

The Whale's Tale

Ballena Bay Yacht Club

Alameda, CA

Volume 2010, Issue 8

August, 2010



The Commodore's Report

Scott Shelby



Welcome to the middle of the summer 2010 and we're right in the middle of some of our biggest events of the year. If you missed the cruise-out to the Paul McCartney concert at AT&T park in McCovey Cove, so did we.

Entertainer 3 (**Jeff and Karen Simson's** boat) was the second boat to arrive after **Bill and Cathy Stapp** staked a claim the night before. After two hours of trying to set the anchor and doing nothing except plowing McCovey Cove, we decided we had Paul on CD and cruised over to Jack London Square for an impromptu overnight stay in a great place, not too far from home. Bill and Cathy did say the concert was great and a fun event to cruise to, as long as you can sit still.

The Poker Run this year drew a smaller crowd, however it was a great time and I would highly recommend you put this event on your calendar next year. All who attended had a great time and a few actually walked away with some nice cash. **Linda Fenn** was the big winner with nearly \$300 in cash. **Ron Fudala**



Some of our Poker Run contestants at Encinal Yacht Club, taking a break from the action.

did a great job coordinating this, and also did his usual wheeling and dealing on some very tasty steaks, expertly grilled by **Vice Commodore Jeff**—a fantastic dinner.

Our biggest event is coming up about the time you read this, which is our **Island Party featuring the Eric Stone Band**. Don't forget to sign up for this, or even invite a friend or two. We are considering this a BBYC Open House event so it will be open to the public (badges naturally required). This is always a very fun event and we are quite fortunate to be the only yacht club on the west coast where Eric is playing. If you would like to entice your friends, pass along a link to Eric's website which is www.boatsongs.com.

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The Vice Commodore's Report

Jeff Simson

Hi everyone, another month has gone by already. I would like to start by welcoming a previous member back to our club, **Mike Hart**. Welcome back Mike. It's good to have you back in the club.

One of our biggest social events this season is coming up on August 7—the "Island Party" featuring Eric Stone. The Ballena Bay Yacht Club has advertised the event in *Latitude 38* magazine for the past two months. This will be an "open house" *(Continued on page 2)*

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The Cruise-out Report

Jeff Fuller

As I write this, Hollywood Express will just be getting back in the water from the boat yard. Our members **Todd LeCorre** and **Mike Hart** helped me make the bottom as beautiful as the top. I am looking forward to test-driving the new bottom at our upcoming cruise-outs.

As you probably know, we are cruising out to **Corinthian Yacht Club** August 21-22. If you haven't signed up yet, please do so at the club on the bulletin board. We already have about ten boats signed up. Corinthian Yacht Club has limited space, so we might have to put you on a mooring ball if you haven't signed up yet. However, I will try to get you a dock space if I can. Our cruise outs are always first-come first-served.

Half Moon Bay will be coming up this Labor Day weekend. Dinner and a band will be provided by the **Half Moon Bay Yacht Club**. Come

enjoy the cruise, and you never know, you may see a whale along the way. Sign up for this one at the club or email me at jeffmarine@comcast.net.

I just organized two new cruise-outs. The first was suggested by our Commodore **Scott Shelby**, who has a lot of good ideas. This is one of them. We will be cruising to **Jack London Square** October 16-17. There is lots to do there—it has many great restaurants and clubs to visit. It also has an excellent Farmer's Market on Sunday. And if you're an Alamar berther you have reciprocal privileges and can stay for free.

The weekend before Thanksgiving we will be heading to the north side of the Golden Gate Bridge to the **Presidio Yacht Club**. The dates are November 20-21. The club is located in a scenic area of southern Marin County. The club is technically an Army Yacht Club, but I understand *(Continued on back page)*

The Vice Commodore's Report *(continued from page 1)*

event". Come join us for an exciting evening of great food, "Eric Stone" and dancing the night away. See you there!

Just a quick reminder, your BBYC membership cards are waiting for you at the club. The club still needs new members to keep us going strong.

Here's a funny story for you. On the 10th of last month, Paul McCartney played a concert at AT&T Park. Commodore Scott Shelby, his wife Mona, my wife Karen and I cruised over to McCovey Cove to meet Bill and Cathy Stapp to raft

up and enjoy some music. We tried to tie up to their sailboat but it was too rough and windy. My rub rail would have destroyed Bill's life line stanchions so we decided to drop anchor ourselves. After three hours of dragging our anchor and one hundred thirty feet of chain we were getting a little frustrated. I think we probably plowed up most of McCovey Cove. We pulled out of McCovey Cove and cruised over to Almar at Jack London square. Scott and Mona's daughter Jessica and her friend Nick joined us, so the evening turned out well in the end.

The Poker Run and Alameda Art & Wine Festival



The Golden Years at Ballena Bay Yacht Club

By Robin Matt, former BBYC Commodore and current director of Ventura Yacht Club



As some of you may already know, we lost our friend and former Commodore, Beth Golden, in

July. A celebration of Beth's life will take place at BBYC on Sunday, August 22, 2010. For those who remember the "Golden Years" at BBYC, and for those who have joined BBYC since then and would like to know a little more, here are few highlights:

In 1995, Beth and husband Jim Golden joined BBYC. Beth and Jim owned and lived on Jupiter, a 1953 classic express cruiser built in wood along the lines of a luxury PT Boat by the legendary Nunes Brothers yard in Sausalito, and kept in beautiful "floating piano" condition by Beth and Jim. Anytime the weather cooperated, Jim would call from work and Beth would gather close friends for evening runs to San Francisco for dinner. Some old-timers at BBYC have golden memories indeed of

these evenings on the Bay.

In 1996, Beth took on the job of race chair, and did much to reanimate what had become a somewhat quiescent race program. During her time in the job, BBYC hosted the Flying Junior Worlds, drawing young competitors from all over the planet to Alameda, and the J-24 Nationals, in which Beth's characteristic mix of steely efficiency and charm afforded that sometimes unruly tribe a well-run and memorable regatta.

In '97 Beth served as social chair, organizing block-buster parties and dinner events, including one replete with camo table decorations, a full-sized parachute, and genuine MRE's as the main course. One of Beth's most enduring legacies from this era is the parquet dance floor in the club's bar area, in the procurement of which Beth played a leading role. Anyone who was lucky enough to watch Beth and Jim initiate the completed dance floor with an incandescent tango performance in full tuxedo-red-dress-high-heels regalia, will not forget the experience.

Beth was elected Commodore

in 1999 and initiated the Friday night cannon firing, a 6 PM ritual that signaled the beginning of weekend revelry, set off car alarms in the parking lot—sometimes drew a few neighbor complaints—but was emblematic of the energy and vitality that endeared Beth to all who knew her. In that same year, Beth was diagnosed with a brain tumor and underwent surgery to remove it. She bounced back with amazing alacrity and, while waiting for her hair to grow back, attended the BBYC Halloween party with a smooth pate in a startling impersonation of the well known advertising icon, Mr. Clean. Only Beth could make Mr. Clean look chic and beautiful.

Many of you undoubtedly have your own recollections of the "golden" moments of Beth's time at BBYC, and we hope you will share them when we get together to celebrate her life on Sunday, August 22nd from noon to 5 PM for a day of reunion and remembrance. All BBYC members and other friends of Beth and Jim are invited.



AUGUST

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4 Board of Directors Meeting	5	6 Friday Night Race	7 Island Party with Eric Stone
8	9	10	11	12 SSA Meeting	13	14 Dinner 7:00 pm
15	16	17	18	19	20 Friday Night Race	21 Dinner 7:00 pm Corinthian YC Cruise-out
22	23	24	25	26	27	28 Dinner 7:00 pm
29	30	31				

SEPTEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3 Friday Night Race	4 Half Moon Bay Cruise-out
5 Half Moon Bay Cruise-out	6 Half Moon Bay Cruise-out	7	8	9 SSA Meeting	10	11 Dinner 7:00 pm
12	13	14	15	16	17	18 Dinner 7:00 pm
19	20	21	22	23	24	25 Dinner 7:00 pm
26	27	28	29	30		

The Rear Commodore's Report

Dave "Tinker" Hall

Hi everyone, it's Tinker again and time for the news. July saw the Poker Run. We had a very good band, and everyone here seemed to be having a good time. Not as big a turnout as last year but still fun. If you were there, or even if you weren't, talk it up for next year.

The biggest news out of BBYC...is...**WE NOW TAKE VISA AND MASTERCARD**. So if you would like to close out your bar chit at the end of the day, can do. This also applies to merchandise, dinners and your quarterly dues. Talk to either me, Jeff Simson or Scott Shelby.

Hope you all come to the Island

Party. Eric Stone is a great performer and we are lucky he has a soft spot for BBYC.

That's all for now. Stop by the club and say hi.

The Commodore's Report

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We have also started a new wall of members' boats in the dining room and if you haven't done so, we encourage you to send us a picture of your boat. I would also like to request that you send digital images by email, so we can create a continuous slide show to display on our big screen in the bar. Please email to me at commodore@bbyc.org.

I would like to encourage anyone who has ideas, comments, offers to volunteer or just wants to say hi, to please feel free to email me.

I look forward to seeing you all soon. Happy boating!

The Cruise-Out Report

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the Army knows how to party. Last year some of our members cruised in and had a great time. I couldn't make it because I was on an Alaskan cruise with Gwyn, and Scott and Lou Ann Roth, but I heard it was a lot of fun from those who attended. I'm looking forward to it this year. Anyway, I digress; the Presidio Yacht Club has a band playing on Saturday night, starting at 8:30. They don't serve dinner that night, but we can take a taxi to one of the many great restaurants in downtown Sausalito, which is only a couple of miles away.

It's great being a boat owner and a BBYC member. Cruise-outs are just one of the many benefits, so I hope you will join us.



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