

The Whale's Tale

Ballena Bay Yacht Club

Alameda, CA

Volume 2009, Issue 3

March 2009



The Commodore's Report

Jeff Gear



Well, the winter rains have finally started. Although we've seen more cloudy than sunny days recently, I like to think of these rainy days as nature's way of providing a free boat wash! On the flip side, I think I found 5 more boat leaks that need my attention. Now where's that silicone sealant and caulk gun I stored away last spring...?

On a more serious note, I'd like to spend some time talking about an issue that is near and dear to our club: Membership! In these tough economic times, our club is subject to the same harsh realities of monetary cutbacks and "belt-tightening" that everyone is experiencing at this time. Although I've requested a one million dollar bailout from the new administration, I'm not sure BBYC is high on the economic "hand-out" priority list!

So, In lieu of a big government check landing in the BBYC mailbox anytime soon, I'm asking you, our valued club members, to assist with a simple request: Help bring new members into the hallowed halls (Continued on page 4)



Kim Crow, our Valentine's Dinner hostess, with Ann Niemi assisting. More pictures on pg. 3.

Valentine's Day Dinner

By Kim and Lowell Crow

About 30 or so hardy people showed up for this dinner in spite of the rain and wind. **Linda Fenn & David Offerman** and **Jeff & Karen Simson** even arrived in formal attire. **Ann Niemi** did a fabulous job on the decorations for the tables, with red tablecloths, sparkly hearts, candles, and carnations. And **Jeff & Karen** brought beautiful red roses for all the ladies.

In an effort to formalize the dinner a little, the tables were pre-set with the spinach salad at each place so that no one had to queue for dinner. Under two of the plates at each table was a large or a small heart. The lucky person who had the large heart got to serve (from the right, of course) his/her tablemates the main course-tri of tip or salmon, baked potato, carrots and peas. The recipient of the smaller heart got to buss the table after dinner. Cruise Chair **Jeff Fuller**, who had a big heart, was hoping that it meant he'd "won \$100 or something". **Jim LaMar** barbequed the salmon and tri-tip, and because of heavy rain, the barbeque had to be rolled under the canopy during the barbequing. Thanks Jim. **Ann Niemi** cooked the carrots with snow peas, and it all turned out great. The Club made money on the dinner and the bar.

Thanks to **Jim LaMar**, **Ann Niemi** and **Marti Burrell** for all they did to make this "sweetheart" dinner a real success.

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The Cruise-out Report

Jeff Fuller

Winter Cruising

When you cruise in the winter you have about a 50-50 chance of good weather in the Bay Area. However, luck was not with us for the Schoonmaker Marina cruise-out planned for February 21-22. After consulting with Assistant Harbor Master Bill Hughes we decided not to go because of the storm. Our cruisers would not want to get pounded on the dock all evening. But we will reschedule, so stay tuned.

Corinthian Yacht Club

The next cruise-out is to Corinthian harbor in Tiburon March 28-29. The last time I looked we had 12 boats signed up. As I mentioned before, this cruise-out is first-come first-served as Corinthian has limited space. We may be over our limit already, so I will let you know if there is space for you as soon as I find out.

Sequoia Yacht Club

We have an interesting adventure coming up to Redwood City to visit the Sequoia Yacht Club April 25-26. This will give you a chance to see the South Bay and the Redwood City shipping channel. We will have dinner at Charlie Browns.

Petaluma Yacht Club

A tradition for us at BBYC is the Memorial Day cruise-out to Petaluma Yacht Club. Petaluma is becoming an upscale town with interesting shops and restaurants. The club is located next to a long municipal dock in downtown Petaluma. Come and enjoy the long weekend May 23-25.

Sign Up!

If you're interested in attending any of these cruise-outs, don't forget to sign up at the club or email me at *jeffmarine@comcast.net*.

The Vice Commodore's Report

Caroline Oestreicher

We have two new club members—**Brian Black and Kevin Lyon**. When you see them at the club, please give them a big BBYC welcome.

February—how did we make it through? Thankfully, we enjoyed a spectacular Crab Feed, a very yummy Valentine's dinner and have the Mardi Gras dinner to look forward to.

Most of you know I fell and broke my ankle so badly that I had to have some hardware put in to hold me together. I'm much better now, thanks to the support of my friends.

At the risk of sounding like a mother, be careful! Wet, steep, slippery, seagull-poop covered ramps are a serious hazard and should be avoided if at all possible.

Well, life will get better, spring will be here soon and February will just be a memory.

We have lots of great things to look forward to. Cruise-ins, cruise-outs, races, dinners and that's just March! See you at the club.

The Crab Feed



Valentine's Day Dinner



The Commodore's Report

(continued from page 1)

of Ballena Bay Yacht Club! It would be a tremendous boost to the club if each and every one of us could look into our individual collection of friends, neighbors, relatives and other boating enthusiasts and tout the benefits of joining our great organization. Can you find one new member this year? I'd like pose that challenge to you! As an added incentive, we'll provide two free dinners to any member who signs up a new membership!

Speaking of new faces at BBYC, I'd like to welcome the Single Sailors Association (SSA) back to the club! 80 members strong, the SSA is a registered PICYA organization designed to promote fellowship and boating camaraderie amongst their members and other yachting organizations in the San Francisco Bay area. For more information, take a look at their website at www.singlesailors.org.

Starting in April, the SSA will begin holding their monthly meetings at BBYC on the second Thursday of each month. In addition, you'll see active SSA participation in various BBYC events including dinners, cruise-outs, cruise-ins, parties and other activities throughout the year. This group has always been a big supporter of BBYC events in the past, so don't hesitate to say hello and show them the friendly hospitality that defines our club.

BBYC corresponding member Beth Friedman joined us for Mardi Gras dinner. She was in town for a brief visit, flying in from Cartagena, Colombia, where she and her friend Ron have been cruising on his 42' sailboat for nearly 5 years.

In closing, I'd like to highlight the following upcoming club events:

Membership Meeting and Sea Scouts Presentation Saturday, March 7th

Our monthly membership meeting will start with a Spaghetti dinner hosted by member **Chuck Kite**, followed by a slideshow presentation by the Alameda Sea Scouts. Come on down to the club and learn about the long history of this organization within the Alameda area. An incredible photo journey!

Saint Patrick's Day Party Saturday, March 14th

Jim LaMar and crew will be hosting a St. Patrick's Day party that is not to be missed! In addition, the Berkeley Yacht Club will be cruising in to join the festivities!

Corinthian Yacht Club Cruise-Out Saturday, March 28th

A large group of boats are heading to the shores of Tiburon for a weekend of festivities at the Corinthian Yacht Club. Guaranteed to be a good time! If you're interested in attending, check in with **Jeff Fuller**, BBYC Cruise-Out Chair for more information.

The Port Captain's Report

Kim Crow

Well, we had our first cruise-in of 2009 on February 7-8 when Oyster Point Yacht Club cruised in under the watchful eye of their Port Captain Bryan Rogers. He made my first foray into port captainship so easy by finding his members their slips and even collecting money for them. There were about 8 boats and 20 people who joined us Saturday night for a fabulous crab feed. They all seemed to have a great time.

Our next cruise-in is March 14-15 when Berkeley Yacht Club visits for our annual St. Patrick's Day festivities with **Jim LaMar** manning the corned beef and cabbage. The following weekend, March 21-22, Sequoia Yacht Club will be visiting us, and **Harold and JC Miller** will be the head chefs. Looks like March is going to be a busy, busy social month. Let's continue to show the other Bay Area clubs that good old-fashioned BBYC hospitality.

Happy cruising!



MARCH

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4 Board of Directors Meeting	5	6	7 Membership Meeting/Dinner 7:00 pm
8	9	10	11	12	13	14 St. Patrick's Day Dinner 7:00 pm Berkeley YC Cruise-in
15	16	17	18	19	20	21 Dinner 7:00 pm PMS Race #2 Sequoia YC Cruise-in
22	23	24	25	26	27	28 Dinner 7:00 pm Corinthian YC Cruise-out
29	30	31				

APRIL

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Board of Directors Meeting	2	3 Griller's Beer Can Series #1	4 Membership Meeting/Dinner 7:00 pm
5	6	7	8	9	10	11 Dinner 7:00 pm
12	13	14	15	16	17 Griller's Beer Can Series #2	18 Dinner 7:00 pm PMS Race #3
19	20	21	22	23	24	25 Dinner 7:00 pm Sequoia YC Cruise-out
26 Opening Day on the Bay	27	28	29 Board of Directors Meeting	30		

The Rear Commodore's Report

Dave "Tinker" Hall

Hi everyone. Well, the big news is that **Ron Fudala** bought and donated a new cash register to the club. Now we can try and keep track of what we actually sell. I programmed it so there is no need to enter decimal numbers (everything we sell is priced in even dollars). Only four of the product buttons need to be used. "Beer", Wine", "Mixed" (for mixed drinks and everything else) and "Comb" if you mixed beer, wine and cocktails in one order. See picture and instructions at right. I'm happy to answer any questions.

Cheers, Tinker.

New Cash Register Procedures

STEP ①

Enter amount on round grey buttons

Example: for \$3.00 enter 3 (no decimals)

STEP ②

Push Item code on square alpha/numeric keypad

Item 1: Beer

Item 2: Wine

Item 3: Mixed drink

Item 4: Any combination

STEP ③

Push blue Total button

STEP ④

Take receipt



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