

# THE PILOT

*The Monthly Newsletter of the Inverness Yacht Club*

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YOUTH SAILING

## COMMODORE'S COLUMN

By John Phelan  
*A Light Exists in Spring*

March 2007

Just a few weekends ago up in Tahoe, I was almost snowed in. We had 140 mph winds over the ridges at Alpine Meadows. A few times while driving over Donner Summit Monday morning I experienced utter white blindness (and knuckles) on interstate 80 as snow flurries obscured all. But then, boom, moments later I was driving through miles and miles of orchards in bloom in the Central Valley.

A light exists... Ms. D. sure knows how to put us there. It's a little easier to roust out in the morning, and before long, fleeting spring will be past and our summer season will be upon us. Our summer racing schedule has been finalized and is starting to show up online and in our Pilot. Thanks to Pat White, we in our Tomales Bay enclave can more easily choose among the wealth of sailing and racing opportunities in the greater Bay Area this year. In fact, rumors are circulating that in April, there could be an invasion of pirates upstairs at the IYC seeking grog and revelry!

Even our Summer Youth Sailing Program is filling up. As has been true in recent years, some spaces remain in the first session, but the second session is already over-subscribed with some on the waiting list. We are also still seeking a host for the summer fund-raiser that helped us obtain a new engine this year for our stalwart safety boat. Our waters will be safer this summer as a result. Please please, contact Jim Pettigrew, myself or for that matter anyone involved in club functions if you can help us with this important event. While it evolved from a one-time event to a yearly tradition in keeping with that seen in many local school districts, the long term success of our Youth Sailing Program depends on the capital investments that help make this program perhaps the best in the Bay Area. It tends to be quite a good party too.

So as the winter storms pass through and we cross our fingers that nothing serious breaks, it's time to make that shopping list for sheets, shackles and new tell-tales. Before we know it, there will be racing marks on the water and barbecues smoking in the lee of the club. However, I'm also still savoring that sweet set of first tracks through two feet of fresh powder a few weekends ago and hoping they weren't the last of the season. While those of British constitution dust talcum powder in their wet suits, this Commodore hopes that Persephone nibbles on her last pomegranate seed just a while longer. That way we need not feel Ms. Dickinson's sense of loss "as horizons step; [and] noons report away." Before we know it, summer will be here!

Cheers,

*John*

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**I**

INVERNESS YACHT CLUB

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**NOTICES**

Our Club is returning to a handicap standard which is more universal; that is, the Portsmouth Yardstick, the most widely used rating in yacht racing. We have made adjustments based upon performance and history of a particular boat in the past, something perhaps too localized here at the IYC. Therefore, the Portsmouth Yardstick is a gauge which conforms to yachts regardless of venue. Please see the chart on page 4. Thank you, Mike Severson.

**DOMINO THEORY**

By Ed Schwartz

By most accounts, I'm smart as well as modest. On most occasions. Except one. Playing dominoes with Bambi. Bambi usually beats me. No, let me put a finer point on it. Bambi always beats me and always beats me unmercifully.

We play the variant called "racehorse." In this two-person game, each person picks seven tiles. If one scores or sets down a double tile, one has to go again. It is possible, if one is very lucky, one can lay down four or five tiles in a single turn.

I think we have played about 40 times and I think she has beaten me 40 times. We would play a lot more, but I need a lot of time to get over losing all the time. It takes about six months for me to recover. The last time we played, Bambi finished up and down and I had just turned the corner. No surprise.

How can this happen? Being defeated—all the time? There are several possibilities. One might be that we play with a domino set made in Mexico and Bambi's father was born in Mexico, so it might be something genetic. The tiles are made of beautiful rosewood and it is possible that Bambi can see through the tiles to the silver cups on the other side. Like Superman. Kryptonite, and all that. That would account for all those double fives she picks up when she goes first.

It is possible that it is something karmic. I come into the game with a defeatist attitude. I know I am going to get skunked and it becomes a self-fulfilling prophesy. Especially when one plays racehorse. Think of this, a lucky person can score, then put down another tile and score, then play the double blank off one of the tiles and score again and just for the fun of it put down another tile and score. With 30 points or so on one play, it is possible that the game is over before it really starts. It is not only possible, but, in Bambi's case, probable. At the same time, I am caught with around five dominos, most of them containing a six. Round over, and I've only had one turn.

There is a possibility that Bambi just is a better domino player. I've thought of that. But if she really is a better player, wouldn't I win at least once in a while just because of the luck of the draw? Apparently not.

**PILOT SUBMISSIONS:** *Please submit your information by the 15th of the month, thank you.*

## YOUTH SAILING REGATTA OPPORTUNITIES

By Pat White

The Youth Sailing Committee has been discussing the opportunities for our Youth Sailors to continue having fun on the water outside of the IYC Summer Program.

We are fortunate to live in an area that not only has great sailing, but has other clubs with programs that also support Youth Sailing. The programs are built around the Pacific Coast Interscholastic Sailing Association regatta schedule (PCISA, [www.pcisa.org](http://www.pcisa.org)) and the Bay Area Youth Sailing regatta schedule (BAYS, [www.bayarea-youthsailing.com](http://www.bayarea-youthsailing.com)). The clubs provide the boats and the transportation of the boats to these regattas.

The clubs attempt to send high school teams to all of the PCISA NorCal events hosted at different clubs around SF Bay. These regattas are considered to be an excellent opportunity for new and developing sailors. Sailors in PCISA events compete in club FJ's. The NorCal regatta schedule begins in the Fall continuing through March with six NorCal events and a NorCal Championship regatta. During this season and through May, there are also regattas in Southern California, Monterey, Santa Barbara, and other locations that some clubs and sailors travel to. Remaining 2006-07 PCISA regattas are listed in the regatta calendar on page six.

In addition to the PCISA events there are regattas organized by BAYS. BAYS is not a yacht club, but an organization that supports Junior Sailing throughout the San Francisco Bay Area by sponsoring regattas (other than PCISA), arranging an area wide calendar, and facilitating communications between sailors, yacht clubs, and class organizations. BAYS regattas are not just for High School sailors like the PCISA events, but are organized for all major jr. classes unless otherwise specified for a particular regatta.

The 2007 BAYS and PCISA sailing calendar to date is as follows. Please note that the IYC is planning on participating in the BAYS #4 for all major classes at Sequoia YC on August 4-5 during the IYC Youth Sailing Program.

### IYC 2007 RACE SCHEDULE

TIDES ADJUSTED FOR INVERNESS AND TIME ROUNDED TO 15 MINUTE INTERVALS

Date	Start	Race	High Tide	Slack	Low Tide
Saturday 6/16	1445	Tune-up	1530/4.8	1700	
Saturday 6/30	1400	Half Hog	1445/4.5	1630	1900
Saturday 7/7	1530	IA	1900/6.0		
Saturday 7/14	1330	Mason	1415/5.0	1630	1830/2.9
Sunday 7/15	1430	Dornin	1500/5.0	1700	1945/2.8
Saturday 7/21	1530	Open	1830/5.4		
Saturday 7/28	1300	Martin	1330/4.4	1515	1830/3.2
Sunday 7/29	1330	Barnes	1400/4.8	1600	1845/3.0
Saturday 8/4	1600	Oko	1715/6.1	1300	1700
Sunday 8/5	1630	Meyers	1815/6.3	1445	1730
Saturday 8/11	1100	FS/Dutch	1315/5.1	1445	
Sunday 8/12	1100	FS/Dutch	1415/5.2		
Saturday 8/18	1100	Kilkenny			
Sunday 8/19	1100	Kilkenny			
Saturday 8/25	1130	Wells	1215/4.6	1330	1730/3.1
Sunday 8/26	1200	Lake	1245/4.9		
Saturday 9/1	1200	Hog Isl.	1545/6.3	1800	2100

INVERNESS YACHT CLUB  
ADJUSTED PORTSMOUTH YARDSTICK NUMBERS

	BN 0-3	BN 4	BN =>5
Knots	0-10	11-16	>16
Mph	0-12	12.7-18.9	>18.9
International 470	88	85	82
International 505	81	79.5	78
Flying Dutchman	81	78.5	76
Flying Scot	91.5	89	87.5
Johnson 18	87	80	79
Flying Junior	100	98	96
CRJ	104	102	100
Day Sailor	99	97	96
Laser	93	91	88
Laser Radial	98	93.5	92
Thistle	83	83	83
Raven	84	81.5	81
Javelin	111	110	110
Hobie 16	80	74	71.5
Hobie 18	75	70	67
San Juan 21	96	94	94
Lightning	90	86	84
Tomales Bay 15	106	105	104
Wylie Wabbit	79	77.5	77

This yardstick is for boats currently racing at the Club. Please advise the Race Committee of any new boats to be campaigned.



April 28<sup>th</sup> will see the Inverness Yacht Club invaded. Invaded by pirates! The same group that brought you the Renaissance Dinners, brings you, a feast you will not forget. Bring your eye patches, your headscarves and your appetites. Three delectable courses for your palettes and fine entertainment awaits you. Be ye warned, dine at thy own risk.

*The following yacht clubs have high school sailing programs on San Francisco Bay. All of these programs participate in the PCISA regattas. For more detailed descriptions of these programs please check out the links below.*

**San Francisco Yacht Club, [www.sfyc.org](http://www.sfyc.org)**

The San Francisco Yacht Club is located at 98 Beach Road in Belvedere. Teams presently sailing from the San Francisco Yacht Club include: Marin Catholic, Tamalpais, Marin Academy, Branson, Redwood, Drake, and San Rafael High Schools.

**St. Francis Yacht Club, [www.stfyc.com](http://www.stfyc.com)**

The St. Francis Yacht Club is located at 700 Marina Blvd., in San Francisco. Teams presently sailing in the St. Francis High School Program include The Bay School, Waldorf, Lowell, Stuart Hall, & Convent of the Sacred Heart. Logan Weir (Lowell) and Eliza White (The Bay School), both IYC youth sailors, participate in this program.

**Encinal Yacht Club, [www.encinal.org](http://www.encinal.org)**

The Encinal Yacht Club is located at 1251 Pacific Marina, in Alameda. Teams sailing from the Encinal Yacht Club include: Acalanes, Alameda, Campolindo, Las Lomas, and Piedmont. Other schools participating in the program include: Alameda Community Learning Center, Bishop O'Dowd, Carondelet, and Salesian High School.

**Golden Gate Yacht Club, [ggyc.com](http://ggyc.com)**

The Golden Gate Yacht Club is located just past the St. Francis Yacht Club on the breakwater for the yacht harbor. The program has an open enrollment policy for interested high school students. Teams sailing from the GGYC include SF School of the Arts (SOTA).

**Peninsula Youth Sailing Foundation/Sequoia Yacht Club, [www.pysf.us](http://www.pysf.us)**

The Sequoia Yacht Club is located at 441 Seaport Court in Redwood City. Schools currently participating in this program include: Burlingame High, Carlmont High, International School of the Peninsula, Los Altos High, Menlo School, Palo Alto High, Sacred Heart Preparatory, St. Francis High, St. Joseph's School, San Mateo High, Sequoia High, Serra High, Summit Prep High School, and Terman Middle School.

**Richmond Yacht Club, [www.richmondyc.org](http://www.richmondyc.org)**

The Richmond Yacht Club is located at 351 Brickyard Cove in Point Richmond. This Club has a very active junior sailing program, which is described in detail at their site.

I have attended and Eliza has participated in 4 PCISA regattas so far this year. We have been very impressed with the organization, sportsmanship, and good time the sailors were having. The participants ranged from those who were sailing in their first regatta to the very experienced. The fleets of from 40-60 boats are split into two groups, A & B, with separate starts. The spirit is very inclusive and supportive. For any youth sailors who are curious about what a regatta is like, the NorCal Championships at the St. Francis on March 24-25 would be a perfect opportunity. There are usually around 8 starts depending on the weather, starting around 10:30 and going until mid afternoon. I will be present and Eliza will be participating. Give us a call if you are interested in observing.

If any parents have questions or any youth sailors want to talk to Eliza about what it is like to be in a regatta please contact us at [patwhitesf@aol.com](mailto:patwhitesf@aol.com) or 415-552-0860 (home).

Hoping to see more of the IYC youth sailors at the PCISA and BAYS events.

## YOUTH SAILING REGATTA OPPORTUNITIES

March				
3-4	Team Race Invite	FJ	San Francisco Yacht Club	sfyc.org
4	Midwinters	Major Jr Classes	Richmond YC	richmondyc.org
10-11	Harken Challenge #1	Opti	California Yacht Club	calyachtclub.com
17-18	Under 21 World Team Race Qualifier	FJ	Stanford University	stanford.edu
18	Gacho/PCISA #5	FJ	Santa Barbara	sbyc.org
24-25	NorCal Championships	FJ	St Francis YC	stfyc.org
April				
12-15	CISA Advanced Racing Clinic	Laser Full, FJ, Club 420, 29er, Laser Radial, Intl 420		cisasailing.org
21-22	Silver Championship	FJ	Sequoia YC	sequoiayc.org
	Pacific Coast Championship	FJ	USSCLB	ussclb.org
28-29	Harken Challenge #2	Opti	San Francisco Yacht Club	sfyc.org
	Baker Eliminations	FJ	San Diego YC	sdyc.org
May				
3-6	USODA Team Trials	Opti	Coral Reef YC	coralreefyachtclub.org
12-13	Mallory Trophy	FJ	USSCLB	ussclb.org
	Harken Challenge #3	Opti	Cabrillo Beach YC	cbyc.org
19-20	BAYS #1	Major Jr Classes	EYC	encinal.org
25-27	Baker Trophy			
June				
16-17	Heavy Weather Regatta/Harken Challenge #4	Opti	St. Francis YC	stfyc.org
22-28	U.S. Youth Championships	Laser Full, Club 420, Laser Radial		southernyachtclub.org
23-24	BAYS #2 TISC Summer Sailstice	Major Jr Classes	TISC	tisailing.org
30-7/1	Harken Challenge #4	Opti	St. Francis YC	stfyc.org
July				
5-12	Ida Lewis Trophy	420	Ponchartrain YC, LA	pontyc.org
5-6	USNT Opti Clinic	Opti	TISC	tisailing.org
7-8	USODA West Coast Champs	Opti	TISC	tisailing.org
14-15	Sears Qualifiers?	TBD	Monterey?	
21-22	BAYS #3 Bemis and Smythe Qualifiers	Laser Full, Club 420	San Francisco Yacht Club	stfyc.org
28-29	USODA Opti Nationals	Opti	Minnetonka Yacht Club	mysailing.org
	Junior Olympics	Major Jr Classes	EYC	encinal.org
	FJ Nationals			
30-8/4	U.S. Jr. Women's Singlehanded Championships	Laser Radial	Marblehead, MA	
August				
4-5	Bays #4	Major Jr Classes	Sequoia YC	sequoiayc.org
11-12	Laser PCC's	Laser Full, Radial, 4.7	TISC	tisailing.org
11-13	C420 North Americans	C420	Alamitos Bay YC	abyc.org
11-16	Sears, Bemis, Smythe National Championships	Laser Full, Club 420?	Bayhead, NJ	bayheadyachtclub.org
September				
1-2	SF Bay Area Opti Champs	Opti		
22-23	Bays #5	Major Jr Classes	Richmond YC	richmondyc.org

*Inverness Yacht Club Presents:*

*“Una Notte in Vecchia Italia”  
(A Night in Old Italy!)*

*March 24th, 2007  
Bar: 5:00 P.M., Dinner: 6:30 P.M.*

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*la Carta:*

*Antipasti  
Insalata Cesare  
Faggioli a Tre  
Lasagne Bolognese  
Panne, Olio d'oliva  
Spumoni  
Vino\**

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*Chefs de Cuisine: S. Donohue e S. Devin  
(St. Patrick's Day has passed, oh well!)*

*Price: 30,000 lire  
(\$20.00 per person)  
\*Wine extra \$*

*Hosts: Kathryn and Jeffrey Hutter  
Please RSVP with check to P.O. Box 856  
Inverness 94937  
Call for questions: 415-669-9816  
Child care provided*

# EVENTS CALENDAR

Saturday, March 10th	Board Meeting	9:30 am
	Open House	5:30 pm
Saturday, March 24th	Una Notte in Vecchia Italia	6 pm
Saturday, April 14th	Board Meeting	9:30 am
	Open House	5:30 pm

BRING A FAVORITE APPETIZER  
TO SHARE!

5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

## OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, March 13th, 2007

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



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