



The Commodore Reports

JEFF FULLER

FIRST OFF, I want to thank Ann Weinzierl and her Bridge for doing a great job in '04. It's funny, when Annie talks about handing over the job to me, she seems to happy. She must know something I don't know. I guess it's like what they about the two happiest days in a boat owner's life.

All kidding aside, Ann's Bridge accomplished quite a few things last year. Some of the highlights are attracting the Knarr Cup race and serving dinner to about a hundred of them. They liked our facility, hospitality, and service. They want to come back. Annie and company were a great host to our cruise-ins. Because of our hosting skills, PICYA has decided to allow us the honor of hosting their monthly dinner meeting in April. They will have about 120 people. Ann has volunteered to make sure they are happy and satisfied. Also last year's Bridge made the fireplace happen. Also, we have new beautiful leather furniture surrounding the fireplace. It really warms the place up on cool winter evenings. Come to the club and enjoy the new section at the club. The fireplace, gas line, and furniture primarily happened by donations from club members. Also, it happened with vision from Les Clark and Ann's determination.

So thank you Bridge of '04 for giving us a strong foundation for Bridge '05. I'm very happy with the new board. Many excellent people have decided to help. Like me, they decided to do the job because they like the club so much that they want to help it prosper. Our new board members are capable and excited. Thank you for helping, I am looking forward to a great year.

This year starts out with a bang. January 1 is the annual around the

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The Whale's Tale

BALLENA BAY YACHT CLUB • ALAMEDA, CALIFORNIA



David Alexander

New Commodore Jeff Fuller and Staff Commodore Ann Weinzierl.

2005 racing kicks off with Post Midwinter Series on February 6

BY WARD FULCHER, RACE CHAIR

THE YEAR 2005 looms large, and we plan lots of fun and a little hard work on the ol' Race Deck. BBYC's hosting duties (the "hard work") will include two or three regattas besides our club events.

On September 10-11 we will provide Race Committee for the J24 one-design fleet, and we expect to see a number of the sailors at the membership dinner, as they'll leave their boats at Ballena Isle Marina Saturday night. Due to the regular South Bay YRA courses being already claimed, we're forced to use our

club marks, which the J Fleet turns out to prefer anyway, for tight tactical racing. For those of you not familiar with this fleet they have a reputation for knowing their boats extremely well and racing aggressively, although the fleet captain tells me that they have somewhat shed the "bumper boats" rep. (Years ago some of the loudest starts I ever heard were 20 or 30 J24s all hitting the same end of the line—and each other—at the same time). On October 15 we will host the SBYRA, and we may co-host with

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Tides

San Leandro Bay

Aeolian YC

January 1, 2005

High	04:39	+5.71 ft.
Low	10:05	+2.93 ft.
High	15:15	+5.37 ft.
Low	22:00	+0.67 ft.

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Please save articles for submission as plain text (no formatting) and send by e-mail to editor@bbyc.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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Commodore's Report

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island event for the local yacht clubs. Our new Rear Commodore, Jerry Barnes, is making sure we have the drinks and bartenders ready for the many visitors. Jim LaMar will be on the BBQ. Our new co-Social chairs, Susan Siegert and Kathy Smith will make sure the food is there to be delicious.

Don and Kathy Smith have volunteered to cook the first membership dinner on the January 8th. We are trying to keep the costs of the dinner down this year so more of you will want to come. If I remember correctly the January 8th meal is only twelve dollars. So please attend our first dinner and many more.

Our calendar is filling fast. Check the calendar out and come to the events. Two cruise-ins from other yacht clubs occur in the next two months. Lowell Crow, our new Port Captain, is on it. Ward Fulcher, our Race Chair, is ambitious. He has many races scheduled for the year; two in February. Ward says: "exercise those boats."

Dave Tucker, our veteran cruise-out chair, is going to have ten or twelve cruise-outs this year. Dave knows where to go, and what to do when he gets there. If you haven't gone on one of our cruise-outs you should try it. Most people find out it's one of the most enjoyable things to do at the club, or I should say *away* from the club. You also get to know the new members at the club. The first one is a raft up at Treasure Island the last weekend of January. We will go ashore to venture the Treasure Island Yacht Club.

See you at the club.

—Jeff



Social Committee Notes

BY SUSAN SIEGERT

THE GIFT EXCHANGE December 18 was a comic affair. Each person either choose a gift under the tree, or "stole" someone else's gift. The men kept "stealing" scarves and the women kept "stealing" a sander.

Get ready for another great year at BBYC. **Susan Siegert** and **Kathy Smith** will be co-chairing the Social Chair position. On New Year's Day come support the new Bridge and help them play host for the Around the Island Cruise. Bloody Marys and Mimosas will be flowing at the bar. **Jim LaMar** will be BBQ'ing hamburgers and hot dogs; the cost will be a mere \$5. A fire will be roaring in the fireplace and the New Year's Day bowl games will be playing on the big screen.

The Round the Island Cruise is a tradition in Alameda in which all of the yacht clubs on the island are open and serve food and drinks. People get in their boats and circle the island stopping at each yacht club to sample the food. We usually have 150 to 200 people stop by BBYC. We will need lots of members to help with snacks and greet our visitors. So come on by. When we leave depends on the weather and tides, but we usually get started between 10:00 a.m. and noon.

On January 8th, we will be hosting a membership dinner/meeting and we would like to encourage all of you to come have some New Year's fun and to meet our new members. **Don Smith** will be hosting the following menu: prime rib, and a vegetarian dish, all for \$12 (\$5 for children). As

Don will be our dinner host, all dinner money will be donated to the club. Please, we need to have sign up sheets filled in by January 3-4 to give us an idea of how many we are cooking for. For any last minute calls, call Don and Kathy at (510) 769-8543. E-mail: kjminnis-smith@comcast.net.

The year's first cruise-in will be on January 22 when the Oyster Point Yacht Club will be our guest. Expect a great dinner on that night. Sunday, February 6 is the Superbowl. We will feature a chili cookoff during the half-time festivities. This has become an annual event and usually draws between 5-7 entries. If you would like to compete please call (925) 260-6540.

Remember the membership meeting for February. It will be on February 5th. We need more cooks and helpers.

Hollywood by the bay

A couple of pics from an impromptu cruise to San Francisco Yacht Club. The photos were taken on the deck of Terry O'Prey's boat *Sea Rex*, on Jeff "Hollywood" Fuller's dock. What you see is the aftermath of the cruise. Photos by Terry O'Prey



"Hollywood," Arlene Huber, Staci Paul, and Ann Weinzierl winding down from *Sea Rex* cruise to San Francisco Yacht Club.



Arlene Huber sporting her *Sea Rex* cruise wear.

Need an EPIRB temporarily? BoatUS Foundation has rentals available

From the BoatUS Web site

FOR THE SKIPPER doing a single race or infrequent long-distance cruise, \$1,000 is just too much to spend for a 406 MHz EPIRB. Thanks to the BoatUS Foundation for Boating Safety and Clean Water, offshore boaters can now have peace of mind. Our convenient, affordable rental program gives boaters nationwide access to the latest satellite-linked 406 MHz Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacons.

When activated, a 406 MHz EPIRB broadcasts a unique, repeating SOS signal that can be detected from virtually any point on earth. When properly registered, the signal includes a description of the vessel and its location. This critical information is routed directly to rescue units on the ground, reducing search time dramatically. It is recommended that boaters venturing outside reliable VHF radio range, about 20 miles offshore, carry a 406 EPIRB on board.

EPIRB Rentals are available through mail order.

- Reservations accepted up to six months in advance.
- Rental consists of 406 EPIRB in a protective case.
- \$50 per week rental fee includes round-trip shipping. (Certain conditions apply, click here for details)
- Six-week maximum rental.
- Call (888) 663-7472 for information and reservations, Monday-Friday Eastern Time, 12 p.m. to 5 p.m.
- Send your order on line! More information is available at the BoatUS Web site:

<http://www.boatus.com/foundation/EPIRB/>

Home on the range



John Stashik

Not all range boards are on the water. This one, for a Bodega Bay channel, is high and dry on land. Easy access by a Coast Guard pickup truck is an advantage.



John Stashik

Location, location, location. Inside this famous Gate is the best sailing in the world.

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TO
TREASURE ISLAND
JANUARY 29

JANUARY & FEBRUARY 2005

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						Jan. 1 NEW YEAR'S DAY Circle Alameda cruise
2	3	4	5 Board meeting 7 p.m.	6	7	8 Membership meeting, dinner 7 p.m.
9	10	11	12	13 Single Sailors Assoc. meets 6:30 p.m.	14	15 Dinner 7 p.m.
16	17 MLK HOLIDAY	18	19	20	21	22 Oyster Point YC cruise-in Dinner 7 p.m.
23	24	25	26	27	28	29 Cruise-out to Treasure Island; no planned dinner
30	31	Feb. 1	2 Board meeting 7 p.m.	3	4	5 Membership meeting, dinner 7 p.m.
6 Brunch 9 a.m. PMS Racing, 11:30 a.m. Superbowl chili cook-off (halftime)	7	8	9	10 Single Sailors Assoc. meets 6:30 p.m.	11	12 Jack & Jill Race Dinner, Valentine's party, 7 p.m.

RACING REPORT

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Treasure Island Yacht Club an Alameda Interclub race.

If reading the above triggers impulses of “I sure want to volunteer to help on Race Committee,” cool. Working and spectating these events provides good experience for racers and potential racers and can be a lot of fun for die-hard cruisers, power boaters or land-lubbers. So, don't be shy, no matter your level of experience—we're all learning as we go.

The hands-on fun begins Sunday, February 6, with the first

race of our PMS (Post-Midwinter Series). These races will be short sauses or triangles using our Club marks, with a noon start time—perfect for finishing a leisurely BBYC First Sunday brunch and leaving the dock around 11:30. Starts will probably be rabbit starts.

The real point of the PMS and upcoming Friday night races will be to get occasional racers, would-be racers, maybe someday racers and cruisers and day-sailors out honing basic sailing skills. If your boat doesn't have a PHRF rating, or if you

don't even know what that or a rabbit start is, these races are for you. Simple rules and short courses will be ideal for those getting their feet wet and, for more experienced racers, a good way to try out potential crew. For undercrewed boats we have cures planned, involving SSA, Club Nautique—hell, we could probably find kids at Encinal High who'd love to give it a try.

We have planned races around club meals to a large extent, so that our members and guests can maximize the benefits of the club.

I hope within the next few weeks to get detailed, helpful info on these races into the “Racing” section of our Web site, so stay tuned. In the meantime, all suggestions or questions are welcome.

