; Dawn Chesney presided and Kristen Soetebier rang the bell., as photos fo Veronica were displayed on the screen behind them.

And then upstairs, where about sixty hungry sailors and guests enjoyed crab, pasta, salad and more!