

THE



PILOT

The Monthly Newsletter of the Inverness Yacht Club

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 YOUTH SAILING
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COMMODORE'S COLUMN

May 2010

Although the rain keeps sweeping through, it feels like Spring is here. The Tobin/Watters Open Bic trial day took place on a beautiful afternoon on the Saturday of Easter Weekend. The feedback included; "love it", "easy to right", "simple", "fast", and "not for big kids." That last comment might have been from an adult as several of us "big kids" took a spin in this (very) mini skiff.

I am extremely pleased to report that with a grant of funds from the Inverness Foundation (from you, our generous supporters of Youth Sailing), allocated "boat purchase" funds from the budget, and profits from the Superbowl Fundraiser, the Board was able to authorize the purchase of 4 boats to replace aging El Toros. We hope to have the new Bics at IYC before the next issue of the Pilot arrives in your mailbox, in ample time for the Summer.

Two sub-committees are preparing reports which will enable the Board to continue to make informed decisions to keep the club financially sound:

The Facilities Planning Committee, under the able direction of John Phelan, has been assessing the future costs of maintaining the club and docks. They put considerable time into researching past expenses and future projections, and John produced and presented to the Board an extremely useful Excel model to manage these expenses over time. In addition, Jim Laws, Win Black and Dave Wallace are studying our operating expenses and income. I am very grateful to both groups for volunteering their time and expertise.

The cost of membership has not been increased in 7 years, which means that we are now 20% behind the pace of inflation, and our balance sheet reflects that. Unless we can find other significant sources of income, please prepare yourselves for an increase in dues in 2011. This step will not be taken lightly. We are conscious that a significant part of the membership falls into the categories of young families and those on fixed incomes...hence the studies and financial planning in order to see how much of a raise may be necessary. We will be laying out our findings both before and at the Annual Meeting so that the membership feels fully informed.

In the meantime, let's keep our maintenance costs down and have some fun doing it! I look forward to a great turnout for Workday, Saturday May 29th.

See you all there, Mark Darley.

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INVERNESS YACHT CLUB P.O. Box 186 · Inverness · CA · 94937 · 415-669-7184		
COMMODORE	Mark Darley	415-381-5452
HOUSE CHAIR	Jan Aston	415-669-1406
PORT CAPTAINS	Milly & Richard Biller	415-663-1442
FLEET CAPTAIN	Peter Ackley	415-485-0653 packley2@comcast.net
PILOT EDITOR	Mark Darley	415-381-5452 markdarley@mac.com
WEBSITE	John Speh	invernessyachtclub.org IYC@svn.net

UPDATE FROM FACILITIES PLANNING:

The importance of facilities “planning” has fluctuated over the years, often rising in priority when we are faced with larger projects. In most years, we are able to allow budgets to stretch a bit, and we catch up the following year. Occasionally, however, a larger project has a bigger impact. Our significant (\$217K) building project in 2002 was a good example. We managed it financially, but it took about 5 years to catch up, and we were lucky during those years that no other big issues came up. Considering the financial risk we had for those years, the committee has since focused on putting “planning” back into Facilities Planning. Our goal is therefore to maintain a proactive plan that pays for capital investments in advance, avoids debt for the club and minimise surprises.

Fortunately, we are currently in pretty good shape thanks to Richard and Millie Biller [applause]. Thanks to their efforts, the initial list of significant “facilities planning” projects identified in 2005 (e.g. docks) have fit within “maintenance”. If there is any example of where “an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure”, it is in the upkeep of our precious club and grounds, and we and generations to come owe a lot to Millie and Richard for their contribution.

Some projects, however, are too big to spread out over a number of years. Though they have held up quite well since when they were installed in the early ‘70s, our outer float now needs to be replaced. In addition, a primary support beam right under the garage doors that dates back to 1914 is likely at the end of its life. This and other regular maintenance combined with the float replacement will likely wipe out our money market fund and put the club into a deficit in 2011.

To prepare for the next few years, we have built a pro forma planning model and cost estimates are being refined. In a future article, we will publish some numbers that of course will be adjusted as our careful assumptions meet Mother Nature and Murphy’s Law.

-- Facilities Planning Committee

RENTALS: Wednesday May 12th. Inverness Garden Club “May Fair”

NOTICES

ADULT SAILING LESSONS IN 2010

We are looking for someone to teach the Adult Sailing Lessons this year. The participants in the program are at the Beginner or Lower Intermediate level; some are Club members, and some are not. The Adult Sailing lesson program consists of 5 days, to occur in Flying Scots between August 10 and August 22 (exact schedule yet to be determined). We are looking for a seasoned, capable sailor with good communication skills. This is a great opportunity to make new acquaintances and have fun on the water while earning some extra spending money. If you are interested, please contact Ned Congdon at 925-362-8820 or ncongdon@hrstinc.com. Thank you !

Ned Congdon – Chair, Adult Sailing Committee

YOUTH SAILING INSTRUCTOR *HOUSING* NEEDED

We will need housing for two young women who will be Youth Sailing Instructors this summer,
from Mid-July to Mid-August

If you can offer housing, please contact Sarah Duncan : sarahduncan77@yahoo.com.

SHIPS' STORE

Ship's Store will be open at the May 8th Open House, the June 12th Open House and at the "Blessing of the Fleet" on Sunday, July 4th.

Since I have taken on the bar shopping and tending along with Rick and Josie, I am not able to also do the store job.

Ship's Store provides a great opportunity to serve our club, meet new members, not-so-new members, families and guests. Please give me a call if you are interested – 451/663-8585 and I'll be happy to explain the job. Complimentary beverages from the bar are included as the Club's thanks. Susan.

MEMBERSHIP

Approved for Membership: Dr. Dean and Ariella Schillinger. Children: Eyton, Gabriel and Micaela

Proposer: Mark Darley

Seconders: Shawn Kelly, Milly Biller

Posted for Membership: Mark von Tagen & Doreen Bacon

Proposed: Ken Emanuels

Seconders: Michael McEneany, Robert Anderson

Posted for Membership: Rachel Krevans

Proposed by Frances Burnette

Seconded by Robert Cardwell, Bill Moseley

**PORT CAPTAIN'S REPORT
and
WORKDAY LIST**

Dear Members

I just got back from over the hill with the window material for the bulletin board enclosure. This will be one of our final projects for the year, the only other one being to increase the lighting in the parking lot area, but I think we'll make that a workday project. We are nearly finished with the outer ramp, only the carpet edging to go. The new ramp is almost 7' wide, which will hopefully help those who like to launch their boats that way.

Speaking of Workday, here is a partial list of jobs:

1. Clean up our two new (to us) Club Flying Scots and dismantle the old ones.
2. Touch up/clean wall scuffs in ballroom.
3. Touch up hoist paint.
4. Grease hoists.
5. Paint interior downstairs windows.
6. Paint floor; behind bar, women's bathroom and men's bathroom (remove old lino in men's).
7. Light at gate.
8. Paint bar table bases.
9. Paint paint locker exterior.
10. Paint hand trailer dollies.
11. Trim (not nuke) fence ivy.
12. Paint inside upper elevator door.
13. Clean elevator enclosure windows (special material required).
14. Clean galley, heads, shower.
15. Wash windows, polish trophies

As always, if anything inspires you, annoys you, or anything in between, about the Club premises, we are always open to suggestion.

I only briefly touched upon our new Scots. We are deeply grateful to Gibb Wright and Britt Stitt for the donation of their Scots, which are in way better condition than the current two Club Scots. We also thank Tom Nameth for the donation of a boat cover. The old Scots can be had for free, but be advised that we will be pulling the best hardware off and putting it on the replacement ones.

Some of you have noticed that the dumpster is now locked. I apologize to those who occasionally threw a bag in, and I sincerely never had a problem with that, but recently someone filled the dumpster to the top with cut to fit rotten plywood. We were working on the outer ramp, and not only did we have nowhere to put the Club's own debris, but the garbage company was annoyed with us over the weight of the plywood and the strain on their equipment. That was the last straw. I don't think that the rest of the membership needs to subsidize the disposal problems of the few.

I am still waiting for some of you to turn in your yard contracts. This whole endeavor is to increase the efficiency of the bookkeeping, as well as yard organization. I am still missing 16 from the yard, 15 from the kayaks, most of the laser rack, most of the boathouse, and most of the sculls. If you have lost the form, it can be downloaded from the Club website, or call Mark D. or me to get a replacement. Your cooperation would be most appreciated. *Unidentified boats without contracts are likely be considered abandoned, and may be removed before the summer season.*

Finally, we try to keep the yard looking neat and tidy, and keeping the grass cut, especially now during the growing season, is part of it. We have received some complaints about grass clippings adhering to boat bottoms and the difficulty of removing it. For us to move every boat in the yard to weedwhack would be prohibitively expensive for the Club, so we encourage those who don't want their spot weedwhacked are welcome to move their own boats and weedwhack their own spot. One member already does this. We typically do it before events, open houses etc. as our schedule allows.

The weather is getting nice. See you at Workday on Saturday May 29th at 9.30am, and on/in the water.

P.C.

THE “ We have no yard or boathouse contract for you” LIST.

Yard contracts were mailed out to the membership in January, and the Board, the Port Captains and I have been appealing for the return of those contracts since February. It is extremely hard for the Port Captain to properly administer the club’s yard and boathouse without these completed contracts.

The following members are put on notice that they no longer have a valid yard or boathouse contract with the IYC, either because they have not returned it, it was lost in the mail, or because their name was illegible on the contract returned.

Please return a signed contract to the Port Captain or Commodore *immediately* if you wish to avoid having the space assigned to members on the waiting list, and being asked to remove your boat from the club grounds. (A phone call to the Port Captain or Commodore is no longer sufficient.)

Be sure to PRINT your name in the space provided, and give a full description of your boat/kayak/skull. etc. You can download the contract at the IYC website. <http://www.invernessyachtclub.com/yard.html>
Mail it to: IYC. PO Box 186, Inverness, CA 94937. Attention; Port Captain.

If you have a boat at the IYC, have not returned a contract, and you are not on this list, your boat is likely to be deemed abandoned and removed.

Please do the right thing and fill out this paperwork! It will take you all of 5 minutes. Thank you.
Mark Darley. Commodore.

YARD: T. Fox (2), Hutter (2), Quesada, Roper, Fisher/Smith, Moseley, R. Smith, Hickey, Dodge, Weir, Dean/Pettigrew, Le Mieux, Phelan.

KAYAKS: Gyorgy, S. Gillmar, D Wilson, Livingston, Pilsbury

LASER: Arens, Veach, T. Fox, Taylor/Cohen, Baack

SCULLS: T. Fox, Hutter, St John, Tirrell

BOATHOUSE: Draper, T. Fox (2), Levinger, Phelan

*******To those members who have returned their contracts; *Thank you.* *******

If you do not already have an IYC yard sticker on the bow of your boat, please let us know.

THE DUMPSTER!

A local contractor/homeowner is dumping material in the Yacht Club dumpster. This means that you, dear members of the club, are subsidising some local business’ waste removal costs. On occasion the Port Captains have found no room for the waste from the club’s construction and maintainance projects. In an attempt to stop this abuse, the garbage company has changed the lock on the dumpster. Now this person is opening the club gate and leaving their trash in the yard. Regrettably this suggests that it is a member abusing their club membership. We are considering installing a remote camera to monitor this antisocial behaviour, and may eject from the club any member found to be leaving their trash in the yard or dumpster without permission.

Open Bic Trials

April 3rd turned out to be a beautiful day, and 20 sailors of a variety of ages took 4 Open Bics for a spin. The reviews were generally very favorable, and as a result the Board has authorized the purchase of 4 boats to replace our aging El Toros. As a result of their desire to jump start the class on the West Coast, the manufacturer will be lending us 4 more boats for our Youth Sailing Program with the option to buy them in September, giving us a fleet of 8 for the summer. I expect the “fun factor” of these boats will add a lot to our program.

Thanks to Jim Watters and Ashley Tobin for organizing this trial, and Peter Lassetter for manning the rescue boat. Thanks also to the St. Francis YC for generously lending us their boats for the day.



Clockwise to center: Ashley Tobin and Peter Lassetter, Olivia Fisher-Smith, Ray Aldridge, Savilia Blunk and Olivia Fisher-Smith, Mirabelle Le Mieux and Mike Meszaros, Toby Watters, Ashley Watters.

I t a l i a n D i n n e r

The Italian Bistro Dinner hosted by Kathy and Jeff Hutter was a smashing success! Guests were transported back to Old Italy with Italian colors, Chianti bottles and grape leaves decorating the tables. Chefs Kathy Hutter and Siobhan Devin cooked up a fabulous meal. The antipasto trays and salami platters were mouthwatering and the lasagna was fantastico. Diners were serenaded by concertina player Tom Cordoni, but the piece de resistance was the showing of Fellini's "8 1/2". Many thanks to the kitchen staff: Susan Medina, Sue Lassetter, Katherine and Loise Landreth, Ken and Lyn Twining and of course, Rick Michetti, Josie Brownback and Jesus.



Hello All,

Nearly a week has passed, already, since a team of stalwarts brought to our Club a "Night in Old Italy." The evening, by most accounts was un' successo vero. This letter comes to you as my way of thanking everyone who attended the dinner on 27 March; everyone whose dues keep our venerable institution alive; everyone whose efforts—however great and small and humble—contribute not simply to one evening, but to the opportunity to create that evening. And to the ongoing viability of a place that many of us cannot imagine being without.

Mille Grazie Tutti,
Siobhan Devin

EVENTS CALENDAR

Saturday, May 8th	Board Meeting	9.30am
	Open House	5.30pm
Saturday, May 29th	Members Workday	9.30am
Saturday, June 12th	Board Meeting	9.30am
	Warm up Race	1.00pm
	Open House	5.30pm

Saturday, May 29th
9.30am
MEMBERS'
WORK DAY
with
Lunch,
and late refreshments.

Inverness Yacht Club
P.O. Box 186
Inverness, CA 94937
invernessyachtclub.org



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**IYC 2010
MEMBERS' WORKDAY
SATURDAY, MAY 29TH. 9.30AM**



Photos from the 2007 Workday

COME HELP US SPRUCE UP THE CLUB AND GROUNDS FOR THE 2010 SEASON

SOME OF THE TASKS THAT MILLIE AND RICHARD HAVE IN STORE FOR US:

1. Clean up our two new (to us) Club Flying Scots and dismantle the old ones.
2. Touch up/clean wall scuffs in ballroom.
3. Touch up hoist paint.
4. Grease hoists.
5. Paint interior downstairs windows.
6. Paint floor; behind bar, women's bathroom and men's bathroom (remove old lino in men's).
7. Light at gate.
8. Paint bar table bases.
9. Paint paint locker exterior.
10. Paint hand trailer dollies.
11. Trim (not nuke) fence ivy.
12. Paint inside upper elevator door.
13. Clean elevator enclosure windows (special material required).
14. Clean galley, heads, shower.
15. Wash windows, polish trophies.

**LUNCH & REFRESHMENTS WILL BE PROVIDED BY THE CLUB
with Katherine Landreth as your hostess.**