

# Westerlies

## Tiburon Yacht Club



Latitude 37° 54' N.

Paradise Cay  
Tiburon, California



NEXT GENERAL MEETING:  
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5  
DOORS OPEN 5:30PM

Longitude 122° 28' W.

### COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

*By Ann Watson*

It's been a tumultuous year for TYC, but the turbulence is behind us and I see nothing but clear air ahead. Congratulations and thanks to the old watch for setting the new watch off on a smooth path.

To me, first and foremost, TYC has always been a family. We're not just a club. As with all families, we have our disagreements, we express our opinions (sometimes forcefully), but always with tolerance and respect for each other. Because of this culture of inclusiveness and collaboration, the club heals itself when growing pains threaten to rend it asunder. Growing is a painful process, but a positive one. TYC will emerge stronger and more cohesive. We'll stretch our wings a little higher.

When selecting the new watch, I sought diversity for club management. We have some old salts, some newcomers, some Cay folk, some outside-the-Cay folk, some sailors and some cruisers. This will provide

fresh ideas, moving TYC forward financially and socially, while increasing our concentration on reinvigorating our boating community roots. There's plenty of drive and enthusiasm rarin' to go.

Right now the club is being pulled in two directions. Some love to volunteer. Some just want to relax. My goal is to make everyone happy some of the

time throughout the year. This club was built for fun! And it was built by its long-time members. I remember standing on tall ladders, sealing the ceiling beams and acting as wood rat for the carpenters. I remember the day 20 guys walked Lon's beautiful bar from the site of the old club, across the parking lot, and into the new clubhouse. This building is a real labor of love. I hope this explains to newer members the fierce attachments longer term members have for this club and its culture and traditions.

But we are also planning for our future and the winds of change. The new watch will be reviewing the recent survey results and putting its imprimatur on the draft five-year strategic plan. Then the club will have a full discussion about it. Everyone's input is welcome and is equally important. A strategic planning chair will oversee its implementation so the watch stays on track to meet its milestones.

There will be a mentor program for new members. Those members sponsoring new ones are encouraged to take an active role in involving them in club activities, be it volunteering for an event or work party, serving on a committee or just accompanying them to club functions. We need to ensure new members are welcomed into our TYC family and become integrated into club functions. This translates into more members using the club on more occasions.

A retention study will be done of our cyclical membership fluctuations to help us better understand how to attract and keep our new members. Once

*(Continued on page 3)*

#### **December 2014**

##### ***Westerlies***

##### ***Important Dates***

**Christmas Bus**  
**December 6**

**Holiday Party**  
**December 14**

**Westerlies Deadline**  
**December 29**

## Submit Articles or Photos to *Westerlies*

*Westerlies* is the monthly newsletter of the Tiburon Yacht Club. We welcome interesting, relevant stories, as well as photographs from members and non-members alike.

*Westerlies* is distributed both by mail and online at [www.tyc.org](http://www.tyc.org).

Submissions may be sent electronically to the editor at [sheila@tonic.to](mailto:sheila@tonic.to). Deadline is usually the last Monday of the last full week of each month, but is always listed in the Calendar of Events, which appears both online and at the end of each issue of *Westerlies*.

All submissions will be edited for grammar, content, size and relevancy. Inclusion is up to the editor's discretion.



*Note:* TYC has a small camera available at the club for any member to use during clubhouse events.

Feel free to take snapshots at any time, especially if there is no "official photographer" on site. Use of this camera is encouraged. Resulting photos will be picked up from the club for possible inclusion in *Westerlies*.

Sheila Lyons  
Editor

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## **Tell Me Sump Thing Good**

Meet the latest addition to the clubhouse—our new sump pump cover, lovingly installed by Forster Pump. This is just the first of many improvements you'll see at the club this coming year. The front step railings and the ramp and landing are on the list. The back patio and steps are being replaced. Rotten siding boards will be repaired and the shed foundation will be corrected.

Dan Higgins, Lon Woodrum, Bill Hoehler and Peter Schoen are discussing how to make all this happen. Gerry Gunn is having the roof inspected for reindeer damage. There's even some talk about work on a high pressure joint. We're hoping this has something to do with plumbing.

completed, we'll look at ways to both increase and retain members. We'll also ask those dropping their memberships to tell us why, so we can do better in the future.

I am actively recruiting a children's social committee, separate from the adult social committee. I'd like to see more done for members' children. We can have kids-only parties, movie nights, craft parties, kayaking the Cay, field trips and Sunday day cruises. I'm open to all fun ideas. I know members with young families are overwhelmed, but let TYC be a resource for you. Please get involved in making it one.

The new watch's overarching theme is to stay in tune with the membership. We will work hard to increase transparency and openness to members' concerns. Though votes may now be mailed in, club discussions will be had ahead of any voting. Board minutes and monthly financials will be routinely available. Board meetings are open to anyone who wants to attend. A free exchange of ideas between management and members can only make for a better club.

As the club moves into its 50<sup>th</sup> year of fun, I thank the new watch for stepping up and all of you for your encouragement and support. May you and yours have a wonderful holiday season, and may we all have a happy and peaceful new year.



## *The Social Scene*

*By Sheila Lyons*

### **2014 ANNUAL MEETING & DINNER**

November 22<sup>nd</sup>s Annual Meeting and Dinner was an exciting one. After navigating a rain-filled parking lot—as well as the surprise appearance of a working crane and large truck just outside the club doors—members finally gained the refuge of a warm and elegantly decorated clubhouse. It may have been damp outside but that didn't dampen the spirit inside as

everyone got down to the business of casting votes, eating, drinking and having a very good time.

Outgoing Commodore Gary Stypulkoski and wife Erin presided over a lively party with delicious food, a busy bar scene, and the chance to touch, feel and purchase some new TYC logo merchandise. A smooth changing of the guard occurred over dinner as the gavel was passed to our new leader, Commodore Ann Watson. Many thanks to Gary, Erin and the entire 2014 board of directors for their service and hard work over this past year. We have a lot of great memories from each of the many meetings and events brought to us by this crew! 2014 will be remembered as the year of the bistro dinner and also as a banner year for families with young children.

As always, thanks to the many volunteers who came together to make this year's dinner a beautiful event. Special mention goes to Jane and Roy Borodkin for their generous donation of the lovely flowers and to Jill Ames who used her flower arranging talent to assist Roy in making the many arrangements that adorned our club.

Photos from the Annual Dinner can be seen on page 8. Thank you to Trip Ames and Carolyn Fitz-Gerald for some excellent photography under challenging lighting conditions.

### **COMING UP**

**December 6:** Bus Tour de Noel, AKA The Christmas Bus

**December 14:** Holiday Party for Kids of All Ages (See flyer on page 6.)

**January 1:** New Year's Open House at TYC, 12 noon - 4:00pm

**January 10:** Crab Feed 6:00-10:00pm

**A Note From Erin** - Thanks to the following people for help with the many details of the Annual Dinner: Sheila Lyons for helping with the invitations and rentals and all her guidance on "how it's done"; Steve Nimz, along with Trip Ames, Commodore Gary, Dick Selmeier, Harry Blake, and Harvey Gilbert for tent and table set-up; Susan Hoehler for place cards; AnnWatson, Suzanne Jolma, Karen Obley, Patty Cerf, Rita Pirie, Yolanda Lopez, David Fairbrother and Deanne Gilbert for table arranging and helping to "set the scene"; and a big thank you to Jane and Roy Borodkin and Jill Ames for the beautiful flower arrangements!

Thank you all for your support. The TYC looked beautiful and the food was delicious. I hope you all enjoyed the evening as much as I did.







*Come One, Come All!*  
*Children of All Ages (Babes to 100 Years)\**  
*Are Invited To:*

## **TYC'S HOLIDAY PARTY!**

**Date:** Sunday, December 14, 2014

**Time:** **2:00** Crafts for kids, time for egg nog ("spirited" or not), cookies & snacks, decorating the Christmas tree and talking with friends

**3:00** **SANTA ARRIVES!** (By Tiburon Fire Boat, weather permitting)  
Santa will listen to wish lists from all the children.

**4:00** **TIBURON FIRE TRUCKS ARRIVE** to pick up *Toys for Tots* donations. Children can admire and investigate the fire trucks.

**Price of Admission:** Please bring unwrapped gifts for children (babies through teens) for donation to the *Toys for Tots* program. Please also bring non-perishable food for the *Marin Food Bank*. There are so many in need this year.

***It's a very fun event for all!***

**Also Needed:**

8 people to bring 2 dozen cookies

8 people to bring simple appetizers (cheese & crackers, veggies, etc.)

2-3 people to bartend: Choose: 2:00-3:00 pm, 3:00-4:00 pm, or 4:00-5:00 pm

Clean up – All are invited to help for a few minutes.

If you'd like to do any of the above "chores," please contact Carole Gunn at:  
[carolegunn@comcast.net](mailto:carolegunn@comcast.net) or 435-6038.

**Thank you for helping!**

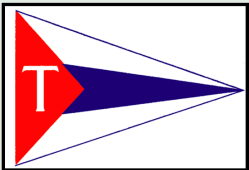
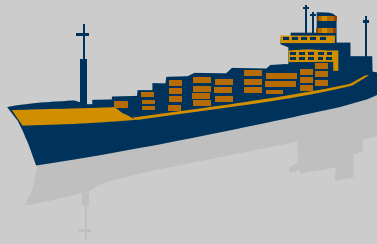


## Bar Pilot Navigates December 5, 2014 General Meeting and Dinner

Come to the first general meeting with the new watch on Friday, December 5. A free pizza dinner will be served at 5:30pm while the bar (the stationary kind) will be serving no-host beverages.

Captain Gregory K. Waugh will regale us with tales of the perils and triumphs of his years as a San Francisco Bar Pilot. Among his many accomplishments, Captain Waugh is a Master of any gross tons upon inland waters, an unlimited radar observer and a first class pilot on vessels of any gross tons upon the waters of San Francisco Bay from the sea, and between the Dumbarton Bridge, Stockton and Sacramento, including all tributaries therein. If we were still in the old clubhouse built on the barge bottom, he could relocate us anywhere!

There will be a very short general meeting starting at 6:30pm. Then Captain Waugh will speak, show a most illuminating DVD and submit to a vigorous question and answer session. This is your chance to find out everything you need to know about staying out of those shipping channels. He'll tell you that not only can he not see you at a certain point, he won't even feel the impact when his ship cracks your hull like a walnut.



### New TYC Apparel & Gear

*BY JESSICA PRESSMAN*

It's official: TYC has new merchandise for sale at the club! Please check out the link on the left side of the TYC website home page titled "GEAR". I will soon be posting photos, descriptions, and prices (tax included) for our in-house inventory.

Bring your checkbooks to upcoming parties! We have men's and women's classic polo shirts, new men's long sleeve t-shirts and pullovers as well new women's t-shirts, fleece pullovers and heavy weight zip-ups. We also have light and heavy weight blankets and wine totes. Old burgee fading or torn? We have those too.

Because the club only makes large purchases at a time and might run out of your preferred color or size, you can now buy individual items from the Pirates Lair online catalog link. Please make sure to read the ordering instructions as your order is directly between you and Pirates Lair. **Have your order sent directly to your house this way!**

Many of you might have ordered a while back from Embroidery Factory. Pirates Lair purchased them a few years back. Most of the clothing items that the club used to buy, and still likes, is by Port Authority, which you will find as an option.

**Pirates Lair** has three different TYC burgee designs to pick from:

- 1) Burgee alone
- 2) Burgee with Tiburon Yacht Club below it
- 3) Burgee on a flagpole blowing in wind with Tiburon Yacht Club below

So double check your order to make sure it's the one you prefer. Happy shopping!



# RACE NOTES

BY JIM BLISS



## Red Rock Race - November 1<sup>st</sup>

There was a good turnout for this annual event, which takes the racers around Red Rock and back. Ten boats came to the line for a 13:05 start. The fleet was split into spinnaker and non-spinnaker divisions. Wind was a steady from the west, and the tide was a strong ebb. The Spinnaker Division was won by Rich Selmeier in *Hurricane Gulch*. Ian Matthew in *Siento el Viento* was close behind. Bill Hoehler finished third in *Joyride*. The Non-spinnaker Division was won by Lon Woodrum and Steve Nimz in *Lion*. Shirley Vaughn finished second in *Red Hawk*, and Mariellen Stern finished third in *Cinnamon Girl*. Thanks to Ann Watson and Floyd Fulmer for serving as race committee.

The last race of the season is the Wild Turkey Race on November 28 with a 13:05 start. We originally intended to reschedule the Short-Handed races for mid-November, but in trying to find a suitable date, the common feeling was that it would be easier to just skip them for 2014.

## Highlights of the Awards Dinner - November 1<sup>st</sup>

The Annual Awards Dinner was a fun night. About 65 racers, crew and guests enjoyed a buffet of Chinese food from Lily Kai of Tiburon. The 'keeper' awards consisted of silver plates given to the boats winning at least one first, second or third place in the season. Each plate was inscribed with the name of the boat, skipper, and all of the places won. The top skippers this year were: Bill Hoehler in *Joyride*, Otto Schreier in *Galante*, and Gerry Gunn & John Sullivan in *Diversion*. Each won two regattas, plus placed second and/or third in two others.



**Joyride**



**Galante**



**Diversion**

The Perpetual Trophies are kept in the club with the names of the annual winners inscribed. The winners of each are shown below and on page 7.



**Midwinters**



**Don Wan Regatta**



**Tornberg**



(Race Notes continued from page 5)

More photos of Perpetual Trophy winners:



**H.O. Lind**



**Commodore's Cruise**



**Wretched Wreck**

A final highlight of the evening was a rousing cheer of recognition for the 17 race committee volunteers, who over the season made the races work.

Thank you all!

## The Benson Ford: An elegant piece of history recycled

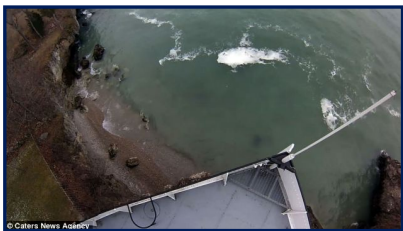


The *Benson Ford* originally transported iron and coal for the Ford Motor Company. The boat was used by Henry Ford himself to travel across the Great Lakes and Thomas Edison was a frequent guest on this beautiful ship. Decommissioned in 1981 after nearly 50 years of service, it was left to rust for four years before the front part of the ship was removed and perched on top of an 18-foot cliff above Lake Erie to serve as a vacation home.



Originally owned by Frank J. Sullivan, who tried to turn it into a hotel in 1992, Sullivan eventually put the building up for auction. Father and son Jerry and Bryan Kaspar bought it and they still enjoy relaxing there while taking time off from work. It has now been modernized with a garage, game room, a bar, state-of-the-art kitchen, and four bathrooms.

The present four-deck ship house has an area of 7,000 square feet and includes a walnut paneled state room, dining room, galley, and passenger lounge designed by Henry Ford for his own personal use while on board. It boasts five bedrooms, a captain's office and a living room with panoramic views across Lake Erie.



The deck on the fourth floor is a great place to enjoy a cocktail overlooking the lake and nearby cliffs, especially at sunset. Videographer Nick James, who conducts tours of the home, said, "The most incredible part is standing at the helm. With the way the boat hangs over the cliff, it actually feels like you are out on the open water."









# December 2014

Sunday		Monday		Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	Nov	1	Dec	2	3	4	5	6
				7:00pm PCHA Meeting	6:30pm - 7:30pm Special board meeting	Club Cleaning	5:30pm Gen. Mtg./Pizza	Christmas Bus - Merry Merry!
7		8		9	10	11	12	13
8:00am - 10:00pm Classic Yacht Association Cruise In and Dinner					Club Cleaning	6:30pm TYC Board Meeting		
14		15		16	17	18	19	20
2:00pm - 5:00pm TYC Holiday party for kids of all ages. Guests welcome.						Club Cleaning 6:30pm Rental		11:30am Rental
21		22		23	24	25	26	27
				5:30pm Rental	Club Cleaning	<i>Christmas</i>		
28		29		30	31	1	2	3
		Club Cleaning Westerlies Deadline				<i>New Year's Day</i> 12:00pm - 4:00pm New Year's Open House	5:30pm - 9:30pm General meeting	

# January 2015

Sunday		Monday		Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	Dec	29		30	31	1	2	3
		Club Cleaning Westerlies Deadline				<i>New Year's Day</i> 12:00pm - 4:00pm New Year's Open House	5:30pm - 9:30pm General meeting	
4		5		6	7	8	9	10
				7:00pm PCHA Meeting	Club Cleaning	6:30pm TYC Board Meeting		1:00pm TYC Midwinters #1 6:00pm - 10:00pm Crab Feed
11		12		13	14	15	16	17
							Rental/Tarlson	
18		19		20	21	22	23	24
		<i>M.L.King Day</i>						
25		26		27	28	29	30	31
		Westerlies Deadline						



## OFFICERS

<b>Commodore</b>	<b>Ann Watson</b>
<b>Vice Commodore</b>	<b>Nancy Bilofsky</b>
<b>Rear Commodore</b>	<b>Justin DeTray</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Ian Matthew</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Alice Shinn</b>
<b>Past Commodore</b>	<b>Gary Stypulkoski</b>
<b>Directors</b>	<b>Patty Cerf</b> <b>Greg Clausen</b> <b>Michael Destein</b> <b>Joe King</b> <b>Shirley Vaughn</b>

## STAFF & COMMITTEES

<b>Apparel</b>	<b>Jessica Pressman</b>
<b>Bar</b>	<b>Justin DeTray</b>
<b>Building/House</b>	<b>Peter Schoen</b>
<b>Children's Social</b>	<b>Open</b>
<b>Cruise</b>	<b>Patty Cerf/Jon Price</b>
<b>Historian</b>	<b>Bob Mott</b>
<b>Membership</b>	<b>Ruth Fults/Susie Woodrum</b>
<b>PICYA Delegates</b>	<b>Bob &amp; Patty Cerf</b>
<b>Port Captain</b>	<b>Jon Price</b>
<b>Program</b>	<b>Open</b>
<b>Race</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Rentals</b>	<b>Suzanne Jolma</b>
<b>Social</b>	<b>Open</b>
<b>Stores</b>	<b>Susan Hoehler</b>
<b>Friday Night Dinners</b>	<b>Open</b>
<b>Tidings</b>	<b>Bob Mott</b>
<b>Webmasters</b>	<b>Walt Bilofsky/Eric Lyons</b>
<b>Westerlies Editor</b>	<b>Sheila Lyons</b>
<b>YRA Delegate</b>	<b>Ian Matthew</b>

### **TIBURON YACHT CLUB**

**P.O. Box 1247**

**Tiburon, California 94920**

***<http://www.tyc.org>***



**FIRST CLASS**