

...a little dinghy

April 9, 2010

Volume 32, Issue 4

Special Interest Articles:

- Coastal Cruising
- Sailing clinic
- Meeting minutes

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Gold Country Yacht Club 530-265-2070

From Your Commodore

Ahoy Crew,

The lake is finally full, and our season opener is coming up in just a few weeks. This year's opening day has been extended into a full weekend, April 24-25. No Motor Day has been such a great event that NID suggested making it a full weekend. We have also decided to combine the venues into one area. In the past Wolf Creek Wilderness has had their kayaks at the day use area along with the Boy Scout's BBQ. There was always a little confusion as to where the different venues were taking place. After talking with everyone we all thought it would be a good idea to bring it all together at the Clubhouse and boat ramp. The Gold Country Yacht Club will host the event with our open house and free sail boat rides while Wolf Creek Wilderness will bring their kayaks (they're even bringing one with the sailing rig) and the Boy Scouts will be barbequing. All this and the serenity of no motors. Tell your friends and bring them out to the lake for a truly peaceful weekend. Check out our first press release with nevadacityadvocate.com and more will follow in The Union, local radio and our own Facebook page. The Yacht Club hopes to see you all there at this totally green event!



Fun on Scotts Flat Lake

While lake sailing is some of the best and most relaxing sailing there is, the ocean sailor has another level of responsibility: to maintain a reasonable level of safety for his crew and his vessel. Voyaging on the ocean demands a constant vigilance to the changing conditions and being prepared to meet those demands. Coastal cruising is even more demanding, dealing with being close to land and the land effects as

well as any number of traffic issues with ships, fishing boats, submarines and even missiles. Some traffic on the ocean isn't even moving although you would swear it passed you in some weird mix of tides, currents and winds. When planning any leg of a coastal trip you should monitor your radio for any coastal operations that might affect your safe passage.

After our wild ride down the Pt Sur coast, we were planning our next leg around Pt Conception and on to Southern California. The weather held us in Morro Bay for a week monitoring the weather and radio.

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From Your Commodore (cont)

As the weather improved, the radio was jamming all day with Coast Guard reports of submarine operations right off the coast, and right in our path. We charted the operations for three days and each day we could see their position move farther off shore. It turned out that they were maintaining the Trans Continental Cable that comes ashore just south of Morro Bay.

Our passage around California's own little Cape Horn was smooth sailing into the sunrise over Santa Barbara. The next legs, between the the mainland and the Channel Islands, had the usual shipping traffic that we monitored and tracked on our radar. You would be surprised how often you actually have to change course to avoid these giants traveling the oceans. The Channel



Daydreams waiting out the weather in Morro Bay

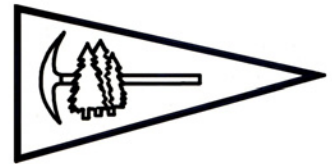
Islands have been a part of our military target practice for years and some areas are forbidden. When they get ready to fire their missiles the Coast Guard is back on the radio giving the coordinates to avoid and halt all vessels moving north and south while they launch our tax dollars. Just imagine it's safer out there on the ocean than driving down the freeway and we're just watching out for ships, fishing boats, submarines and even missiles, not to mention whatever is just floating by. So be careful out there, folks, and pay attention. You never know what's next!

Fair Winds Amigos!
from your Commodore
Joe Day
Daydreams, Pearson 385
Mental Floss, Catalina 22

Melinda's Membership Memos

Thanks to all you salts for sending in your membership dues in a timely manner. It is encouraging, in these times, to see so many faithful members. Badges have been ordered for new members and a few replacements. The 2010 membership cards will be laminated and ready to distribute at April's meeting. It seems everyone is looking forward to a great season of sailing activities. I am predicting an exceptional No Motor weekend at Scotts Flat Lake, April 24-25. Joining venues with Wolf Creek Wilderness and the Boy Scouts is going to make for quite a festive atmosphere. Last year several curious locals were out on the lake enjoying its beauty without motors! What better introduction to our club and sailing.

Having a Board Seat this year has certainly been an education in many ways. It is said to learn new things as we age, improving something? The fun part is getting to know club members and sharing our interest in all things nautical. The publicity side of this position has been a bit more challenging and frustrating. Thanks to everyone for being so helpful with the media and word of mouth advertising. I have shared our brochures with interested parties and have successfully made contact with Latitude 38, The Union and The Advocate.



Women's Sailing Clinic in April

The 2010 Gold Country Yacht Club Women's Sailing Clinic will be held **twice** April 24th and 25th from 11:00 a.m. till 3:30 p.m. This one-day clinic is being held **twice** during the GCYC Open House Weekend. It is free to GCYC women and will be lead by Lynn Buchanan, a US Sailing and American Sailing Association Certified Keelboat Instructor. Lynn has over 23 years experience sailing keelboats and has been a certified sailing instructor for over eleven years. Lynn's objectives are for you to have fun, be safe and learn sailing. The clinic will start on shore with a short chalk talk briefing and going over some handouts. Topics will include safety, knots, points of sail, sail trim, departure/docking under sail, person overboard, anchoring and topics of interest requested by classmates. You will need to bring a life jacket, lunch, bottle of water, and sunscreen. The class size each day is limited to three students and reservations are required. Call Lynn at 530-913-4283 to book your day.

The next race date is April 18th! Get your gear dusted off and ready to race on Scotts Flat Lake.

Scotts Flat Lake Fills Up!

In case you haven't seen it, the lake is full! Our mountain oasis never gets larger than it is right now, which will help to enhance the big No Motor weekend coming up this month. Here are some interesting facts about the impervious core, gravel fill dam and the resulting reservoir we enjoy:

- Completed in 1964
- Height: 170 feet
- Length at crest: 950 feet
- 1.5 million cubic yards of fill
- Area of lake: 700 acres
- Length of shoreline: 7.5 miles



Scotts Flat spillway, March 27, 2010

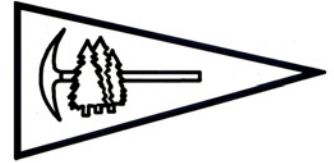


Building Scotts Flat Dam, 1964 (NID website)

March 2010 General Meeting Minutes

Commodore called the meeting called to order at 7:05pm.

Commodore (Joe Day): The club is holding a special raffle tonight to raise funds for Martha Turner's trip to Haiti, where she'll working for a month with Midwives for Haiti, an organization that teaches/trains midwifery skills to Haitian women. Her involvement is completely voluntary, so the raffle money and any extra donations will help her offset her travel/eating expenses and buy medical supplies that she can donate to the cause. Melinda will pass around the tickets & can for donations. David Niedziejko made the raffle prize tonight: a Manzanita tray and serving utensils.



March Meeting Minutes (cont)

Robert Walker (decked out in Polynesian garb) is back from his adventure in American Samoa, where he helped with FEMA's efforts to rebuild (he was involved with school reconstruction) following the September 2009 hurricane. Robert was impressed by the friendliness (and general size), and by the lack of material wealth, of the islanders.

The latest issue of "The Advocate" has a nice article about Ed Guinaugh; Joe brought extra copies.

Joe would like everyone to send good thoughts out to Doug Epperson who is having kidney stone surgery.

No Motor Weekend at Scotts Flat is coming up, April 24 and 25. Be sure to come to the April 11 work party at the clubhouse. Joe visited the clubhouse recently and said all looks good there.

The Strictly Sail Expo is April 15-18 at Jack London Square. Opening Day on the Bay is April 25. PICYA is offering charters aboard the *Hornblower* that day.

Kudos to Marilyn Webb for the photo of *Daydreams* she submitted to "Latitudes and Attitudes." And kudos to Ken Neely for his work on the club newsletters.

Vice-Commodore (Chris Buti): Chris is working on getting the skipper's gifts ordered (pint glasses w/ regatta logo and t-shirts). The NOR will be on the website next month. He's looking for 6 to 8 volunteers for the race committee. Chris and Wayne would like to race this year.

Secretary (Janis Johnson): Janis reminded people to renew their memberships; membership forms are available at the meeting and on GCYC's website. The membership fee goes up on April 1, so get your membership renewed before then to save some \$. Announcements from other clubs/organizations:

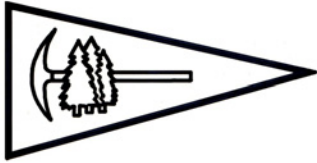
- ◆ Department of Boating and Waterways is offering free Dockwalker Trainings in March, April and June to train volunteers in educating boaters to promote environmentally clean and safe boating practices. See Janis for more details.
- ◆ The BVI Spring Regatta and Sailing Festival is taking place March 29-April 4.
- ◆ Folsom Lake Yacht Club is hosting the 44th Annual Camellia Cup Regatta on April 10-11.
- ◆ The Konocti Bay Sailing Club is hosting the 26th Annual Konocti Cup and Half Cup on April 24.
- ◆ The MHRA Chico Classic will be held on May 1-2, at Black Butte Lake. This is a multihull only event.

See Janis if you'd like more info about any of these events.

Treasurer (Jean Cutshall): Jean paid the club's insurance premiums in February for the liability and officer's policies. The club currently has 26 paid members, compared to 35 members at this time last year.

Membership/Publicity (Melinda Day): Melinda reminded everyone to renew their memberships before April 1, when the renewal fee will go up. She put a notice in "The Union" about tonight's meeting. The Go For The Gold! notice will be published in the May/June edition of "Latitude 38." She's excited about and gearing up for No Motor weekend on the lake April 24-25 and has been trying to coordinate activities with Wolf Creek Wilderness and the Boy Scouts. The event is a great way to experience the lake (without the sound of engines). The club will need boaters to participate in taking people sailing.

Race Chairman (Jerry Lewis): Jerry is in Seattle so will not be providing a report tonight.



March Meeting Minutes (cont)

Cruise Director (Doug Epperson): Joe reported that Doug is planning on coordinating a Lake Tahoe trip and possibly Lake Oroville this year. He will be getting the details together and asking for club participation.

Educational Director (Don Hare): The Junior Sailing class is June 21-25, so spread the word. Friendship Club Day is scheduled for June 26. Don would like to set up an adult class, but needs 3 to 4 people to commit. Two of the Sunfish need fixing up and he's asking for volunteers. (Charlie McKenzie offered to help with the repairs.) Don promoted the Konocti Cup, the Camellia Cup, the Lake Yosemite Club race in May, the Huntington Lake race and the Trans-Tahoe race.

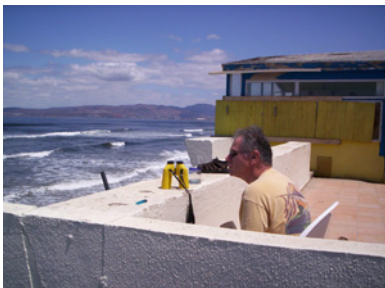
Newsletter Editor (Ken Neely): There are some great articles in this month's newsletter: Jerry Lewis provided The America's Cup article, Ken and Janis got to see the Cup at Golden Gate Yacht Club's celebration last weekend. If anyone is interested in contributing something to the newsletter, please get it to him by the 4th of the month.

Old Business: Howard Hendrich asked the club to donate a raffle prize, such as a junior sailing class, to Bear River Grad Night. Donors will be mentioned in "The Union" and the "Auburn Journal."

Classifieds

Dreaming of a Beach Get-Away? Here is your opportunity!

This is a two bedroom/two bath house on the beach in a quiet neighborhood. Take your coffee to the beach-side patio that overlooks the ocean, where you can sit while watching the dolphins play in the surf and the sun setting over the horizon.



Safely tucked away on the coast of South Ensenada is a wonderful gated ranch community called Corona Beach. The house sleeps 8+; a queen bed in the master bedroom, bunk beds in the second bedroom, a Murphy bed in the living room, along with two futons. There is a full kitchen, dining room seating for 6 and two full baths. \$75/night or \$500 per week, plus a \$300 deposit refunded after keys are returned and house inspected for damages.

The neighbors are mostly from the U.S. and everyone speaks English. The management of the park is very friendly and helpful. 24 hour security is provided. No motorcycles allowed in the park. The famous "La Bufadora" blow hole is 30 minutes away.

*****There is an additional \$20 per night parking and security fee you will be responsible for paying directly to the management of the park.**

Questions and availability call Howard or Donna Hendrich at (530) 272-6969

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On the Web
See us at:
www.gcyc.net

Classifieds (cont)



Crealock-designed 1970 Ericson 26 w/ trailer. Low hour 8 hp Yamaha outboard with cockpit remote control, depth sounder, compass. V-berth, vanity sink, portable head, galley sink, icebox, saloon table and quarter-berth (sleeps five). Asking \$6500, OBO contact ken@wingandwing.net or call 530-478-5865.



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