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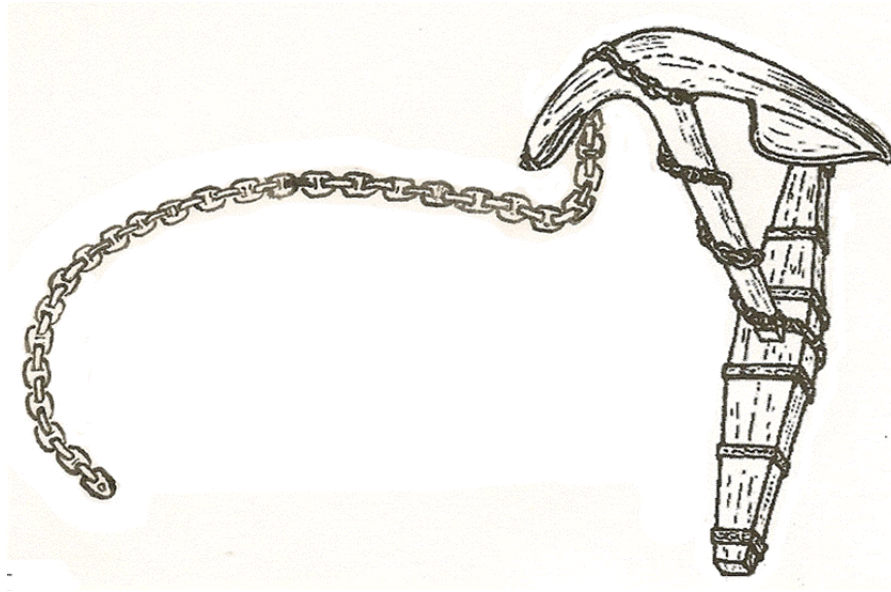
Sequoia Yacht Club

May 2011

Redwood City, CA



Cover Photo by Winston Bumpus: SYC at San Francisco Yacht Club Cruise Out



First Class Mail

Sequoia Yacht Club
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This Month At A Glance

- 5/3 Board Meeting
- 5/6 Floato de Mayo Drop in Dinner and General Meeting
- 5/7 Kentucky Derby Party
- 5/8 Mother's Day
- 5/14 South Bay Opening Day Breakfast and Lunch
- 5/20 Drop in Dinner and Bingo
- 5/27 Drop in Dinner
- 5/28 Memorial Weekend Cruise Out Schoonmaker's Sausalito

- 6/3 Turkish Drop in Dinner
- 6/4 Giants Game Cruise Out South Beach Harbor
- 6/7 Board Meeting
- 6/10 Drop in Dinner and Gen. Meeting
- 6/17 Sailing with the Stars and Friday Beer Can Racing
- 6/18 Past Commodore's Dinner
- 6/25 Tin Cup Cruise Out San Leandro

Officer of the Day (OD)

- 5/1 Thomas Runge
- 5/7 John Ryan
- 5/8 Mother's Day -- no OD
- 5/14 David Elliott
- 5/15 Charles Finn
- 5/21 Robert St Martin
- 5/22 Robert Stanfield
- 5/28 Bill Stark
- 5/29 Ron Stingley

- 6/4 Robert Strena
- 6/5 George Sutton
- 6/11 James Thompson
- 6/12 James Townsend
- 6/18 Dick Trainer
- 6/19 Father's Day - No OD
- 6/25 Tara Travers
- 6/26 Jeanie Treichel

*Email info
& articles to
SequoiaScope@Yahoo.com.
Check out club activities at
www.SequoiaYC.org.*

Commodore's Report



Joseph Curtis

Well, I don't know about you, but I've been working like a *Whirling Dervish* lately. It felt so good to relax in the warm sunshine of Belvedere Cove with Oya and all of our SYC cruising friends last weekend. Many thanks to Peter and Deb Blackmore for organizing and hosting this annual treat of a visit to beautiful San Francisco YC.

Now we can turn our attention to the equally beautiful South Bay and its Opening Day coming up on May 14. Let's show our colors in a display of "*Wild Life on the South Bay*." I'm hoping for a record turnout for sun, sailing and both breakfast and lunch at SYC.

There is certainly no shortage of parties on the horizon with our traditional Floato de Mayo on May 6 and our new Kentucky Derby Party on May 7. Ted Hannig and Kristin Butler are hard at work arranging the "*Sailing with the Stars*" fundraiser for Friday, June 17. And, then it's time for **The Past Commodore's Dinner** the next night, Saturday, June 18. All are can't miss events at SYC.

We have three more wonderful Cruise Outs in the works: Memorial Day Weekend, May 28-30, at Schoonmakers in Sausalito and the "Take Me Out to the Giants Game" on June 4-5 at South Beach Harbor, and The Tin Cup in San Leandro on June 25. Be sure to sign up with the Cruise Leaders to be sure of a slip! We're so grateful to the volunteers that make these weekend outings so special for all of us.

So, you see, it's no longer so hard to believe that summer is just around the corner. Oya and I are really looking forward to the fantastic Mega Cruise to Turkey in early July. We hear that the various boats are holding team meetings, poring over charts, booking their flights and planning their sight seeing. There is just so much rich history and vibrant culture that it will be hard to soak it all up in just one week, but we'll sure try.

To get you in a Turkish sort of mood, Oya and I will host a special Drop in Dinner on **Friday, June 3**. Who knows? You may even see me dressed like a Sultan with flashing blue eyes!



Vice Commodore's Report



Kate Humphreys

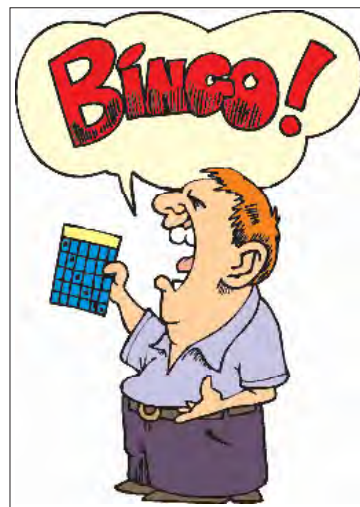
Happy May! It's time to put April showers and taxes behind us and spring into full time sailing and fun at SYC.

Thank you to all who are attending our Drop in Dinners. We are having so much fun. Lina has been chef extraordinaire!! An extra special thank you to Scott Johnson and Malcolm Fliege and their families for hosting the Tax, Tequila and Trivia DID on April 15th as well as Michele and Chris Hartman for all their help in making the night a success.

Please join us this month and see what all the fun is about. We have Friday Drop in Dinners scheduled for May 6th, 20th (BINGO!!!) and the 27th.

Did I say BINGO!!! Luanne Graves and family will once again be leading us through our annual Bingo night with the game beginning at 19:15

This is a come one, come all family game night with prizes and exchanges that will keep you laughing for hours.



On the more elegant social front, join us on May 7th for the Kentucky Derby. Mint juleps, your favorite silks and ladies bring on those hats!

A big thank you to Dan Doud and crew for getting our wonderful barbecue back on line – just in the nick of time for Beer Can season!!! Whew!

Hope to see you at the club soon.

Rear Commodore's Report



Peter Blackmore

Spring is finally here. The weather gods have agreed we live in the SF Bay area and not Seattle and have called off the rain.

Our boating program has celebrated the first Beer Can in fine style with over 20 boats competing and having fun. Our thanks to Steve Holmstrom for kicking this years program off in fine style on Wednesday the April 13th. Conditions were light but we know that will change in a few weeks with our normal South Bay Summer wind machine.

Tim Petersen and the racing teams continue to be very active and I know this will go from strength to strength in the Summer series, the single handed series and our special sailing events that add to a great season. Tim did an analysis last year that showed we were the third most active club in the North AND South Bays in races run and nautical miles covered. I have no doubt that this year will be even better!

We just celebrated an outstanding cruise out to San Francisco which is always a favorite destination. With the sun also cooperating it was a really fun weekend with 13 boats and over 40 people participating. The next event, which is another favorite, is Memorial Day Weekend to Sausalito!

South Bay Opening Day is fast approaching on May 14th. It's once again time to show that there is **"Wild Life on the South Bay."** This year it would great to see at least 7 decorated boats from our large fleet participating and preferably more than 10. Plus our junior sailors will be out in strength. That together with our friends from the other clubs should make a great turn out.

The Coast Guard will be there as well so there will be lots happening on the water. As usual there will be awards for various categories including junior sailors, boats by size categories.

On the docks there will be a band, many booths and of course Sequoia will have breakfast and lunch for all the hungry crowd. Our own David Bliven has kindly agreed to be the MC again. Your job - participate in the boating parade, come to the event, support the club and have a great time!

Junior Sailing



Peter McCormick

Sequoia Junior Sailing Program(JSP) needs you!

Whether its for Beer Can Racing, The Deck Project, Tending Bar, or sweeping the floor, all of us jump in at some appropriate point or another. The JSP is no different, it runs on the goodwill and hands-on efforts of the club volunteers.

I'd like to thank those who have come before me and are still with me. Dan and Kate Humphreys, Dave Pirrone, Fred and Kirsten Gillam, John Zolck, Chris Owczarek, Kris Butler, and Paul Morgan-Witts. These folks continue their efforts and support the kids selflessly and without fail. Thank you.

Supporting the kids has many roles. Dan and Dave instruct and keep the class on track for specific activities. Fred, John, Paul, and Chris have stepped in to assist in rigging, being eyes on the water, and/or safety boat handling. Kris and Kate have organized lunches, SBOD activities and participated with the kids.

None of these activities was learned over night, or even in a couple of sessions. Being around, participating will prepare you for the next day and the next day. It's a life long learning process. Whether it's rigging a boat, or identifying a safety issue, or simply talking to the kids about what you know or even what you don't know. The effort and growth is a team effort. On the water skills, both sailing and safety boats, need to be practiced in real time.

Learning these skills will make you more proficient every time you are on the water, where you are not just responsible for yourself, but also for everyone else boating with you.

So consider your time, consider what you might want to get out of your SYC membership and consider "what type of boat person" are you? Are you prepared? Can you learn and do more?

You might say, "well, I don't have that kind of time". Our classes are 2-hour sessions, 18 days of the year. Swing on over before you go out on a race and check out the activities, even a few minutes of watching and participating is good.

Social Events



Michele Hartman

Malcolm Fliege & Scott Johnson were terrific hosts for Tax, Tequila, & Trivia on Friday night. The drinks were amazing, and Lina prepared a delicious Mexican Fiesta to pair with the tequila. Trivia Night was loads of fun with Team Mirth emerging as Most Trivial for the night (Rick & Petra Gilmore, Theresa & Ron Howard). Good times were had as many people stayed at the club enjoying each other after dinner and into the night. Huge thanks to Kim Fliege for helping Lina with dinner and she and Peter McCormick for doing the lion's share of clean-up.

Kentucky Derby Party Saturday, May 7th

14:00 - 16:00 \$14 per person
Post time is 15:24

Enjoy an authentic celebration of the 137th Kentucky Derby with delicious "Taste of Derby" appetizers; "Derby Style" fashion optional. And, you can leave your hat on!

"Comma to the Top" of the club for the "Decisive Moment"! We'll be "Dialed In" with "Uncle Mo" enjoying the Derby. We won't "Stay Thirsty" because Tod, our own "Mucho Macho Man", will be mixing up "The Factor" to "Watch Me Go"! These are 8 of the 15 horses currently entered to run the Derby --is it just me, or do these sound like boat names?

South Bay Opening Day "Wild Life on the South Bay" Saturday, May 14th

8:00-10:00 Breakfast: all-you-can-eat pancake and eggs for \$8. Bloody Marys and Mimosas for \$5

12:00-13:30 Lunch: hamburger, hotdogs, chips, salad, cookies for \$12. Beer available in the club and in the parking lot for \$4

Volunteers are needed for all activities. All hands on deck for this wild day at SYC folks!

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Membership News



Jerry Jones

The April General Meeting was full of first and second readings. Please welcome these new and prospective members aboard.

Phaedra Fisher from San Francisco who has been crewing in SYC Beer Can races and interested in Social Planning. Nominated by Scott Johnson and Malcolm Fliege.



Phaedra Fisher

Fabian & Caroline Pease from Stanford, and are previous members of Palo Alto Yacht Club. They have a Ranger R-27, *Nano-Tug* in our marina and are interested in club house and boat maintenance. Nominated by Dan Doud and Larry Mayne.



Fabian & Caroline Pease

Membership approved for:

Scott & Celia Burkhardt, they are interested in crewing in the SYC races, and interested in Junior Sailing Instruction. Nominated by Robin Weber and Winston Bumpus.



Scott & Celia Burkhardt

Brian & Sally Mickel have a Catalina 36 *Calypso* berthed in our marina and interested in club house maintenance and hospitality. They recently joined the SYC Cruise to San Francisco YC. Nominated by Joseph Curtis and Sheila Jones.



Brian & Sally Mickel

Racing Fleet News



Tim Petersen

With the start of May we have made the transition from winter to summer racing. April was an action-packed month with a race almost every week. We concluded our Winter Series with race #5 on Saturday, April 9. This race was also run as the annual St. Patrick's Day Race and a bottle of Tyrconnell Irish Whiskey now sits in the cabin of Rich Butts' *Melilani*. A bottle of Shipyard Ale went to fifth place winner *Lucky Duck* (Paul McCarthy), Full Sail Ale to fourth place *Pizote* (John Ryan), Guinness Dry Stout to third place winner *Yellow Brick Road* (John Draeger), and Bailey's Irish Crème to second place *Smokin' J* (Stan Phillips).

Thanks to all the skippers and crew that came out to make our Redwood Cup and Winter Series races a success, to our friends from Coyote Point Yacht Club who joined us, and to Robin Weber for running our Redwood Cup Series.

April brought the return of Beer Can Racing. The season kicked off with a dinner on April 6 and as a testament to the popularity of this series, the Beer Can Fleet requested to start a week earlier than the original plan. Beer Can #00 was added to the schedule and the first race was held on April 13. April also brought the running of the first Friday Night Beer Can on April 22. Look for additional Friday Night Races on June 17 (Hannig Cup), July 22 and September 23.

Our Summer Series is now underway. Summer #1 was run on Saturday, April 23. This is a five-race series with one throw-out race and is open to all sailors. We will be running the series with a committee boat this year and the races will start at 12:30 at mark S. All Skippers should attend the Skipper's meeting at 10:30 on the day of the race. Our Single-handed Series also continued with race #2 on Saturday, April 30. April was indeed a busy month!

Mark your calendars now with a big X (or Dos Equis?) on every Wednesday for Beer Can Racing. Be sure also to mark the calendar for Summer #2 on Saturday, May 7. Come down the club on **South Bay Opening Day** and show your support for Brett Herr who will be representing Sequoia on May 15 in the Los Gatos Challenge Race. He's won the challenge for Sequoia for the past two years and we have high hopes for him again in 2011.

As always, race information, schedules and results can be found at www.sequoiayc.org, then click on the SYC Racing tab. I'll look for your boat as it crosses the start line.

Cruising Fleet News



Petra Gilmore

Hello Cruisers! The competition is fierce for the Iris Armes Brown Cruising Trophy! So far we have enjoyed 6 cruise-outs: Deep-fried turkey @ Angel Island, Dining @ South Beach, South Bay YC @ Alviso, Comedy @ Jack London Square, Wine tasting @ Oakland YC and Panache @ San Francisco YC. May will bring Spa Day @ Sausalito. Plan to join us!

Here are the point standings so far:

<u>Boat</u>	<u>Cruisers</u>	<u>Points</u>
<i>Dolci Sogni</i>	Bumpus	17
<i>Pied Piper</i>	Blackmore	15
<i>Mirth</i>	Gilmore	15
<i>Agave</i>	Weber/Maxwell	13
<i>Seascapades</i>	Hannig	13
<i>Killin' Time</i>	Keegan	11
<i>Relativity</i>	Amerman/Klingler	10
<i>Don't Tell My Wife</i>	Mayne	9
<i>Ale Kai</i>	Jacobs	9
<i>Metridium</i>	Graves	9
<i>Greensleeves</i>	Curtis	8
<i>Matsu</i>	McDonough	7
<i>Webtide</i>	Weber	6
<i>Anam Turos</i>	Jasper/Algie	6
<i>Murmur</i>	Murray	6
<i>Grace Kellie</i>	Lowe	5
<i>TimBucTu</i>	Doud	4
<i>Waterhorse</i>	Zolck	4
<i>Isis</i>	Hartman	3
<i>Made Easy</i>	Peterson	3
<i>Pizote</i>	Ryan	3
<i>Sea Woof</i>	Ritchey	3
<i>Calypso</i>	Mickel	3
	Howard	2
<i>Sweet Pea</i>	Petersen	2
<i>LeSoleil</i>	Sanders	1
	McCormick	1
<i>Slipstream</i>	Millet/Cohen	1

* The point system is: Lead a cruise-out 5 points; take your boat to a cruise-out 3 points; go by sea in someone else's boat 2 points; go by land 1 point. Please let me know if I have missed someone.

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For Nauti Girls & Buoys



Deb Blackmore

Dear Nauti Girls,

I've been invited to join the next big SYC Cruise Out to Sausalito in May. I'm really excited about the spa day 'cuz I know all about how to lay around and be pampered.

But I'm a little unclear about cruise out etiquette. For example, is it mandatory to chug a whole bottle of wine at "docktails"? Do I need to bring my Aunt Rose's special recipe canapes? Is a "blacktopper" a tuxedo? I don't want to be wrong footed on my first outing!

Cruisin' in Confusion

Dear Cruisin',

Never fear, it's hard to go wrong on a SYC cruise. We are a casual bunch of harmless inebriates who snack and yak dockside with gusto. By no means should you feel you need to imbibe if you're not so inclined. Bring a bottle of something you prefer and some quick and easy munchies.

We're a merry crowd who are often joined by overland arrivals, called "black toppers." No need to don *Nautica* or *Ralph Lauren* to impress this crowd. A clean t-shirt, a big smile, and a some boastful sailing small talk is all you really need. NG

Dear Nauti Girls

Can you please set the record straight? What is the best way to capture the "Oh-No" flag for our boat? My partner says that we need to rub extra scuff marks on our hull or practice night time docking without running lights. I prefer to just make copious notes in our Captain's Log of all our goofs to submit to the Commodore. What do you say? How do we win this prestigious prize?

Oh-No Novices

Dear Novices,

The "Oh No" is a badge of honor, that's true. But it is awarded by a super secret committee in a good natured way to acknowledge the inevitable unforeseen events in every boater's life. We don't recommend trying to earn this "fishy" (Ono) burgee. Just be an active boater and it will wind up flying from your starboard halyard soon enough. You'll pass it on to the next lucky member as fast as you can say "Oh No." NG

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Ann McDonough

Claire Keegan and Paula Graves are just weeks away from making their big decisions about colleges. We'll look forward to hearing their choices next month.



Meanwhile, Rob Blackmore and his family will celebrate his graduation from College of Charleston in south Carolina on May 7. Deb gets yet another graduation for Mother's Day!

Richard Blackmore received his acceptance at University of Leicester in England to study for a M.S. in Museum Studies. He sets sail for Old Blighty in September.

On April 1st, Jill Visor and Richard Butts became legal parents to Julia (11) and Jasmine (10) Bautista. Richard assures us that this is not an April Fool's Joke. Next time you see the girls at the club, be sure to give them a warm Sequoia welcome!

A single shot of *Agave* would be enough for most folks but not for Robin and Kathryn Weber. They've been planning their cruising dream and the perfect offshore boat presented itself last week! The next *Agave*, a new Catalina 470, will arrive in July. After a couple of months for commissioning, they will take delivery offshore and head to Mexico on their first cruise.

They plan to come back to the bay for the America's Cup, then head south with the Baha Ha-Ha in 2013 or 2014, continue cruising in Central America, then head through the Panama Canal and work their way to the Caribbean. After that, who knows!?

Cheryl Jasper

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Hot Shots by Lee Ritchie and Carole Bumpus



Ann helping Lee Ritchie, his son Jeff and the Sensorium crew bottle the 2010 Viognier, located with Byington Winery up on Bear Creek Road behind Los Gatos.



A late submission from last month: Photo of the group wine tasting at the Jack London Square Cruise Out

Be sure to give SYC advertisers your first consideration.

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Hot Shots by Winston & Carole Bumpus



San Francisco Yacht Club welcomes SYC



Doug Murray, Grace Lowe, Winston Bumpus, & Petra Gilmore



Oya Curtis, Carole Bumpus, & Carol Peterson; Carol & Winston



Wonder what Carol and Tim Peterson are pointing at?
Joseph and Oya Curtis enjoying the day.



SYC Club Events for May 2011

Upcoming Race Events:



Beer Cans	Every Wednesday
Summer #2	Saturday, May 7
Los Gatos Challenge	Sunday, May 15
Bays #1	Saturday and Sunday, May 21-22

For quick reference, go to www.sequoiayc.org/racecalendar

Drop in TGIF Dinners:

*Fridays, May 6, 20 and 27
18:00 - 21:00*

Don't settle for boring Friday evenings. Come to the club for fiestas, family game night and fun and relaxation with SYC friends!



Kentucky Derby Party

Saturday, May 7



Come wearing your best hat to eat favorite Southern dishes and sip on Mint Juleps starting at 14:00. We'll watch the live broadcast and cheer for our favorites.

Your hosts: Shannon Ammerman and Tod Klingler.

The Los Gatos Yacht Club Challenge Race Sunday, May 15

11:00 - Skippers' meeting
13:00 - first race (of 3, probably)

This challenge race has been running for the past 5-6 years. LGYC will charter Merits from Spinnaker and race in or just outside the channel.

In the past, LGYC has challenged SYC and Ames Sailing Club. This year, Brett Herr will take on all of the South Bay clubs.

Memorial Day Weekend Cruise Out: May 28-30

We'll spend the holiday weekend at Schoonmaker Marina, again offering prime water front access to Sausalito. Last year we had over 500 feet of boats in attendance, and booked a fabulous private *prix fixe* dinner. We are planning something equally fabulous for this year – there are several new, notable restaurants that have opened.

On Sunday, May 29 is the Caledonia Spring Street Faire and our annual spa day at Cavallo Point! Sign up early to reserve your space or drop me an email, samerman@pacbell.net – with this cruise out, both slips and spa appointments book up fast (black toppers welcome)!

Cruise Leaders – Shannon Amerman and Tod Klingler