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Great Skippers, Great Crews, and a Great Time! The 2011 Sadie Hawkins Race!



The Skippers and Boat Owners after this year's Sadie Hawkins Race



Christine Weaver in the Laser 28 StinkEye



Katherine Jackson skippers the Express 37 Expression.

Saturday February 26 was full of IYC activities, from the Sadie Hawkins Race to the annual Chowder Cookoff to our monthly Membership Dinner featuring a slide and video tour up the inside passage to Alaska! Read about racing, food, the America's Cup and much more in this issue of *Mainsheet*.



Mary McGrath in the J/105 Racer X

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MARCH/APRIL EVENTS CALENDAR

- 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
- Sun Apr 2 Decorated Boat Kickoff Breakfast
- Tue Apr 12 Board Meeting
- Fri Apr 15 Island Nights Spring Series #1
- Sat Apr 16 Interclub Race #1 (IYC provides RC)
- Sat Apr 16 Membership Dinner/Speaker
- Fri Apr 29 Island Nights Spring Series #2

Commodore's Corner

By Dave Bloch

Spring is just around the corner! I can tell because the "time to get the oil changed in *Dream Catcher*" bug is starting to gnaw at me. I have managed all winter to convince Speranza that anything having to do with the boat, or the Club, counts as "Going Sailing," but I'm not sure I can keep pulling that off once it really starts getting warm.

I attended the PICYA Leadership Conference on Saturday February 26 at Golden Gate Yacht Club. Believe it or not, the most exciting part of that day was *not* having our own Al Spector take a photo of me standing in front of the America's Cup (although that really was kind of cool). Rather, it was getting so much interesting and useful information in one day, in one place. I'm going to give you a quick rundown of what I think are some of the more interesting bits!

COAST GUARD

Captain Cynthia L. Stowe, Commander of the Coast Guard Sector San Francisco, has responsibility for 600 miles of coastline, as well as the waterways up to Sacramento and Stockton. She commands 500 active duty personnel, 43 civilians, 232 Reservists and 1568 Auxiliary. They oversee over 1,300 marine events every year, about triple any other CG sector. (Our estuary races are among those events.)

Capt. Stowe emphasized how critical it is that race applications include every piece of information that could possibly help them track a person down if a boat doesn't come back on time. When a boat is overdue, they pull out all the stops—helicopters take off, chase boats head out on searches—and they hit the phones, calling any numbers we can give them until someone says "Yes, they've shown up here and are safe." She made a special point of saying "**The more numbers you give us, the better.**"

America's Cup 34 is high on everyone's minds, and Capt. Stowe laid out what they're doing at the CG to prepare. During **Fleet Week** they use every law enforcement boat available in the Bay to cordon off a 1.5- by .5-mile area; that is "just appetizers" compared to the task they'll have protecting most of the Central Bay, from Bay Bridge to Golden Gate, during the runs of the big AC34 catamarans. They are currently writing the *Special Local Regulations* that will impact what we all do on the Bay for the next two years.

Continued on next page



Commodore Dave poses before the holy grail at Golden Gate Yacht Club



What a sight out on the Bay a few weekends ago! (Yes, we were actually sailing.)

Commodore's Corner continued

There will be 20 days of AC racing in 2012, and 40 days in 2013, including the final challenges September through December.

They are going to need a huge fleet of volunteer boats to help them control the traffic, and will be coming to the area clubs (probably through the PICYA) to help. Capt. Stowe praised the AC team for their cooperation in getting Coast Guard messages up on the **americascup.com** Website. She also noted that this where anyone interested in volunteer (or paid) positions connected with AC34 can file an application.

[That page is

<http://www.americascup.com/join-our-team> .]

MORE ON AC34

GGYC Commodore **Norbert Bajurin** gave us stories of the history of the Cup itself, and of how a shrinking and financially-unstable club was suddenly turned around as the result of a phone call he made to Larry Ellison of Oracle after hearing he was unhappy with his current club. Mr. Ellison made the short trip along the spit to GGYC, won AC33, and the club tripled in size.

GGYC also became the "eye of the hurricane" as it deals with lawyers, accountants, government agencies, the America's Cup Organizing Committee (raising \$30 million) and the AC Event Authority (raising \$270 million), the media and many others. The Commodore seems to be taking all of this in very good spirits!

He announced that there **eight** teams whose applications have been approved for AC34. He could not tell us who those teams are; some of them are holding back the announcements in their own countries for their own reasons. He said there could still be three or four more before the deadline March 31.

MEMBERSHIP BUILDING & RETENTION

Half Moon Bay YC Commodore Ray Durazzo gave an excellent presentation of ideas for building and retaining club membership. Many of these are no-brainers; that doesn't mean clubs (including ours) do them all and do them well! There were a few that floated to the top for me as I listened:

- A new member coming to their first event should **always** be identified by the person checking in attendees at the door, and a long-time member should be right nearby to take that person and introduce them around. That member should be seated at a table with experienced members, included in the conversation and made to feel welcome. (No brainer? I can think of two organizations I joined where nobody said a word to me in the first event I attended; I never went back.)
- Members should be encouraged to join other community groups (Rotary, Kiwanis...) and/or offer to speak to those organizations at their own functions. (AC34 gives us a whole new pile of things to talk about; those organizations will not get all the info that we do.)
- Do an annual member survey so every member gets the chance to anonymously let the Board know how the club

is doing. (I've been working on an online survey for a while now, and you should all be receiving an Email on that soon.)

- Do Open Houses! (I just got an invitation in my Ballena Bay Marina monthly bill, inviting me to an Open House at BBYC. Wonder if Alameda Marina would do that for us?!)

There were lots more ideas. But what is **really core** to this is that building and retaining is not the sole responsibility of the Membership Chair! Every IYC member needs to do their part. And the payback is very tangible: the more members we have across which to spread our fixed expenses (rent and insurance), the lower our dues can be. Simple.

OPENING DAY is MAY 1

IYC has a long tradition of building award-winning **Decorated Boats** for Opening Day! The project is incredibly creative and hugely fun, and brings some great visibility to our club.

Our Kickoff breakfast is **Saturday April 2**. Galleymeister **Brendan McKenna** has promised **omelettes** (!) for all who come to help brainstorm and select a theme and design! **But between now and then, I am looking for someone to be the organizer/overseer/Big Kahuna on this project.** I did this last year and it really was fun! But I'd really like someone else to take it on this time. If you're interested, please give me an Email at dave@virtualameda.com or call 510-978-4192.

MEMBER DINNER MARCH 19!

Be sure to come to IYC on the 19th and discover virtual sailing. I'll demonstrate that and you can try it yourself!

See you round the Clubhouse! 

A Nice Letter to the Editor:

Dear Island Yacht Club members,

My name is Clare Wood, Veronica Cocksedge's daughter, I finally got around to looking at your Website and I must say your articles were wonderful and the photos that I e-mailed to you for your newsletter came out lovely as well (especially since I'm not too computer savvy).

I have printed a copy of the newsletter to put in her memory box as the club was a big part of her life.

(I also sent out a few thank you's for the members in attendance of her service, however the one I sent to the Mewes was returned to me, just let them know).

I have let my siblings know of the newsletter so that they can appreciate it as well.

Again, many thanks for the beautiful words.

Clare Wood


**Our Feb 26 Dinner:
Alaska Cruising Presentation**

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 and Richard presented 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. 



Go Virtually Sailing March 19!



Our March 19 membership dinner will take you to the Tradewinds Yacht Club in the virtual world of Second Life®. SL residents design and build boats from the simple dinghy shown above to huge multi-mast pirate ships and oil tankers. These virtual boats respond to changes in wind and currents and are steered and the sails trimmed by the user.

There is an entire organization of yacht clubs in SL who hold races, regattas and cruises. A beginner can also take classes in how to build their own working boat (some have cabins, galleys, everything!).

Obviously virtual sailing doesn't approach the real thing. But the concepts usually taught with books and blackboard become way more real in the 3-D virtual world. And the creativity and enjoyment in designing and building their own boats creates a genuine bond between virtual sailors.

Oh! And the speaker for the evening is our own Commodore and *Mainsheet* editor, Dave Bloch (assisted by his avatar, Dale Irata). So y'all come out March 19! You're sure to see Dave's avatar get dumped from the dinghy sometime that evening.

For sale: Water Witch

1982 S-2 9.2 (meters=30 feet) C
Center cockpit, aft cabin. \$20,000.

Bought new in 1983 from Lake Tahoe dealer. S-2 is a boat builder in Holland Michigan; named S-2 for the two Slicker brothers who owned and ran the company. They are still in business but no longer build sailboats, just power boats. I am the original owner (together with my late husband) and have all records from date of purchase. Details: Joan Wetherell 925 837-9408 or esterdotter@sbcglobal.net.

Sadie Hawkins Day Race

By Kristen Soetebier, Vice Commodore

This weekend on February 26 we had the **Sadie Hawkins Race**. Nine fearless females set out on a windy—Wait...No, not windy, **whoa windy**, darn not windy...Well it's north, Well it's east, Well it's north again, Now it's kinda westish—Well you get the picture. Add the variations of the Estuary topography and it was a great day for learning the multiple points of sail needed to keep you going in one direction. Spinnakers went up for a little while but the reachy conditions soon proved them less than helpful so I think they all came down.

I decided a month ago I wanted to build up to trying to single-hand this race. The Sadie Hawkins was my first-ever race as skipper two years ago, when I first got involved with the club, and it just seemed like the perfect race to try singlehanded.


I practiced three weeks ago with someone on board but I did everything myself, then last weekend in between working nearly all weekend I managed to go out truly by myself, and the race was the next step.

I was a little out of control at first, trying to read the uncharacteristic wind. It wasn't where it usually is, and I had to kind of reframe my mental/visual analysis...that took a little while. I nearly hit the A dock folks at Grand Marina and I rounded up at least twice kinda out of control. But I recovered and felt pretty good about how things were going. I was still slow, and in last place I thought... until *Starshine* roared by me.

"Let your sails out it's really reachy" Dawn yelled, and it occurred to me, Huh, for quite a while there I was actually ahead of one boat!! Yeah! Never mind that they probably started a full 20 minutes or so after me. Anyway, out of pity for race committee, who always indulges my poor slow boat, I decided to modify my course 4 and rounded mark 2 twice instead of mark 1 on the last leg. I figured I was last anyway and wouldn't win, and I was the only singlehander out there, so I was allowed.

Then there was the chowder competition in which two chefs competed with yummy offerings. With two folks working so hard, there was really no way to place either, so like the races,

we created divisions, meat and non meat, and accordingly had two first winners, Dawn and John for non meat, and Sandra Paz for a tasty meaty version. As a judge, I have to say these were both simply delicious, yet very different flavors.

All in all it was a wonderful day out on the Estuary! Thank you to Race Committee and to the folks who made the yummy chowder and delicious post-race snacks. 



Kristen singlehands Kapi'i on Sadie Hawkins Day

2011 Racing Calendar

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

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

IYC's Doublehanded Lightship Race — Saturday March 26

Benefiting United Cerebral Palsy

Warning gun 0900 hours

You and a friend race from the Saint Francis Yacht Club to the Lightship and back.

(In the event of foul weather an alternate course inside the Bay will be used)

Divisions for PHRF, BAMA and one-design

Entries and sailing instructions are available on line at www.IYC.org Email IYCracing@yahoo.com if you have any questions.

Entry Fees: \$40.00 thru March 18; after March 19 \$50.00

Come out and join the fun!

Not Racing?

Volunteers are needed at the St Francis YC to raise flags, lower them, repeat as necessary, communicate with Vessel Traffic & race entrants, shoot gun & squirt horn, record finishers, shoot gun at some finishers, tell bawdy jokes (optional), etc.

1st Warning is at 0900, but racers will start checking in around 0800, so it's good to be set up by then.

Please contact Racing Chair John New at IYCracing@yahoo.com or 510-521-2980.

From The Galley

by Brendan McKenna, Galley Manager

Don't forget, if you haven't had enough crab this season, the **Sea Scouts Crab Feed** is **Saturday March 12**. (phone or email)

Highlights from the galley for February include bonus chow at the February 12 Island Days Race. Food other than snacks had not been planned to follow this race but it was such a beautiful day that the spirit moved us to rustle up some pasta, salad and bread in the Galley. There were also a few extra hands around to help out on short notice thanks to Glen K's **Race Committee Recruitment Drive**.

The February 26 Membership Dinner was a great success thanks to the superb menu and cooking by **Sandra Paz**. About 30 members and guests enjoyed a selection of vegetarian and meat lover's pasta including meatballs and Italian sausage. Salad with terrific garlic croutons and delicious breads rounded out the menu. We (I showed up late to help) even managed to get the coffee and ice cream out on time for the diners to enjoy the **Dolphin Charters** beautiful Alaska slide presentation and informative Q&A.

Sandra also whipped (with little prior notice) up some mini pizza appetizers for the post **Sadie Hawkins Day Race** crowd which was greatly appreciated. On top of all that she pulled together a last minute clam chowder. Her entry took one of the first place awards in the cook off. That treat was added to the Membership Dinner menu as a starter.

I appreciate the support, thanks and praise of menus and my efforts as your new Galley Manager, but remember I am just the manager! Sandra is the top toque. Don't miss any event when she is pitching in. Thank you Sandra!

Coming up is the concluding **Island Days Series Race** on Sunday on March 13. Based on the past turnout from February and the fact that this is the "awards" event for the winter series I am planning on simple Chili con Carne for 20 and just chili (no meat) for 5 or so. That is **double** what we served in February. **Please RSVP by March 11**. The fresh-made chili will be reserved for those who have replied. Last minute entrees will have to face away from the galley so they miss seeing me opening a can. \$10.00 / vegetarian \$5.00

The March 19 Membership dinner will feature **Boeuf Bourguignon**. Don't think this as just beef stew! This is the stew against which all other beef pots are defined and measured. I will also be asking Bar Manager **Joan Wetherell** to order a few bottles of better Pinot Noir (aka Burgundy) for cooking and to accompany the meal. This is a simple and elegant meal that is loved by all. As always **we need RSVPs to plan quantites**. Opening a can of Dinty Moore just won't be the same. [Editor's note: perish the thought!!]

Please send your email to bmck1226@yahoo.com or call 415-265-6612 to confirm a reservation for either event. Advance payment by check sent to the Club or Pay Pal is always welcome. (Keep in mind that the March dinner is a week earlier



IYC sponsors the local Sea Scouts. This is their boat, the Sea Fox.

due to the Doublehanded Lightship Race on the 26th.)

Vegetarian Menu note: please make some suggestions for meals that can be made in smaller quantities. I am sure you would prefer some options beyond vegetarian lasagna. Speak up and I do my best or make you greengrocer or even *sous chef de vegetables*. I want to do better for everyone.

Looking forward to April: *Grilled Rack of Lamb a la Herbs de Provence*. Don't miss this. "Lamb sicles" – yum, and this meal actually pairs with merlot. 🚩

SUPPORT IYC- SHOP AT IYC!

Buy your IYC burgee pin for only \$5 (coming soon; limited time offer)



Make sure you have an IYC Burgee on your boat!

Small Burgees \$25

Large Burgees \$30



Car decals and IYC-ware coming soon!

The IYC Store is OPEN. Stop by any event at IYC or contact Anna Christensen akchristensen@hotmail.com



PHOTO SECTION

More photos from February 26 Sadie Hawkins Race Day

Thanks to Steve Bayles for getting out to shoot nearly all of these!



The wine “trophies” go to Chowder Cookoff winners (meat and seafood categories) Dawn Chesney/John New and Sandra Paz



Double Agent and Solar Wind near Jack London Square



Left to right: Christine Weaver in StinkEye, Kristen Soetebier singlehanding Kapi'i, and Dawn Chesney in Starshine.



The race begins on what turned out to be a really pretty day. (Remember—it was supposed to SNOW that morning!)



RBOC

Protecting your boating interests.

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WINTER 2011

BOATER BRIEF

Harter Award

The Northern California boating community has established the “Glenn Harter Award.” It will be known as the “RBOC Gale Force Wind Award” and will be given annually to the Pacific Inter-Club Yacht Association (PICYA) club whose members have made the largest monetary contribution to RBOC on a per member basis for the current year in accordance with the PICYA “Club of the Year” timeframe. This award is established by the Harter family in memory of Glenn A. Harter. Glenn was an active, respected and effective member of the RBOC Board of Directors for many years and served as RBOC President in 1991.

Cal Boating Budget

The Governor’s recently-released State budget proposes \$12.5 billion in spending reductions, \$12 billion in revenue extensions/modifications, \$1.9 billion in other solutions to close the gap, and provides for a \$1 billion surplus. At present, Cal Boating is budgeted to receive \$68 million.

However, a proposed list of reorganizations and consolidations will be issued shortly. The Governor states this list will include entities within the Natural Resources Agency. RBOC is on the alert for any issue that would negatively impact

Cal Boating and will immediately bring such instances to boaters’ attention. RBOC will ask for your support (calls, letters and emails) when needed.

John Laird Appointed Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency

Governor Brown has appointed John Laird as Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency. This agency oversees and is involved with numerous departments, boards, commissions, conservancies, and councils which affect recreational boating. Several of the more important include: Cal Boating, Fish and Game, Parks & Recreation, State Water Board, and the California Coastal Commission.

Secretary Laird possesses outstanding qualifications for this position. RBOC worked well with Mr. Laird during his tenure in the Assembly and is looking forward to working with him in his new position.

Boating No Longer “Most Wanted”

The National Transportation Safety Board has removed **boating** from its “Most Wanted” list for the first time in 16 years. Boating was added in 1994. The Agency said that substantial progress has been made in boating safety.

BoatU. S.

RBOC encourages California boaters to join and support Boat U. S. (Boat Owners Association of the United States). For four decades, Boat U. S. has focused exclusively on providing the highest quality boating services, significant savings and a strong voice fighting to protect boaters from unfair taxes and burdensome regulations that take the fun out of boating. BoatU.S. has 15 Vessel Assist ports in California ready to aid boaters and a network of over 70 marinas and boating businesses where Members can save money on fuel, transient slips, and repairs. To learn more visit: www.BoatUS.com/Membership.

Supporters of RBOC can join BoatU.S. for \$15, a 50% discount by mentioning GARBOCAY as their BoatU.S., Cooperating Group Code.

Support RBOC

RBOC represents all California boaters and operates solely on donations from boaters like YOU! We need your help. All boaters are encouraged to donate \$20 per boating family each year, but all donations are needed and appreciated. Please send your contributions to: RBOC, 925 L St. – Ste. 220, Sacramento, CA 95814-3703 OR donations may be made on-line at www.rbo.org using Visa, American Express, MasterCard, Discover, or PayPal. Donations are not tax deductible due to RBOC’s extensive lobbying efforts.