

*The*



VALLEJO YACHT CLUB

# BINNACLE

March 2023

Founded 1900

[www.VYC.org](http://www.VYC.org)

P.I.C.Y.A. Club of the Year in 2015, 2014, 2013, 2012, 2010, 2009, 2008, 2007, 2006!



## March 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> U.S. Coast Auxiliary meeting - Steve Johnson - 707-205-6108 7:30 - 9:30pm	<b>3</b> Friday night Dinner - Hamburger Fries \$15 Bar opens 5 - 8pm	<b>4</b> Midwinter Race - Soup & Sandwiches 1 - 4:pm Crab Feed 6:30 - 8:30pm
<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> OFFICE CLOSED Monday Night Fun & Games 6 - 9:30pm	<b>7</b> GVR Planning Meeting Zoom 7 - 8pm	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Friday night Dinner - Prime Rib eye peppered steak \$22 Bar opens 5:30 - 8pm	<b>11</b> Vallejo Sister City Commission - "B"/Stewart 6 - 9pm
<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> OFFICE CLOSED Monday Night Fun & Games... 6 - 9:30pm	<b>14</b> Board of Directors Meeting 7 - 9pm	<b>15</b> 63rd Reunion Meeting 4pm	<b>16</b> Jack London's SF Bay Program Meeting 4:30 - 7pm	<b>17</b> Loch Lomond YC Cruise Out 3-17-19 Friday night St. Patrick's Day Dinner & New Member Long Table - Corned Beef & Cabbage \$25 Bar opens 5:30 - 8pm	<b>18</b> Loch Lomond YC Cruise Out
<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> OFFICE CLOSED - President's Day Monday Night Fun & Games 6 - 9:30pm	<b>21</b> GVR Planning Meeting Zoom 7 - 8pm	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Jon Riely - private party 9:00am - 1:00pm Friday night Dinner - Cioppino & Salda bar \$25 Bar opens 5:30 - 8pm	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> OFFICE CLOSED Monday Night Fun & Games 6 - 9:30pm	<b>28</b> GVR Planning Meeting Zoom 7 - 8pm	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING 7:30 - 8:30pm	<b>31</b> Friday night Dinner BBQ ribs, Salad and Potato bar \$25 Bar opens 5:30 - 8pm	<b>APRIL 1</b> Private 86th B-Day Party-Rose North Bay Series Race 1 - 4pm April Fool Party 6:30 - 10pm
<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> OFFICE CLOSED Monday Night Fun & Games 6 - 9:30pm	<b>4</b> GVR Planning Meeting Zoom 7 - 8pm	<b>5</b> Wed Nite Beer Can Race and Dinner 6 - 9pm	<b>6</b> U.S. Coast Auxiliary meeting - Steve Johnson 707-205-6108 7:30 - 9:30pm	<b>7</b> Friday night Dinner 5:30pm - 8:00pm	<b>8</b> Private 80th B'Day Party F. Williams "B" 3:30 - 7:30pm

## Special Events

Saturday, March 4th, 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm .....Crab Feed!  
 Tuesdays, March 7th, 21st, and 28th 7:00 pm- 8:00 pm .....GVR Planning Meeting via Zoom  
 Tuesday, March 14th, 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm .....Board of Director's Meeting  
 Friday, March 17- Sunday March 19th .....Loch Loman Cruise Out  
 Thursday, March 30th, 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm .....General Membership Meeting  
 Wednesday, April 5th .....Beer Can Racing resumes!

Monday Night Fun and Games 6:00-9:00 pm  
 Wednesday Night Activities & Dinners 5:30- 8:30 pm  
 Friday Night Dinners 5:30 - 8:00 pm



## VICE COMMODORE Scott Green

Greetings shipmates, friends, and colleagues!  
**O**h my, oh my! How time flies! My brain spins at the thought that it's already March! Yikes. This realization has been a double-edged sword for me, as the fleetingness (is that a word?) of time means not only

that the Great Vallejo Race is approaching all too fast, but also that our own time together spins by us far too quickly for us to recognize.

I was quite impressed by the spread Jim Glenn and his gang put on for the Valentine's Party on February 11th! Those tomahawk steaks were out of this world. The whole party was quite relaxing, and I enjoyed everyone's company - especially Katherine Mays' visit from Texas. But see? Who out there can even remember all the stuff that's gone on since she moved back home to be nearer her grandkids? So much stuff.... Then we can't remember when stuff actually happened! And then we ask where so-n-so is (just as I'd posited back in November's article).

It is now March and the GVR is up in literally two months' time. There's so much to be done, Thus I am reaching out to you all to chip in and help with the late-stage preparations. I'll be posting the sign-up board in the main hall very soon and ask that you sign up to help. Seeing all those blank spots gives me anxiety fits! Happily, thanks to the tireless, dedicated work of Bob Sampayan, we do finally have sponsorships coming in at last - Mare Island Dry Dock, Good Old Boat magazine, and Moschetti Coffee, just to name a few. If you would like to help in procuring more sponsors (or even

if you don't; we seriously need the help!) please do reach out to me so that we can make sure donors are not getting double-dipped. We also have more or less set up the food and music for the event, so I'll need to reach out to you all to organize who's helping where. It's going to be April literally before we know it, so....

This fleetingness of time has also brought great sadness in the past week or so. As of writing this, we have lost two engineering students within five days of each other, both to cancer-related issues. One of them didn't even know he had it at all. The point here is that I look around the Club and am reminded, once again, how important and meaningful you all are to me. And we all should be reminded that those important folks around us often have no clue just how important they actually are, let alone how much we may love them. So my ask of you this month is that we all go up to each of our friends and close shipmates and make certain that they know how you feel. Otherwise, like me, you may find yourself unable to do so until after one of you dies. For me to have to deliver eulogies for two twenty-year-olds, in less than a week, was the most difficult thing

I've faced in years, and I VOW to make sure my besties, friends, shipmates, and colleagues know how much I appreciate them. I ask that you do the same. That's exactly what Colin Porciuncula asked of his friends before he passed, so.... I'm doing my part.

Let's hear it for that glorious wind! Now, go out and have FUN as if your life depended on it - for it does!

Humbly,

Scott Green, Vice Commodore

## Club Manager Notice

Beginning March 1st, no cash payments will be accepted for your VYC Account(s).

The only form of payment accepted are:

- Online payments
- Checks
- Bill pay
- Money orders
- Credit card payments

The easiest way to pay is online linked to your bank account using your account number as your user name and your last name with a capital first letter. Please call or stop by the office during business hours if you have any questions.

Also, please mark your calendars for a few special days coming up in April. On April 22nd, we will have the VYC Opening Day. The following weekend, April 29th, we will also be hosting a VYC Work Party. We have work to do to keep our club looking great, and also to prepare for the upcoming Great Vallejo Race. Thank you in advance for pitching in and helping out.



## **GALLEY REPORT**

**Jim Glenn**

Join us for delicious Friday night dinners.  
This month, we have a special St. Patrick's Day dinner  
that is sure to put a spring in your step!

**Friday, March 3rd**

Burger night - Burgers, Fries, Ice cream

**Friday, March 10th**

Prime rib eye peppered steak  
Twice baked potatoes, Roasted Brussel sprouts  
Salad, Bread  
Cheesecake

**Friday, March 17th • ST PATRICK'S DAY DINNER**

Corned beef and cabbage with all the fixings  
Bread, Irish desserts

**Friday, March 24th**

Cioppino  
Salad bar, Bread  
Dessert



## **SHIP'S STORE REPORT**

Hello Shipmates,

It's still very cold outside!!! We have a variety of coats and sweatshirts and long-sleeved shirts to hopefully keep you warm especially out on the water. Come into the store and check out our nautical-inspired merchandise.

The Great Vallejo Race is coming up in a few months. We hope to have a design for our shirts and hats soon. Remember to sign up to help with selling merchandise, bartending, and rafting up boats, the list is endless!! It's a fun weekend!!

As a lot of you know the Point Of Sale system for the store has been down and out!! We have been working to get it back but in the meantime, I want to thank all of you for your patience. At the moment I can't take credit cards, but cash payments or charging to your account is working.

I have been running the Ships Store since Chris Mendonca was Commodore in 2010. It has been fun but I will be stepping down in October at Change of Watch. Please let me know if you would be interested in taking it on. I would be very happy to help with the transition. A big Thank You to everyone for your support all of these years.

*Barbara Brown  
Ship's Store Chairperson*



## **SAFETY REPORT**

Thank you  
to the folks  
who participated  
in the  
Vessel Safety  
checks last  
month.

Stay safe!

*Deb Rocchild,  
Safety Chair*

# PICYA Report

by Maggie Sabovich, VYC PICYA Delegate

The most recent PICYA Delegate meeting was on February 6th at the Berkeley Yacht Club from 5-8:30 PM, which was an in-person as well as Zoom virtual dinner meeting.

New Commodore Larry Mayne conducted the meeting, providing delegates with the schedule of upcoming events, one of which already occurred last Saturday.

On Saturday, February 18th PICYA yacht club members joined together for a 360-degree Cruise of Treasure Island. Delegate yachts paraded around Treasure Island in celebration of the 1939 Golden Gate International Exhibition. A great time was enjoyed by all, and the delegates agreed we should do this every year!

The March PICYA Delegate meeting will be at the South Beach Yacht Club on March 6th from 4:30-8:30 PM in person and on Zoom. It will be an in-person sit-down dinner meeting with a lively Happy Hour, with a Zoom option for virtual attendees.

PICYA's Annual Spring Leadership Conference is scheduled for Saturday, March 25th from 9:30-3:00 PM at the Stockton Yacht Club, 3235 River Drive in Stockton. You can sign up using PayPal on the PICYA.org website, and admission is still \$25.00 for continental breakfast, the meeting, and lunch.

Then, 2023's PICYA Opening Day on the Bay is scheduled for April 30, from 8 AM to 2 PM at Commodore Cruises, 2394 Mariner Square Drive, in Alameda. Decorate your boat and join us for the Annual Opening Day Decorated Boat Parade on the San Francisco waterfront! The 2023 theme is "Broadway on the Bay!" More details will be available soon on the PICYA website. From the blessing of the fleets on Raccoon Straits to the parade of decorated boats, it's always a great day to be out on the Bay. Go to the PICYA website to register your boat to be included in the decorated, themed boat parade!

On Sunday, September 30th, PICYA's Margot

Brown Wheelchair Regatta to benefit veterans will take place once more at the Encinal Yacht Club on the Alameda Estuary. Veterans will take a trip around the Bay on our delegates' boats. Many of the veterans are confined to wheelchairs, so we need members with power boats to volunteer to take the vets out on the Bay for a two-hour boat tour of the Oakland Estuary and the Bay along the San Francisco waterfront. On their return, there will be a great hamburger/hotdog barbecue luncheon ready for vets and boat owners, and volunteers alike on the Encinal Yacht Club lawn, with accompanying live music for all. Please mark your calendars and VOLUNTEER!

## Recreational Boaters of California (RBOC) News

*RBOC and BoatU.S. emphasize the original purpose of AIS*

RBOC and our national advocacy partner BoatU.S. are emphasizing the original objective of automatic identification systems [AIS] to enhance maritime security following 9/11 as discussions are held regarding the potential expansion of the mandate to recreational vessels.

The Los Angeles\Long Beach Harbor Safety Committee may consider the placement of a recommendation in Chapter 10 of the Harbor Safety Plan that small commercial vessels and pleasure vessels be equipped with an AIS.

It is our understanding that the proposal is for AIS to be recommended rather than mandated in the Harbor Safety Plan. Even so, it is important to acknowledge that the mandate for commercial vessels to have an AIS was established to enhance maritime security following 9/11.

Expansion of the existing mandate to recreational vessels raises a number of significant public policy issues including privacy considerations as well as cost and operational challenges. These warrant an early and broad conversation with the recreational boating community.

## Where in the World are VYC Members

### A burgee exchange in Seattle



VYC Burgee Exchange at the Seattle Yacht Club

Shipmate Simon Lee recently joined a company headquartered in Seattle. While visiting his new office, he also made it to the awesome Center for Wooden Boats; a living museum, boat building workshop, and sailing school. Simon also visited the Seattle Yacht Club and presented our burgee to an emeritus officer. Two fun facts from Simon....

1. The Seattle YC was designed by the same architect that designed the original VYC building. They kind of looked alike.
2. The bartender when I was there told me that Ted Bundy was a former worker at the YC. YIKES!

Thanks for sharing, Simon, and congratulations on your new role!

*Please remember to bring a VYC Burgee along with you on wherever your travels may take you, and share your burgee exchange photos with [BinnacleEditor@vyc.org](mailto:BinnacleEditor@vyc.org)*

## Happy March Birthdays!

Stan Jones .....	3/1	Jeffrey Mays .....	3/10
Jose Pabon .....	3/2	Noble & Barbara Brown .....	3/12
Bob & Val McGowan .....	3/3	Christopher Mendonca .....	3/12
Scott McKenney .....	3/3	Mike & Rhonda Coleman .....	3/13
William Plummer .....	3/4	Curtis and Cindy White .....	3/14
Sharon Dwoskin .....	3/4	Margot MacKerrow .....	3/20
Diane Deckard .....	3/4	Dali Rus .....	3/22
Fred Von Stieff, M.D. ....	3/6	Anthonette 'Toni' Borges .....	3/23
Julie Marchess (Seiger) .....	3/6	Christian Bollmann .....	3/23
Earl H. Trumbull .....	3/7	Lauri Luck .....	3/27
Scott Gregor .....	3/9	Jennifer Austin .....	3/31
Diane Hanson .....	3/9	Mitchell Prevost .....	3/31
Patricia McCarthy .....	3/10		

# Cruise Program

by Noble Brown (berneb@jps.net)

We have two upcoming cruises in the March and April timeframe. Please let me or the office know if you wish to attend the cruise outs. It's a great way to connect with club members and experience other yacht clubs in the area.

Now, summer may seem like a long way off, but if you're interested in joining us for the Delta Cruise out, please take note...Owl Harbor books up very early. If you plan on joining the group at Owl Harbor on June 18th and 19th, you may wish to call and reserve your spot with Owl Harbor soon.

## Spring Cruise Outs

### 2023 Loch Lomond Yacht Club Cruise

#### March 17 thru March 19

Our first cruise to the Bay will be to Lock Lomond Yacht Club located just before and north of the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge, turn right at San Francisco North Bay channel marker "17"GR. Please check the tide table for the weekend. The good news is the San Rafael Creek Channel was dredged this past summer. Although the channel has been dredged it would be advisable to be at the entrance between 09:00 AM and 10:00 AM on March 17, 2023. Per Navionics it's about 2hr 40mins away at 5.5 kts. This will be the first weekend after the Daylight Savings Time change, with more light in the afternoon. As always we will be monitoring VHF channel 72 for safety and communications.

The Loch Lomond YC has a new guest dock with cleats instead of those 2X4s along the edge of the dock to tie to. On Friday evening, we will be joining Lock Lomond YC for their St. Patrick's Day celebration. The bar will be open at 6:00 PM for happy hour and dinner will be served at 7:00 PM. The menu will include corned beef and cabbage, soda bread, and dessert all for \$18.00 per person. They are trying to arrange Irish Dancers for entertainment.

The Loch Lomond Marina has one notable attraction and that is the new Andy's Local Market, it is an amazing place to visit. You can get everything from ice cream to wine and from soup to nuts, it is well worth visiting. The website is [www.andysloclamarket.com](http://www.andysloclamarket.com)

The Loch Lomond Yacht Club also has a casual Happy Hour at 5:30 PM with a casual BBQ early Saturday evening. We have been invited to join LLYC members on Saturday evening as well. Sunday after breakfast we will depart for home.

## Point San Pablo Yacht Club

### April 14 thru April 16, 2023

In a bit of a departure from the past, we will be going to the Point San Pablo YC in the middle of April this year. We are doing it to avoid any conflict with the 2023 GVR. PSPYC has always been very welcoming to us on our cruise to their club. We will enjoy an ebb going down on Friday and a flood on the return Sunday. Please monitor VHF channel #72 during the cruise for safety and communications.

We will join PSPYC on Friday for cocktails and a potluck hors'devours in the early evening. Please bring your favorite snack to share. There are several restaurants in Point Richmond you can go to dinner at if you wish. On Saturday evening around 6:00 PM, we will plan a potluck-style BBQ on the club deck. Bring something to BBQ and something to share.

After breakfast on Sunday, we will return to VYC. There will be a max flood at Point Richmond at 8:01 AM Sunday morning.

# 2023 Cruising Calendar

**All dates confirmed EXCEPT the Commodore's Cruise. Stay tuned!**

Join us for one of the many cruise-outs planned for 2023!

This is a great opportunity to travel with your fellow shipmates, experience local yacht clubs, and shake the barnacles off your bottom in the winter and spring months!

- February 24th-26th ..... Sweetheart's Cruise to Martinez Yacht Club
- March 17th-19th ..... Loch Lomond Yacht Club –  
LLYC is having a St. Patrick's Day Party!
- April 14th-16th ..... Point San Pablo Yacht Club
- May 19th-21st ..... South Beach Yacht Club
- June 16th-25th ..... Annual Delta Cruise (not so hot June)
- July 14th-16th ..... Petaluma Yacht Club
- August 11th-13th ..... Commodores Cruise to San Francisco Yacht Club
- September 9th-18th ..... Bluewater Cruise

## Welcome, New Members!

We welcome new members to the club on the third Friday of every month. Please join us for our new member dinners and make a new friend or two. It's great to see our organization grow! Welcome!



New member, Tim Dellas  
(Rita Carlson not pictured)



New member, Janice Scannell  
(husband Dan not pictured)



New member, Robert McKeaque



# LIGHTHOUSE ON MARE ISLAND SOUTH END, AND GHOST SHIP

by Club Historian Tom Ochs



Well, it's a new month and I have more useless information for you, and actually, this is quite interesting.

Last month I wrote about the lighthouse on the Vallejo side of the Mare Island channel, But did you know that there was also another lighthouse on the Mare Island side of the river? It was built in 1873 and demolished in the 1930s. Now I am old, but this is way before my time!



The Mare Island lighthouse was built on the south end of the island, and it was a combination of a 75' high tower and Victorian-style home and was considered

one of the most attractive lighthouses in the San Francisco Bay area. It was in service for over 44 years, until its deactivation in 1917. Its lightkeeper was Kate McDougal, wife of Charles McDougal, who was in charge of the lighthouses on the west coast at that time. Unfortunately, McDougal drowned trying to go ashore at the Mendocino lighthouse to deliver the keepers.

Kate became the second keeper and raised her four children there while tending the lighthouse for the sum of \$800 per year. Remember that this was in the 1880s. She had close ties to the city of Vallejo's social scene, so this was a lonely outpost for her at that time.

There were many efforts to make life easier for her, like adding a telephone, with poles and lines run by the Navy, to make her life easier. She was also provided with a barn and shed in 1888, hot water, a bathroom, a landing wharf, and her own personal horse and buggy.

She resigned in 1917 and lived out the remainder of her life there until 1932. Kate is interred at the Mare Island cemetery with her husband.

The lighthouse is gone, but the foundation remains and can be visited on the open space trail to the south end of the island.

The trail to it is about a 1.5-mile hike to the top of the island, and at the top, you can visit the Ghost Ship, which is a memorial to those lost at sea in submarines mostly built at Mare Island during World War II. This Memorial is a free-form work of art, and the base features cutouts of the tools used to construct vessels that were built at Mare Island.

There is also an interpretive trail, or at least the last time I was there, that gives some interesting insight into the area, including the invasion of tule elk, about 1500 of them every spring, in the late 1800's.

If you go there, *bring mosquito repellent with you*. The view at the top is spectacular, as you can see five counties from it. The hike is a bit on the steep side but paved all way. The trail starts at the Mare Island Heritage shoreline preserve at the south end of the island.

So the next time you sail out of the channel, look to the high peak on the island and you can see this Ghost Ship.

Also remember, artists put this together, and it is a tribute to those who have gone before us to make this land we live in, with all of its imperfections, the greatest place on earth.

Enjoy!

## 2022 - 2023 Elected & Appointed Officers

Commodore ..... Jeremy Haydock  
 Vice Commodore ..... Scott Green  
 Rear Commodore ..... Hugo Knef  
 Staff Commodore ..... Matt Hendricksen  
 Treasurer & Dredge Fund Project Manager ... Bob Lockhart  
 Secretary ..... Samantha Fordyce  
 Port Captain, Administrative ..... Arv Voss  
 Port Captain, Dock Maintenance  
 and Engineering ..... Jeff Ruzler  
 Fleet Captain, Cruise ..... Noble Brown  
 Fleet Captain, Sail ..... Mark Littlefield and Denny Mosher  
 Fleet Captain, Power ..... TBD  
 Fleet Chaplain ..... Bob Reeves  
 Fleet Surgeon ..... Fred Von Steiff, MD  
 Safety Chair ..... Deb Rocchild  
 Learn to Sail Chair ..... Dale Anderson  
 Membership Chair ..... Mark Ashworth  
 Ship's Store Chair ..... Barbara Brown  
 Galley Chair & Social Chair ..... Jim Glenn  
 Long Range Planning Chair ..... Ken Leslie  
 Grounds Chair ..... Clare Harmon

House Chair ..... Matt Mack  
 Club Historian ..... Tom Ochs  
 Community Liason Chair and  
 VYC Social Media Chair ..... Julique Lewis Haydock  
 Binnacle Editor ..... Amy Hendricksen  
 Webmaster ..... Matt Hendricksen  
 Bar Managers ..... Michael Read and Arv Voss  
 Club Manager ..... Arv Voss  
 Financial Manager ..... Michael Read

### Board of Directors

Chairman of the Board ..... Elvin Valverde  
 Director ..... Gail Ashworth  
 Director ..... Geoff Lambert  
 Director ..... Bob Lockhart  
 Director ..... Jeff Ruzler  
 Director and Parliamentarian ..... Bill Sweitzer

### Delegates

PICYA ..... Maggie Sabovich  
 YRA ..... TBD



**VALLEJO YACHT CLUB**  
 485 Mare Island Way  
 Vallejo, CA 94590

First Class

