



April 2024

Founded 1900

www.VYC.org

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



Photo by Sylvia Keit



VICE COMMODORE Clare Harmon

Hello fellow members!

As we leave our winter season and approach the long-awaited sailing season, I want to thank everyone for keeping the club alive and bringing us all into the club together for a myriad of events from the holidays... New Year's, Valentine's Day, Saint Patrick's Day. These events, and added events such as the wine tastings, pot-lucks, game nights and opening other events with guest chefs, have been great for the atmosphere we are trying to create.

Upcoming, we are at our heels for the tried-and-true Great Vallejo Race on the weekend of May 4-5th (may the fourth be with you). Many members are working hard coordinating, getting sponsors, and dropping ideas and help along the way.

Moving forward, we have lost a few sponsors as well as gained some, yet it is always challenging to manage

working full time and, with a few personal things I have going on in my life, distracting me from being 100% in all areas. I appreciate all that have reached out and those who have taken some things into their own hands to make this possible.

All that I ask is continued team effort for the club as a whole in all areas as we all love to enjoy this sanctuary together.

Shout out to Roxanne with the beautiful grounds, Bob Sampayan with his continued help with GVR over the years and Jennifer Chavez with all our needs. Big shout out to Elvin Valverde and Gail Ashworth for working with me closely on some things I need to focus on for the success of the club. I apologize if I've individually left anyone out, but know you are appreciated.

Looking forward to a successful spring season and hope to see you at the club or on the water.

– Clare Harmon

The March Mid-Winter Series

The March Mid-Winter series race was held on Saturday March 2nd in very sporty conditions. Aerie reported seeing moderate rain and 31 knots of wind across the deck at Buoy 15. Due to weather condition the race committee split the fleets on two courses with "A and B Fleets" sailing around Buoy 15 located in San Pablo Bay, and "C Fleet" boats sailing a bit shorter course out to Carquinez Bridge and back.

Presumably due to weather condition only one "A Fleet" boat (Aerie) and 2 "C Fleet" boats participated in the race. Black Pearl owned by Max Gerdes retired early due to some equipment issues, leaving Jennette owned by Michael Boese to finish First in their division.

Aerie owned by Mark Littlefield was able to finish the race without incident or broken gear thereby finishing First in an uncontested race.

The March race was the last race in the Mid-Winter series races. The Series results are as follows:

In "A Fleet" Wayward Wind (Fred Von Stieff) finished in First place. Pearl (Jack Vetter) placed Second, and Aerie (Mark Littlefield) finished in Third place.

In "B Fleet" Adventure (Steve Strunk) finished in First

Place, and Triforce (Mike Kazek) finished in Second Place.

In "C Fleet" Wings (Jerry Halterman) finished in First place, Jeannette (Michael Boese) finished in Second place and Water Baby (Mary Kraybill) finished in Third place.

The first North Bay Series Race will be held on April 6 with a start time of 1:00 pm, so far only 2 boats have registered for the Series races. If you haven't signed up yet but are planning on racing, please register on Jibset prior to Saturday April 6.

I would also like to mention that Wednesday night races will be starting on April 3rd. Wednesday evening races start at 6:00 pm with dinner being served at the club after the race. These races are open to all club members. If you own a sailboat and wish to participate, come down to the Club and join in the fun. If you are a member of the club and either don't own a boat or have a boat you want to race with, you can still participate in the evening races. Come down to the Club about an hour before racing and we will find a boat for you to crew on.

Mark Littlefield,
Co/Fleet Captain (Racing)

PICYA REPORT

By Geof Lambert, VYC PICYA Delegate



Pacific Inter-Club Yacht Association Assembly of Delegates Meeting was held on March 10th at the Ballena Bay Yacht Club in Alameda. Commodore Jan Lucas presided over the meeting which

commenced after a delicious lunch which consisted of chicken Marsala with fresh mushrooms and wine sauce, Italian beef meatballs with marinara sauce and mozzarella sauce, sauteed shrimp with mixed vegetables in garlic wine sauce, homemade mashed potatoes, Caesar’s salad.

Commodore Jan started the business part of the meeting by giving some remarks on the status of the association which included the following items:

- Approval of the minutes of March 2024 Delegates Meeting
- Opening of the floor to delegates to discuss upcoming events and activities

Noteworthy upcoming PICYA related events include:

- PICYA Spring Management Conference, South Beach YC - March 23
- Opening Day on the Bay 2024 - April 28
- Delegates Luncheon Meeting, Benicia YC - April 6
- Lipton Cup Regatta, San Francisco Bay -

June 14, 15, 16

- PICYA Fall Management Conference - October 19

If you know any college bound or current college students looking for scholarships, the Pacific Inter-Club Yachting Association is presently accepting scholarship applications for 2024.

PICYA awards scholarships to graduating high school students or college students wishing to continue their education in approved institutions of higher learning.

To be considered applicants must be:

- Students whose parents, grandparents, guardians or mentors are members of a yacht club belonging to PICYA in Northern California.
- Applicants must be graduating high school seniors of the current year, or college students continuing to pursue their educational goals.
- Scholarships are not renewable. However, previous recipients are eligible to reapply, provided they still meet all other qualifications.

To learn more about the Program visit the PICYA site, www.PICYA.org or click here: [Scholarship Application and Guidelines](#).

PICYA Website:
www.PICYA.org
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Life at the Club

by Sylvia Keita, Social chair



A Wealth of Useless Information

TOM OCHS

Who will win this one?

The aircraft carrier Enterprise was heading back to California after a stay in the Pacific in a very dense fog, when it spotted lights dead ahead on a collision course. The carrier radioed to the other vessel to change its course 15 degrees to starboard saying, "I am a United States aircraft carrier."

The other vessel radioed back, "I suggest YOU alter your course fifteen degrees to port."

This banter went on for a few minutes to which the admiral in charge of the carrier demanded that the other vessel change course and what kind of vessel are you and why do you have a blinking light?

The reply was, "Admiral, I am a lighthouse. Your call."

Moral of the story: When you are out on the water this summer, anticipate the other guy's move. A leaky boat doesn't float.

Stay safe and enjoy the water this year.

More useless information you probably don't know or care about.

On March 25, there will be a full moon with a partial eclipse. This full moon will roughly coincide with the spring equinox.

The moon is called the worm moon, and signifies the beginning of the spring (roughly). The name comes from native American observations that the worms were emerging from the ground and encouraging planting of crops. This is also the first moon of spring.

The moon will rise about sunset and appear larger than normal, and the eclipse will occur about 9:45 pm.



The Great Vallejo Race

May 4 - May 5 2024



The first mention of a race came in 1925, when PICYA organized a cruise from Berkeley to Vallejo on a Saturday to be followed by a race back on Sunday. This is probably the official origin of the Great Vallejo Race, now reputed to be one of the largest inland regattas in the

United States, usually drawing 200+ boats annually. Now under the aegis of the Yacht Racing Association (YRA) and hosted by the Vallejo Yacht Club, the two-day race marks the official opening of the San Francisco Bay racing season.

The race most often starts near the Berkeley Circle on Saturday morning, rounds a single weather mark near Alcatraz, and then heads to Vallejo, usually under spinnaker for the remainder of the race. The challenge is to maintain speed through the shadow of Angel Island, find the best combination of wind and current past the Richmond-San

Rafael Bridge and East Brother Light Station, and then avoid the mud shoals on the east side of the San Pablo Bay. Depending on the day, the passage can be a challenging breeze (intentional pun), or a miserable drifter, complicated—as always—by the currents, no matter its direction.

As the boats enter Carquinez Strait, they bunch together, making the turn into Mare Island Strait. Because of the topography of Mare Island, as well as the fact that it sits at the mouth of the Napa River, local knowledge (or many years of sailing the race) can make the difference as the yachts maneuver toward the finish line on the Vallejo city waterfront. Winds vary from light to heavy and become exceedingly shifty. By the time they enter the strait, many of the crews are let's say "over-relaxed" by sun, surf, and suds. This is where the fun really starts! In the mad dash for the finish line, sharp crews can usually pick off several places with close attention to trim, wind, and current. Just be sure to check your charts and keep a close watch on your depth sounder!

VYC Cruise Out Schedule 2024

Sign up on bulletin board, with the VYC office,
or email Jay Lund at jrlund113@gmail.com.



The first cruises of the year, Benicia YC in February and Loch Lomond YC in March, were great successes. The next cruise is another adventure to another of our favorite clubs. Cruises are a great way to go new places (or to familiar places with old friends). Come join us!

April 19-21 - Petaluma YC - Up the Petaluma River to downtown Petaluma and Petaluma YC, leaving Friday morning (30 miles).

May 31 – June 2 - Point San Pablo YC A nice nearby club, with much good dining in walking distance [Jim and Carolyn David will lead this trip]

June 14-23 – Delta Cruise (Likely stops include Pittsburg, Rio Vista, Walnut Grove, Stockton YC, Willow Berm, etc.)

July 12-14 – South Beach, San Francisco [Jim and Carolyn David will lead this trip]

July 27 – August 11 (perhaps ending sooner) – Blue water cruise (come for a week including Half Moon Bay, Santa Cruz, Monterey, and Moss Landing or extend for a trip north to Bodega Bay)

September 12 – 14 - Commodore's Cruise – San Francisco YC

October 12 – 13 - Short overnight cruise to nearby location, Details TBA (Napa River or other nearby cruise or raft-up? or afternoon raft-up?)



Happy Birthday

April

Andy Tittle 1-Apr	Naoko Dawson 10-Apr	Dianna Jensen 21-Apr
Andrea Quinn 2-Apr	Bob Sorum 12-Apr	Taylor Durant 21-Apr
Felix Penn 2-Apr	Angela Williams 12-Apr	Matt Hendricksen 22-Apr
Michael Linnear 3-Apr	Roscoe Daniels Jr 13-Apr	Matthew Mack 23-Apr
Denise Arrell 3-Apr	Sonya Mlodzek 13-Apr	David Bowman 24-Apr
Bob Sansone 3-Apr	Dennis Cullen 13-Apr	William Schmid 24-Apr
Richard Haydock 4-Apr	Javier Acha 15-Apr	Dan Karonis 24-Apr
Colleen Granger 5-Apr	Jennifer Thornton 15-Apr	Robert Lockhart P/C 27-Apr
Darrell Popoloski 6-Apr	Natalia Lykkeberg 15-Apr	Roz Kraus 28-Apr
Tony Williams 7-Apr	Carol Larson 15-Apr	Barbara Carnahan-
Ernest (Jim) David 8-Apr	Bi Thomas LF 16-Apr	DeHart 30-Apr
Russ Taft 8-Apr	Eric Ochs 17-Apr	Keri Kelly 30-Apr
Rita Carlson 8-Apr	Ernie Serpa 17-Apr	

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2023 - 2024 Elected & Appointed Officers

Commodore Scott Green
 Vice Commodore Clare Harmon
 Rear Commodore Olga Hambrick
 Staff Commodore Jeremy Haydock
 Treasurer & Dredge Project Manager Bob Lockhart
 Secretary Samantha Fordyce
 Port Captain, Administrative Arv Voss
 Port Captain, Dock Maintenance
 and Engineering Jeff Ruszler
 Fleet Captain, Cruise Jay Lund
 Fleet Captain, Sail Mark Littlefield and Denny Mosher
 Fleet Captain, Power TBD
 Fleet Chaplain Bob Reeves
 Fleet Surgeon Fred Von Steiff, MD
 Cal 20 Program Chair Ab Ream
 Safety Chair Bob Sampayan
 Learn to Sail Chair Dale Anderson
 Membership Chair Mark Ashworth
 Ship's Store Chair Olga Hambrick
 Galley Chair TBD
 Social Chair Sylvia Keita
 Long Range Planning Chair Ken Leslie

Grounds Chair Roaxanne Reyes
 House Chair Matt Mack
 Club Historian Tom Ochs
 Community Liason Chair and
 VYC Social Media Chair Julique Lewis Haydock
 Binnacle Editor Carol Larson
 Webmaster Matt Hendricksen
 Bar Managers Michael Read and Arv Voss
 Club Manager Arv Voss
 Financial Manager Michael Read
 Parliamentarian TBD

Board of Directors

Chairman of the Board Elvin Valverde
 Director Gail Ashworth
 Director Geof Lambert
 Director Matt Mack
 Director Ken Leslie
 Director Bob Lockhart

Delegates

PICYA Geof Lambert
 YRA TBD



VALLEJO YACHT CLUB
 485 Mare Island Way
 Vallejo, CA 94590

First Class

