

The



VALLEJO YACHT CLUB

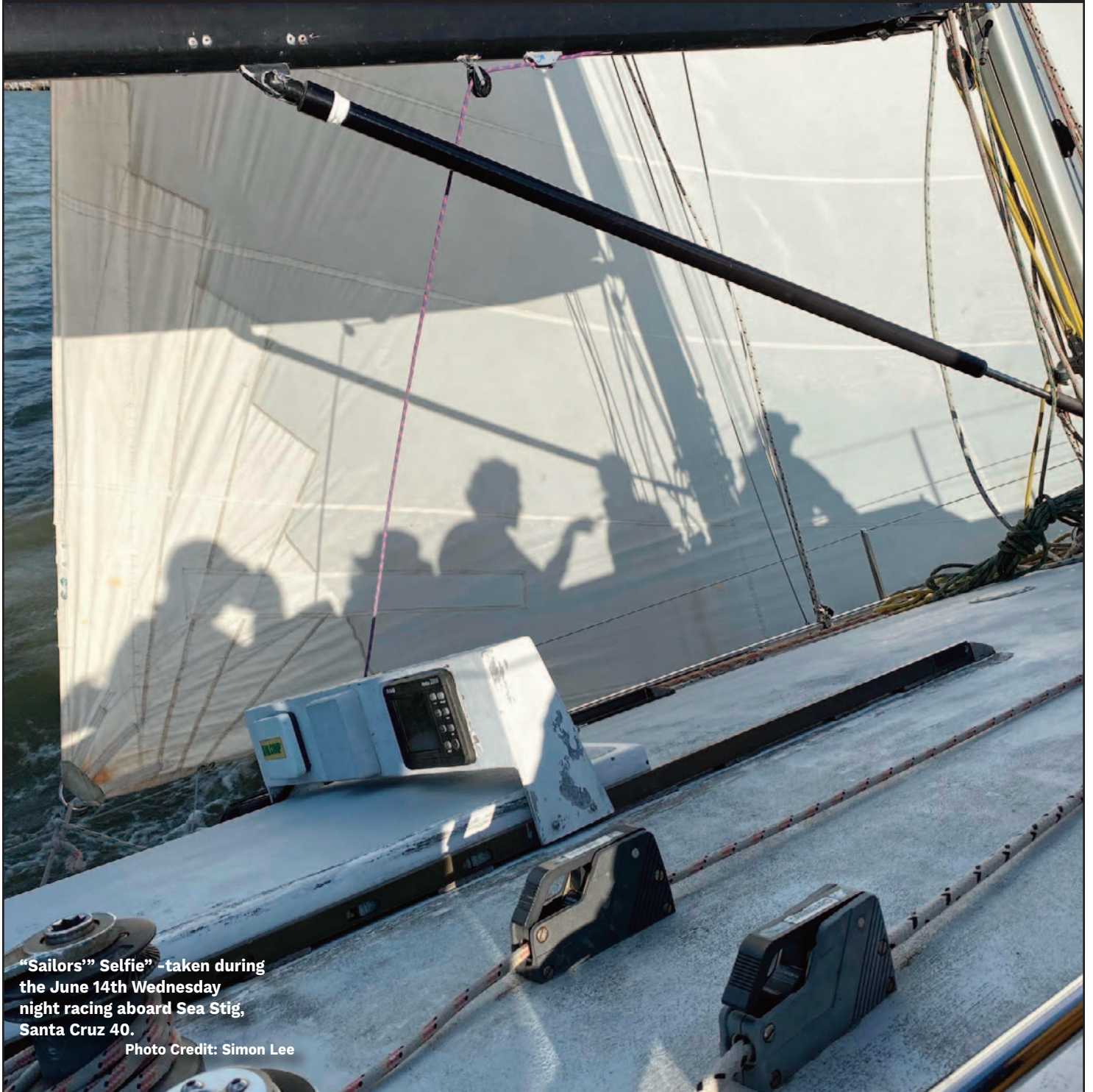
BINNACLE

July 2023

Founded 1900

www.VYC.org

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



"Sailors" Selfie" -taken during the June 14th Wednesday night racing aboard Sea Stig, Santa Cruz 40.

Photo Credit: Simon Lee

July 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 Learn to Sail weekend class canceled Cal 20 Program Class 1 10:00am - 12:00pm Cal 20 Program Class 2 1:00 - 3:00pm
2 Learn to Sail weekend class canceled 9:00am - 3:00pm	3 Learn to Sail week day canceled Monday Night NFL & MLB - Fun & Games... 6:00 - 9:30pm SOMIRA 6:00 - 8:00pm	4 Independence Day Learn to Sail weekend class canceled OFFICE CLOSED - Independence Day Drone Show & Potluck 5:00 - 10:00pm	5 Wed Nite Beer Can Race and Dinner \$15 6:00 - 9:00pm	6 U.S. Coast Auxiliary meeting - Steve Johnson - 707-205-6108 7:30 - 9:30pm	7 Friday night Dinner - Meat Loaf - Bar opens 5:30 - 8:00pm	8 North Bay Series Brother's race - 10:00 am start 10:00am - 4:00pm
9	10 OFFICE CLOSED Monday Night NFL & MLB - Fun & Games... 6:00 - 9:30pm	11 Nominating Committee Chairman presents Slate to Board Board of Directors Meeting 7:00pm - 9:00pm	12 Wed Nite Beer Can Race and Dinner \$15 6:00 - 9:00pm	13 Coast Guard Auxillary Flotilla 51 (Commander Phil Craig 707-260-4596 Ron Nathan 707-980-6935) 7:30am - 9:30pm	14 Petaluma YC Cruise Out 7-14 to 7-16 (Fri-Mon) Bastille Day French Dinner - Bar opens 5:30 - 8:00pm	15 Hot Rod BBQ - Boys under the Hood Post Candidate names on Bulletin Board PYC VJO Hi class of '61 Reunion "BB" 12:00-4:00pm
16 PYC	17 OFFICE CLOSED Monday Night NFL & MLB - Fun & Games... 6:00 - 9:30pm	18	19 Wed Nite Beer Can Race and Dinner \$15 6:00 - 9:00pm	20	21 Friday night Dinner - Roast Chicken - and New Member Long Table 5:30 - 8:00pm	22 Bob Sampayan - B-Day Party 9:00am - 10:00pm
23	24 OFFICE CLOSED Soroptimist Meeting 12:00pm - 2:00pm Monday Night NFL & MLB - Fun & Games... 6:00 - 9:30pm	25	26 VHS 60th Class Reunion Mtg 2 - 3pm Wed Nite Beer Can Race and Dinner \$15 6:00 - 9:00pm	27 GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING 7:30 - 8:30pm	28 Friday night Dinner - Ravioli - Bar opens 5:30 - 8:00pm	29
30	31 OFFICE CLOSED Monday Night NFL & MLB - Fun & Games... 6:00 - 9:30pm	AUG 1 Mail/Email names of candidates to members Board of Directors Meeting 7:00 - 9:00pm	2 Wed Nite Beer Can Race and Dinner \$15 6:00 - 9:00pm	3 U.S. Coast Auxiliary meeting - Steve Johnson - 707-205-6108 7:30 - 9:30pm	4 Friday night Dinner 5:30 - 8:00pm	5 Email and Post Candidate list from Nom Comm North Bay Series 1:00 - 4:00pm

Binnacle Editor

Hello VYC Members!

First off...thank you to everyone who has submitted articles and pictures for the most recent *Binnacle* editions. Much appreciated!

Secondly, I am looking for the next *Binnacle* Editor. I've been at this for a few years, but given some new work responsibilities, I need to step away this fall. If you want to contribute your editing/writing talents to the club, please reach out to me. I would be happy to work with you and show you the ropes for the remainder of this term so that you are comfortable when October rolls around. Ping me at binnacleeditor@vyc.org if you're interested. There's a beer or cocktail at the club on me if you want to chat about it! Thanks in advance!

Sincerely,
Amy Hendricksen, *Binnacle* Editor



COMMODORE REPORT Jeremy Haydock

The summer is flying by with all kinds of events and happenings at the club.

We have had a busy June. The Delta cruise is going on now as I write this article.

This year we had to postpone our Learn To Sail program. Many of our instructors are getting to the age where volunteering for the duration of the program in its current structure is a very tall task, but not to worry. We are working on revamping the program for next year with a new format, and the program will be back next year better than ever! We are looking for new instructors and chase boat operators for next year as well. If you are interested, please reach out to our Learn To Sail Director, Dale Anderson. His email address is dwasailfast@aol.com.

Now, for the big news! Our Cal 20 fleet is coming to fruition! This will be an amazing amenity we can offer our membership, and I am so excited we can finally do this. We hope to have 2-3 boats ready to sail with outboard on them, by July 1st or thereabouts. Members can get certified to use the boats by going out with one of our Cal 20 instructors and learning the boats, how they sail, and how to properly operate them safely. The fee for sailing a Cal 20 for a ½ day or less will be 5 volunteer hours the member will donate to the club. This is

quite a bargain considering anywhere on the bay the fee to rent a sailboat for ½ a day is a minimum of \$50.

We are actively looking for dedicated volunteers to help staff the program. We need the following: Training Instructors, Maintenance folks, Safety trainers, Administration folks (tracking the member hours donated for using the boats and scheduling the calendar for use of the boats.)

For more information regarding the Cal 20 program, please contact Ab Ream, our Cal 20 Program Chairperson/Coordinator. He can be reached at abream@gmail.com. A huge note of appreciation and thanks to Ab and his group of volunteers who have spent about a year fixing these boats up into the beautiful shape they are now in.

Don't forget about the Petaluma River cruise coming up on Friday July 14-Sunday July 16. Petaluma is a wonderful destination with lots of great food right within walking distance of your boat. There is still plenty of room for boats to join, so come on down and join us there! Please contact Noble Brown at berneb@jps.net to sign up for the cruise.

With respect and gratitude,
Jeremy Haydock, Commodore
commodore@vyc.org



VICE COMMODORE Scott Green

Connectivity in the South Pacific was tough! I did have a chance to exchange burgees with Ian, Commodore at Apia Yacht

Club, in Apia Sa'moa. We exchanged our respective club insignia and shared our club stories. AYC has been around since about 1938 and has successfully fended off multiple storms, wars and other trials. We found them to be a great bunch of folks! They're primarily a small boat club but are very active in the Apia community. An awesome bunch indeed!

Humbly, with boundless appreciation,
Your Vice Commodore, Scott



Scott Green and Commodore Ian

Welcome, New Members!

Vallejo Yacht Club continues to grow!
We extend a warm welcome to all of our new members and are happy to expand our club family.



Dave & Kelly Kendall



Ferenc Lazar



Paul & Michelle Whitney



Alex Laliotis



Laura Farwell-Burricelli

GALLEY REPORT • Jim Glenn

Join us for delicious Friday night dinners!

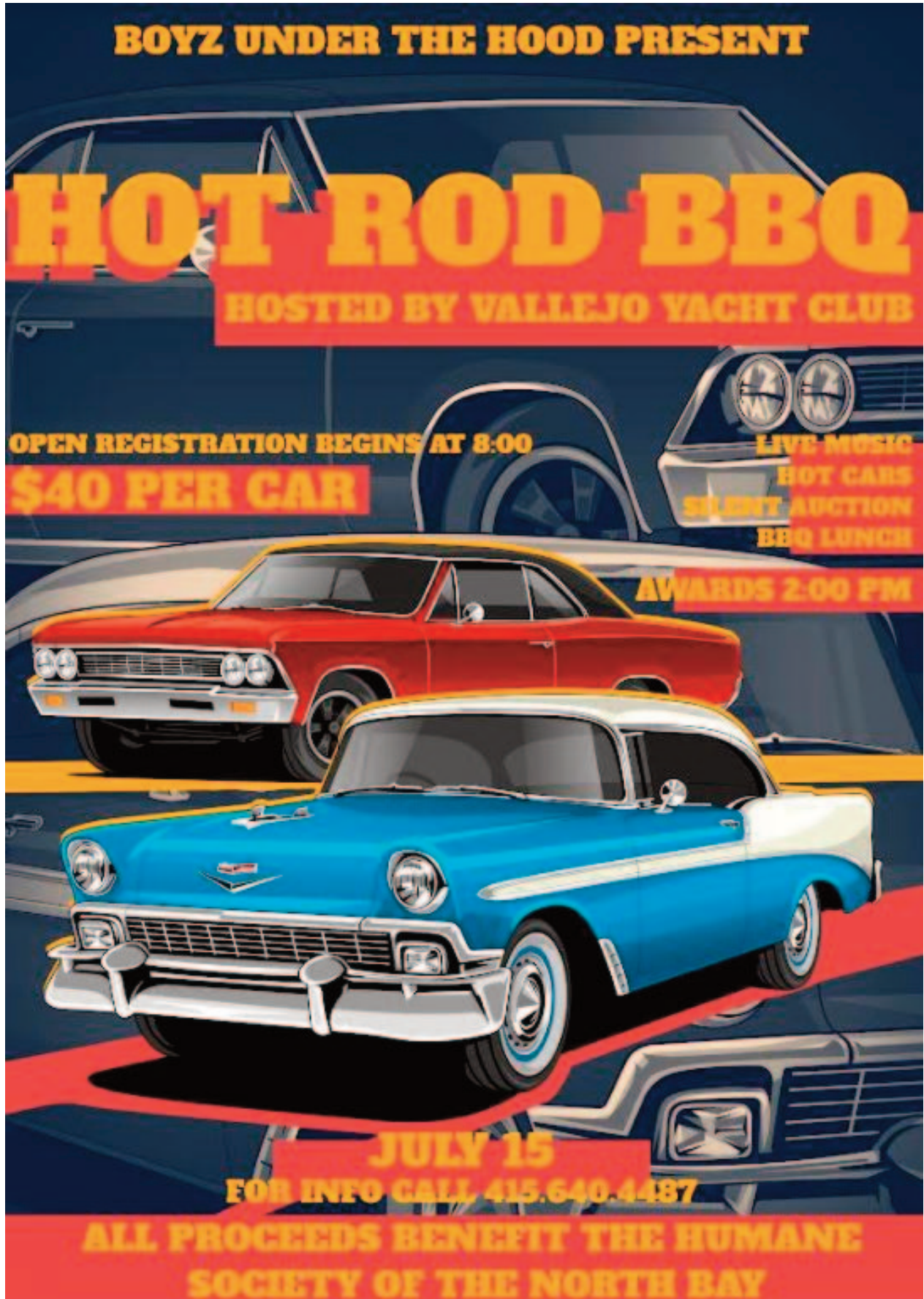
JULY 7th
Meat loaf
Broccoli,
Mashed potatoes
Bread
Dessert

JULY 14th
Fish or prawns
and chips
Cole slaw
Dessert

JULY 21st
Lemon garlic Roast chicken
Roasted potatoes,
Asparagus
Bread
Dessert

JULY 28th
Ravioli
Ceasar salad
Bread
Key lime pie





BOYZ UNDER THE HOOD PRESENT

HOT ROD BBQ

HOSTED BY VALLEJO YACHT CLUB

OPEN REGISTRATION BEGINS AT 8:00

\$40 PER CAR

LIVE MUSIC
HOT CARS
SILENT AUCTION
BBQ LUNCH

AWARDS 2:00 PM

JULY 15
FOR INFO CALL 415.640.4487

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF THE NORTH BAY

Happy Birthday

- | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Mark Vincent III July 1 | Ward Stewart July 13 |
| Robert McKeague July 1 | Nick Nicora July 14 |
| Richard Riker P/C July 2 | Dale Anderson July 15 |
| Michael Boese July 2 | Kenneth Castellano July 18 |
| Dudley Miller July 3 | Mark Littlefield July 18 |
| Ralph Natividad July 3 | Jack Remington July 18 |
| Patrick Quinn July 3 | Linn Tyer July 18 |
| Kerstin Roberts July 5 | Roger Mason July 18 |
| Russell Smith July 6 | Roger Karlsrud July 20 |
| David Trumbull July 6 | Steve Bell July 20 |
| Collin Wojahn July 6 | Ritwik Ghoshal July 20 |
| Donald Havorka July 7 | John Williams July 21 |
| Mark Jensen July 8 | Victor Beltran July 22 |
| Keith Miller July 8 | Dean Hambrick July 24 |
| Thomas Bartee July 11 | Ramona Sampayan July 26 |
| Bruce Chrisp July 11 | Glenn McKeig July 27 |
| Peter Sideris July 11 | Barbara Chodacznik July 29 |
| AJ Simonsen July 12 | Tyson Seiger July 30 |
| Maxwell Martir July 13 | Daniel Lane July 31 |

Beer Can Racing

It's wonderful to see the river and bay full of VYC boats on Wednesday nights!
If you haven't joined us yet for Beer Can Racing, please stop on down!
There is undoubtedly a boat you can hop on and crew for the evening.
Thank you to everyone who organizes and supports our Wednesday night races.



Photo Credit: Clare Harmon

Beer Can Racing



Photo Credit: Sylvia Keita

The Napa Delta

North and west of the Sears Point bridge, HI way 37, there is a menagerie of waterways and islands that make up the North Bay wetlands.

There are about 12 major islands that make up this area that were greatly changed by the hydraulic mining practices during the gold rush era and the slitting that has occurred both during and since. The flow of the Sacramento River slowed, causing, among other things, immense silting in the San Francisco Bay and attached waterways.

San Pablo Bay, which is known as the largest wetland area on the west coast, is an area where fresh, and saltwater meet and form the brackish water that is In our area. This water also contains a lot of silt and heavy metals that have resulted from these mining interests, and practices.

In the time of the old clipper ships of the 19th century, this was becoming a concern as the ships had to go as far as Angel Island to resupply with fresh water for their return trip to the east coast, or to the West Indies, and other trading destinations. This was commonly done just before a person was captured and indentured on a vessel as it was not easy to get anyone to volunteer to man these ships, and captains paid handsomely for the seaman-to-be.

Point here, is the practice of hydraulic mining has had a significant effect on the environment and commerce of the Bay. Diverting of the freshwater to other areas, like the central valley and south, has caused our fresh water to become brackish sometimes as far as Antioch. That is a reason why we have the thick bay mud that abounds.

The major islands in the area are Knight Island Sonoma which is north of the Dutchman Slough, which you can see when crossing the Sears Point bridge if you are otherwise not paying attention to your driving. Cross Island is along 37 on the north until you get to island #4, which ends at the Skaggs Island Road where Little Napa Slough is. Skaggs Island continues to Sonoma Creek. This was a ferry route to the city of Sonoma till about the late part of the 1800s when the railroad bridge and tracks were built, as the water had gotten so silted due to the upstream issues.

Tubbs Island starts and continues to almost the intersection of Highway 121 toward Sonoma and other points north. The railroad tracks there are technically open but I would like to see them used just to watch the traffic jam on Highway 37.

North and west are two islands, camp #2, and camp #3. Wingo, which is a ghost town on the rail lines, was built at the bridge crossing of Sonoma Creek and connected with the Ferry. The rail line continues, north to Sonoma, and south to Marin County and points north and south from there. Some of the buildings are still standing, but good luck getting into them as they are at a point of worse-than-arrested decay. This is, more than likely, the rail line that author Jack

London probably used to get to his boat when he was a member of the Vallejo Yacht Club, and kept his boat there.

Retreating back to the Napa River, north of Knight Island, is South Slough, where Russ Island borders the Napa River. Along the north of South Slough is Banty Island, which is separated from Island #2 by Devil's Slough. In this area is Island #5, which is separated from the others by Napa Slough, which flows to the Napa River south of Edgerly Island. North of this and adjacent to Edgerly Island, is Coon Island, which has a public access point.

Now if you think that this is confusing, you should have tried to write it!

The entire bay ecosystem started at about 720 sq. miles, and due to the intervention, thus, has shrunk to about 480 sq. miles. Land trusts have been established to retake and preserve the wetlands and bring the area back, as well as we can, to the wildlife area it was.

Islands are being reclaimed and filled in with bay dredging spoils. So now that you have the verbal tour of the Napa River delta, as I call it, and are thoroughly confused about how did it got here! Well, at one time, Highway 37 was a toll road. It was the Carquinez Bridge of the north, allowing traffic and commerce from the east to the west.

During the gold rush era, dikes were built and it was found that there was some very rich soil under the surface. These dikes created islands that were eventually drained and turned into very viable farmlands.

In the case of the Napa River, Mare Island was established in about 1854.

As there were no automobiles, the transportation method was the horse, or hay burners as they were referred. This area was close to the island and diked off to create farmlands. The area grew a lot of grain, but most of it was hay, for feeding the horses. The area, as did others that started making money, was developed, and the farming of the area flourished for many years. When the internal combustion area put an end to the horse, the hay in the area lost its value. The islands remained, and until recently, with the efforts of those restoring the bay, will eventually go away.

The dikes are being breached to allow them to flood. This started about 30 years ago and continues today. I have personally witnessed the demise of the waterfowl in the area. The Pacific flyway has shifted east, down the central valley in the past years, and it recently is returning to the original areas, like the middle parts of the Bay area, and Sacramento/San Joaquin delta areas. That shift is great to see. It is thought that through the conservation and reclaiming of this area would contribute not only to the restoration of the Bay but also to the flyways.

I hope it works.

Tom Ochs, Club Historian

Cruise Out

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

This is a great opportunity to travel with your fellow shipmates and experience different yacht clubs across the Bay area.

COMPLETED CRUISES – A GOOD TIME WAS HAD BY ALL!

- 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

UPCOMING CRUISES

- July 14th-16th - Petaluma Yacht Club
- August 11th-13th - Commodores Cruise to San Francisco Yacht Club
- September 9th-18th - Bluewater Cruise



Photos from the South Beach Cruise out

Sail a Small Boat—What a Fantastic Time!

Approximately 35 members participated in our Inaugural Cal 20 sailing day! All 3 boats were out. Thank you to Ab Ream and crew who spent so much time and elbow grease renovating the boats! This is a fantastic opportunity for members to gain sailing experience on small boats.



**Thank you, Ab
and volunteers,
for making these
boats shine!**

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

