

THE



PILOT

The Monthly Newsletter of the Inverness Yacht Club

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COMMODORE'S COLUMN

October 2007

I hope you are all enjoying a beautiful October but I am writing this in September which the weather guy said was acting more like November, so who knows. Regardless of the weather, the Halloween/October Fest on the twenty-seventh kicks off another year of IYC social gatherings (parties!). Many of our parties are unique, allowing our members to stretch their imaginations. Some are traditional in format, providing a simpler introduction to hosting a party. These latter also have the advantage of legions of prior years' hosts available for questions. Two of these are the traditional Thanksgiving leftover potluck and the January 1st Gin Fizz party, both available for hosting for this year. I still remember volunteering for my first party. Not only did I learn to make a passable clam chowder, but I also met Louise Landreth which led to a friendship with the Landreth clan that I enjoy to this day. Please call Carol Skold or Sam Hinkley if you have an interest in hosting or even just working on a party.

On a more serious front: The Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary in conjunction with ten other government agencies, intends to help us protect Tomales Bay. If you are not already aware of this effort, interested parties have been given September and October to comment on a document released for public input. The document "Protecting Tomales Bay by Managing Vessel Usage" is available over the web at <http://www.farallones.noaa.gov/tomalesbay.html>. This Adobe PDF is 26.8 megabytes in size, so if you have only a dial up connection you might want to look at copy at the Library or ask me to get or burn you a CD. The IYC is tracking the document and helping to provide input via the Tomales Bay Watershed Council. The entire announcement is too long to quote in full, but for those interested in being more involved, the "how to participate" section is reprinted below. Email me at IYC@svn.net if you would like the whole announcement.

"The agencies invite interested parties to consider the possible future actions and to suggest alternative actions to achieving the goals and objectives provided in the document. The agencies invite participation in two ways:

(1) "Brainstorming workshops" --two public input workshops will be held to introduce participants about the details of the document and to seek input. These workshops will be held at the Pt. Reyes National Seashore Headquarters in Bear Valley at the Red Barn on:

Tuesday, September 25th from 6:00-9:00pm

Saturday, October 13th from 9:30am-12:30pm

(2) Written Comments- written comments will be accepted until October 31, 2007. Comments can be sent via fax, email and mail to:

Miriam Gordon

Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary

991 Marine Drive, The Presidio

San Francisco, California 94129

(415) 561-6622, ext. 333 (phone)

miriam.f.gordon@noaa.gov

(415) 561-6616 (fax)

John Speh.

In This Issue...

Commodore's Column.....	1	Hog Island Race Report.....	4
Ed's Column.....	2	Race Results.....	5
Notices.....	3	2008 Racing Volunteers?.....	6
New Members.....	3	Adult Sailing Report.....	7

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IYC@svn.net**WINING AND DINING
AS A PROFESSION**

By Ed Schwartz

One of the nicest aspects about my job as a wine writer is that I get a lot of wine samples gratis and I get invited to a lot of fancy wine and food dinners in equally fancy restaurants all over the place.

One of the not-so-nice aspects about my job as a wine writer is that I get a lot of wine samples and get invited to a lot of fancy wine and food dinners in equally fancy restaurants all over the place.

“Excuse me?” I heard you think.

Well, the first part of this duality is that I do get nice wines sent to me by effervescent winery PR types and I do like to eat well.

The second part of the equation, if it is an equation, is that I can’t keep up with the inflow of wine bottles and I have to taste a lot of wines. I have to unpack them and sort them out. As many of you know, sorting out is not what I am very good at. And some of the wine and food dinners I attend make my stomach rebel at the assault to its function as organ in my body that has to digest everything I eat. Or, at least, try to. Sometimes, my stomach gets so mad at me that it keeps me burping all night, making my other organs unhappy.

This is an example--recently, I went to lunch at a very fancy restaurant in St. Helena. I had just tasted about 15 wines in the morning and I was—well—to put a good face on it—starving to death.

First course was some kind of day boat scallop dish with funny stuff on it including corn and various embellishments. The embellishments took all the taste from the scallops.

Main course was beef short ribs. There was so much layered fat in this meat that I had a choice--eat it and get a heart attack on the spot, or put it aside and anger the host of the lunch. I compromised; I ate half it.

Dessert was as bizarre as it was weird. It was—swear—tarragon ice cream and two little dumplings covered with chocolate sauce.

I did a lot of burping on the way home and spent an endless, sleepless night with my stomach rumbling Tchaikovsky’s 1812 overture. Next day, more Tchaikovsky with a little J.P. Sousa thrown in. I’d say never again, but that is not possible. It’s my job.

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

NOTICES

Ship's Store Open at all Open Houses

Ship's Store will be open at all open houses. Also arrangements can be made by special request for members that can't make it to the open houses. Just give me a call at 663-8585 or e-mail me at susmary@hotmail.com and I will be happy to make arrangements to meet at the club to open the store.

Club Rental

Saturday October 20th. Private Party.

Sunday October 21st. Private Party.

Friday November 16th. Tomales Bay Watershed Council - All day conference.

Do You Enjoy A Good Party???

Still calling!

Who doesn't? We at IYC have always had great monthly parties. Now we need your help to keep the tradition going. We need a host couple (or group) for the After Thanksgiving Potluck in Nov. and for the all important start of 2008, The Annual Gin Fizz Party on New Year's Day. If you can chair either of these events please contact Sam Hinckley 415-927-3157 or 415-669-1369, or Carol Skold 707-539-1782. There are guidelines, helpful hints and records of past events to help you, and these two parties practically "do themselves". Thanks to all of you who have already volunteered to fill our Party Calendar for 2007-2008.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Richard F. Michette - Regular Membership

Proposer: Jeff Hutter

Secunder: Sioban Devin

RESIGNATIONS

Gaylen Huntsman, Thomas Omlo

THE HOG ISLAND SPECIAL

By Mike Severson

What a race! Sailors will always tell you that they want more wind but you've got to go with what there is, and we've had a lot less in the past. The turn out was twenty-two boats. When the fleet crossed the start line a cheer gathered momentum to a rousing pitch. Twenty-two boats: that's over 50 sailors participating in our regatta. Smart money was on Ashley Tobin's Lightning, followed by Meszaros' Dutchman and the Wiley Wabbit one way or another. They must have forgotten about Kim Desenberg.

Some were thinking of Emile Kempf on the Hobie 18 if the wind held. It didn't, but where it did, there's something thrilling about seeing an 18 foot boat lift and fly along with a hull three or four feet above the water, crew standing out on the trapeze. It's the fastest boat in the fleet. Ron Buono was sitting in the RIB, coiling the anchor line and outta nowhere, "Whoosh!" the Hobie flew by so close he said he could have stood and touched the thing.

Emile pretty much led followed by the Dutchman by a friend of the Desena narrow 24 footer with weight of the boat with in other words, it's capawind for optimum performance in the lead for most Darley and Dean. Conboat with 350 pounds of 110, and together with of, or maybe because of sailing these races since cross the line.

The Noble brothers the Wells took to their Moseleys, Lassetters,

family, Ned Congden, Janet Kirby and the Desenberg posse completed the attending Scots. The Ackley family must have been testing their strength, because they broke the boom but that didn't prevent them from putting the spinney up and sailing back to the Club.

The Billers showed color is immaterial for hull speed, and Steve Brock showed you don't need no stinkin' badge to sail a 110 (he single-handed). Actually, we'll quote him: "Despite my late start, everything was fine until I tried to lower myself on the trapeze and in a burst of effort, the tiller extension grip flew off, and I literally lost my grip, the boat swerved into the wind, I was dumped in the water on the leeward side with the sails filling, but fortunately the main sheet is never too far and I released it and was back on my way before the boat filled. Then several tacks later, the clovis pin holding my side stay let go, and quickly realizing that I could damage the rig sailing by just the trapeze, I set about to fix it, taking a pin from another part of the boat, but my first attempts failed and the replacement fell in the water, so I tried tying it off, changing my mind, found the pin, and eventually slipped it in...I considered hanging it up, but once I was sailing again, I thought how could I, it was a beautiful day!"

Jeff Hutter dropped his Zephyr in the water, a boat, not a wind. The lack thereof made a slow go of it; when we dropped by to offer a cold beer, he replied that he was doing well and still had one.

The first across the line was Meszaros, followed by the Wabbit, then Kempf, Ashley Tobin, Desenberg, Hinckley, Congden and the Wallace Raven. There's considerable animation among the finishers about how it'll correct out and until the numbers are crunched, it's speculation. Congrats to Ashley, not seen too much on our racecourse, but someone to be reckoned with. (To learn more about those sailors, check out the Gin Fizz race on the web site.)

Thanks to John Longstreth for starting and recording the race, to John and Barbara Chase in their boat for watching over the fleet, and to Tom Fox in helping to right an overturned boat. (Editor:Mine!)



the fleet up the bay, followed by the Wabbit, sailed by Jim Malloy. It's ballast about half the one crew on a trapeze--ble of speed. But it needs mance. Two Johnson 18s of the race, sailed by sistently up there was a lead ballast--Hinkley's his crew Sean, in spite the fact that Sam's been 1971, he was fifth to

took their dad in a Scot, Scot like days past, the Peters family, the Ackley



THE NEW HOG ISLAND TROPHY
WON BY KIM DESEMBERG

THE HOG ISLAND RACE RESULTS
TOP TEN BOATS

1	Desenberg	Flying Scot	91.5	220.838
2	Tobin	Lightning	90.0	225.018
3	Meszaros	Dutchman	81.0	227.633
4	Hinckley	110	90.6	231.236
5	Congdon	Flying Scot	91.5	233.278
6	Malloy	Wylie Wabbit	79.0	234.768
7	Lassetter	Flying Scot	91.5	250.018
8	Kempf	Hobie 18	75.0	251.993
9	Dean	Johnson 18	87.0	255.979
10	Wells	Flying Scot	91.5	258.833

RACING SEASON 2008. CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

By Peter Lasseter

We are looking for volunteers to join the internationally acclaimed Inverness Yacht Club Race Committee, and help organize the racing next season. We would like to find a number of people who would each help with a little work, rather than one person who gets lumbered with everything, particularly on Race Days.

Off season the committee has to do the following:

- Set the Race Calendar, by looking at Tide Tables.
- Review Handicaps for the different classes that race, by seeing which fleet is the most vocal or buys me the most beer at the next few Open Houses and Monthly functions.
- Liaise with Youth Sailing and schedule Instructors to drive rescue boats on race days.

On race day we need volunteers to:

- Buy beer and soft drinks, put in cooler, cover with ice from our new ice machine, and then drag to end of dock in one of the trolleys.
- Discuss amongst ourselves what the course should be, and explain that to Rescue Boat drivers who will drop the marks.
- Organize gas for the Rescue Boats.
- Stick together and collectively fend off complaints about the course favoring a particular class, or having been set with no account of wind direction.
- Take turns at writing up the race for The Pilot. We might propose that the race winner do this – we may find that discourages the small cadre of sailors who are such consistent winners. Alternatively, they may so much enjoy describing their brilliant moments of skill and foresight that they end up writing all the articles. Either way we gain. They win less or we write less!

(I have deliberately not mentioned holding protest hearings, because I am sure we will not have any! That's correct, yes?)

Most importantly, those who race can still do so if we get our act together and share it all out.

On a related matter, I am sad to say that the Skolds will not be able to be Race Committee on the day of races for much of next season. We are therefore also looking for volunteers to help run the racing starts and finishes. We need two people for each race. It really is not complicated and we will train you and provide written guidance and color pictures of what to do when. I am hoping we can get six volunteers for this. Maybe partners of racers, maybe sun (or fog) loving beer drinkers looking for an excuse to sit on the dock on a sunny Saturday afternoon. You can limit your help to five minutes of pulling flags at the beginning of a race, and then writing down times when boats finish, or you can be part of the general Race Committee and help out more. Either way I would be most grateful to hear from you. Prior racing knowledge is not necessary at all, so if you would like to help please be assured you can do this.

In a departure from usual procedures, written applications with resumes and social security numbers for background checks will not be necessary this year. We have also dispensed with interviews in front of the Board. All you need do is call me at 415 946 0223 during the day, or 415 472 2010 in the evening, or e-mail me at peter.lassetter@arup.com.

And finally, a big thank you to Mike Severson, and to Steve and Carol Skold, who have all volunteered so much time to make our racing such a success. Certainly Sue and I are most grateful to them for all their efforts over the years. Thanks for your help.

LEARNING TO SAIL

IYC Adult Sailing Lessons – Student Report

by Susan Medina

This is my third year taking the IYC adult sailing course. This is not to imply that our program is not a good one, because it is first rate. I enjoy the classes and learn new sailing tips with every class. And besides, it's a great way to get out on the water.

Ned Congdon organizes the classes. They are open to all levels of experience ranging from beginner, having never sailed before, to skilled sailor wanting to fine tune skills. Ned is very accommodating arranging classes based on our wide variety of skill levels and scheduling needs. Once he gets the course work and student list worked out, he hands our instruction off to our teacher, Emil Kempf. Emil, for those of you who don't know, is the head instructor for youth sailing, crash boat operator for our races (when he's not sailing or racing his Hobie Cat), and also is our adult instructor. He grew up sailing on the bay and is an absolute expert in all matters of sailing as well being very knowledgeable about Tomales Bay. Loren Daunell, also one of the youth instructors, assisted Emil with the lessons.

This year we had two groups of adult classes, one class learning FJ's and one class learning Flying Scots (with a Lightning thrown in for good measure). Our classes began with a get acquainted time, and we wrote out a list of our goals to accomplish. Emil then went over the basics of sailing, drawing lots of diagrams with pictures of little sailboats and little sails pointing here, or there, depending on where his wind arrow was placed. We went over points of sail, sail trim, parts of the boat, all elementary stuff, and yet I always learn something new.

Then it was time to rig up the boats and get on the water! Initially we were grouped according to our experience level, but after a day or two we switched around to experience sailing with different students. We all have an opportunity to skipper. What surprises most new sailors, myself included, is how much you have to think while sailing. Where is the wind direction? Are my sails trimmed right for my point of sail? What is my point of sail? What are my telltales doing? Who has the right of way? Should the centerboard be down? Should the centerboard be up? Should the vang be on? Should the vang be off? And of course while all those thoughts are running through your head, you must watch where you are going, think about where you want to go, and think about the wind direction. Yikes! But then, picture it, you at the helm, slicing through the water, breathing in that wonderful bay air, surrounded by spectacular scenery, the birds swooping and diving for fish; seals popping their heads up to eyeball the boat. It doesn't get much better!

So if you want to get out on the water, learn about sailing, meet new friends and have a lot of fun, sign up for the next class.



A trio of 110s
getting ready
to race,
and
“Saudade”
at speed.



EVENTS CALENDAR

Saturday, October 13th	Board Meeting	9:30 am
	Open House	5:30 pm
Saturday, October 27th	Spook Race	1.00pm
	Halloween/Octoberfest	5.30pm
Saturday, November 10th	Board Meeting	9:30 am
	Open House	5:30 pm
Saturday, November 17th	Drumstick Race	1.00pm

BRING A FAVORITE APPETIZER
TO SHARE!

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

OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, October 13th.

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



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Join friends and family at the IYC for a creative

OktoberFest & Fun



Saturday, October 27, 2007

5:30pm Drinks-7.00 Dinner

Celebrate fall with Oktoberfest fare "Inverness"

Kids of *all* ages are welcome

Costumes optional

- **Bring you own pumpkins and tools**

Provided by IYC:

- **Albacore Tuna, Orizzo, Salad and Pumpkin Pie.**

Cost: \$15 per person

Your hosts: Robert and Jackie Cardwell

RSVP: (415)669-1512 – please call by Wednesday, October 24th!

Cheers!