

# The Whale's Tale

Ballena Bay Yacht Club



Alameda, CA

Volume 2018, Issue 4

April, 2018

## The Commodore Report

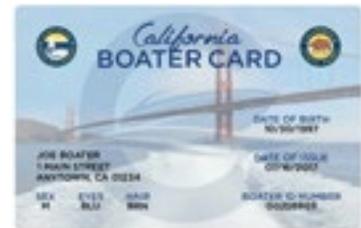
*Kathryn Rees*



What a great month March has been! Aloha Fridays just keep getting bigger and better—music, torch lightings, bar food, pig pork (or is it bacon pork?). March 30 kicked off our griller/beer can racing season with our Race Chair, Gary Helms capably at the helm. Bill Stapp organized an amazing cruise out to Emeryville. St. Paddy's day rocked with fine music and a delicious corned beef dinner by Lou Ann Roth and Thomasina Woida. And then there was the Mai Tai-off at Aloha Friday. Cathy Stapp will be honchoing a great Membership Dinner on April 7 featuring barbecued New York steaks, baked

potatoes, creamed spinach, salad and chocolate cupcakes. The beat goes on and just gets better! Watch those Evites for April events plus a great cruise-out to Marina Bay Harbor/Tradewinds and the boat show. All are don't miss events. And CHECK IT OUT! Our own past commodore, Jeff Fuller, completely took apart and cleaned our popcorn machine. Wow!

What about the California Boater Card law? We need to be alert and alive. In case you don't know, all will ultimately be required to have one, even though



it is phased in by age. So while some of us mature people can skate for a few more years, if we have people under 20 at the helm of our boat—yes, we too must have passed the test and obtained the Boater Card. Just a heads up.

## APRIL EVENTS

Every Friday: "Aloha Friday" 5:00pm happy hour

April 5: Board of Directors Meeting

April 7: Spring Roundup "Man Pleaser" steak dinner with live music

April 13: Friday Night Race #2

April 20: San Jose Sailing Club Cruise-in

April 20-23: Boat Show Cruise-out to Marina Bay, Richmond

April 22: Opening Day on the Bay

April 27: Friday Night Race #3

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

## 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.

## The Vice-Commodore Report

*Lu Abel*

As the old saying goes, good things come in threes! In January we welcomed not one, not two, but three new members! Now it's happened again!

Vivee Young and Grae Wallace live here in Alameda and have a powerboat *Viva Vivee* located on F-dock. Nelson and Darlene Bettencourt also have a powerboat, *North Star*, located on A-dock (or at least until the construction work started). They live in Granite Bay in the Sacramento area. Last but not least is Virginia Gleason, soon to be joined by her husband Tag, who are relocating from Seattle to the Ballena Bay neighborhood but are not yet boat owners. Please be sure to say hello to Vivee, Grae, Nelson, Darlene, or Virginia, introduce yourself, and welcome them to BBYC

if you see one of them at one of our events.

A revised membership application form is now available. It clarifies and includes all our membership categories – Young Adult (21~25), Corinthian (26~34), Regular (35~64), Senior (65+), and Corresponding (any age, home and boat both over 200 miles away). There should always be a supply in the holder by the club's main door along with our short and long membership brochures. Please let me know if you see the supply running low. And please help make it run low by encouraging friends, neighbors, and dockmates to join BBYC!!

Oh, and one last reminder: If you have not already done so, please pick up your 2018 membership card. There's still quite a pile of them by the bar cash register.

## The Rear Commodore Report

*Tom Burns*

As I mentioned last month, the club is open to members with keys seven days a week with the alarm being set between 9:30–10:00 pm each night. That is, unless there is something going on later and there is someone present that can close the club and arm the alarm. If you arrive after that and the club is dark, expect that the alarm is set and will trigger if you enter.

We have a new rum. It is "The Kraken" and is a black, spiced rum priced at \$4 a shot.

If you are involved in restocking the bar beer refrigerator, it's important that the bottles are placed in a standard order so that those tending bar can quickly find what they are looking for. Expect to soon see a diagram on the inside of the refrigerator doors indicating what goes where.

## The Race Report

Gary Helms

**B**allena Bay Yacht Club Friday Night Griller races have begun. The racing season is upon us. Monohull and Multihull sailboat divisions are competing. The race courses are right out our back door in the San Francisco South Bay. The Wind Gods will rule! The first Start will be at 18:00 hours Friday night, March 30. And then every other Friday night for the Spring, Summer and Fall Seasons—12 race nights in all. The event is simple to begin. Abeam the Ballena Bay Marina flag pole,

Monohull boats start at 18:00; Multihull boats start at 18:05. You take your own finish time and report it to the Ballena Bay Clubhouse after the race. Join the other racers and cruisers back at the club house for eats, drinks, prizes and to swap lies about your performance. Season Champion will be recognized. We invite cruisers who would like to participate to join us for the fun.

To register for the event go to: [www.jibeset.net](http://www.jibeset.net). Then choose the link to Ballena Bay Yacht Club.

## The Cruise-out Report

Bill Stapp

**W**e have several cruise-outs scheduled as indicated by the list below. For those of you not participating in cruise-outs, I can only say you don't know what you are missing. Cruise-outs give you an opportunity to spend more time with your boat, and members of BBYC. They also give you an opportunity to get to know the Bay better. Listed below are cruise-outs scheduled over the next few months. Please come join us, I'll bet you'll be glad you did.

The schedule is filling up. To date we have the following:

March 23-25

*Emeryville Marina*

April 20-23

*Marina Bay, Richmond (Boat show)*

May TBD

June 15-17

*Pt. San Pablo Yacht Club*

July 3-5

*Benicia*

August TBD

September

*8/31–9/3 South Beach*

October TBD

November TBD

December TBD

## The Port Captain Report

David Paoletta

**A**lthough a March cruise-in had to be postponed due to construction on the Gas Dock/Guest Dock area the Sea Breeze Yacht Club was not to be denied and “motor-cruised” to the St. Patrick’s Day dinner-dance with fifteen members! As of this writing the list of clubs cruising in is below:

April 20-22; Sequoia YC

June 22-23; South Beach YC

July 13-14; Coyote Point YC

September 15-16; The Potter Yachters

September 25-26; Caliente Isle YC

October 23-24; Benicia YC

Last month I asked for help understanding why I see so many sailboats motoring on otherwise windy days in San Francisco Bay? The question obviously hit a nerve, and I apologize if it came across

as snarky or mean-spirited; it was supposed to “stir the pot” a bit, but not intended to criticize any age, gender or other protected class of sailor! Anyway, following are the results of my informal poll...

***Top Ten Reasons Sailors Motor Rather Than Sail their perfectly good sailboats on perfectly windy days...***

*I have a perfectly good answer to that. They have me on board.*

*With thanks and a tip of my sailor hat to Lee & Kathy Rees. (Kim Crow)*

*But wait... Sails?...Those flappy things? (Mike Muetz)*

*The wind is going the wrong way.*

*My deckhand fell off the boat and I'm looking for him/her.*

*My engine was getting grumpy so I*

*thought I would give it some exercise.*

*My chef is baking a cake and I have to keep the boat level.*

*You're over 70, it's a 65-foot mast and you have a manual winch! (BBYC Commodore)*

The Port Captain thanks all who sent in their entries!

# Vast Kidde Fire Extinguisher Recall—including Boat Extinguishers

Lu Abel

Kidde, one of the largest manufacturers of hand-held fire extinguishers has announced a vast recall of its fire extinguishers—extinguishers manufactured years ago as well as just recently. When you squeeze the trigger, the extinguishing agent may not come out! The recall applies to all Kidde extinguishers with plastic handles.

The recall covers not only home fire extinguishers, **but ones designed for boating**. I purchased a couple of fire extinguishers at West Marine last spring and they are among the ones subject to the recall!

To see if any of your extinguishers, home or boat, are subject to the recall, go to <https://inmarmarketaction.com/kidde/Kidde284US/> (or Google “kidde recall”). To determine if you are eligible for a replacement extinguisher, you will be asked for your extinguisher’s model number, serial number, and date of



manufacture, so you pretty much need the extinguisher in front of you. Where to find these is clearly explained on the website.

The trickiest part in determining if my extinguishers were subject to the recall was finding the “date of manufacture” (aka “date code”). There’s a 10-digit number stamped on the extinguisher, and the date is digits 5 thru 9 (i.e., the five digits before the very last digit). The code is in a DDDYY format, where DDD is the day of the year (i.e., 001 thru 365) and YY is the year. For example, my extinguishers have a

date code of 02317, which means they were manufactured on the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of 2017. I then filled out a page linked off the main page, that gave Kidde my name and address, and filled out model number, date code, and serial numbers for my two extinguishers—and the page said “yep, your extinguishers are subject to recall, we’ll send you new ones.”

My new extinguishers arrived in about two weeks. I was asked to put my old extinguishers in the boxes that the new ones arrived in and call UPS to pick them up. Easy to do, my old ones were picked up two days later.

***A fire is perhaps the most dangerous and horrible thing that can happen aboard a boat.*** I strongly urge each and every one who reads this to check the extinguishers aboard their boat (and your home, if you’ve got ‘em there, too). Remember, one of these recalled extinguishers may not work when it’s needed!



*BBYC membership has its privileges! Lee and Kathryn Rees visit the Royal Palm Yacht Club with Jan and Mark Howard.*