

THE



PILOT

The Monthly Newsletter of the Inverness Yacht Club

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

COMMODORE

Mark Darley

VICE COMMODORE

Win Black

REAR COMMODORE

Ken Emanuels

STAFF COMMODORE

Peter Lassetter

SECRETARY

Sondy Springmann

TREASURER

Jim Laws

PORT CAPTAIN

Milly Biller

DIRECTORS

Lyn Twining

Malcolm Fife

John Longstreth

Shawn Kelly

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

ADULT BOATING/SAILING

Ned Congdon

ADULT BOATING/KAYAKING

Win Black

BAR

Rick Michetti & Susan Medina

FACILITIES PLANNING

John Phelan & Various

FLYING SCOTT FLEET 40

Peter Ackley

110 FLEET

Malcolm Fife

HISTORIAN

Rich & Vera Olmsted

HOUSE

Jan Aston

INSURANCE

Peter Lassetter

MEMBERSHIP

Carol Skold

OPEN HOUSE

Nancy Jo Heaton

OUTSIDE ORG. REP

Jerry Abbott

PILOT EDITOR

Mark Darley

PILOT EDITORIAL WRITER

Ed Schwartz

RACE

Peter Lassetter

RENTALS

Katherine Landreth

SHIPS STORES

Susan Medina

SOCIAL

Dave Wallace

TROPHIES & AWARDS

Shawn Kelly

WEBSITE

John Speth

YOUTH SAILING

Ashley Tobin

COMMODORE'S COLUMN

June 2010

Before I write my column each month I review the Board Meeting minutes to make sure I am not missing anything. This month I was late, as I had to drive up from Santa Cruz that day, so Win Black chaired the meeting in my absence. As I read the minutes of the part of the meeting I missed, I noticed a comment from Staff Commodore Lassetter;

“Let’s finish this meeting before Darley shows up.” Response; “Everyone Seconds!”

A mutiny?! Hopefully not, but it does reflect the importance of the issues, and depth of discussion we have had to cover in our meetings this year. Of course it may also reflect the fact that I tend to think out loud, and encourage consideration of the issues from every angle. Sondy had the solution for this; she accepted the position of Secretary (until she leaves for Israel) on the condition that, if I allowed meetings to go over two and a half hours, I would agree to buy everyone beer and pizza. Now the meetings run almost exactly 149 minutes!

Her other proposal was that our morning meetings be postponed to the afternoon if they interfere with a good sailing tide in the morning. As this is a sailing club, I am pleased to report that the Board voted in favor of deferring to Neptune. If you choose to join us at a Board meeting, please check the time to see if it is in the morning or the afternoon for that particular second Saturday of the month.

I am delighted to report that we had a visit from Ben and Jane Collins, members of our sister Club in the UK, Keyhaven Yacht Club. They were visiting family in Berkeley, and walking on Point Reyes. I gave them a tour of the Club and boathouse and they were charmed. I also showed them with pride, our new Bics, the Optis, El Toros, Lasers, FJs and Scots, and our historic fleet of 110s. They took some photos to show KYC members back in the UK and to drum up support for a Youth Sailor exchange. If you think you have a child who might like to stay with a family and sail on a beautiful estuary on the South Coast of Britain next summer, or your family would like to host a young Brit here, let me know.

IYC has a wonderful tradition of philanthropy for Youth Sailing, and we have traditionally had a full scholarship for a non-member from the Waterdogs. This year we are looking for support for this scholarship, which was supported by a single generous donor the last two years. If you are interested in helping a young Waterdog learn to sail, please send a check to John Speth at the Inverness Foundation, or call him or me to discuss it. We are holding a space in our second session for this young sailor. The Laura Moseley Youth Sailing Scholarship generously supports another young non-member sailor in our first session.

Continued on page 2.

In This Issue...

Commodore’s Column.....1&2
Port Captain’s Report.....2
Notices.....3

Farewell Bonnet and Banshee.....4&5
Clipper Talk & Supper.....6&7
Calendar.....8

I
Y
C

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

COMMODORE’S COLUMN CONTINUED:

Of course June will see the opening of our Racing Season, which promises to be a busy one. We have the Warm Up Race on June 12th and the Half Hog on June 26th. It is our intention to run races so that they either include Juniors as crew or helm on the larger boats, have them helm club boats (or their own) in the same races, or provide them with their own course if we have enough interested Youth Sailor entries. With good participation from the full range of family sailors we should be able to get close to 20 boats out on each race day. That will match the best turnouts since the 1960s. Let’s make it a summer to remember!

See you at the Workday and on the water. Mark Darley

PORT CAPTAIN

Anyone in the market for an El Toro?

Youth Sailings new “Open Bics” are here and there is quite a traffic jam in the clubhouse. If you have ever thought about owning an El Toro, the club is selling off their fleet at good prices.

Contact Mike Meszaros for more info. 669-1000

To date we have 216 stickers on inventory in the yard. The yard space holders and the Kayaks have been STELLAR in responding to the contracts. *But the sculls, lasers, windsurfers and house space renters have been largely unresponsive.* Please help me set up a database whereby I can easily and effectively communicate with the bookkeeper regarding the billing. If you have been keeping your water toys in the yard and not paying for them, we will eventually find you out and billing will commence.

In addition, you are out of compliance with the directive by the board. It is not a lot to ask, every other Yacht Club in the Bay Area has a similar policy and we really don’t care how old your registration is. (I bet mine is older.)

On a lighter note, Members’ Workday is fast approaching. We have many painting projects, several electrical projects, the dismantling of the old and refurbishing of the new Club Scots, etc. Please bring the tools that you feel comfortable using, and we will assign you an appropriate task (we hope). If you have any questions, feel free to call us at (415 663 1442). Whatever you participate in, you are helping out your club and saving us money, so your help is vastly appreciated.

We are about done for the year as the schedule gets busier and we have tapped our budget. From now on we will see you on (or in) the water.

NOTICES

YOUTH SAILING NOTICE

FURNITURE NEEDED: DRESSER, AREA RUG, DESK LAMP

We are converting the "Day Room" into an apartment for a Youth Sailing Instructor and we are looking for furniture. Please contact Elizabeth Barnet with offers: lizbar@svn.net Thank you.

RENTALS

Tuesday, June 8. Inverness School, Evening: Spring Sing.

SAVE THE DATE

Sunday, June 13, noon - 5 pm: Sony's going away party, outside at the picnic tables. Bring your friends, boats, and something to BBQ.

Saturday, July 24th, 7.30pm - 11pm. IYC YS and All, "Save the Fleet" Dance Party.

SHIPS' STORE

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

New Inventory

Columbia Fleece Vests – Dark Gray, Black and Navy - \$45

New selection of T shirts – Black, Navy and Dark Green \$12

Long sleeve, faded Denim shirts – now available in All sizes.

*Please, we need someone to step forward and take the Ship's Store job.
Contact Susan Medina at 663-8585 or susmary@hotmail.com.*

NEIGHBORS

Please be aware that our beach area to the south of the property borders directly on that of our neighbor, Cynthia Ohama. Cynthia has requested that we avoid launching power boats from that beach, or at least row out into deeper water. With our busy season approaching, noise should be kept to a minimum in this area. Thank you.

MEMBERSHIP

Approved for Membership: Mark von Tagen & Doreen Bacon

Proposed: Ken Emanuels

Seconders: Michael McEneany, Robert Anderson

Approved for Membership: Rachel Krevans

Proposed by Frances Burnette

Seconded by Robert Cardwell, Bill Moseley

Posted for Membership: Anne Rothwell Carr

Proposed by Suzanne Speh.

Seconded by John Speh, Kate Baxter/Stan Gillmar

FINAL FLIGHT OF THE “BLUE BONNET”

I took the club’s Flying Scot Blue Bonnet out for what might be its final sail before the board meeting on May 8. Hauling it to the outer hoist in the midst of the falling tide, I reflected on my history with the club Scots that has spanned over a decade.

I remember sailing Blue Bonnet to the overnights at Heart’s Desire Beach during my first years in youth sailing before the campout was changed to a night sail. I remember other juniors tying their lifejackets with a long line to the transom and being dragged through the water as we sailed downwind back from Heart’s (lots of fun and totally worth a try!). Girls singing songs from Grease as they sat on the front deck as we sailed up the bay. Boys curled up by the mast step to avoid the spray from the waves. Skippering the boat during a match race and winning against another instructor captaining Banshee. Sailing back in the fog from Heart’s at night and being surprised to see Tom Fox’s boat pull alongside of us.

There were the less-than-pleasant memories: almost broaching because of the main sheet getting tangled on where the rudder attaches to the transom. Youth sailors almost falling out of the boat during a big gust as we attempted to moor at Shell Beach. Someone dropping the crank into the centerboard trunk and Patrick Lewis swimming under the hull to try to retrieve it. Cleaning Band-Aids, mud, and several gallons of jellyfish entrails out of the bilge for an hour thanks to three youth sailors who will remain anonymous.

While purportedly slow and soft in the hulls and deck, Blue Bonnet and Banshee have served me well for almost 13 years as I progressed from youth sailor to youth and adult sailing instructor to junior adult member to board member. Transitioning between the roles of cattle car, pleasure yacht, and camping gear transporter, these two Flying Scots have demonstrated not only flexibility but also great staying power, thanks to the hard work of Mike Meszaros and numerous other club members’ efforts to keep the Scots afloat despite the best efforts of the youth sailing program.

What’s going to happen to the club’s current Scots? Rumor has it that Blue Bonnet will be making its way to the Burning Man festival in the Black Rock Desert this summer as an “art boat”---I’ll be sure to get pictures and share them with the membership. (Banshee? Don’t ask. It’s too awful to put into words.)

I’m excited at the prospect of sailing Gib Wright and Britt Stitt’s two Flying Scots that have been donated to the club, but Banshee and especially Blue Bonnet will always have a special place in my heart. Farewell, old friends.

Alessandra Springmann

THE MUDSKIPPER AND HIS "BANSHEE"

If anyone can lay claim to making full use of the water and the light at Inverness, it has to be Ned Congdon and his old family boat, Banshee. Over the years, Ned and his boat have probably explored more of the margins of Tomales Bay than all the rest of us put together. This was the scene last Saturday when Ned and Steve came in to the dock in the evening, after a full day of beach hopping, capped off with a stop at Tony's for oysters on the way home. If the photo looks a bit cold, dark and muddy, that is because it was and usually is by the time Ned gets home!



"Banshee", a well used boat.

ADULT SAILING LESSONS IN 2010

IYC will offer an Adult Sailing Lesson Program this summer, geared for novices through lower intermediate level. This year the dates are already set, for August 12, 13, 18, 19, and 20 (Th, Fri, Wed, Th, Fri). The program will be carried out in a Flying Scot owned by the Inverness Yacht Club. Our redoubtable instructor is none other than our own CHRIS LONGAKER, who has 50 years of sailing experience. He learned on our very own Tomales Bay in an El Toro (for those of you that are old enough to remember what those are). Chris owns and races a 34-ft Express on San Francisco Bay, and has "sailed the seven seas" as well. Please welcome Chris to the Adult Sailing Program!

There are a very limited number of spots for participants this year, so if you are interested, please call me soon for details, or better yet, fill out the Application and Participation Agreement forms which are found at <http://www.invernessyachtclub.com/adult.html>

(click on the "Adult Sailing Lesson Program" button at the bottom of the screen). Mail the forms to me at the address below, along with your check for \$495 (\$535 for non-members), as soon as possible. As Dave Wallace likes to say, "Your check is your reservation." We hope to see you out on the water this summer!

Ned Congdon – Chair, Adult Sailing Committee
115 Clover Hill Court
Danville, CA 94526
925/362-8820
ncongdon@hrstinc.com

Cl i p p e r T a l k a n d S u p p e r



Start of the 2009/10 Clipper Race; San Francisco to Panama

Well, seeing as no one else has stepped forward, this is the perfect opportunity for me to blatantly abuse my editorial powers by telling you just exactly what I thought of the Clipper talk by Bob Stephens, and the supper by my wife, Suzanne. Both were the stuff of dreams.

Bob, held the attention of his audience so well that they failed to notice the slurping sounds they made as the soup went from their spoons to their lips. Virtually the only time they looked away from Bob and his film clips was when they went for another round of Suzanne's cheesecake. My validity of my own bias was confirmed by the number of requests I have fielded for both cheesecake and soup recipes.

Suzanne and I had a full crew without whom it would have not been possible. We want to thank; The cornbread bakers: Connie Gilmar, SONDY Springmann, Ellie and Shawn Kelly. Kitchen hands: Cecilia and Mirabelle LeMieux. General helpers: Suzy Stephens, Brian Cassel, and the many hands that stepped forward to help clear at the end of the evening. Bar: Rick and Josie. Photos: Jim Laws.

And of course an enormous thank you to Bob Stephens for all his work on his great presentation. It made me want to pack my bag and go!





EVENTS CALENDAR

Saturday, May 29th	Members' Workday	9.30am
Saturday, June 12th	Board Meeting	9.30am
	Warm up Race	1.00pm
	Open House	5.30pm
Saturday, June 26th	Half Hog Island Race	1.00pm
Saturday, July 3rd	Fourth BBQ	5.00pm
Sunday, July 4th	Blessing of The Fleet	Noon
	Commodores' Luncheon	1.30pm

**HALF HOG ISLAND
Saturday, June 26th
RACE**

+

**WARM UP RACE
& OPEN HOUSE
Saturday, June 12th**

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



FIRST-CLASS MAIL
U.S. Postage
PAID
MailCom



-SAVE THE FLEET-

DANCE PARTY!!

WHAT: A Dance Party for all ages! Please come enjoy a post-dinner dance with live music, a complimentary Drink and a Cupcake. (A no-host Bar will also be available.)

WHY: To have fun...Also to help Save the Fleet! This summer the Youth Sailing Program is sailing 8 new O'Pen Bics. 4 of these have been bought and are owned by IYC. The other 4 are on loan. The Club needs to decide by August 1st whether it can afford to buy these additional 4 boats. This Dance Party will help to raise funds with the hopes of avoiding the loss of half our fleet.

WHO: Members and their Guests. Please feel free to invite non-member friends, especially those who may have an interest in the Youth Sailing Program.

WHEN: July 24th, 7:30-11:00 p.m. (the evening before the Youth Regatta!)

WHERE: The Inverness Yacht Club

DRESS: Party Festive and Dancing Shoes!

SUGGESTED DONATION:

\$20.00 per person if postmarked on or before July 1st. \$25.00 per person at the door. All children 8 years and younger are FREE. Checks can only be accepted from Members.

Please make checks payable to the Inverness Yacht Club and send them to Ashley Tobin, 89 El Gavilan, Orinda, CA 94563.