

# THE



# PILOT

*The Monthly Newsletter of the Inverness Yacht Club*

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

COMMODORE

John Speh

VICE COMMODORE

Peter Lassetter

REAR COMMODORE

Mark Darley

STAFF COMMODORE

John Phelan

SECRETARY

Hobey Landreth

TREASURER

Winston Black

PORT CAPTAIN

Millie Biller

FLEET CAPTAIN

Peter Ackley

DIRECTORS

Pat White

Peter Ackley

Ken Emanuels

Lyn Twining

## COMMITTEE CHAIRS

ADULT BOATING/SAILING

Ned Congdon

ADULT BOATING/KAYAKING

Judith Ciani Smith

BAR

Ken & Lyn Twining

Josie Brownback

FACILITIES PLANNING

Various

FLYING SCOTT FLEET 40

Representative Needed

HISTORIAN

Rich & Vera Olmsted

HOUSE

Jan Aston

INSURANCE

Peter Lassetter

MEMBERSHIP

Carrick McLaughlin

OPEN HOUSE

Nancy Jo Heaton

OUTSIDE ORGANIZATION

REP

Jerry Abbott

PILOT EDITOR

Mark Darley

PILOT EDITORIAL WRITER

Ed Schwartz

RACE

Peter Lassetter

RENTALS

Katherine Landreth

SHIPS STORES

Susan Medina

SOCIAL

Sam Hinkley

Carol Skold

TROPHIES & AWARDS

Mark Darley

WEBSITE

John Speh

YOUTH SAILING

Pat White

## COMMODORE'S COLUMN

February 2008

The Gin Fizz party was a roaring success with attendance estimated at 120 celebrants. The team of Carol Skold leading the party crew, Steve Skold roasting the turkey and Ken Twining manning and managing the bar produced a spectacular event. Bob Cuenin, our talisman for the party, put in an all too infrequent West Marin appearance and was the celebrity guest bar tender. I know the Fizzes were delicious and am told they were quite effective. As this is my annual day to be the designated driver I cannot personally attest to the latter.

As the New Year gets under way I feel like I am beginning to emerge from a recuperative Holiday torpor. The weather at the moment is spring like and the year seems full of things to do and amazingly enough the energy to do them. For example Millie, in researching last year's leak, (which I believe was solved with some caulking in the right place), has identified flashing that needs to be installed or replaced. (Much cheaper than fixing dry rot.) All this plus a roof vent for longer roof life, among other things, will likely have been completed by the time you read this. To my surprise the roof itself is reported to be in good shape. This is the longest I have ever been associated with a structure without having to put a new roof on the thing.

An up coming event is welcoming our new members at the annual "welcome new members" open house. If all goes according to plan a gold star will identify you, as a new member, on your nametags. As well as singling you out for attention this entitles you to drink on the house for the evening. So be sure to come. For you "not new" members, come down and meet some interesting people or introduce around friends who happen to be new members.

On a more somber note please keep an eye out for misuse of the club's dumpster. For one thing, when not secured properly it allows unauthorized access to the yard. For another the club would be held responsible for any toxics found in the dumpster. Under today's rules many more items are officially labeled toxic and can only be disposed of at appropriate toxic disposal sites.

Our wonderful and dedicated membership chair, Carrick McLaughlin, again published the club directory well below budget and right on time. Responding to a member's request, she now also has created a downloadable version. This is a godsend to those of us who can never find our directory but can almost always find our computer. Thank you Carrick. If you e-mail IYC@svn.net we will send you a copy. This will NOT be available on the web site. Be aware this is a 1.4 mb file and please let us know if we can add your e-mail address to future editions. In fact please send us your e-mail address for publication whether you want the digital directory or not. It is really handy to have and we promise we won't send you spam which we don't know how to do anyway. To the best of our ability we try to make sure your information does not fall into unauthorized hands. There! A privacy policy!

Pray for spring,

JohnS

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**I**

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IYC@svn.net**NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS**

Like most of us, I make a lot of New Year's resolutions and break most of them by, let's say, January 15. But, this year is going to be different. I am going to really try to keep each one. Yes, sir! This list is not sacred, by the way. You can filch any one of them and put it on you own list. In no particular order, in 2008, I hereby resolve to:

1. Pay fewer bills.
2. Gain more weight. Not too much, just a little. One doesn't want to overdo a good thing.
3. Spend more money buying unnecessary things. We live in an all-too-consuming economy and I am not going to let my fellow men and women down; I will do my share.
4. Work less. No question about this one. Definitely work less.
5. Not shave every day. Not using up hot water will lower my energy bill and shrink my carbon footprint.
6. "Dress up" even less than I did in 2006. When one has a good thing going, keep at it and hone one's skill.
7. Wear my shirts five days in a row instead of four. Again, this will save energy and reduce my carbon footprint. By the way, what does "carbon footprint" actually mean?
8. Do more "pure" thinking—in other words, waste more time.
9. Buy more things on line.
10. Monopolize more conversations. Why let someone get a word in edgewise when I have so much wisdom to impart?
11. Take more photos with my new digital camera that I didn't need because my old digital camera worked fine, only I wanted a new camera so I should use it.
12. Do not bend over to pick up my socks that fell on the floor. The socks fell and why should I be responsible for picking them up? It's their problem.
13. Spend more time at the computer.
14. On Tuesday, allow Bambi to take out the garbage. Why should I have all the fun?

I think this is a great list and one I can get my arms around and keep. Happy New Year! Ed Schwartz

**FUTURE EVENT**

Saturday, March 29th

6pm Spring Lamb Festival with Skipper and Trans-Pacific  
Adventurer, Michael Reppy

## NOTICES

### CLUB RENTALS

Sunday	January 27th	10am to Noon PUD: Disaster Preparedness Meeting 2pm to 4pm: Betty Mocine Memorial
Saturday and Sunday,	Feb 2nd and 3rd	Veach Wedding: Saturday Reception and Sunday Brunch
Sunday	February 10th	10am to Noon PUD: Disaster Preparedness Meeting
Sunday	March 2nd	10am to Noon PUD: Disaster Preparedness Meeting



### SHIP'S STORE

Don't Forget to Shop for Your Sweetie at Ship's Store.

We have lots of great Yacht Club specials – Sweaters, Fleece, Polos, Hats.

At the Open House February 9th, or by calling Susan Medina 663-8585.

## MEMBERSHIP

Approved for Membership: Linda Aldrich

Proposer: Mark Roper

Seconders: Frank Seidner & David Tirrell

“The art of racing is not in winning, but in winning so that the rest of the fleet are pleased you have won, and the only way they can be pleased is for you to have shown better helmsmanship than they and also show perfect sportsmanship.” Uffa Fox.

2007 INVERNESS YACHT CLUB  
PICTURE GALLERY





# THE GIN FIZZ PARTY

2008

It looks to me like the Gin Fizzes were up to their normal standard!

Photos courtesy of Peter Lassetter.



“Fighting over the favored end may cost speed and entail additional risk, for example being pushed over early.” Bob Bavier.

Was he referring to the Starting Line or perhaps the Bar?

## WHO WAS FERNAO DE MAGALHAES?

Book review by Micheal Seversen

Does every boat once cast from the dock race? With whom is the race? What is the prize? Who sets the course? Philosophical questions, no doubt, but in one perspective, perhaps all boats enter the watery world as contestants. Spain and Portugal were the contestants in the early years of the sixteenth century. The prize? Spice and the trade route to ship them. In the world of sailing, as in any sport, accomplishment brings recognition. So, who is recognized as the greatest sailor? Perhaps one of the greatest did not fulfill the almost mythological goal of proving that the world could be sailed around, and those of his armada who survived did so barely, 18 of 260, one ship of a fleet and not one original captain or officer returned to Sanlucar de Barrameda, Spain. Not Fernao de Magalhaes, of Portugal.

The whys and hows of this Magellan are set forth in 'Over the Edge of the World', by Laurence Bergreen, Harper, 2004, a narrative of times you wont get from any Hollywood movie about primping pirates, but you will get a history and understanding of life and sailing and people bent to leadership of their Captain General, to glory for King Charles, to a religious piety without question, especially when in storm or dire straits, a captain who could whip, or imprison, before execution. All of which Magellan did for insubordination, mutiny, or plots to overthrow, kill him and abort the royal charter which paid for an enterprise known as part of The Age of Discovery.

What did kill Magellan was a show battle on a sandy beach for the pride of honor. Toledo steel and breast plate succumbed to bamboo Mactanese Indians, defending their acquiescence to Christianity and incomprehensible idea of land years ago five boats and 260 sailors privilege, moral tracts, and really no motor, or communication. Had an incredible ability to read the waves, know how close or far from land to and sail continually to the west.

How long would the provisions represented almost half the cost of were wine. How long do you think leading even though he had Spanish leadership and skill as a sailor. An Loyalty to King and Church. That



Before the boats left Spain, the contracts and intrigue to secure the financing are hard to believe. Again and again, Magellan is an outsider trying to bundle a contract and become a representative for Spain.

The mutinies and how Magellan kept the dwindling fleet on its mission are told throughout the book. Magellan did not write accounts of the voyage. Those who did either respected him or were at odds: interesting chronicles, nicely quoted where need be. The whole voyage was never a cohesive or unified affair. Intrigue, dispute and conviction by Magellan kept it together until the Captain General foolishly stood in the tropical beach waters attempting an illustrious pose. Then they were on their own.

As for the indigenous peoples, they were "a source of fascination." Antonio Pigafetta, the principle chronicler, was as good an anthropologist as one could expect. They viewed the world from their perspective, and this history views The Armada de Molucca as it should be, without judgment upon a society of its time.

A wonderful narrative of peoples chronicled and told in detail.

spears, poison arrows from infuriated village against torching and forced sworn allegiance to a King and the under his sovereignty. Some 475 odd set sail with priests, charters, letters of map, radar, depth sounder, auxiliary magnetic compass. Only the by now the currents, the clouds and wind to make clumsy and lumbering boats sail,

last into an unknown? The food the entire fleet. Half of the provisions that lasted? A fleet which he was overseers checking his authority, his hierarchical society in five little boats. loyalty is a history lesson in itself.

# EVENTS CALENDAR

Saturday, January 26th	Flamenco Dinner	Drinks	6.00pm
		Dinner	7.00pm
Saturday, February 2nd	Board Meeting		9.30am
Saturday, February 9th	“New Member” Open House	Drinks	5.30pm
Saturday, February 23rd	Crab Feed	Drinks	6.00pm
		Dinner	7.00pm
Saturday, March 1st	Board Meeting		9.30am
Saturday, March 8th	Open House	Drinks	5.30pm

Bring something to share and  
welcome our new members.

5.30PM  
**“NEW MEMBER”  
 OPEN HOUSE**

Saturday, February 9th

Inverness Yacht Club  
 P.O. Box 186  
 Inverness, CA 94937  
[invernessyachtclub.org](mailto:invernessyachtclub.org)

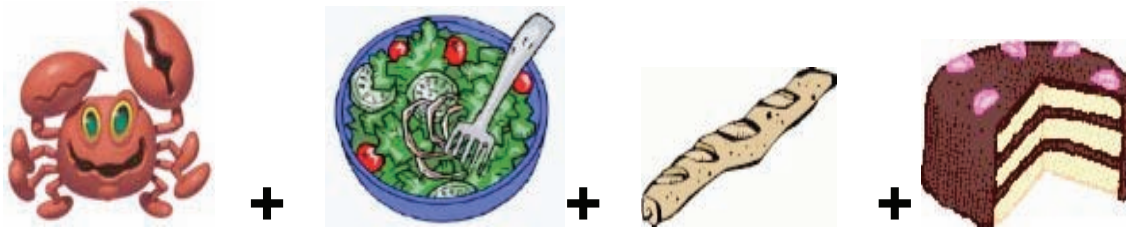


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# 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Crab Feed

Ah yes, to be twenty again... Come celebrate the 20<sup>th</sup> annual IYC crab feed with some friends on February 23, 2008. For the 20<sup>th</sup> time we will be providing fresh Dungeness crab, salad (hand mixed by experienced IYC volunteers), freshly baked bread (imported from San Rafael), and the proper amount of cake. This combination is a time tested favorite of IYC.

The celebration will start off with cocktails, sodas, etc. at 6 PM followed by the traditional CRAB dinner at 7PM.



Your check made out to IYC is your reservation, so send \$20 for adults or \$14 for your children to the Wallace's home at:  
621 Calle De La Mesa, Novato, Ca. 94949 to reserve your spot.

Our sales tax exemption requires that we accept payment from members only. Childcare will be provided in the day room by reservation.

If you have any questions or would like to volunteer to help call Dave & Eileen at 415-883-0819.