



The Commodore Reports

ANN WEINZIERL

SEPTEMBER is upon us...the back to school time of year. Let's get the kiddies back in school so we can go play on the water! Now that the college tuition is out of the way I think I can afford a couple of beers. There are few places better to do that than Half Moon Bay over Labor Day. Ah yes...there's nothing like sitting on a stump from the HMBYC, drink in hand, watching the party animals land their dinghys on the beach and fall in the water. Remember that, Muggs? This year I think we should take score cards. As usual, the club will be providing entertainment Sunday evening from 7-10 p.m. We can dance in the dirt to our heart's content. The club will be serving meals during the weekend. You are encouraged to drive in if you don't want to brave the high seas and cruise down.

I would like to welcome and thank our new Rear Commodore, Jerry Barnes, for stepping up to the plate. Jerry's been a long-time member and decided it was time for him to do some heavy lifting. He can always use help with tasks around the club. Please feel free to carry out the trash, stock the bar refrigerator, or change light bulbs. There's no permission necessary...it's a volunteer club and everyone's participation in lightening the load is appreciated.

The Nominating Committee, lead by Sarah Sutton, is busy pulling together nominees for next year's bridge. Anyone interested in serving on the board or nominating someone else to serve, please get in touch with Sarah or one of her committee members.

I would like to thank Vice Commodore David Tucker and Shelly Cramer for doing their annual landscaping project and patio clean up for

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The Whale's Tale

BALLENA BAY YACHT CLUB • ALAMEDA, CALIFORNIA



David Alexander

Myra Winovich served as a dealer at the club on casino night.

Sailing Tall in the Trades: *Lynx* hits her stride in Hawaii

BY JUDIE BRAATEN

THE SUN BEAT down on the docks where a small crowd gathered in eager anticipation. The trade winds had picked up and a nice breeze made the warm Hawaiian day pleasant as the crew went about their tasks of preparing *Lynx* for her last "Trade Winds" sail before she headed to her next port.

Lynx is a square topsail Baltimore Clipper schooner. Launched in 2001 in Rockport, Maine, she is an interpretation of the original *Lynx*, which served as a privateer during the War of 1812. These ships were so adept at running British blockades during the war that the British began to target the shipyards where they were built. Today's *Lynx* is about two-thirds the size of the original vessel she's modeled after. Her sparred length is 122 feet with a 23-foot beam, and she is well suited to her task. Her task, of course, is to give her visitors a taste of history.

Stepping onto the deck, one begins to get a feel of what sailing these schooners was like nearly one hundred years ago. Although the deck on *Lynx* is not flush as it would have been on the original (this is to allow for more headroom below, and a place for passengers to sit above on today's vessel), and she has worm gear wheel steering as opposed to a tiller, as well as a few upgrades to make her compliant with Coast Guard regulations, still, she is a living link to a bygone era, and she is easily handled by her professional crew of eight.

At 1:00 p.m. the lines were cast off and *Lynx* drifted away from the dock, widening the gap between her port side and Pier 9. Powering up, *Lynx* moved stealthily toward the mouth of the harbor and open ocean. Waves crashed over

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Ballena Bay Yacht Club

1150 Ballena Blvd., Alameda, CA 94501

Phone: (510) 523-BBYC

www.bbbyc.org

COMMODORE

Ann Weinzierl commodore@bbbyc.org

VICE COMMODORE

David Tucker (510) 521-6477
vicecommodore@bbbyc.org

REAR COMMODORE

Jerry Barnes (510) 521-0613
rearcommodore@bbbyc.org

SECRETARY

Mary Plummer (510) 521-9217
secretary@bbbyc.org

TREASURER

Jeanette Clark (510) 523-7225
treasurer@bbbyc.org

PORT CAPTAIN

Terry O'Prey (510) 928-9468
portcaptain@bbbyc.org

STAFF COMMODORE

Lester Clark (510) 523-7225
clark@bbbyc.org

DIRECTORS

Jeff Fuller (510) 864-0706
fuller@bbbyc.org

Jim LaMar (510) 769-9205

Al Linhares (650) 563-9950

CONTROLLER

Arlene Huber (415) 824-2288
ahuber@sbpcpa.net

CRUISE CHAIRS

Tom & Diane Miller (510) 337-1481
cruise@bbbyc.org

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Jeff Fuller (510) 864-0706
fuller@bbbyc.org

HISTORICAL CHAIR

Lester Clark (510) 523-7225
clark@bbbyc.org

MERCHANDISE CHAIR

Tom Eelkema (510) 336-1384
telkema@aol.com

POWER SQUADRON

Terry O'Prey (510) 928-9468
portcaptain@bbbyc.org

Justin Walsh walsh@bbbyc.org

RACE CHAIR

Ward Fulcher (510) 522-0274
race@bbbyc.org

SOCIAL CHAIRS

Shelly Cramer (510) 521-6477
social_cramer@bbbyc.org

Kim Crow (925) 820-3948
social_crow@bbbyc.org

PICYA DELEGATES

Lester Clark (510) 523-7225
clark@bbbyc.org

Dan Mulvey (510) 828-3026
mulvey@bbbyc.org

Joe Webb (916) 712-6422
webb@bbbyc.org

THE WHALE'S TALE

John Stashik, Editor (510) 235-2195
editor@bbbyc.org

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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EL CERRITO, CA 94530
(510) 235-2195 • Fax (510) 235-7637

Commodore's Report

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Jimmy Buffett. As always, it looks wonderful and is a welcomed effort. David did double duty and also held a membership drive the same Saturday. Jim LaMar and his crew fixed abalone for the open house and it was excellent, as usual. We've been teasing Jim about going abalone diving this year. If you haven't heard, there were two divers attacked by sharks in the very spot that Jim dives. One of the diver's bodies was found...headless. Jim is determined to go back and do it again. This is a very special treat. Thank you, Jim. We have several new members posted on the board from the membership drive. Please welcome the new members at the membership meeting on September 11th. It should be full of Half Moon Bay stories and hopefully no shark tales from Jim's diving trip. Patrick is again preparing something wonderful for us.

The re-scheduled Jack & Jill Race was held the Sunday following Jimmy Buffett. Several of the boats signed up were unable to make the start line. *Barking Spider* claimed he couldn't find a Jill at the last minute. Another had a mechanical problem and couldn't get underway. To complicate matters his Jill dropped her keys in the water next to the boat. When we last saw them they were looking for a scuba tank and *she* was in a wet suit. Way to go, Ward! I can't give Ward too much grief as he has stepped in to replace Britta as our new Race Chair. Thank you, Ward! He has his first big challenge September 19th when BBYC hosts the SBYRA regatta that day. Ward is a long time racer and is perfect for the job. He will need several people for Race Committee. If you are interested please give him a call. One of the Jack & Jill racers is a potential new member from the day before. Allison, who just moved here from Dallas, Texas, and is living on "B" dock took a second place with crew, Don Boyce, on her 36-ft. *Catalina Freedom*. Allison helped me in the galley minutes after being convinced to join. Welcome Allison. Also, I extend a big thanks to Britta for coming back from Ventura to run the race and to Lowell Crow for being the committee boat.

The Oktoberfest event has been scheduled for October 16th. You will want to sign up soon. Spinnaker Yacht Club and the San Jose Sailing Club will be cruising-in. If you have a place that you would like to see us to cruise to on October 9th please let me know. The Millers may be cruising to points south after Half Moon Bay. As of this printing no destination has been confirmed yet and I'm just not ready to end the cruising season. If you have a someplace we haven't visited in recent memory or an old favorite you'd like to revisit let someone on the board know. We'll try to get it scheduled.



David Alexander

Commodore Annie
aboard her Whaler.

Social Committee Notes

BY KIM CROW

CAN YOU believe it's September already? Where did the time go?

I heard once that time was invented to keep everything from happening at once, but at BBYC, for me anyway, everything, indeed, seems to be happening at once. The social scene has been busy as usual at the clubhouse and, in true form, will continue to be so into September.

First, a recap on July and August events. July 24 was Casino Night put on by Port Captain **Terry O'Prey**. The clubhouse was transformed into a very professional looking gambling casino where members, as well as many of Terry's friends, could play blackjack, roulette and craps with tickets they bought at the door. At the end of the evening, they could bid on donated merchandise or gift certificates with the tickets they won.

Commodore **Annie** and her helpers furnished lots of "finger" foods to keep the gamblers nourished enough to roll those dice. **Glenn Huber**, looking sharp but vaguely sharkish in a satin vest, **Jeff Fuller**, and **Lowell Crow** stood in as blackjack dealers. **Myra Winovich** and **David Alexander** collected money for betting tickets all night. And, may I say a word about Myra here. She volunteered a while back to devote



David Alexander

New member Jeannie Small



David Alexander

Glenn Huber demonstrates his skills as a dealer on casino night.

one whole day to the club doing whatever needed to be done. July 24th was her day and she came through like a champ, but more about that later.

It was good to see **George Lohmeier** and **Becky Serrage** there that night after a short absence, Come back soon, G & B. A good time was had by all, and thanks all around to the volunteers who made this happen.

July 31 was Cajun Night with **Chef Mario** at the grill. He made us a fabulous meal of jambalaya, garlic marinated grilled beef, pork, corn with okra, salad, miniature eggplants, a lovely peach trifle with a hint of almond (each in its own wine glass), and more. This was one of the best meals we've ever had at BBYC, and all for only \$15. For that evening **Margie Wiles** helped set up the tables and **Dick Einspahr** vacuumed the whole dining room (after **Lowell Crow** changed the rock solid bag—a discovery that was good for a few laughs all around).

Also, right after dinner July 31, the dining room had to be set up for the brunch the next day. Many members jumped right up and set it all up in no time. Commodore **Annie** was up at

the crack of dawn cooking pancakes, eggs, etc., while **Jeanette Clark** did tables. Annie said they have it down to a science.

A reminder here that BBYC has a wonderful brunch the first Sunday of every month from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. The food is plentiful and delicious.

That brings us up to August. August 14th **Marty and Linda Chin** prepared for the club a "Country Fried Dinner." (Doesn't that make your mouth water just reading it?) It consisted of fried chicken, garlic mashed potatoes, biscuits, green beans and bacon, corn on the cob and a salad ("to die for," according to Marty). Top that off with pie and ice cream and you've got the makin's of a real down home meal.

For the August 21st general membership drive **Jim LaMar** furnished abalone that he and a friend caught. Jim was pounding the heck out of it the night before, and when I arrived at the clubhouse the next day, Jim, **Linda Chin**, **Jeanette Clark** and **Annie** were busy in the kitchen breading it to ready the tasty morsels for frying. We also furnished ham-

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SAILING TALL

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the break wall across from Sand Island as we headed toward the channel buoys out of Honolulu Harbor. The trades were blowing strong and steady, and great swells welled up even before we reached the markers. *Lynx's* bow rose up and up, cresting a huge swell, then crashed down with a thunderous roar, sending salty spray skyward. The task of setting sails began. First the foresail was raised, followed quickly by the staysail. Orders were barked between the crew and the captain, and with the command "haul away!" the huge mainsail and jib were soon up and blocking the sun. As we turned toward Diamond Head, we finished setting the sails. The wind found the canvas; *Lynx* heeled to starboard and hit her stride!

Careening over the huge waves, the crew tried to keep *Lynx* sailing level for the comfort of her passengers, but the Wind Gods had other ideas. The wind blew spray off the crests of waves. The occasional dousing as the bow dove down off yet another swell, sending spray over the passengers, elicited screams of delight as *Lynx* charged on. Coming out from behind Diamond Head's shadow, the trades hit *Lynx* full on, and she responded with a thrilling surge of speed. Coming about, she practically flew across

the water as we turned back toward Honolulu and raised the topgallant. We examined various kinds of shot as we listened to the explanation about her guns, and plugged our ears as a salute was fired off. A smoke ring hung in the air, and seemed to follow *Lynx* as she cut threw the clear blue water. We learned about the life of a sailor around 1812, what he ate, how he slept, and what everyday life aboard ship was like. Truly a worthwhile education!

To every adventure comes a sacrifice, and this day the Wind Gods demanded tribute. Two hats were inadvertently lost, and as maneuverable as *Lynx* is, her crew good-humoredly refused to turn her about. (Had we lost a passenger overboard, they might've taken a vote to see if we should pick up the hapless swimmer, but for hats....)

All too soon, the voyage was over, and *Lynx* glided smoothly across Honolulu Harbor and kissed the dock as her lines were made fast. I stayed and helped my new friends furl the foresail and jib, although to be honest, I wasn't much help standing on the stays above the water next to the bowsprit—but the experience was incredible! This was my third, and last sail aboard *Lynx* for her visit this year to Hawaii.

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SOCIAL COMMITTEE

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burgers and hot dogs with all the fixin's, and chips for \$5. The abalone got rave reviews. No one could stop eating it. Thanks, Jim.

That night was Jimmy Buffett night. Annie barbecued country style ribs and made potato salad, pasta salad, cornbread, and beans. **Kim Crow** made her famous Ramen salad (a sort of coleslaw), and there was watermelon and ice cream for dessert.

Lori Rock and **Shelly Cramer** did a great job decorating, which included straightening out lots of fishnet and affixing lots of sea critters to various surfaces.

Louise Einspahr had signed up to do whatever needed to be done to pull off the two day's events and she showed up right on time with apron at the ready. Thanks so much, Louise, we appreciate all you did (and more about that later).

August 28th has no one signed up to cook, so there will be no dinner.

And, so, we move on to September. September 4 (Labor Day weekend) is a cruise-out to Half Moon Bay so no meal is planned.

September 11 **Patrick Rentsch** steps in again to cook for us. He says this will be an International Dinner (apropos the date) of Kickass Salad (USA), Jerk Chicken (Jamaica), Lulya Kebabs (Azerbaijan), Adobo Steak (Brazil), and Biryani Rice (India), plus some lovely dessert.

No sign ups for September 18th as of yet. Please contact me if you want to do a dinner that night.

September 25 our own **Sarah Sutton** and her friend **Claudia** will have salsa night. No, this is not a salsa tasting; this is salsa, as in the dance. We will be salsa dancing after Sarah and Claudia's salsa-inspired meal. *Ole!*

Now, back to **Myra** and **Louise** mentioned above where I said "more about that later." I have put up another sign up sheet at the clubhouse for you (yes, you) to volunteer one Saturday dinner or event a year to do whatever needs to be done. Louise was the first person to sign up, which is how her help came about on August 21st.

I urge each of you to sign up for one day a year. You could be a griller, server, table setter, decorator, salad maker, dessert maker, money taker, slicer and dicer, patio cleaner, etc., etc. There are many opportunities to get involved to help put meals or events together for the club.

Remember, this is an *all-volunteer* club, and many hands make light work (or something like that). I guarantee you will be able to find a need and fill it *and* make new friends along the way.

I hope my October newsletter will include your name, too.

SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER 2004

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			Sept. 1	2	3 Half Moon Bay Cruise-out (thru Monday)	4 No planned dinner at club
5	6 LABOR DAY	7	8 Board meeting 7 p.m.	9 Single Sailors Assoc. 7:30 p.m.	10	11 Membership meeting, dinner 7 p.m.
12	13	14	15	16	17	18 SBYRA Race Coyote Point YC cruise-in Dinner 7 p.m.
19	20 Deadline for October newsletter	21	22	23	24	25 Dinner 7 p.m.
26	27	28	29 Board meeting 7 p.m.	30	Oct. 1	2 Membership meeting, dinner 7 p.m.
3 Brunch 9 a.m.	4	5	6	7	8 SF Fleet Week events	9 Cruise-out TBD (thru Sunday) SF Fleet Week events
10 SF Fleet Week events	11	12	13	14 Single Sailors Assoc. 7:30 p.m.	15	16 Spinnaker YC; San Jose Sailing Club cruise-in Octoberfest Dinner 7 p.m.

Safety officer report: boat inspections, alcohol

BY JEFF FULLER

SATURDAY, July 21 our Yacht Club hosted vessel safety checks from the Coast Guard Auxiliary. We inspected about fifteen boats from our yacht club and the harbor in general. Most got their decal. If they didn't, we showed them what they needed to comply and be safe. If you need your boat to be checked give me a call. Phone (510) 851-6382 or e-mail jeffmarine@aol.com.

This year we are lucky in not having any injuries at the club. However, unfortunately, this is not the usual year. Thinking about it, all accidents have one common denominator. You probably already know the answer to this one: alcohol. So what is the answer to be safe? I've decided we are going to stop serving alcohol at the club. Of course, I'm just kidding!

I am going to propose that we watch how we serve. If you see someone that has had too much, please don't serve them. When we serve people it is our responsibility.

If one of our friends has had too much to drink please offer them a ride or get them a cab. Do not let them drive. If you're sober, or close to it, you have better judgment than someone that is drunk.

Let's have fun and be safe.

Merchandise news

BY JEFF FULLER

I ASKED YOU last month to contact me for special customized clothing. You sure did. I placed special orders for eight of our members. I'll contact you when your order comes in. Not only did I place the special orders, but also a large club order. Come see what I got you. By the time you read this the new club order should be in stock.

You still haven't placed your special order my friend? I'm still ready to help you look real good. Call me at (510) 851-6382 or e-mail me at jeffmarine@aol.com.

SAILING TALL

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Lynx is now at her next port of call, and by the time this goes to print, she will be heading back to the mainland. She is scheduled to arrive in San Francisco Bay on or around September 24th. Be sure to watch for her arrival, and if you get the opportunity, go visit this magnificent ship and welcome her extraordinary and dynamic crew: Captain, Doug Leasure; First Mate, Justin Cathcart; Second Mate, Jullie Jackson; Engineer, Kate Mini; Boatswain, Maria Simpson; Gunner and Deckhand, Jared Whalen; Educator, Diane Sternberg; and Cook, Jon Holmes.

Cruise-out schedule

September 3-6 Labor Day weekend at
Half Moon Bay
October 9-10 To be determined