

# P<sup>ORTHOLE</sup>

Presidio Yacht Club / Travis Marina

## Fourth Quarter 2014

### **New Active Duty Members:**

John & Ashley Cuellar  
Brandon & Lacey Ferguson  
Deborah Pare & Frank Berank  
Geronimo Moreno  
Ian & Maiwena Powell  
Adam & Laura Epp  
Todd & Holly Mickel  
Ryan Mcilroy  
Richard & Tiffany Teunis  
Mark Rodrigo  
Gloria McMillen  
Chad Mickelson  
Matt Mulica  
George Dietrich & Lisa Sivari  
Thomas & Darci Kneale  
Joseph & Nicole Heniger  
John Cuellar  
Curt Wozniak

### **New Veteran and Civilian Members:**

Jacquelyn Pidge  
Gary Colemere  
Jonathan Thomas & Merissa Viray  
John Donahoe  
Robert Butler  
Thomas Sarnicoca

### **New Members with Boats:**

Heather Richard - Carodon 43' sloop  
Lorraine Weiss - Sweet Lorraine, Catalina 36  
Peter & Susan Dodds - Sea Myst, Chris Craft 42'  
Scott Strachan - Bonacia, Trawler 40'  
Alan & Kate Barr - Voyager, Beneteau 34.5  
Michael McKinley - Joka, Albin 28'  
Sonia Rosa Lokey-Orbe & Harry Orbe -  
Lochinvar, Catalina 27  
Gianni & Julia LaRosa - Nana Papa, CPMY 46  
Rick & Cindy Patrinellis - Cool Change, Sail 32'  
Hans Nettel & Lori Saper-Nettel - Nikki, sail 17'  
Harmon & Jo Heed - Trvth, Gulfstream 43'  
Craig Dahl & Randall Nathan - Journey, Catalina 36

### **President's Report**

Our racing season is drawing to a close. The new Crazy Eights races finished this month. Jennifer Hinkel donated fuel and several items for the races. Marika Edler donated flags. The official races of the Baxter-Judson race is also finished, but there is one more race yet to be run. The Lady Skipper's Race in on October 19th. Both series were a great success this year. Winners for both series will be presented at the Change of Watch dinner.

The cruise-out in August was fantastic! We went back and forth between Angel Island and Golden Gate Yacht Club. Originally it was feared that there would be no room at Angel Island due to the holiday, so we switched to the GGYC. But, the GGYC was holding a race so there was no room there. We decided to try Angel Island anyway. It turned out there was plenty of dock space at Angel Island as long as everyone arrived before Noon. The day was beautiful and sunny. Lunch was at the cafe. Two boats sailed in. The Air Force's boat with some military members arrived later. Jim Earhart sailed in but arrived late and could not get a slip. We fought a flood tide and 25 knots winds on the return, but made it back safely.

In September, we visited Treasure Island to watch the San Francisco Dragon Boat Festival. Unfortunately, there was only my boat, but I had two Air Force men who are members and one of their guests with me. They were great people and had a great time. Will Smith and Roy and Marcia Stern joined us by car. We had a lot of fun during our visit. We discovered that there were several more new wineries on the island. We visited three of them. Getting back was another challenge with winds hitting 25 knots again. Rather than beat up my new crew on their first day ever sailing I elected to take a short course to the city where Roy and Marcia graciously volunteered to give them a ride home.

The December Club dinner has been moved to December 6th to deconflict from the Lighted Boat Parade and other holiday parties. We have decided to also have a fund-raiser for the Club during the dinner. We will hold a raffle of donated prizes. If you have an item of boating or military interest that you would like to donate to the Club, please send it to our address below with a note. We also decided to hold a collection for the Blue Star Moms in keeping with the holiday spirit and mission of the Club. See their web site at "<http://www.bluestarmomsofmarin.org/Purpose.html>" for ideas.

James Pennington has volunteered to do the New Years Eve dinner again. He warned use beef prices have gone up a lot. We discussed increasing the cost of the dinner or substituting a different kind of meat. We decided to keep the New Years Eve price at \$45 for members (\$50 for non-members) and stay with salmon and prime rib. Because of the cost, the Bylaws require this dinner to be pre-paid. This year pre-payment will be handled through PayPal via the Constant Contact invite. This is a magnificent event and you do not want to miss it. By the way, James need four volunteers to help prepare the feast. Volunteers who help James the whole day are entitled to a discount. Send us an e-mail if you are able and willing to help cook and serve.

On Saturday, October 11th, we will have our Annual General Membership Meeting and dinner. We will recap the last year's events and talk about the future of the Club. Then Marika Edler and friends will cook us an Oktoberfest dinner.

Jason Funk



*Rallying for the Start of August's Baxter-Judson Race [James Pennington]*

## **Membership Report**

PYC has had a record number of new members over the Summer! Since I began keeping track in June we have had 18 Active Duty, 11 Retired Military, and 8 Civilian new memberships.

We also have a lot of new members who are boat owners. Of the 37 new memberships 12 are also boat owners and we hope to see many of them at our races and cruise outs.

On the money side the new memberships will mean an increase in revenues for the club in 2015. Combined with our previous paid memberships for 2014 we currently have 107 Veteran members and 51 Civilian members.

Please take a moment to think of a friend or family member that would be a good fit for our club. The more we grow our membership the more funds we will have for new activities. Please also consider joining one of the volunteer teams in 2015. We will have many opportunities for fun adventures next year.

Lisa Theodoratus

### Wheelchair Regatta

This past weekend the Pacific Inter Club Yacht Association hosted its annual primary charitable event, the 18th Annual Wheelchair Regatta where we host approximately 300 veterans from Northern California Veterans Hospitals and Retirement homes. The weekend before, while ordering a beverage before the last club dinner, I had the pleasure of meeting Peter Dodds, skipper of the Sea Myst, a 42 ft Chris Craft Commander, a beautiful powerboat that shows beauty and maintenance. In any case, after exchanging pleasantries, I happened to mention the Wheelchair Regatta. Peter wanted to know if he could help.

Well the rest in history, he joined PYC and registered in the Regatta. The Skippers arrived on Friday, the day before the Regatta. They endured stormy weather crossing the bay, although we were blessed with a balmy sunny day on Saturday. As we waited for the veterans to arrive in buses, crews assembled awaiting the veterans who were brought to the docks by the off duty Alameda and Oakland firemen and Coast Guard volunteers who effortlessly lifted wheelchairs and veterans on the powerboats for their Bay cruise.

I and my wife, Pat, had the opportunity to crew for the Dodds and helped welcome Air Force veteran Joe and Army veteran Joe along with their two attendants. Air Force Joe got our attention very quickly as he was quite a gentleman and an officer with only one leg. This was his first trip on the regatta and we will never forget him saying in a loud voice, "Thank-you for a great trip. I will return next year." He had an interesting story that he shared with us. While on duty in the Korean "Police Action", he received some attention as he chased a MIG-15 across the 38th parallel. A big no-no at the time, which we now call a diplomatic incident. Some in Washington said maybe a court martial was called for. More rational minds prevailed and Joe was sent to duty in France which he enjoyed! Army Joe was quiet, but got a big kick when the USS Potomac cruised by and seeing Alcatraz. Captain Peter Dodds gave the vets a first class tour by visiting the AT&T Giants ball park, cruising to Alcatraz, the city front, and passing Treasure Island before returning down the Oakland estuary and back to Encinal Yacht Club, which served as our host.

A big BBQ awaited the veterans, skippers, crews, and the many volunteers required to make this all work. There was music, good food, camaraderie, and a real feel good feeling shared by all the veterans and volunteers. I would like to add that the Chairperson, Linda Blue, and her committee worked almost year round in the planning and execution. Encinal YC and its harbor master and crew work like air traffic controllers in making this happen on the docks. It is a real task loading and unloading almost 300 vets onto approximately 40 yachts. About half of the veterans were wheelchair bound but all were most appreciative of being able to participate in the Wheelchair Regatta.

If you have the opportunity to see Peter and Sue Dodds around the club, be sure to say thanks for representing PYC and most of all thanks for supporting the veterans!

Manuel Mier

#### CALENDAR

##### October

11 WORKDAY. 9 AM - 1 PM.  
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING. 6 PM.  
WORKDAY SUPPER. 7 PM.  
19 LADY SKIPPER'S RACE. 11 AM.

##### November

8 WORKDAY. 9 AM - 1 PM.  
AWARDS AND CHANGE OF WATCH. 6 PM.  
WORKDAY DINNER. 7 PM.  
29 FIFTH SATURDAY LUNCH CRUISE.

##### December

6 WORKDAY. 9 AM - 1 PM.  
WORKDAY DINNER. 7 PM.  
31 NEW YEAR'S EVE.

This is what we have planned, but the calendar is always subject to change. Visit the web site for the most current calendar.



*Ohana on the Downwind Leg [Rolex / Daniel Forster]*

Point Diablo, back over to Blossom, Blackaller, and finish. That was a long one and we managed to beat a couple of race boats; Bodacious, Alpha Puppy and Recidivist. Way to go! The wind had come up to 20+ knots and it was hard sailing, especially tacking up the city front. Ohana is a large boat, 45 ft, and every tack needs to be done as quick as possible without losing too much speed. After the first race we barely had time to grab a sandwich and something to drink before they announced the start of the second race - a straight upwind-downwind along the city front, three times! Needless to say,

## **Racing Ohana**

My husband, Steve Hocking and I are avid sailors and own Ohana, a Beneteau 45. Although Ohana is not - per se - a racing boat because she has a salon, three staterooms, and two heads, she nevertheless holds her own in the many races she has been in. The latest one was the world renowned Rolex Big Boat Regatta put on by the St. Francis Yacht Club every year. This was her fourth year (and maybe her last race) in this regatta. Steve took just about everything he could think of off the boat; doors, tables, cushions, pots, pans, bedding; emptied out the water tanks, and the made sure to have very little gas in the tanks, and no chains. Even the stove was taken off just to lighten her up. The reason for this is that the competition consisted of "real" race boats, completely empty and much lighter than Ohana's 25,000 pounds. So her weight is one handicap. The other sort of handicap is the crew, consisting of five women and five guys. Their average age is over 50 and their average weight ... we don't want to talk about. If any of you take a look at the YouTube Rolex video of this year you will note that almost all of the crews are strapping males in their twenties and thirties. Nary a woman in sight.

So here we go on day one, Thursday, starting area off Alcatraz Island. Good start,; first leg is out to Point Diablo out under the Golden Gate bridge, back to somewhere near Treasure Island, back again to

by four o'clock we were exhausted! Then the party started at the club with free beer and delicious snacks, a band playing and on a large screen the various races were shown and just about everybody was going over the various tactical mistakes made, or not made, protests that were filed by various boats, a lot of glad-handing between old acquaintances and generally a very convivial atmosphere.

Then the next day and the two following days pretty much the same scenario - two races a day and one on Sunday, except that one of our races was thrown out because of wrong timekeeping by the race committee and we had to do two races on Sunday. We did not win anything, yet we did in a way. Our scrappy crew of middle aged men and women managed to hang in there and give these professional racers a run for their money. And money is right. It costs a minimum of \$ 5,000.00 to do this race, and much more for the fancy race boats that have hired guns on board who have to be paid as well. Our crew each chipped in to make this happen and we are really very happy with the way we raced. We were at all times close to the competition, beat a couple of boats and not once did we finish last. I forgot to mention that the women of the crew were PYC members: Lisa, Judy, Shannon, and I. On the last day Roy Pitts joined us also.

As a matter of personal interest , Steve is a descendant of Colonel John Stevens, patriarch of the Stevens family who built the yacht America that went to England with two of his sons, John Cox Stevens and Edwin Stevens, to win the fabled America Cup. So sailing is in his blood and he wants to share his love of the sailing sport.

Marika Edler

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