



The Commodore Reports

ANN WEINZIERL

IS EVERYONE as sick of winter as I am? Let's pray to the Sun and Wind Gods and get the cruising season underway! Don't forget February starts on the eve with a crab feed January 31st, then a Sunday brunch and chili cook-off on Super Bowl Sunday. February 14th is the kick-off of our race season with the Annual Jack & Jill Race. See Britta's column for details.

Now that we've all shaken the bugs out of our boats at Treasure Island for the first cruise-out of the season, the next stop is Golden Gate Yacht Club. A fun dinner is planned at Buca di Beppo Saturday night. If you've never been there before you are in for a treat. Lots of fun. I'm not going to tell you anymore. You're just going to have to show up and see for yourselves. I took the ski cruise-out club members to one in Salt Lake City right before the Olympics two years ago and it was a big hit! I was successful in convincing Tom and Diane Miller this would be a good idea. It's across town from GGYC. So if you are coming by land please offer to swing by and shuttle some of us over. Sign-up sheets are posted.

In January Bob Metzger, Dan Mulvey and I met with Bill Chase, our Marina Master. Bill asked us if we ever do any "anchor outs." We all just laughed and said "Well *yessss!*" He would like to sponsor a joint event with us sometime during the year. He's well aware of our reputation so no modification of behavior is expected...quite the contrary. Be on the lookout for the marina event; location and date yet to be determined. He's also interested in working with us on one of the fishing derbies and we will be sharing a booth at the boat show again this year. I've invited Bill and his wife to the crab feed as my guests. For any of you that have never

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The Whale's Tale

BALLENA BAY YACHT CLUB • ALAMEDA, CALIFORNIA



John Stashik

The "south bay wreck," up close and personal. Another photo on page 6.

Valentine's Day 'Jack & Jill' kicks off 2004 BBYC racing schedule

BY BRITTA FJELSTROM, RACING CHAIR

A NEW YEAR means a new racing season for the BBYC. If you have never participated in a BBYC race you are missing some great times on the water. Although we are competitive, our emphasis is on the *fun* part of racing. Whether your boat is fast, slow, big, small, spinnaker, or non-spinnaker, we encourage all type sailboats to join in on the fun. In fact, most of our participants are live-aboards! So don't let the fact that you think your boat is not a "race" boat discourage you from missing out on a great day of sailing.

If you would like to race but need a boat to race on, we are developing a crew list on our memo board at the club. Just fill out one of the index cards with your name, experience, and contact information. Then, when a skipper needs crew, they can check out the board and give you a call.

If you are not interested in racing but would like to help out on race day, we are always looking for race committee boats and volunteers. As race committee you can help raise flags, fire the gun, take times, and enjoy the

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Racing Schedule

February 14	Jack & Jill Race
March 20	St. Patrick's Day Race
April 24	Spring Race
May 22	Angel Island Race
July 10	Round the Rock Race (Whale's Chase #1)
August 14	Whale's Chase #2
September 11	Whale's Chase #3
September 18	SBYRA Race
October 2	Whale's Chase #4

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The Whale's Tale

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Please save articles for submission as plain text (no formatting) and send by e-mail to editor@bbbyc.org.

Photographs are always welcome and can be left at the club in *The Whale's Tale* box. Digital photos should be e-mailed to the above addresses. Digital photos should have a minimum resolution of 212 pixels per inch at full size. *Always* provide a caption and photo credit information.

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Commodore's Report

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met him this is your opportunity. Bill has said that he will be fixing the fuel prices for the entire month. So now's your opportunity to fill up at a great price!

The Knarr fleet has confirmed they have selected us to host their 1st Annual South Bay Regatta. This will be quite an event. It is the weekend of June 5th and 6th. There will be three races on Saturday and two races on Sunday. The first two races on Saturday will be qualifiers for the Internationals. I've decided it's time we used the spit on that expensive BBQ and I'm planning a pig roast. If you think the Jimmy Buffett party is fun you'll want to set this weekend aside on your calendar right now. Come welcome our friends from St. Francis, Corinthian, San Francisco, and Richmond Yacht Clubs at this new event. Brunch will be served Sunday morning and many of the racers will be in attendance. I'll remind everyone in the June newsletter. Britta is looking for volunteers... particularly someone to videotape and help on the committee boat. The fleet will be providing three 28-ft. Protector RIBs to run around in.

It's the time of year that we put together our budget. If you have any wish list items please see Treasurer Jeanette Clark or the respective committee chair so that your interests are considered. Speaking of wish lists, I would like to thank Greg Hatfield for his generous contribution to the club of \$2500 last month. He requested that we purchase a dartboard with the funds. That should cost around \$100? The balance will go toward the fireplace fund and other wish list items. Please thank Greg individually when you see him. The donation is in honor of a long-time mentor and friend from South Africa.

A number of volunteers have stepped forward to fill the By-laws Review Committee. Bob Krulee, Jim LaMar, Dan Mulvey, and Bob Wiles will be drafting language for the changes I outlined in last month's newsletter. If you have any other changes you would like to see included please contact one of them. The proposed language will be brought before the general membership for ratification. It requires a two-thirds affirmative vote for passage.

Hope to see you all somewhere on the water soon!

RACING

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exciting starts from a somewhat "safe" vantage point. We also need boats and volunteers for our photo boat. The photo boat roams all around the race-course taking still shots and video of the race, so everyone can enjoy watching their trials and triumphs on the big screen.

Now for an exciting upcoming event: the Knarr fleet has asked Ballena Bay Yacht Club to host their Knarr Cup. The two-day regatta will take place on June 5th and 6th. The Knarrs have an active fleet of twenty boats and will have three races on Saturday and two on Sunday. Be sure to

mark your calendars so you join in on the fun. Annie is planning a pig-roasting party for Saturday night that y'all will not want to miss. For more information on the Knarr boats, check out their web site: www.knarr-sf.com.

Our first race of the season will be the popular Jack & Jill Race on February 14. This is a double-handed race around Treasure Island. This year we are officially making it female skipper, male crew. So ladies, start getting used to giving orders and boys, start getting used to taking orders. Start time will be at noon.

For any racing information, e-mail me: race@bbbyc.org.

Social Committee Notes

BY KIM CROW

SINCE our last "Social Committee Notes" column in January, I'm feeling a little more seasoned (no pun intended) and ready to take on the year. It helps a lot that we have picked up four more members, besides **Becky Frame**, eager to join our committee. They are, in alphabetical order, **David Alexander**, **Jeanette Clark**, **Ron Fudala** and **Pamela Jacobs**.

January 1st was the Round the Island event. Becky, **Commodore Annie** and I started out bright and early in the morning readying hard boiled eggs, sweet rolls, juice, and coffee, for the hungry hordes to arrive at nine-ish. Unfortunately, there was a humongous storm that day with wind blowing everything sideways, so boating took the wind out of everyone's sails. Just when we thought no one would come visit, the place started filling up with people at about ten o'clock. Everyone arrived by car and generally enjoyed the welcoming camaraderie of our club. That afternoon, **Jim LaMar** did his usual magnificent job cooking (indoors—the weather was way too inclement for him to barbecue outside). Luckily, he had recently purchased electric grills for just such an occasion, and they came through like champs. He grilled hamburgers and cooked hot dogs and hot links, all to perfection. A lot of

hungry, thirsty people from ours, and other clubs, left satisfied, and it was nice to meet and talk with the "outsiders."

The next event was the membership dinner on January 10. Our resident Master Chef **Sigi** did his usual magnificent culinary job, cooking and serving pork loin stuffed with peaches, scalloped potatoes, green beans, French bread, and spinach salad with Stilton cheese, no less. It was a fabulous meal. **Shelly Cramer** set the tables beautifully with fresh flowers, and would you believe she set 56 places and 56 showed up? It was a great turnout and a magical night.

I would like to insert here a word about the angels that night. These are people who found a need and filled it without asking. **Marty Chin** was caught making coffee more than once, **Sally Tonningsen** rinsed copious amounts of plates, **David Chapman** and Sally Tonningsen brought mixed nuts and popcorn to stave off hunger before dinner, **Marge Gladman** pitched in behind the bar, **David Alexander** took your money, and, of course, **Commodore Annie** and **Jeanette Clark** were a tremendous help to Shelly and me for our first dinner. David and Sally also donated a whole bunch of CDs to the club.

Several people also came up to me to volunteer to help with meals, including **Monica Ley**, **Jim LaMar**, and **Corrine Osicki** (Sigi's wife), **Leslie Shiller**, **Margie Wiles**, and by phone, **Becky Serrage**. Thanks to all of you angels.

Now, what's next? We need to keep those angels busy.

On Super Bowl Sunday, February 1st, a brunch is planned in the morning and the annual chili cook-off in the afternoon.

On February 7th, Sigi rises again to prepare another gourmet meal for the membership dinner. I don't have

the menu yet but will post it after I talk to Sigi.

February 14 is Valentine's Day and hopefully we can get those delicious steaks via **Tom Miller** again. I would like to do that dinner, along with Tom or some experienced barbecuer, and add a baked potato with all the fixin's, a spinach salad and perhaps a totally decadent chocolate dessert. Isn't that romantic? Anybody have a great recipe for the dessert and want to volunteer to make it (with help, of course)? Let me know.

February 21 "**Tinker**" **Dave** is preparing his whiskey infused beef and February 28 is a cruise-out, so no meal is planned.

That will bring us up to March. Whew! It all brings to mind a quote by Eleanor Roosevelt: "I try to take one day at a time, but sometimes several days attack me at once."

So venture over to the clubhouse and sign up for those meals, sign up to cook (you'll have lots of help) or just generally be an angel. You will get the same satisfaction as **Becky Frame** had when she said so succinctly, "I enjoy participating and working; I get to know people more and it is fun being involved."

Be the wind beneath Ballena Bay Yacht Club's sails!



David Alexander

Chef Sigi and Corrine Osicki

Cruise-out schedule

- February 28-29 Leap year cruise to GGYC
- March 13-14 Spring begins; cruise to Angel Island
- April 9-11 Easter bunny hop to Benicia
- May 8 KABOOM!
- May 28-31 Memorial Day weekend up the Petaluma River
- June 12-13 June happenin' to San Rafael
- July 2-4 Fourth of July party to the Delta
- August 7-8 Burning up in Redwood City—Sequoia Yacht Club or Coyote Point
- September 3-6 Labor Day weekend at Half Moon Bay
- October 9-10 Fall in San Francisco

Controller notes: late dues, cash safeguards and a computer monitor donation request

BY ARLENE HUBER, CPA

Outstanding Membership Fees—There are a number of members who are delinquent in paying funds owed to the club. Section 8.2 of the By-laws states “Any member who is delinquent in payment of any fees or dues owed to the club for more than one hundred twenty (120) days shall have all privileges of membership automatically suspended.” Invoices have been sent out for the first quarter dues. If a member had an outstanding balance, I also included a statement showing total fees owed. Let this serve as notice to the general membership that if you fall into this category your privileges will be suspended. (1) Your badge will be removed from the cabinet at the club entrance. (2) Your name will be posted on the club’s bulletin board. (3) Even if you send a letter of resignation to the board, you are still responsible for outstanding fees and your name will remain on the bulletin board until such fees are paid.

Cash Controls—In an effort to safeguard the assets of the club, we

will no longer be keeping small funds in the cash register. In the past, up to \$20 was kept in the cash register so that members could make change when purchasing drinks during the week when no bartender was on duty. Going forward members will use bar chits during non-event hours. In filling out the bar chit be sure to print your full name and the date. At the end of the night, you can place your chit in the drop box on the left side of the bar. You will be billed monthly for your chits. If you prefer not to be billed, you may settle your chits with Jeanette Clark, the Treasurer, at any time.

Computer—As mentioned in the Commodore’s report last month, the club has purchased a new computer for the office. The Board wishes to make the old computer available to members so that they can check e-mail, surf the web, etc. However, the club did not purchase a new monitor, so we are in need of one for the membership’s use. If anyone has an old monitor they wish to donate to the club, please notify a board member.

Growing our membership: your participation and ideas welcome

Wow! What a wild end to a great year! After the New Year’s bash which ran right into brunch on New Year’s day (sorry boss, I fell asleep for a few hours and left all the boozzzzzz

Vice Commodore

★★
GUY FRANK

locked up). But we got it together for Bloody Marys and fizzes for the traditional around the Island yacht club-to-yacht club boat crawl (this year due to the inclement weather much of the crawling was done by auto). But we put on a great brunch and afternoon BBQ for all, proving once again that

we are the friendliest yacht club on the bay! As proof, we signed up several new members, with more to come.

After all the excitement I went A.W.O.L. and took a week off for R&R up in the mountains. I returned to a club bristling with energy and grand expectations for an incredible new year. On the new membership front, I am looking for those of you who are interested in being on my membership committee and I am open to any ideas on expanding our membership base. But, as room in the clubhouse is getting tight, we will likely be raising the initiation fees. So, if you have special friends or family

GGYC cruise-out February 28-29

BY TOM AND DIANE MILLER,

WE’RE GEARING up for our next cruise-out. A great group of people joined together to “shake the bugs out” at Clipper Cove on January 24-25. We had lots of fun and this next cruise-out should be even better. If you weren’t able to make it for our first cruise-out, be sure to join us for this next one—we don’t want you to miss out on any more fun.

Plan to ride the ebb to Golden Gate Yacht Club February 28th for our second cruise-out of the year. We are planning a fantastic dinner at the infamous Buca di Beppo Italian restaurant. Go via Muni, taxi or some other memorable form of transportation from Golden Gate YC. This is a family style Italian restaurant with food galore for all. Plan on \$20 for dinner plus tax and tip. There is a full bar and we should try emptying it. That is always fun. We have a map at the club if you plan on driving to join us and need directions along with a dinner sign-up sheet.

We have kitchen privileges at the yacht club if there are some who want to cook there or on their boat instead of dining out. The club should be open for happy hour cocktails Saturday for us to partake.

We are preparing a Sunday morning leap year brunch at the Golden Gate Yacht Club. There is a sign-up sheet for this fun happening so be sure to put your name on it along with a brunch favorite to cook and share.

We’re looking forward to a great leap year cruise-out. See you soon.

that you think would fit in to our special club, get them signed up now or they may be facing a waiting list. Our goal is to continue to make our club a special place for special people.

See you at the club.

FEBRUARY & MARCH 2004

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Feb. 1 Brunch 9-11 a.m Super Bowl and Chili Cook-off	2	3	4 Board Meeting 7 p.m.	5	6	7 Membership meeting; Dinner 7 p.m. CPR Class
8	9	10	11	12	13	14 VALENTINE'S DAY Jack & Jill Race Noon Dinner 7 p.m.
15	16 PRESIDENTS' DAY HOLIDAY	17	18	19	20 Deadline for <i>The Whale's Tale</i>	21 Dinner 7 p.m.
22	23	24	25	26	27	28 Cruise-out to Golden Gate YC thru Sunday No dinner at BBYC
29	Mar. 1	2	3 Board Meeting 7 p.m.	4	5	6 Membership meeting; Dinner 7 p.m.
7 Brunch 9-11 a.m	8	9	10	11	12	13 Cruise-out to Angel Island thru Sunday No dinner at BBYC
14	15	16	17 ST. PATRICK'S DAY	18	19	20 St. Patrick's Day Race Dinner 7 p.m. Deadline for <i>The Whale's Tale</i>

Something for everybody at the BBYC Ship's Store

BY FRAN METZGER

OUR DISPLAY case offers clothing such as coats, tee-shirts, polo shirts, burgees, license plates, mugs, sweaters, fleece and denim shirts, aprons, totes, and hats. The special this month is a jazz CD by BBYC member Dave Chapman. Dave donated these as a fundraiser for the club. The CD features oldies such as "As Time Goes By," "My Funny Valentine," "Just in Time," "Bye Bye Blackbird" and many more. We love the CD; please request it be played when you're at the club.

We have a supplier who will etch glassware for us with the BBYC burgee plus name on one side and your boat name of the opposite side. I will try to have samples and prices for the next membership meeting.

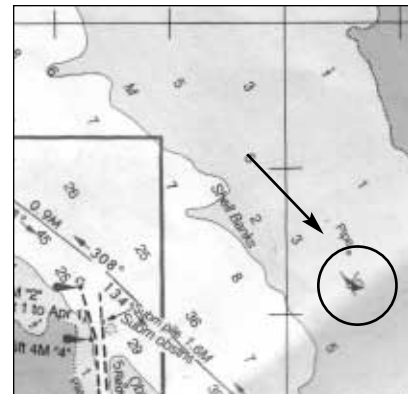
We have items on hand and many more items that could be ordered from our catalogs. See me at the club or e-mail me at bbycshipsstore@aol.com.

Stuck in time and mud



Easily visible to all who cruise the area, the "south bay wreck" has been part of the bay scene 2 miles east of Redwood Creek for years. Is it an old Navy destroyer? If any club members know the true tale of the "south bay wreck" enlighten us all. Send your information to *The Whale's Tale*.

—John Stashik



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