

# Westerlies

## Tiburon Yacht Club



Latitude 37° 54' N.

Paradise Cay  
Tiburon, California



NEXT GENERAL MEETING:  
FRIDAY, MAY 2  
DOORS OPEN 5:30PM

Longitude 122° 28' W.

### COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

*By Gary Stypulkoski*

Another opening day on the bay has come and gone. The year is flying by; it is already May and my tenure, incredibly, is half way through! We've been working hard to make TYC a more lively place where people enjoy gathering and can utilize the club as much as possible. Part of that process includes modernizing some systems and trying different things.

We launched SignUp Genius with the hopes of making volunteering at the club easier. After trying different methods over the years, this new solution should help make the volunteer sign-up process easy and convenient. Volunteering is a great way to get to know and engage with other members while helping TYC host quality events at very reasonable prices.

TYC continues to experiment with different dining options. The Lily Kai Bistro Night on April 25 was another rousing success! A good time was had by the approximately 90 members who joined us. The food was great and it was a beautiful evening. The weather cleared and there were over 15 kids playing out on the lawn. We were even treated to the most spectacular double rainbow you can imagine! Thank you Trip and Jill Ames for organizing this event...and the rainbows.

The club is now open at least one day every weekend through the end of the official TYC race season—all with no paid staff. This means we need more people to help out at various events. Two bartenders were hired for the last bistro night. They did a great job, allowing members to have a relaxing evening out with the kids. Responsible, friendly and affordable, we have asked if they would be willing to assist at some other evening events throughout the year. The idea is to have one paid bartender working with one volunteer member. This would make it easier to line up volunteers throughout the year.

On the improvement side, Steve Nimz donated—and led the initiative to install—a new brass bell on the race deck. This replaces the one that was stolen a few years ago. She's a beauty; you should check her out! This bell has been securely installed with numerous theft proof features, thanks to Steve, Dan Higgins and Bill Hoehler. I plan on doing the first official ringing of the bell at the Commodore's Cocktail Party.

We will be having a work day at the club on May 10 to get TYC in ship shape for the start of summer. Peter Schoen is heading this effort and has a list of tasks we need to do, so please look for more details and come on down to the club on May 10. Your help will be appreciated by all.

I look forward to seeing you—and any prospective members—at the Commodore's Cocktail Party on May 4, as well as the Club Birthday Party on the 17<sup>th</sup> and the kickoff of the summer racing season on May 23!

#### **May 2014**

#### **Westerlies**

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

#### **Gen. Mtg. & Programs:**

***Raise the Potomac! &  
Atlantic Passage 2.0***

**May 2 & May 9**

**Commodore's  
Cocktail Party**

**May 4**

**Work Party**

**May 10**

**Westerlies Deadline**

**May 27**

## 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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### TYC Gets Shiny New Bell

After many years without one, TYC finally has a proper bell on deck again. After the theft of the original bell, which had been donated by members Dan Higgins and Carol Brown, the space at the bottom of the flagpole where the bell used to hang remained empty.

Thanks to Dan Higgins, with a little help from Bill Hoehler and Steve Nimz, the new bell has been installed.

New theft protection methods have been used to make sure that this one stays around for a while.

A proper bell ringing is in the planning stages.

TYC members Dan Higgins and Steve Nimz show off the new bell after installing it (with assistance from Bill Hoehler) on a rainy Friday in April.





# *The Social Scene*

*By Erin Styplkowski*

We look forward to seeing you at TYC this May. We will be open and having fun every weekend!

Friday, May 2 - **Pizza and Program** (Raising the Potomac!) at the General Meeting

Sunday, May 4 - **Commodore's Cocktail Party**, 4:00-6:00pm. Bring a friend or neighbor, enjoy free cocktails courtesy of Commodore Gary, and dazzle us with your potluck appetizer. (Okay, we'll let chips and dips in, no worries!). While there, make sure to check out the beautiful new brass bell on the club's deck.

Friday, May 9 - A continuation of April's **Pizza and Program**, with part two of the Shinn's adventures in the Atlantic Passage.

Saturday, May 17 - A rocking **TYC Birthday Bash** with a **Cinco de Mayo and Blues** theme. Why May 17? Actual Club Birthday. Why Cinco de Mayo? The Cantina is catering (yum) and because we LIKE Margaritas. Why Blues? The awesome Blues Burners will be playing. That's right folks, a live band! Get your dancing shoes on and shake your hips 'cause we are going to have a party!

May 23 & May 30 are the first two **Friday Night races** of the season. May 23 will feature our signature "Cheeseburgers in Paradise". May 30 menu TBD. Sign up to host a Friday night on our website!

## **SignUp Genius**

You can RSVP or volunteer through SignUp Genius for any or all these events at [www.tyc.org](http://www.tyc.org). SignUp Genius is an online tool we have adopted to make creating and tracking RSVPs and volunteer sign-ups easier to manage. Please don't be afraid of SignUp Genius! It's quite easy. You DO NOT need to be a SignUp Genius member, but if you do become a member (it's free and easy) your computer will most likely remember you, saving steps when signing in. I recommend becoming a member.

Currently we do not post the list of attendees to any given event because of security concerns. However, many members have asked that we do post the list. Most events I go to post the list. It would show your name, but not your address, email or contact information. (Only the administrator can see that). For that matter, you could RSVP as Mickey Mouse so we can still get a headcount! However, we may add a code or something similar to enter. If you have strong feelings on this, let me know. My goal is to keep the sign-ups as easy to use as possible.

The SignUp Genius form for the 2014 Racing Season of Friday Night Dinners is a little different because we are soliciting volunteers to manage each Friday night: a racing team, a member who wants to get more involved, whoever. We have no Friday Night Guru for the season although Susie Woodrum is standing by and will be hosting monthly Cheeseburgers in Paradise. Trip and I are also discussing some Bistro nights.

As of now, you can only sign up to volunteer, and the whole season is posted. Each week we will post an RSVP for that Friday (or two Fridays out) that will carry over the volunteers. We are always looking for ways to simplify and improve the user experience as we learn this new tool.

Thank you for your understanding.

See you at the Club!

## **Not a Bad View From the Bar**

*April 25th's Bistro Night at TYC saw a lot of kids and a spectacular double rainbow over the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.*



*Saturday, May 17, 2014*

Celebrate TYC's Birthday  
At the  
**"CINCO DE MAYO" PARTY & BLUES FEST**

Dinner, Dancing, Prizes & Surprises

DINNER CATERED BY *THE CANTINA*  
MARGARITAS IN MULTIPLE FLAVORS  
MUSIC BY *THE BLUES BURNERS*



Music & Dancing to the Best Blues & Rock Band in Marin  
**Doors Open at 6:00pm**

\$40 (cheap) - Dinner, Margaritas, Band, Prizes

Sign up at [www.tyc.org](http://www.tyc.org)

- Or -

Contact Trip Ames at: 435-1602 [tripames@comcast.net](mailto:tripames@comcast.net)

*(Members are encouraged to invite guests.)*





# CRUISE NEWS

BY JON PRICE

## St. Francis Yacht Club cruise March 28 – 30

Having been oversubscribed at one point (30 people in 12 boats), this cruise unfortunately dwindled to 16 in 6 boats, primarily due to lousy weather (depending upon one's point of view; drought haters loved it!)

Nevertheless, those hardy souls who did make it were rewarded with the expected St. Francis hospitality coupled with the great ambience of that club and spectacular views of the Bay and the Golden Gate Bridge.

Of particular note was the club's seafood buffet on Friday night: all you could eat of some of the best seafood fare you could imagine. Those of us participating took advantage of both quality and quantity, assuring that we got our money's worth considering that it was not inexpensive.

All things considered, this was a successful cruise notwithstanding Mother Nature, who seemed to do her best to put a damper on things.



## Oakland Yacht Club Cruise, April 18-20

The cruise to Oakland Yacht Club comprised six boats with 12 people, and one couple (Allen and Joan Dekelboum) who land-cruised over for dinner Saturday evening. The six boats present with their respective crews were: Walt and Nancy Bilofsky - *Golden Phoenix*, Jon and Betsy Price - *Adagio*; Marshall and Shelby Gross - *Solitaire*; Jack and Rae Ann - *Lady*; Don and Sue Walder - *Splash*; and Bob and Patty Cerf - *Blazer*.

Location on the Estuary with a splendid view of Oakland (yes, that city does have its attributes), especially at night, made for a very pleasant environment in which to spend the weekend.

The Friday evening potluck was a repeat of last year's visit to Encinal, in which your cruise chair fired up the barbecue on the stern pulpit of his boat

and whopped up some juicy burgers. These were accompanied by an assortment of other culinary contributions from the rest of our group. No one left hungry.

Saturday's buffet was in the club's Spinnaker Room, at which we were greeted by a number of Oakland YC members, including the commodore, who gave a brief welcoming speech. A very friendly bunch they were, and made us feel most at home during our visit.

## Giants Game, May 25

The TYC outing to the May 25 Giants game with Minnesota is coming up fast. If you would like to attend this game with TYC you need to reserve your game tickets *now*. Tickets are \$30 each. *Unsold tickets will be put up for sale on Stub Hub on May 10.*

**Day boat from the Cay** – Cruise to the game from the Cay aboard new member Jack Wernick's 50' Sea Ray, *Lady*. Cost for this option is \$42 per person: \$30 for your field-level seat and a suggested \$12 contribution toward fuel costs.

**Independent Travel to the game** – Make your own arrangements for travel to the game or take the Larkspur game day ferry directly to the ballpark. Cost for this option is \$30 per person for your field-level seat tickets.

**To Reserve** – Choose your option and send your check, payable to TYC, to:

Patty Cerf  
182 St. Thomas Way  
Tiburon, CA 94920

## TYC Speakers Series Double Feature: Fri. May 2 & 9:

### May 2: Raise the Potomac!

- Friday evening, May 2
- Pizza and salad served from 5:30 pm
- A brief General Meeting at 7 pm, followed by **the evening's program:**

The presidential yacht of Franklin Delano Roosevelt, the USS Potomac, has had a long and checkered history, from a decoy ship enabling a WW II summit to a drug runner to a sunken wreck off Treasure Island.

Admire the list of celebrity guests, including England's King George VI and Queen Elizabeth, and a later celebrity owner (quite a different king). Learn the real function of the fake second funnel.

And find out how the Potomac was rescued, refloated, refitted and restored to its historical dignity as a crown jewel of the Port of Oakland.

This presentation by Dale Hansen, the Potomac's first docent and still serving after 23 years, will feature a video, talk, and question and answer session. Be in the know about this Bay Area landmark!

Volunteers are needed for bar and galley for both these events. See the signup links at [www.tyc.org](http://www.tyc.org).



### May 9: Atlantic Passage 2.0



Join Alice and Jon Shinn as they continue their gorgeously photographed journey through the English Channel, up to Scandinavia to sail the majestic fjords of Norway, and on to Denmark.

Switch from Porto to Akvavit. In Copenhagen, eat smørrebrød on rugbrød followed by frikadeller, then spend a magical evening

frivolving in Tivoli. Prowl the battlements of Kronborg Slot, the inspiration for Hamlet. Watch all the Swedes swarm the town looking for cheap liquor. See one of the world's largest BMW diesel engines at work in Dieselhouse. All this and more as we complete their cruising adventure.

- Pizza, salad and a dessert for \$7 sponsored by the Vice Commodore.
- Food served and bar open at 5:30.
- Program at 7:00.

### Report on April's Program:

Close to 60 armchair (folding chair?) voyagers helped the Shinns and assorted crew members navigate the first half of their 7,000 mile photographic journey. Thanks to dinner organizer Nancy Bilofsky, set up and food prep helpers Ann Watson and Alice Shinn, and bartenders Pat Tostenson, Roger Fuller and Joe King. Apologies to several of you that I probably missed.

The Friday night TYC Speakers Series now takes the summer off, yielding to racing and the weekly Race Dinners which start Friday, May 23. Please support these events by volunteering for Race Committee and to help with the Friday Night Dinners. See [www.tyc.org](http://www.tyc.org) for details.

- Walt ("Man Friday") Bilofsky, Program Chair



# RACE NOTES

BY JIM BLISS



**Please note: Registration for the Summer Series now available on Jibeset (see below)**

## **Midwinter Races #2 and #3 on March 29, 2014:**

In the last issue of *Race Notes*, I reported that the Midwinter Race #2 of March 8 had to be postponed to March 29 due to the lack of wind.

On March 29 the weather was light rain. Of the 15 boats registered for these races, only 3 boats came to the starting line, evidence that the weather had deterred the majority. The stalwarts who did come out were *Siento El Viento* in the Spinnaker Division, and *Meritime* and *Ka-Nina* in the Non-spinnaker Division. By 11:45, there was about five knots of wind—enough to race—so we started all three boats together at the scheduled time of 12:05. With a short course, #1 reverse, all three boats finished in less than an hour. *Siento El Viento* won the Spinnaker Division as the only boat, and *Meritime* took first in the Non-spinnaker Division.

The second race of the day, Midwinter #3, was started at 1:15 with a longer course (#21) on the assumption that the wind would hold. But after 20 minutes, the wind died and the boats drifted backward in the ebb. The wind came back enough to allow the boats to get around the first mark, but they struggled to reach the second mark in the dying wind. Given the conditions, I shortened the course to allow the boats to finish within the time limit. But only *Siento El Viento*, with its spinnaker, finished the course. Both *Meritime* and *Ka-Nina* choose to drop out since finishing would not have changed the series results.

The final standings for the Midwinter Series are: Ian Matthew won the Spinnaker Division in *Siento El Viento*, and Gary Proctor won the Non-spinnaker Division in *Meritime*.

## **Don Wan Regatta - April 12:**

The Don Wan Regatta is considered the first regatta of summer racing, and indeed, the summer weather had arrived. Steady wind of about ten knots made for a good day of racing. There were 14 boats registered in three divisions: Spinnaker with three boats, the Ultimate 20's (using spinnakers) with five boats, and the Non-Spinnaker Division with six boats.

The first race started at 12:05pm. The spinnaker boats sailed course 6 and non-spinnaker boats sailed course 4. All boats finished within an hour. *Joyride* finished first in the Spinnaker Division, *Too Tuff* finished first in the Ultimate 20's, and *Galante* finished first in the Non-Spinnaker Division. The second race started at 13:35 in the same sequence. The spinnaker boats sailed course 10 and non-spinnaker boats sailed course 3. Again, all boats finished in about an hour, allowing those boats berthed in shallow water to get back before low tide. The results of the second race were the same as the first: *Joyride* finished first in the Spinnaker Division, *Too Tuff* finished first in the Ultimate 20's, and *Galante* finished first in the Non-Spinnaker Division. The final standings for the Don Wan Regatta were the same: Bill Hoehler won the Spinnaker Division in *Joyride*, Tom Hughes won the Ultimate 20's in *Too Tuff*, and Otto Schreier won the Non-Spinnaker Division in *Galante*. Recognition goes to Gary Proctor who took second place in the Non-Spinnaker Division sailing *Meritime* singled-handed in both races. Finally, special thanks to Don Kunstler and crew for a running a great regatta.

## **Registration for the 2014 Summer Series is Now Available**

You can now register for the 2014 Summer Series through the Race Page of the TYC website ([www.tyc.org](http://www.tyc.org) - Click on the link under Latest Announcements to go to the Jibeset registration). The Summer Series includes the Behrens Regatta, the H.O. Lind Series, and the Friday Night Series. You may register for each series individually, or for all three at a \$20 discount.

### **More about Jibeset:**

- We are using Jibeset to manage our racing this year for the following reasons:
- It takes care of the racing 'back office', making it much easier for the race chair to manage our big race calendar.
- It handles all the financial aspects, making it easier for our treasurer to track racing registration fees.
- Jibeset handles credit cards and allows us to use credit cards for entry fees.



- Racing registration is very simple (after the first time): Jibeset remembers all your boat information, making registration easier for future regattas.
- Jibeset handles posting of the Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions easily - no HTML knowledge required.
- Jibeset takes care of creating the score sheets, and posting results to the web site.

If you go to [www.jibeset.net](http://www.jibeset.net) (see the image below), you will see Tiburon Yacht Club listed on the left side. Click there for current and past regatta information. Near the bottom of the middle section you will see a link to current regattas that are open for registration. Click there to register. And, if you want to see your personal results, click at the top right corner.

San Francisco Bay Yacht Racing Information

Upload a GPS track Record a GPS track GPS Replay Race **Boat Results**

**All Regattas for:**

- Ballina Bay Yacht Club
- Bay Area Multihull
- Catalina 34 Fleet 1
- Coyote Point Yacht Club
- Golden Gate Yacht Club
- Inter Club
- Island Yacht Club
- Oakland Yacht Club
- Singlehanded Sailing
- Sequoia Yacht Club
- Tiburon Yacht Club**
- Yacht Racing Association

**Registrations available for:**

**Ballina Bay Yacht Club**  
2014 - Friday Night Griller  
Registrations close: 09/19/14 Midnight

**Elkhorn Yacht Club**  
2014 - MBARI Buoy Race Registrations close: No Close date  
2014 - Otter Cup Registrations close: No Close date

**Encinal Yacht Club**  
2014 - Coastal Cup  
Registrations close: 05/16/14 18:00:00

**Inter Club Series**  
2014 - Inter Club Series  
Registrations close: 09/12/14 Midnight

**Island Yacht Club**  
2014 - IYC Island Nights  
Registrations close: 09/12/14 19:00:00

**Oakland Yacht Club**  
2014 - Sweet Sixteen Series  
Registrations close: 09/03/14 Midnight

**Presidio Yacht Club**  
2014 - Crazy Eights Sunset Series  
Registrations close: No Close date

**Sequoia Yacht Club**  
2014 - Beer Can Series Registrations close: 10/08/14 Midnight  
2014 - Single/Double-handed Series Registrations close: 09/12/14 Midnight  
2014 - Summer Series Registrations close: 09/27/14 Midnight

**Singlehanded Sailing Society**  
2014 - Round the Rocks Registrations close: 04/30/14 Midnight  
2014 - SSS Membership only Registrations close: 12/01/14 Midnight  
2014 - Singlehanded TransPac Registrations close: 05/01/14 Midnight

**Tiburon Yacht Club**  
2014 - TYC Summer Series - Behrens Regatta, H.O Lind Series and Friday Night Racing  
Registrations close: No Close date

**Yacht Racing Association of San Francisco Bay**  
2014 - OYRA Series Registrations close: 10/02/14 17:00:00  
2014 - The Westpoint Regatta Registrations close: 07/03/14 17:00:00  
2014 - WBRA Series Registrations close: 09/18/14 17:00:00  
2014 - YRA Spring Series Registrations close: 06/19/14 17:00:00  
2014 - The Second Half Opener Registrations close: 08/01/14 17:00:00  
2014 - The YRA Season Closer Regatta Registrations close: 09/26/14 17:00:00  
2014 - YRA Membership and PHRF Certificates Registrations close: 12/14/14 Midnight  
2014 - YRA Summer Series Registrations close: 09/05/14 17:00:00

**Jibeset Home Pages**

**Racer**  
Register  
Pay Registration Fees  
Regatta Documents  
Update Registrations  
Crew List (POB) Management  
Upload GPS tracks

**Race Committee**  
Regatta Set-up  
Documents / Results / Standings  
Registrations management  
Fee payment management  
Racers communications

**Race Deck**  
Create a Race  
Print Recording Form  
Enter Race Information  
Record Race Information  
Race Results  
Series Standings

**Press**  
Boat results over all Races  
Series Standings  
Race GPS tracks replay  
Year / year comparisons

More information: [rivine@jibeset.net](mailto:rivine@jibeset.net)  
Consultant - George Gurrola  
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## Friday Night Racing

Friday Night Racing starts May 23. Ian Matthew has offered to do an introduction to the Rules of Racing for Friday Night Racing, or "Racing is fun: You don't have to be a rules expert to enjoy Friday Night Racing!" He will start on Friday, May 23, at 5:00pm in the clubhouse. Please RSVP to [race@tyc.org](mailto:race@tyc.org) if you are interested in attending.

## Other races on the 2014 Race Calendar:

TYC/CYC Friendship Regatta (hosted at CYC) - June 14  
 Brothers & Sisters Race - July 4  
 Moseley Regatta (for Etchells & Knarrs) - July 26  
 Fox Hat Regatta - August 16  
 Tornberg Regatta (TYC Members Only) - September 13  
 Short-Handed Regatta - October 4  
 Joan Storer Womens Regatta - October 11  
 Red Rock Regatta - November 1  
 Wild Turkey Regatta - November 28

Registration for these races will be available on Jibeset prior to their start dates.

## Volunteers Needed for Race Committees:

Finally, we are still seeking volunteers to serve on race committees for our 2014 races. Training and guidance will be provided as required. Contact me, Jim Bliss, at [race@tyc.org](mailto:race@tyc.org) or 415-407-8059 with any questions. If you can help us out, it will be greatly appreciated.





Boat Owners Association of The United States

## Cooperating Group—GA84410Y

TYC has once again renewed their cooperating group accord with BoatUS. This agreement gives TYC members who join or renew their membership in this great organization a 50% discount on the \$30 yearly membership.

Yes, for only \$15 a year BoatUS makes available a broad range of services including marina and fuel discounts, low cost boat insurance, on-the-water towing services, EPIRB rentals and a kids life jacket loaner program. They have an excellent bimonthly magazine, which alone is worth the \$15 in annual dues. Their website provides excellent information on boating safety, buying and selling a boat, as well as access to a boat recall registry and consumer protection bureau.

Possibly one of the most important reasons for belonging to BoatUS is to support their efforts as an effective lobby representing boater interests on the federal level.

### Already a Member of BoatUS?

Make sure you are billed at the group rate of \$15. If not, put our cooperating group number – **GA84410Y** – on your renewal notice and pay the reduced group dues. Keep this number handy until you've renewed your membership. It will also be posted at the club.

### Not Yet a Member of BoatUS?

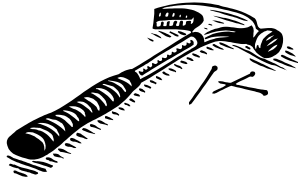
To learn more about the benefits of membership visit their website, [www.boatus.com](http://www.boatus.com). If you need further information, or want a membership application, contact Bob or Patty Cerf at 435-9587 or [rcerf@comcast.net](mailto:rcerf@comcast.net).

## Thanks, Mr. Kewin

Thomas Kewin, the Pan Am Clippers flight engineer who spoke at our February General Meeting, has gifted a half dozen English bar towels to the club. We'll be putting them to jolly good use. Cheers to you, Thomas!







## ANNUAL WORK PARTY MAY 10, 2014

TYC stays in ship shape through the good efforts of our members. Each year we host a spring work party, asking volunteers to meet at the club to help complete a variety of general maintenance tasks such as cleaning, repairing, and painting.

This year building and house chair Peter Schoen has planned the work party for Saturday, May 10.

Try to come—if even for an hour or two—to lend a hand. It's a fun day and there's usually food and drink included, too!

Look for more details over email and in *The Tidings*.

## MAHJONG AT TYC

Come on down the to club and play mahjong on Monday afternoons from 2:00 - 4:00pm.

You can choose to play American mahjong (with the 2014 NMJL card) or Chinese mahjong.

All TYC members and their guests are welcome!



## THANK YOU TO OUR APRIL VOLUNTEERS!

*Recognizing Members Who Have  
Volunteered at TYC Events  
in the Past Month*

As a volunteer-run club, the continuing efforts of our members are what keep Tiburon Yacht Club thriving and vital. Below is a list of those who have given time and effort to make each and every event fun, memorable and worthwhile for everyone.

If names have been left out we apologize. Please let Social Chair Erin Stypulkoski know, and we'll get your name in next month!

**Trip & Jill Ames**  
**Walt and Nancy Bilofsky**  
**Roger Fuller**  
**Carole & Gerry Gunn**  
**Joe King**  
**Christine Miller**  
**Jackie & Gene Royal**  
**Lee Royal**  
**Alice Shinn**  
**David Smith**  
**Gary & Erin Stypulkoski**  
**Mariellen Stern**  
**Pat Tostenson**  
**Ann Tunney**  
**Ann Watson**





## Special to the Westerlies: *The Great Vallejo Race 2014*

By Ian Matthew

I always love racing in the Great Vallejo Race. It's a fantastic sail up to Vallejo Yacht Club on the Napa River and a nice race back on the Sunday after a great party at VYC. Normally held on the first weekend in May, the weather is sunny with a nice long spinnaker leg from about Southampton Shoal all the way up to the Napa River entrance. I have raced this for the past five years with *Don Wan* being typically the only other TYC boat entering in a fleet of about 200 boats. And every year I have suggested that the admiral join us and she has always had reasons not to. But this year she did (see figure1)! And of course, this year was different!



1 - The admiral (René Matthew) rests with Andrew Haedt and Elaine Robertson while waiting for wind.

This year the race took place a week earlier than usual, and with rain in the forecast and strong westerly winds due for the afternoon, our crew of six—consisting of me, my regulars Jeff Drust (main), Dave Eichhorn (Spinnaker trim), Andrew Haedt (foredeck), Elaine Robertson (jib trim) and the admiral herself (René)—set off for the starting area in the Berkeley Circle. But this was not to be your typical Vallejo Race!

After a two-hour wait for wind to settle down, we set off from the start in a gentle easterly...oh, sorry, westerly...oh, sorry again, easterly...towards the bridge. Then – boom – the forecast westerly came in and I instantly knew we were over-

canvassed. The wind had gone from a very variable 1-2 knots to 12-15 knots NW! So, rounding the windward mark, we changed the jib down to the #3 and set off to chase our division on a port tack beat to Richmond Long Warf (keeping out of the prohibited zone). It was windy and it was no longer a sunny, warm day! The flood had turned to an ebb and we hugged the old wooden piers after we went under the Richmond Bridge, gaining places by staying out of the tide. Next, through the brothers, and finally a chance to bear away onto a reach. Around Point San Pedro the wind was increasing, but also moving to a broader reach. To spinnaker or not to spinnaker? "Let's up the spinnaker," I call and my crew does an excellent job. Now we are surfing (well at times – my C&C doesn't surf!) The knot meter is up on the top limit. Here's the proof (figure 2):

The wind kept increasing and we were passing more boats, but now it was starting to get a bit wild as we approached Point Pinole. "Okay, it's time. Unfurl the jib and douse the spinnaker." It was a good call; we had the spinnaker safely away as some strong gusts came through and broaching went on all around us. Around Point Pinole, sailing wing-on-wing with a full main and #3 jib, and still surfing at 10 knots in the strong ebb with the wind in the high teens to low 20's, we debated whether to put the spinnaker back up. We were almost ready to do so but then called it off because of yet another strong gust.



2 - Surfing a C&C 29 on the small crests!

(Continued on page 12)



(The Great Vallejo Race 2014 *continued*)



**3 - Boom secured – ready to continue to Vallejo!**

Now we're approaching Mare Island. Time to cross over to the breakwater and to the mouth of the Napa River. We're across and boats are spread out, some still on the south side, others on the north in front of us. We're settling down again thinking of hoisting the spinnaker when BANG! The boom is now two booms! Checking around—no damage to people, the rest of the boat, or to the new mainsail—we point up and drop the main, secure the boom and the broken-off piece and, since we are close to Vallejo, continue the race under jib!

Crossing the line we secured last place in our division, made it into the harbor and were ready for the party! As usual the party was fun and we slept well that night. The journey home wasn't as much fun. Leaving Vallejo YC at 10:30am and motoring at a steady 6.5 knots against both the wind and tide, we were safely docked at TYC by 2:00pm.

So next year let's have more TYC racers come and have fun. The sail up is usually much tamer than this year, and having fun both on and off the water is definitely part of the Great Vallejo Race DNA!



**4 - The raft up at Vallejo YC**

There are three sorts of people; those who are alive, those who are dead, and those who are at sea.

*- Old Capstan Chantey attributed to Anacharsis, 6th Century BC*



# May 2014

Sunday		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	Apr	28	29	30	1	May	2
		Westerlies Deadline 2:00pm - 4:00pm Mah Jong	10:00am - 11:00am Adv. Tai Chi	Club Cleaning		5:30pm Gen. Mtg./Pizza and Program: Raise the Potomac!	
4		5	6	7	8	9	10
Commodore's Cocktail Party		2:00pm - 4:00pm Mah Jong	10:00am - 11:00am Adv. Tai Chi 7:00pm PCHA Meeting	2:00am - 4:00am teacher aprec./bel aire	Club Cleaning 6:30pm Board Meeting	5:30am Bar Open/Food 7:00pm Atlantic Passage Part II	
11		12	13	14	15	16	17
Mothers Day		2:00pm - 4:00pm Mah Jong	10:00am - 11:00am Adv. Tai Chi	Club Cleaning			Behren's Regatta 6:00pm Cinco De Mayo/Blues Fest! TYC Bday party
18		19	20	21	22	23	24
		2:00pm - 4:00pm Mah Jong	9:00am - 10:00am Beg.Tai Chi 10:00am - 11:00am Adv. Tai Chi		Club Cleaning	South Beach Cruise 6:30pm Fri. Night Race	South Beach Cruise
25		26	27	28	29	30	31
South Beach Cruise Giants Baseball Outing		South Beach Cruise Memorial Day 2:00pm - 4:00pm Mah Jong	Westerlies Deadline 9:00am - 10:00am Beg.Tai Chi 10:00am - 11:00am Adv. Tai Chi	Club Cleaning 9:30am - 10:00am Beg.Tai Chi		6:30pm Fri. Night Race	

# June 2014

Sunday		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	Jun	2	3	4	5	6	7
		2:00pm - 4:00pm Mah Jong	7:00pm PCHA Meeting	9:30am - 10:00am Beg.Tai Chi		Benicia Y.C. Cruise-Out. 5:30pm Bar & Food/Gen. Mtg. 6:30pm Fri. Night Race	Benicia Y.C. Cruise-Out. Party TBD
8		9	10	11	12	13	14
Benicia Y.C. Cruise-Out.		2:00pm - 4:00pm Mah Jong	9:30am - 11:00am Tai Chi Practice Session	9:30am - 10:00am Beg.Tai Chi 3:00pm - 5:00pm Reed School Teacher event/Dhutt	6:30pm Board Meeting	Cruise in/Encinal 6:30pm Fri. Night Race	Cruise in/Encinal 1:00pm TYC/CYC Friendship Race
15		16	17	18	19	20	21
Cruise in/Encinal Fathers Day		2:00pm - 4:00pm Mah Jong	9:30am - 11:00am Tai Chi Practice Session	9:30am - 10:00am Beg.Tai Chi		6:30pm Fri. Night Race	Wedding/Private
22		23	24	25	26	27	28
		Westerlies Deadline 2:00pm - 4:00pm Mah Jong	10:00am - 11:00am Adv. Tai Chi	9:30am - 10:00am Beg.Tai Chi		6:30pm Fri. Night Race	12:00pm H.O. Lind 1-2
29		30	1	2	3	4	5
10:00am - 4:00pm day rental/See Tom		2:00pm - 4:00pm Mah Jong	10:00am - 11:00am Adv. Tai Chi 7:00pm PCHA Meeting	9:30am - 10:00am Beg.Tai Chi		Independence Day July 4th Party 12:00pm Brothers and Sisters Race	

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<b>Vice Commodore</b>	<b>Ann Watson</b>
<b>Rear Commodore</b>	<b>Mariellen Stern</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Jane Clark</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Jon Price</b>
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<b>Directors</b>	<b>Trip Ames</b> <b>Patty Cerf</b> <b>Ruth Fults</b> <b>Stephen Nimz</b> <b>Melanie Wegner</b>

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