

# The Whale's Tale

Ballena Bay Yacht Club



Alameda, CA

Volume 2018, Issue 5

May, 2018

## The Commodore Report

*Kathryn Rees*



Opening Day on the Bay was April 22—the 2018 boating season is officially here! BBYC is looking to a great year—on and off the water.

### **BBYC's Newest Reciprocal Affiliation**

In addition to the Pacific Inter-Club Yacht Association, comprised of over 100 northern California yacht clubs, BBYC is now a member of the Yachting Club of America enjoying reciprocal benefits with over 700 yacht clubs in the continental United States, Alaska, Hawaii, and the American Virgin Islands. While reciprocity is a privilege, not technically a right, these distinguished yachting organizations usually cordially extend visiting privileges to BBYC card carrying members. In the case of YCA, some member clubs will rely on the "Register of American Yacht Clubs" (the oldest existing yacht club register in America) in addition to the BBYC membership card. For example, we were in Florida in March. The yacht Club in Boca Raton readily accepted our BBYC membership card. However, the Lauderdale Yacht Club in Ft. Lauderdale, relied on whether the Ballena Bay Yacht Club was listed in the *Register of American Yacht Clubs*, then looked at our card. BBYC being part of P.I.C.Y.A and YCA opens yacht club doors in many unexpected places. We went to Ireland, with Jeff Fuller and Gwyn Smith a year or so ago, and were welcomed into the Dublin Yacht Club with just our BBYC card. Many embassies around the world recognize YCA and will be helpful to its members. So, in short, membership has its benefits and privileges.

### **BBYC Is a Volunteer Club—We Need You**

BBYC is an all volunteer club—that is part of our charm, but it also part of our challenge. Every event, on and off the water, happens because of our wonderful

members who volunteer. A couple of years ago, the Board instituted a **five hour per year mandatory volunteer commitment**. A member has the option of waiving that commitment through an annual \$100 payment in addition to regular dues. Because we are a volunteer club, we are able to maintain a very reasonable dues structure. Without volunteers, we would have to hire staff which would impact our dues structure. Most of all, rather than your money, we would love your participation in our BBYC community. Since this is May 1 and our boating season has just started, this is a great time to think about how you would like to pitch in to get your five hours done. Once you pitch in, you will have so much fun, you will most likely keep right on pitchin' in. Do you want to bartend? What about cleaning the BBQ? What about BBQing? What about setting tables for a dinner? Are you a "fix it" person? Do you want to be on the Race Committee to help with the Friday Night Grillers? Do you like to cook? Do you want to plant flowers? Do you want to be part of a clean up day? Do you want to serve on a committee or board? There are so many ways. So think about it and step up—five hours is less than half a day. I will be happy to put you in touch with the right people. Email [commodore@bbyc.org](mailto:commodore@bbyc.org) or go to the contacts page on the website [www.bbyc.org](http://www.bbyc.org), and reach out to any of us by email or phone. ***A very immediate need is on the Finance Committee. Our treasurer, Larry Conrad, is looking for a few helpers to take on some specific tasks as part of his Finance Committee. Contact him at [treasurer@bbyc.org](mailto:treasurer@bbyc.org).***

### **BBYC Member Roster**

BBYC Board Secretary, Cindy Wagner, is producing a BBYC Member Roster with member contact and boat information. If you do not wish specific information to be included, please opt out by contacting [secretary@bbyc.org](mailto:secretary@bbyc.org).

## BALLENA BAY YACHT CLUB

1150 Ballena Blvd., Alameda, CA 94501  
510-523-BBYC (2292)

### Commodore

Kathryn Rees (916) 837-9006  
commodore@bbyc.org

### Vice Commodore

Lu Abel (510) 814-1810  
vicecommodore@bbyc.org

### Rear Commodore

Tom Burns (510) 239-4197  
rearcommodore@bbyc.org

### Staff Commodore

Jeff Fuller (510) 851-6382  
staffcommodore@bbyc.org

### Secretary

Cindy Wagner (415) 686-2872  
secretary@bbyc.org

### Treasurer

Larry Conrad (919) 360-9330  
treasurer@bbyc.org

### Port Captain

David Paoletta (505) 401-9621  
portcaptain@bbyc.org

### Directors

Meg Abularrage (410) 241-3589  
directorma@bbyc.org

Ward Fulcher (510) 409-8894  
directorwf@bbyc.org

Mark Pavusko (510) 496-1811  
directormp@bbyc.org

### Race Chair

Gary Helms (510) 865-2511  
race@bbyc.org

### Cruise-out Chair

Bill Stapp (510) 499-6152  
cruise@bbyc.org

### Merchandise Chair

Kim Crow (925) 820-3948  
merchandise@bbyc.org

### Rental Chair/Vice Rear Commodore

Mike Johnson (510) 473-7307  
rental@bbyc.org

### Webmaster/Whale's Tale Editor

Gwyn Smith (415) 497-8580  
editor@bbyc.org

The Whale's Tale is published monthly by the Ballena Bay Yacht Club. Deadline for articles is on the twentieth of the month preceding the date of publication. Articles accepted for publication may have to be edited. Please send submissions to editor@bbyc.org. Photographs are welcome and should include a caption and photo credit.  
© 2018 BBYC. All rights reserved.

## May Events

Every Friday: "Aloha Friday"      May 25: Friday Night Race #5  
May 3: May Board Meeting      May 26: Open House/B Dock Opening  
May 5: "Cinco de Bayo" Dinner      May 31: June Board Meeting  
May 11: Friday Night Race #4

<http://www.bbyc.org/calendar.html> or download the BBYC app

## The Rear Commodore Report

*Tom Burns*

As I mentioned last month, Sailing season is here! The winds are blowin' and Ballena Bay Yacht Club invites you to come on in—whether for a Kir Royale, a Margarita, a cold beer or a soda. Plus we have lots of bar snacks. Come hang with us—whether on the water or in the bar. Just a couple of reminders as a volunteer club—we appreciate all our volunteer bartenders. We also love it when full BBYC members make their own drinks. While we keep beer and wine in the refrigerator to be able to stock the bar handily and conveniently, we do have an order to which they go behind the bar. So if you are

unsure, ask. We are always happy to help you.

Good news coming. We will soon be looking to have fresh paint, new window coverings and some needed repairs. Stay tuned. While this will mean some dislocation and inconvenience, it will result in a great new look for our club.

Finally, if you are in the Club, be sure to open the doors, turn on the lights, and be available to serve our associate members who cannot go behind the bar. Or show a prospective member around the Club. In the meantime, fair winds and smooth sailing.

## The Port Captain Report

*David Paoletta*

The winds are fine, the weather is good, and the sails are up. Yacht Clubs are on the move and on the water. This sailing season is shaping up to be great as more yacht clubs cruise into Ballena Bay Yacht Club. Some of our best events are targeted for dates when we have visiting yacht clubs. San Jose Sailing Club had a great time at BBYC to kick off Opening Day on the Bay weekend. Lu and Diane

Abel organized a great dinner event. Looking forward, we expect South Beach YC, June 22-23; Coyote Point YC, July 13-14; The Potter Yachters, September 15-16; Caliente Isle YC, September 25-26; Sacramento YC, October 1-7 or 8-14; Benicia YC, October 23-24 and Berkeley YC, October 27-28. And the slip availability for cruisers to Ballena Isle Marina is just getting better—accommodating larger and larger cruise-ins.



San Jose Sailing Club members, about 30 of them, are BBYC guests. Food by Shannon Marsden of Shannon Cooks (inset).

## The Cruise-out Report

Bill Stapp

The Cruise Chair Report for April, unfortunately, must be filed without my having been able to participate in the Tradewinds/ Boat Show Cruise-out to Marina Bay Harbor in Richmond because I was sick. But everyone had a great time! What is not to love about a boat show. Plus, I hear tell that Tradewinds did a fabulous pulled pork dinner with over a hundred in attendance, followed by a super speaker, Tony Johnson, who shared his circumnavigation saga. What an adventure.

Our next cruise-out is scheduled for June 15-17 to the Pt. San Pablo Yacht Club at the end of the Santa Fe Channel in Point Richmond. Charming, old Point Richmond is a long walk or a short Uber away, plus the Richmond Yacht Club is close by as well.

Over the July 4th holiday, we will be cruising to the Benicia Yacht Club. Benicia is always great fun—great fireworks and a charming, historic town next to the marina to explore.

We have a cruise-out scheduled for Labor Day Weekend to South Beach next to AT&T Park in San Francisco, just south of the Bay Bridge. We have eight slips reserved for this event and seven boats scheduled. If you want to join our group, please contact me at 510-499-6152.

I posted a Memorial Day cruise-out for Pier 39, but there were no takers. Our tradition has been the Petaluma Yacht Club for Memorial Day. We have had many years of great fun there. But since the Turning Basin has become silted in, the Petaluma Yacht Club isn't doing this event—I think we, along with many clubs in the region, are still in mourning and trying to get our bearings. Let's hope they get a dredger in there soon.

## The Merchandise Report

Kim Crow

I have some fabulous new merchandise for you to consider purchasing, including two slickers, some quarter zip sweatshirts, some T shirts and more. If I'm not at the club to open up the cabinet for you, please track down a member of the Board as they have access to the keys to the cabinets. All prices include tax. If you don't find your size, just

take the item number down and contact me at [klbird@pacbell.net](mailto:klbird@pacbell.net) and I'll order your size for you with the monogram of your choice. I know you will want to "show your colors" with specially embroidered or silk screened, official Ballena Bay Yacht Club merchandise. You will not only be representing our wonderful club, but you'll also be supporting it. Thanks in advance.



# Happenin' Happenings

Kathryn Rees

- Aloha Fridays—they just keep getting bigger and better. A huge shout out to Board Director, Mark Pavusko, for spearheading this Happenin' Happening. Come on in for Happy Hour drink prices, bar food and snacks, plus music—sometimes even live. Aloha Friday is every Friday starting at 5:00 pm. Let's light the tiki torches and pour a cold one.
- And what about Cathy Stapp's Man Pleasin' Steak Dinner for the April 6 Member Dinner. Rave reviews. No one ever wants to miss a Cathy Stapp dinner!
- Our cruisers were off to Richmond Marina Bay Harbor to visit Tradewinds and the Pacific Sail and Power Boat show April 20-22. Tradewinds was an awesome host! Great dinner and a great circumnavigation speaker, Tony Johnson. Was anyone's wallet big enough to get everything they wanted at the boat show?

The winds were fair and the weather perfect. Stay tuned—our Cruise Chair, Bill Stapp, has a lot in store for great, future cruise destinations. And there is no better way to get your cruise helm squared away than to sail to new destinations with a group of boaters for tips, fun, and camaraderie—like *"Don't cut that corner or you will be stuck in the mud."* Yes, it happened last year, but we were there to help. Or *"Yikes, what are you doing on this side of that jetty!?"* Yes, it happened this year. So, if you haven't been on a cruise-out, you are in for a treat with friends who will have your boating back.

- On April 21, the San Jose Sailing Club started their Opening Day celebrations by cruising into BBYC. Lu and Diane Abel organized a proper BBYC welcome complete with a great dinner.
- Coming right up on May 5 is

another Happenin' Happening. Matt Schuessler and Deborah Harkins, along with Grant Laske and Talita Franco, are putting together our own Cinco de Bayo. Come on in for tequila tasting/toasting, live music and a great Cinco de Mayo spread. You won't go away hungry—all for only \$20.

- And it finally is a real Happenin' Happening! Hosted by Ballena Isle Marina, the brand new B Dock opening and ribbon cutting will be on May 26—about 10:00 am, followed by an open house at BBYC for the attending guests. All are welcome to the ribbon cutting and BBYC open house. Then from 2:00-6:00 pm, for all that have slips in the Marina or are building tenants, Ballena Isle Marina is hosting an appreciation Garden Party. So if you keep your boat or lease space in the Marina, come to the garden for fine food and a jazz trio. A great way to spend Memorial Day weekend Saturday.
- And let's not forget—BBYC Race Chair, Gary Helms, puts together awesome Griller Races every other Friday night. So if you want to race or crew—get in touch with Gary. Go to [www.bbyc.org](http://www.bbyc.org) to "On the Water" and pull down the racing tab. Our racers have a great time and are always looking for new and expanded competition.
- Speaking of racing, Club Nautique will be hosting the Bay Buoy Boogie on June 9. They would love to have Ballena Bay Yacht Club racers join them. Our own Mark Pavusko and Joseph Hassan will be cooking as tired, hungry, and exuberant racers come in to swap stories and review their performance on the big screen TV.

And even if you want to just come in and have a quiet beer, it is still happenin', thanks to our volunteer bartenders. What would we do without you!



Lee and Kathryn Rees and Mark and Janis Howard at the Lauderdale Yacht Club.

# Man Pleaser Steak Dinner and Boat Show/Tradewinds Cruise-out

*Photos by Kim Crow and Kathryn Rees*

