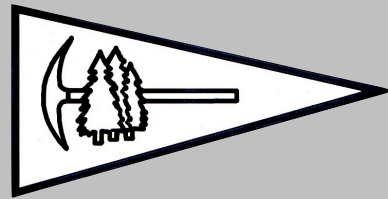


a little dinghy



May 2008

Volume 27, Issue 5

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Commodore's Report – Pierre Chatelain

Opening Day last Sunday was great! Experiencing Scotts Flat Lake without motor boats was great. My family arrived late at the Clubhouse - no surprise there. Dale, Wayne, and Tish were waiting for me to manage the booth. Barbara with 9 children went to get food from the Boy scout troop lead by Jeff Lund, GCYC 2006 Commodore. The food was great and our children had a great time trying different kayaks. The kayak group sent people over to the GCYC to get on sailboats for rides, which brought about 20 participants, some of whom had dreamt of sailing for years and were finally able to enjoy a wonderful day on the lake on a sailboat. Thanks to all the participants especially Beth for putting together a great looking booth and Dave and Speranza for taking over when one of our children was "touched" by our boat's boom (it was loud).

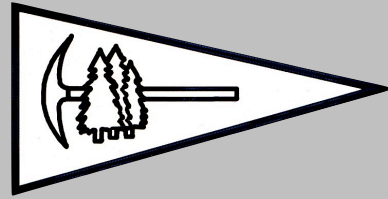
The Regatta is next on the agenda. We still need a photographer. Our next General Meeting is at the Clubhouse. Please join us for a great get-together.

After the Regatta, the next project is to put together a great 4th of July parade with the GCYC participation. Could you see dinghies strapped on trailers with sails up and kids on the boats with a GCYC banner inviting the community to join the fun? We could have a Laser, Lido, Sunfish, maybe a catamaran. Just ideas at this time. We will take about it during our next General meeting at the lake.

See you there! Pierre and our latest addition....Luc



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Secretary's Report – Tish Buti

General Meeting Minutes – April 9, 2008

Larry & Lena's Pizza at 6:45 PM

Cruise Director, Ken Neely, showed a video by he and Janis (Wing and Wing Productions) from 6:45 to 7:30 PM of their Mexico trip. Great stuff!

Susan Murphy helped out by selling raffle tickets for a 6 pack of home brew (from David Niedziejko) and a tee shirt from Ed Guinaugh from the Sailing festival in Mexico.

Called to order at 7:30 PM by Vice Commodore, Gary Dowd. Commodore Chatelain was home with wife Barbara for the impending delivery of their son, Luc Jean Pierre Chatelain.

Officer Reports:

Vice Commodore – Gary Dowd: Thanks to Ken and Janis for the wonderful video presentation. Expressed Pierre's concern on the status of memberships. We are down from last year. Donna Heindrich asked if we had a flyer. She was directed to speak with Beth Buti, Membership & Publicity Chairman.

Cruising Chairman – Ken Neely: Gave out a cruising survey for international and local cruises. Please check all the cruises you would be interested. April 20th will be the Bay cruise this month. Hugh offered to host a Scotts Flat Lake cruise in June.

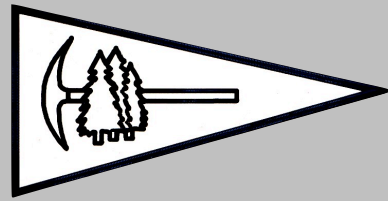
Sailing Education Chairman – Lynn Buchanan: April 27th will be the Ladies Sailing Class. Getting lots of interest in Junior Programs for the summer.

Membership & Publicity – Beth Buti: Not present, but sent a report. No new members, as far as she knows. She's been busy sending out letters for the regatta, but most people don't want to hear from her until May. If you have any news sources that might cover our Regatta, please let her know.

Treasurer – Jean Cutshall: Reported bank balance. Only have 37 paid memberships so far this year. We have incurred our first expense for the Regatta – stamps. We have sent a \$200 donation to RBOC as directed by the Board.

Port Captain – David Niedziejko: Work party was very well attended. We did have one casualty – the window in David's van. He reported that the Clubhouse looks great. The barge is assembled, repaired and ready to go. The motors are supposed to be running just fine. Next work day will be May 3rd to launch the barge and spiff-up for the May 4th "Opening Day on the Lake" activities.

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Secretary's Report – Tish Buti - Continued

Secretary – Tish Buti: Reported on correspondence from NID and the Lake.

Old Business: None.

New Business: Lynn reported on some of the new requirements on the Lake. Hugh reported on a recent blustery day on the Lake when he encountered Commodore Chatelain on the lake as well.

Raffle won by Sameulsons.

Meeting was adjourned 8:00 PM

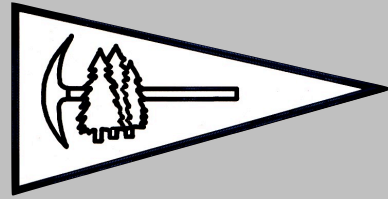
Sailing Education - Lynn Buchanan

Wow the month is flying by. There are so many sailing things going on. In preparation for this year's sailing season we have had two work parties, the latest one being Saturday May 3rd just before our open house on May 4th. I want to thank all the people who helped move things around. Many thanks also to our



Port Captain David Niedziejko who designed and built two new dinghy dollies. Two boats will remain on the dollies for the season for easy access to launching if you are by yourself. I was especially impressed by the attitude of Junior Sailor Matteson Daniel-Padgett, who just turned 13. He understands the value of our volunteer club and helped out on Saturday morning. Later that day he was trying out our newest sail on the lake and having a great time single handling on a very breezy day. Check out his picture to the left.

a little dinghy



Sailing Education - Lynn Buchanan - Continued

I bet he was practicing for our next event, which is our Junior Sailing Racing Clinic on Saturday and Sunday May 17th and 18th. We have five past junior students registered so far and can take three more because Commodore Pierre Chatelain has volunteered his Sunfish and my Sunfish will be there if necessary, with a new sail. Member Don Hare, who last month added Small Boat Sailing Instructor Level 1 US Sailing certification to his sailing resume, plans to be instructing the clinic with me. We will be using my chase boat, the clubs safety boat and race barge. Sunday the juniors will race during our club race on a shortened course. The junior winner will receive a trophy to commemorate the event because this is our clubs first ever Junior Sailing Racing Clinic.

By June we should have six Sunfish, the safety boat and the barge operational. If you use any of the equipment be sure to fill out a form from the binder in the shed on top of the file cabinet. If you are a new club member or even an old one call me at 530-470-0511 if you want instructions on how to check out our equipment.

The Women's Sailing Clinic has room for one more person, but the date has been changed to Saturday June 21st. This clinic is for beginner women sailors who want to build on their current skills and confidence.

And don't forget our June 23rd – 27th Junior Sailing Clinic still has openings. The cost is \$75.00 for children of members and \$150.00 for non-members (includes a GCYC membership). Hope to see you on the water soon.

Lynn Buchanan, US Sailing Instructor

Publicity / Membership - Beth Buti

Ahoy Mateys!

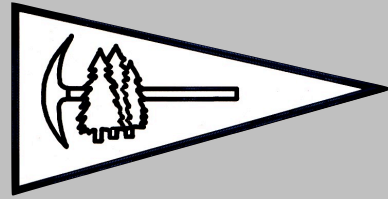
We have a new family who joined GCYC last month. Please welcome:

Kim and Don Crevoiserat
and their two children Nathan & Elissa

Welcome to our club! We hope to meet you at this months general meeting at the lake. Please call or e-mail if you have any questions about our club.

I'd also like to give a big thank you to Melinda Day for helping me set up our information booth for Opening Day bright and early last Sunday morning. Thank you also to Tish Buti who planted flowers the day before and made our clubhouse look welcoming. And to all of our other members who helped in our clubhouse, and gave sailboat rides during Opening Day! It is so nice to have support from all of our members! Now that Opening Day has passed...let's go sailing!

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Trip Report – Dave Bloch

FIRST TIME ON THE OCEAN

By Dave Bloch

Speranza and I sailed “Out the Gate” for the first time in early April. This was a trip organized through Tradewinds Sailing Club in Point Richmond, where we have been taking our certification classes.

Perhaps a simple day sail, or maybe a single overnight, would have been a good choice for a first experience on the Pacific. But Tradewinds had advertised a 3-day, non-stop trip from San Francisco to San Diego. This sounded like a great opportunity to take that trip on a large boat (the Catalina 40 “Chaparral” boasting a circumnavigation in her log) with several experienced sailors, and we jumped at it.

The printed materials we received gave a good list of things to pack. Food for three days, clothes for the offshore areas of northern and southern California, items for leisure time (books, playing cards), our PFD’s and foulies. That very last item somehow did not get the emphasis it should have, or our brains were already on vacation, because we brought our waterproof jackets but not Speranza’s bib pants. (At that time, I did not own the pants.) We did have a good supply of shorts and T-shirts, though.

Our Monday morning started off just fine, motoring out of the Bay with bright sun and the promise of a fresh breeze. The weather called for sunny weather with 15-25 knot following winds for most of our trip, so we really looked forward to getting to the ocean and hoisting sail! I took lots of video and photos of this first hour; as it turned out, that was nearly all the camera work I did the entire trip.

We reached the channel buoy and turned to the south. Two things then happened almost immediately. The wind, now coming from behind us, picked off the top of a wave and drenched everyone in the cockpit. That was not a problem for everyone wearing their full foulies, but it soaked Speranza and I from the waist down, including my non-waterproof boat shoes. We got very cold, very fast.

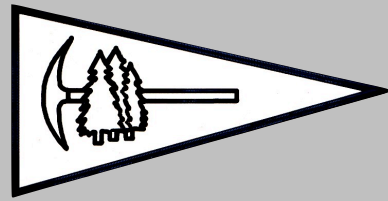
LESSON NUMBER 1: ALWAYS BRING FOULIES! AND WEAR THEM!

The second thing (I know, you’re waiting for this one) was seasickness. We had both taken the pills ahead of time according to directions, but they were not enough for these 12-foot swells. (We felt better finding out that even Marianne, the boat’s owner and veteran sailor, can only sail the ocean wearing a Propalamine patch.)

LESSON NUMBER 2: GET THE PATCH, AND ASSUME YOU’LL BE SICK FOR A WHILE ANYWAY.

With the cockpit way too cold for us with our wet legs and feet, and standing in the cabin not an option with the rough seas and seasickness, our only option was our sleeping bags up in the V-berth. Except for

a little dinghy



Trip Report – Dave Bloch - Continued

several fast trips to the head over the first couple of hours, that was where we stayed for the next 24 hours, and some of the 12 hours after that..

There were five other people on board; owner Marianne, organizer David, and three other paying crew. Everyone but David was scheduled roughly in a 4-hours on, 8-hours off rotation, with David available whenever needed and catching sleep in between. In our sorry state, we were not able to stand our first few watches. Fortunately, a couple of the other crew members really wanted to do as much sailing as they could (especially overnight, which was new for them) so we did not spoil their trip.

Speranza made it out of the V-berth on Tuesday afternoon, but David stayed on the tiller because of the rough seas. Finally on Wednesday, in the vicinity of Point Arguello, she got her chance at the tiller. The wind had dropped off a bit (much of this trip had been done under a double-reefed main and no jib), and David elected to raise the asymmetrical spinnaker. Our boat responded beautifully, picking up speed so that the swells (now down closer to 6 feet) rolled harmlessly underneath us, pushing us forward at up to 8 knots on the GPS.

Something else we had never experienced was having to tightly steer to a course. With the following wind, an accidental jibe was always a possibility. David had rigged a preventer on the mainsail, but nobody wanted to be the cause of an unintended jibe. (There had been a few in really rough seas the night before, that really rocked the boat.) The driver had to always have his or her eyes riveted to the compass, and we tried to hold the boat to within five degrees either side of our intended course. With that kind of pressure, the two people on watch switched their time on the tiller every 30 minutes.

I got my turn Wednesday evening in the much warmer and calmer waters south of Point Conception, and it was great to say, “Yes, we really do love doing this!” It became fully dark but with a full moon while I was on watch, but there was entertainment provided by a fully-lit cruise ship traveling from Avalon to points south, and some interesting military helicopter maneuvers going on behind us. (We would see the blinking strobe lights of a chopper for a minute or so, and then instant darkness. David also spotted a green flare fired up from the ocean, the signal of a surfacing submarine. The helicopters might have been dropping Navy SEALs to the sub or just flying around; we’ll never know.)

The sun came up Thursday morning over San Diego, with calm winds and Speranza driving as we motored towards the entry to the harbor. We found a public slip and everyone hit the showers. Although our trip package included staying that night on the boat, a beautiful marina hotel beckoned and we succumbed to the promise of a real bed, large room and solid ground. (Solid, at least, once it stopped moving the next morning.)

So in short, it was great! We learned, with experienced people to keep us out of trouble, and that was the reason for making the trip. We’ll be out there on the ocean again, wearing our new foulies purchased the very next day at Strictly Sail after our flight back to Oakland.

Need crew, anyone?

27th Annual "Go For The Gold"



**GOLD Prizes
GOLD Awards
Go For the
GOLD!!**

Entries limited to the first 100 boats. Class

awards will be given to 5 or more boats of the same class.

The Racing Rules of Sailing 2005-2008 as prescribed by US Sailing shall apply and race committee results are considered final. Olympic circle course. No throw outs. Boat-for-boat scoring where Class rules apply; modified PHRF for open keel boats and Portsmouth Yardstick for open centerboards. Trophies presented based on number of boats in class.

Register Early!

Each registration received prior to May 25th will include a very collectable "Go for the Gold" **Skipper's Gift at no additional cost.**

Saturday, June 7th
 10:00 AM Skippers Meeting
 11:00 AM Race #1 Starts
 Race #2 (after 1st race)
 Race # 3 (after 2nd race)
 6:00 PM BBQ, Raffle, Story- telling
 7:00 PM Live Music
Sunday, June 8th
 7:00 AM Continental Breakfast
 11:00 AM Race #4 Starts
 Race #5 Starts (after 4th race)
 Lunch, Scoring & Trophies follow racing

Entries received after May 25th must include a \$10.00 late fee and are not eligible for the free Skippers' gift. **All registrations are non-refundable.**

Campground entrance fees and launching fees are not included.

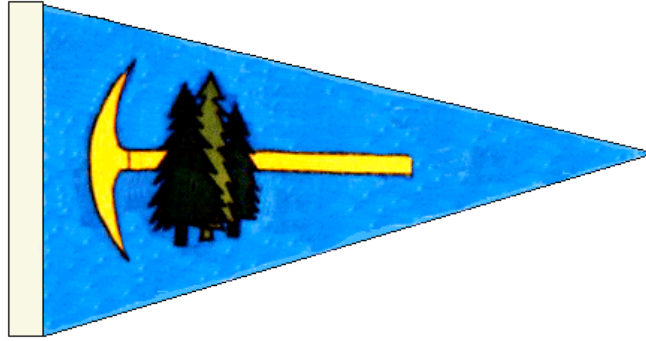
On-site registration at race headquarters in the Marina area (2nd Gate) on Friday, June 6th from 5-8 PM and Saturday morning June 7th from 8-10 AM. Race packets with written sailing instructions will be distributed at registration check in.

There will be three races on Saturday; BBQ, raffle, live music, story-telling and nautical contests starting at 6 PM on Saturday. Sunday continental breakfast at 7:30 AM; two races and then immediately after the final race hot dogs and the awards presentation.

*Please detach and mail in the registration form in advance with your check to:
 Or pay online at our website through PayPal! (But we still need your form.)
 Gold Country Yacht Club, P.O. Box 813, Grass Valley, CA 95945
 Questions? Call Vice Commodore, Gary Dowd at (530) 477-7771.*

Detach and mail this portion. *Registrations received prior to May 25th qualify for a Free Skippers gift!

2008 - GOLD COUNTRY REGATTA REGISTRATION FORM			
Gold Country Yacht Club, P.O. Box 813, Grass Valley CA 95945 www.gcyg.net			
Name:		Entry Fee \$35 (non US sailing members \$40) - (Jr. \$25)	
Email address:			
Club:	Phone: ()	T- shirts Enter total tees by size	
Address		___ x T-Shirts \$16	
City:	State:	Zip:	___ x Adult Dinner \$14.00
Boat Class:	Boat Name:	___ x Child Dinner \$5	
Sail #:		___ x Cntl Breakfast \$2	
Multi Hull Rating # previously (Y/N):	Go for the Gold	___ x Raffle Tickets \$1	
Saturday Dinners: Steak ___ Chicken ___ Veggie ___ Child's (Hot Dog) ___		___ Late Registration \$10	
T-Shirt (enter quantities by size —: S ___ M ___ L ___ XL ___ XXL ___)		Total Fees Enclosed	
<p><i>I agree to waive all claims against GCYC and persons conducting the race from any injuries and or damages to myself, my crew, and or my boat and to abide by the US Sailing rules and race committee results.</i></p>			
Signature of Skipper: _____		Date: _____ US Sailing # _____	
Parent or guardian (if minor): _____		Expiration _____	



Gold Country Yacht Club

Junior Sailing Racing Clinic

May 17th & 18th 10:00 am - 4:00 pm at Scotts Flat Lake

GCYC membership not required. Designed for students who have graduated from previous GCYC Junior Sailing Course. All others must demonstrate swimming ability and sailing a small sailboat prior to start of the clinic.

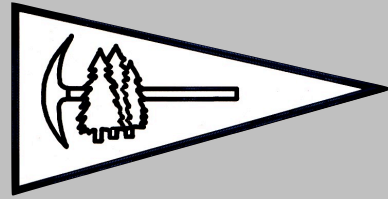
Limited to 7 Students with 1 Student per GCYC Sunfish Sailboat, or bring your own Sunfish!

Sunfish Rigging, Sail Trim, Racing Rules, Starts, Mark Rounding, Close Hauled, Reaches & Downwind sailing, on the water training at Scotts Flat Lake.

Certified US Sailing Instructor Lynn Buchanan and GCYC volunteers will assist with two safety boats. For additional information and applications call 530-470-0511 or email Lynn at Sailynn@comcast.net

Visit us on the Web at www.gcy.org

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Lazy Boy Musings - A. Bark O'Lounger

I don't know how many of you have been watching the TV show "Survivor" over the years but "The Boss" and I have been rather addicted to the thing. Anyway, in one of the episodes a few weeks ago they had four winners of a challenge go to the village of a "lost" tribe of Yap. Yah, fur shur. If you believe that I've got this great bridge from England to sell you. Actually, though, there are a series of islands in a place called Yap. Also, the location for one of the earlier "Survivor" series was in the island country of Palau. Both of these island nations are part of the vast area of Micronesia. If you travel further southeast you bump in to the many islands of Polynesia. And if you sail further east youBut, I digress...

Actually, the book I'm reviewing this month deals a lot with Yap and Palau. When I read this book I felt I was back in college reading for an Anthropology, Sociology, and/or Biology class. When reading his book you get the feeling that the author, Kenneth Brower, spent a great deal of his early life with island people. Somehow, his thinking and writing does not fit the usual "U. S. western" type of pattern; what ever that is. So, I found this book hard to read. It took the kind of concentration I remember using long ago when I was a student. [Man, I really sound like an old Geezer!]

Brower walks you through some time in the life of the Director of the Yap Institute of Natural Science, the Chief of Airport Security at Isely Field on Saipan, and the Director of the Palau Community Action Agency as he gives you insight into the lives of these folks and those who lived before them. You learn of their struggles to rediscover and retain their identity. He also tells you a great deal about various mariner cultures of the vast Pacific. He takes you from the primitive dugout canoe of say Papua New Guinea, to the small outriggers of Napuka, to the massive double voyaging canoes of Tahiti. You learn about reading the sky, the stars, the waves, and the wind as these ancient mariners did.

I'm sure Kenneth would really be pissed if he saw how the TV "survivors" of Palau lost their canoe and the TV "survivors" of Yap let their canoe get buried in the sand. The real sailors of the Pacific not only survived but flourished to spread themselves across the vast expanse of that body of water. **A Song For Satawal** really gives you a feel for these wonderful ancient people. Oh yes, regarding that "Song", it is a catchy tune. But, you will have to read the book to find out what that's all about.

A. Bark O'Lounger

Upcoming Events

May

- *14 – General Meeting-Scotts Flat Lake Clubhouse
- *17 - 18 Junior Sailing Racing Class - SFL
- *18 - Spring Race #4-SFL
- 20 - GCYC Board of Directors Meeting
- 24-25 - Whiskeytown Regatta – Whiskeytown Lake
- *31 - Spring Race #5-SFL
- 31 - Cruise on SF Bay - \$50@



GOLD COUNTRY YACHT CLUB
PO Box 813
Grass Valley, CA 95945