



# The Whale's Tale

BALLENA BAY YACHT CLUB ALAMEDA, CALIFORNIA

Hello!

February has been another busy month in the lives of BBYC members! We started off with our first annual Ground Hog's Ball dinner. **Barry Hosier** did a fantastic job organizing and decorating. His family prepared the dinner, a sumptuous Pozole and accoutrements. It was party time again the following Saturday Night as **Kim & Lowell Crow** hosted the Valentines Day party and dinner. Another splendid feast with fun for all in attendance. Saturday the 17<sup>th</sup> was the start of the race season which opened with the Jack & Jill race around Treasure Island. The weather cooperated and it was a beautiful day for sailing. See Sarah's article for full details! The Saturday night dinner was a Mexican fiesta hosted by **Todd LeCorre** and **Humphrey Mark**. Wonderful as usual! As part of our spring clean up the February 24th dinner was a "use up the food in the freezer" event! This was hosted by our Social Chair, Mike Smalley; another great meal accomplished!

Anyone reading this might think that all we do at our club is eat! Well, that seems to be mostly true for the winter months! Fortunately, March is upon us and boating season has arrived! Some of us did start the boating season earlier and went out to see the Queen Mary II enter San Francisco bay. What a treat that was! When the QMII went past we commented on how little wake she has. Well, her wake was small but then a million

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Cathy Coyte & Ward Fulcher finish 1<sup>st</sup> in Jack & Jill race

## Race Report

By Sarah Sutton

This month marked the beginning of the 2007 racing season for BBYC. Our annual Jack and Jill race took place on Saturday, February 17, with four boats participating. It was a beautiful, calm, sunny day, which allowed the race committee to work on their tans, but did not provide strong winds for the racers. Nonetheless, a good time was had by all! Yer Old Race Chair (2005-2006), Ward Fulcher, sent in this account of their adventures on the Bay during the race:

Decisions, decisions...first off, Cathy "Jill" Coyte's decision to take a fin keel over a Flicka, as we'd have lots of current and not that much wind (also, she wanted to get a feel for a wheel. And she took to it, with the occasional "oh my, *that's* backwards"). We motored out to set the pin, wisely not leaving too much time to practice before the start. I called the start (by not being ready to tack when called on), wisely letting every one else get well clear of the line before we eventually crossed - the classic *Sugar Magnolia* "clear air" start. Cathy wisely called the rest of the race, which earned her a victory. We all headed out to the deep channel for maximum ebb, and braved the sunny 70's in shorts, no shoes, etc. Why there were only 4 boats on a day like this - it's never this nice in summer - is such a bafflement to me.

So, as we get flushed to Treasure Island, the question that makes great minds soft - which way to go? *Lil Bear*, followed by *Hollanass*, went right

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If you did not receive eMail re: current events, send eMail to: [editor@bbyc.org](mailto:editor@bbyc.org)

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**The Whale's Tale**

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Please save articles for submission as plain text (no formatting) and send y e-mail to

[editor@bbyc.org](mailto: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 as above. Digital photos should have a minimum resolution of 212 pixels per inch at full size. Always provide a caption and photo credit information.

## Commodore's Report

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boats went screaming past chasing after her and it was like being in a washing machine! Even still it was a gloriously sunny day and great to be out on the bay! Some of our members also enjoyed an impromptu cruise out to Clipper Cove the weekend of February 17-18. It was going to be to Angel Island however the cove was closed due to problems with the mooring balls. If you are thinking of an overnight mooring at Angel Island you may want to call first and check the status. Our first official cruise-out will be the weekend of March 10-11 to the San Francisco Yacht Club. This is always a great place to cruise to. The SFYC is a very friendly club in a great location. It is an easy sail from BBYC, and a much shorter motor! If you are interested in joining us please sign up as SFYC only has room for ten BBYC boats that weekend.

See everyone out on the water!

--Alison

### ► Race Report continued from page 1

and I was chafing to follow them into that nice looking breeze over Emeryville way, and away from all those masts sticking straight up on the other side. Cathy was having none of it, having apparently slept with current charts under her pillow the previous few nights and so Englishmen won out over mad dogs, and off we went to the Delta Echo span. By crabbing into apparent wind, we transited the span mostly sideways - I mean "with significant induced yaw" - and found ourselves under balmy conditions and not much weather helm. (Or any other kind of helm.) Cathy was determined that we'd simply drift to the top of TI, sometimes describing lazy arcs and mostly doing 2 knots over the water in wind created by our 4 knots of current. It worked, while I ate a sandwich and remembered an E-Ticket ride over the same course some years ago in 25 knots - on my beach cat.

I was jolted from my reverie by seeing the sinister dark form of *Black Pearl*, I mean *Hollanass*, emerge going the other way, and those diabolical souls were heading west into good wind instead of turning into the hole through which *Incentive* was lazily drifting behind us. Needless to say, *Lil Bear* had long since thrust her vicious little daggers across our bows, going the other way.

I ate another half a sandwich. This Jack and Jill thing was working for me. We were treated to the HDA fleet sailing slowly past in a spinnaker parade on their way back to the estuary as we broad-reached down the island, being semi-disciplined about staying hot, and then were mortified to see neither hide nor hair of our competitors - they'd clearly horizoned us, and were already back at the Club drinking the Guinness right out from under our parched egos...or not, as it turned out - there was *Lil Bear*, easing down the course from the city side, and *actually within our sight!* Let's see - 198 against minus 3, within visual range - I hadn't felt such joy since someone else got married. Turns out that we'd got spat through a hole that chose to extend its acquaintance with our competitors...and Cathy drove into history, and a big box of chocolates, winning her first ( I think) Jack and Jill.

She then sent her wits to the knackers', giving me the helm - I wisely went to tow off a sailboat who'd gone aground and fouled his cooling intake, and while towing him wisely decided I'd have him pick up the pin, and then - you guessed it, kids - wisely ran him aground, so he wouldn't feel so bad about having done it himself...

(continued next page)

### See more club photos at:

<http://www.bbyc.org/pages/photosA.html>

**March & April 2007**

MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
			March 1	2 Potluck 7:00 pm	3 Spring Cleaning! All Hands On Deck! Pizza for everyone! No Meeting	4 Spring Cleaning!
5	6 <a href="#">Ballena Bay TownHouse Assoc</a> 7PM	7	8	9 Potluck 7:00 pm	10 PMS Race Cruise-out to San Francisco YC Dinner 7 pm	11
12	13	14	15	16 Potluck 7:00 pm	17 St. Patrick's Day Celebration Dinner 7 pm	18
19	20	21	22	23 Potluck 7:00 pm	24 Dinner 7 pm	25
26	27	28 Board meeting ??	29	30 Potluck 7:00 pm	31 Racing Seminar Berkeley YC Cruise-in Dinner 7.pm	
MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
			April			April 1 OPEN HOUSE! 12-3:00 PM
2	3 <a href="#">BBTA</a> 7PM	4	5	6 Potluck 7:00 pm	7 PMS Race Membership Meeting Dinner 7 pm	8
9	10	11	12	13 GRILLER RACE! Potluck 7:00 pm	14 Cruise-out to Coyote Point Dinner 7 pm	15

**Sea Fox 4th Annual Benefit Crab Feed**

March 24, 2007

Buy your tickets now for the **Sea Scout Crab Feed!** What more can you ask for than a delicious meal of All you can eat Crab, Pasta, Salad, Bread, and Homemade Desserts after a busy day of racing? Help support the Sea Scout Ship Sea Fox at this annual fundraiser at the Island Yacht Club.

Contact Heather Garcia at [skipperheather@yahoo.com](mailto:skipperheather@yahoo.com) or (510)734-5785 to purchase tickets.

Sponsored by:

**The Sea Fox Auxiliary**

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It was great to have Ward out on the water racing this time – and he managed to work in a combined assist/pin retrieval as well.

Join our next PMS race on Saturday, March 10!! Entry forms are available online and on the bulletin board. I will be out of town at a family gathering that day and need 3-4 volunteers to hoist flags, shoot off the shot-gun and enjoy the festivities. Please email me at [race@bbyc.org](mailto:race@bbyc.org) for details. Ward has volunteered to set you up prior to the race – all you need to bring is a lawn chair, hat and your favorite beverage! It's a great way to spend an easy afternoon on the water's edge, watching the boats sail by the San Francisco in the background. Check out the photos online from Jack and Jill!

Also – do not miss Ward's FREE race seminar on Saturday, March 31<sup>st</sup> where he will cover racing tips from A-Z. Will provide useful information for the novice as well as the experienced sailor, and of course, is guaranteed to be entertaining as well. Sign up at the club or on-line today.

See you all out there!

-- Sarah

## Rear Commodore Report

By Dave "Tinker" Hall

Hi all -

January was pretty good what with New Years and the crab feed both falling in that period.

February has been kinda slow, it's the weather I hope. We have had something going on every weekend but without the turnout I have come to expect. Don't get too alarmed, we are in the black, just not as much activity as I like.

The club is open every day, and you have your own key if there is no one else here. So come by for a drink, or social interchange.

As we get closer to spring I hope to see more of you around the club. Cruise in weekends are fun because you get to meet some new people

I have now brought out most of the new wines and have added a couple of blends. They seem to be well received and I have not had anyone suggest we change back.

I enjoy a glass of top shelf whisky, or whiskey on occasion so I add one once in awhile. The latest is a single barrel Jack Daniel's. This is very smooth and could be considered the bourbon equivalent to single malt scotch. I also added a single malt Irish whiskey a few weeks ago.

Cheers,

--Tinker



### WANTED:

Junior Sailors for the City of Oakland **ONE DESIGN RACING CLASS**. Spring tryouts are scheduled for Saturday, April 7th, 2007 and summer tryouts July 7th, 2007 from 11am - 3:00pm at the Jack London Aquatic Center, 115 Embarcadero East, Oakland, CA 94606.

Please remember to bring a lunch, water bottle and a change of clothes.

**PRIOR SAILING EXPERIENCE REQUIRED:** Sailors should be able to sail a high-performance single-handed dinghy (BYTE) around a race course.

For More Information:

\* Call (510) 238-2196

\* [www.oaklandnet.com/parks/programs](http://www.oaklandnet.com/parks/programs) (click "boating" then "youth programs" )

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testament to the best little kept secret in Bay Area yachting: the famous **Jim Lamar**, BBQer par excellence. He grilled salmon and Cheryl Pyle's special dry rub and marinated tri-tip. **Ross & Cindy Lappin** assisted the Crow's in preparing the dinner.

**Jeff Fuller** was the DJ lending his talent & equipment for us to eat, drink, dance, and be merry. The Richmond Yacht Club was there to enjoy the evening as well and very impressed with how **Robyn Rowley** conducted her duty as Port Captain, meeting with, & bringing the boats into port, and showing them where to tie off. Sorry RYC...she's ours!

**Todd LeCorre & Humphrey Mark** hosted a purely Mexican Fiesta complete w/ homemade beans, and traditional dessert. Todd is an excellent cook; his enchiladas were superb, they even kept me fed for a couple days...I know I'm not alone here.

As everybody should know by now the first Saturday of March will be a club clean-up / repair weekend. All hands are requested for a few hours to donate their own supply of elbow grease. We all have certain talents that can be lent to our cause. As boat owners and operators we know this drill all too well, it is our way of life.

Besides there is free pizza.....The week before we cleaned out the freezer and whipped up quite a smorgasbord of past favorites.

On the 10th we're cruising out to the San Francisco Yacht Club, so we are considering a Grill-your-own dinner for that night.

March 17<sup>th</sup> is the St. Patrick's Day dinner. Jim LaMar will be preparing a traditional dinner of Corn Beef and Cabbage, always a great night...

March 24<sup>th</sup> will see a Crab Feed at Island Yacht Club to benefit the Sea Fox, the Sea Scout boat you may have seen out on 'H' Dock as you leave the marina. See contact info on previous page.

March 31 will see a cruise-in by the Berkeley Yacht Club, always a great crowd, so we will use the occasion to prepare a prime rib dinner with all the fixins!

Looks like a great month, my mouth is watering already.

That's all for now, I'm still looking for a cook for the 24<sup>th</sup>! Look for Leroy's emails and of course, all information is readily available on the web site at [www.BBYC.org](http://www.BBYC.org). And don't forget; sign up online or at club by the Thursday before the dinner and save \$3.00.

--Mike Smalley

# 2007 Membership Meeting and Spring Cleaning Party

March 3 & 4, 2007

A long over due Ballena Bay Clubhouse Spring cleaning party will start at 9:00 am on March 3, 2007. **Since we are an all volunteer club, all members are encouraged to participate.** Consider this as a guilt trip.

As you can see by the following list, there is plenty of work for everyone and we need you. We will be painting the interior of the clubhouse, doing small repairs and upgrades as needed, and especially cleaning of all those areas that are neglected during the year. Bring materials, supplies, and tools that you will need for the area you want to work on.

Lowell and Kim Crow will be organizing the work and will assign team leaders to the various tasks. This will be a great opportunity for old and new members to get acquainted, and we will manage to have some fun while doing the work. All members are asked to contribute a minimum of two hours of work, either on Saturday or Sunday. You can set your own schedule for the day. Attendance will be taken. An outline of some of the tasks to be done is as follows:

1. paint clubhouse interior (much of the bar area has already been painted)
2. install exterior electrical connections to club sign and lights
3. replace ceiling tiles as needed (if materials are available)
4. kitchen
  - a. paint interior-don't think I'd do this while everything else is going on
  - b. clean refrigerator
  - c. clean ovens and stoves
  - d. thoroughly scrub floor
  - e. reorganize and clean cabinets, shelves
  - f. rewash greasy pots, pans, etc.
5. dining room
  - a. clean carpet and floors
  - b. clean furniture, leather and wood chairs
  - c. repair chairs as necessary (bring your tools and materials, there are a lot of loose legs)
  - d. reorganize and clean bookshelf
  - e. organize fire exit area
6. pantries/dish, silverware areas
  - a. remove all contents and discard as necessary
- b. clean floors and shelves
- c. defrost freezer
- d. clean refrigerator
- e. possibly paint walls
7. bar area
  - a. remove, clean and reorganize behind bar, including booze bottles
  - b. oil soap chairs and tables and woodwork (bring your rags and sponges)
  - c. clean refrigerators
  - d. organize and purge coat closet
  - e. organize chart table and display case
  - f. clean sofas
  - g. repair chairs and oil soap
  - h. clean mirror, including Goo Gone for tape stuck
8. office-ice machine area
  - a. remove contents, clean/discard as necessary
  - b. paint walls
9. windows/patio
  - a. wash all windows inside and out
  - b. clean blinds
  - c. clean patio area (power wash—does anyone have a power washer?)

**We will have pizza and salad for dinner on Saturday night.  
You will have an opportunity to meet the new Bridge officers.**

*All unfinished work will be done on Sunday.*

## Cruise Chair Report

By Michael Hart

Cruise out season is about to kick off and I'm excited to report our first cruise out of the season is fully booked! In fact, it's overbooked. The San Francisco Yacht Club requested that we only bring 10 boats, but we have twelve signed up. Hopefully, they will accommodate 12, but if not, we have a back-up plan. So, off we go March 10<sup>th</sup>!

Our second cruise out is April 14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> to beautiful Coyote Point Yacht Club. They can accommodate everyone who wants to come. If you have never sailed or motored on the south bay, this is the crown jewel that shouldn't be missed. There plenty of room, I hope we see you there. You can sign up on line or at the club.

Michael Hart (916) 801-1602

## Social Committee Notes

Wow, it's already March and we're almost 1/4 the way through the year already, and boating season is almost here as predicted by our very own ground hog enthusiast Barry Hosier at the BBYC's first annual Ground Hog's Ball dinner. I think you will still see the official ground hog burgee flying somewhere in the club.

I really want to thank all that have participated in volunteerism at our little Social establishment aka the BBYC. Like for the dinner hosted by **Cathy Coyte**. Cathy whipped up a hearty helping of her truly British stew, some of the crew wanted to sauté with wine, however Cathy subdued the menace, and Guinness was used. Thank you Cathy for another fantastic dinner.

Rounding out the 1st month was our Annual Crab Feed; I think every one can agree that was the best crab we had in a long while. We can thank **Ron Fudala** for all the hard work and effort he puts into this annual event. Without him I'm not sure how this event would come out. He worked especially hard this time as we didn't have the help of Bea, our housekeeper. Ron pulled double duty as organizer and bottle washer after the event. There were a number of people who should be thanked for their help

making this event work, namely **Cheryl Pyle** who cooked and served. Then there is **Leroy Pyle** who helped cleaned and separated and put all the crab into buckets for serving, **Dave Alexander** for taking everyone's money, **Sarah Sutton** for cleaning up, & bussing the tables, a lot of work by all, for the enjoyment of all.

February kicked off with the afore mentioned Ground Hog's Ball dinner. **Barry Hosier** and his family served a sumptuous dinner of Pozole, started with fabulous appetizers and Ground Hog punch and followed by a Ground Hog cake and gingerbread Ground Hog cookies. (No Ground Hog's were harmed in the preparation of the dinner.) To see what a great time was had, check the pictures on the BBYC web site. Thanks, Barry for a terrific evening.

Once we knew that the BBYC ground hog saw his shadow we celebrated again the next day with a Super Bowl Party / Chili cook-off. The Chili cook-off winner was Jim LaMar. Cheryl made her famous potato salad, and kept the popcorn bowl full. Leroy grilled hamburgers and sausages.

Not to be out done, **Kim & Lowell Crow** hosted the annual Valentine Day dinner & dance. It was another

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