

...a little dinghy

March 2007

Volume 26, Issue 3

Gold Country Yacht Club 530-478-1667

Commodore's Report – Pierre Chatelain

If you are interested in joining in the organization of the GFTG this year, please come in at 6:00pm at Larry and Lena's Pizza on the night of our General Meeting. We will review the timeline and share the organization of the event. This is a great opportunity to get to know other Club members and learn how to organize a world-famous Regatta! The GFTG Regatta can not take place without your support. We are an all-volunteer group and we all need to pitch in to make it happen. Thank you in advance for your support.

For the upcoming meeting, we will have a chance to watch some footage of the last America's Cup. The DVD came from Switzerland and can not be found anywhere in the US...a rare opportunity to see some great sailing footage. I hope you will join us and share your latest sailing adventures!

Sincerely, Pierre

Membership / Publicity – Dave Bloch

OK everyone, it's March! So remember that the deadline for renewing your GCYC membership is the end of this month. After that, you'll be assessed the \$10 late fee, and who wants that?

Of course, the easiest way to get your Membership Form and dues in to the Club is to come to our next meeting at Larry & Lena's Pizza on Wednesday, March 14. We've got lots to talk about--it's amazing how fast the spring and then the Go for the Gold Regatta are coming up. The Club is going to bring back the Wednesday night gatherings at Scott's Flat Lake and some other fun activities as well.

So, don't miss out this year! Mail your renewal to the P.O. Box or bring it to the meeting. Hope to see you!

Editor's Note: You can find the 2007 membership form in the back of last month's newsletter, or online at <http://www.nccn.net/~gcyc/GCYCmembershipFORM2007.pdf>

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Secretary's Report – Tish Buti

General Meeting Minutes – February 14, 2007

Called to order at Larry & Lena's Pizza at 7:05 PM

Officer Reports

Commodore – Pierre Chatelaine: Introduced potential members Colen and Tammy who own an O'Day 23..

Membership & Publicity – Dave Bloch: Reminded all that renewals are now due. He said that the Board hopes to have more programs at our meetings. Reported on the bylaws project.

Secretary – Tish Buti: No report. Lynn taking notes for her

Treasurer – Jean Cutshall: No report.

Port Captain – Wayne Buti:

No report.

Race Chairman – Jerry Lewis: Finishing up the racing schedule.

Newsletter Editor - Scott Muir: Email or call him with any possible submissions.

Cruising Chairman – David Niedziejko: Handed out a survey questionnaire for cruising.

Sailing Education Chairman – Lynn Buchanan: The Boy Scouts training session is still on. Presently there are 3 weeks scheduled for our Junior Sailing Program. Saturday classes will be slated for adults including one session just for ladies.

Vice-Commodore – Bruce Cutshall: We need volunteers all around.

Old Business

None.

New Business

None

Announcements

None.

Business portion of the meeting was adjourned.

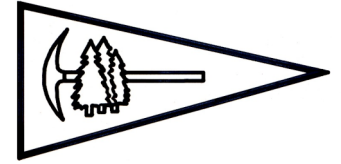
Gold Country Yacht Club, Board of Directors Meeting - March 6, 2007

Called to Order: Buti Home at 6:30 P.M. by Commodore, Pierre Chatelaine.

Present: Pierre Chatelain, Wayne Buti, Tish Buti, Dave Nzedic, Dave Bloch, Jean Cutshall, Bruce Cutshall, Scott Muir, Lynn Buchanan, Dale Buchanan

Officer Reports

Commodore- Pierre Chatelain: First order of business was to confirm the next scheduled BOD meeting – March 27 at 6 PM at the Butis.



Secretary's Report - Continued

Next General meeting will be next Wednesday, March 14. We will have a "GO FOR THE GOLD" planning meeting at 6 PM before the general meeting.

Have articles to Scott by Thursday evening to be included in the newsletter.

Secretary - Tish Buti: Distributed mail that was received. Shared where we are currently being included in community calendars and flyers.

Treasurer - Jean Cutshall: Jean reported bank balance. Dues are starting to come in. As of tonight we have 15 memberships paid. Distributed copies of bank register and an expense summary for the Christmas party. Has paid all current bills including insurance bill which increased by \$100 from last year. We have received a bill from YRA for dues – decision needs to be made if we will pay this year – did we receive benefit?

Cruising Chairman - Dave Niedziejko: Working with questionnaires. Based on what he heard tonight he hopes to soon have dates and events to include on our calendar. Wayne has volunteered to act as host for a cruise to Little Grass Valley Reservoir in late summer.

Sailing Education – Lynn Buchanan: Lynn has been in touch with the Boy Scout troop and will be speaking to them on March 19 to work on arrangements. They have offered to provide adults and a chase boat to support the classes. Lynn will be submitting a budget request for 3 new sails for the sunfish to increase our fleet to 8 boats and a new dolly for launching the boats. She would also like to see a new arrangement for storing the boats. They are currently difficult to handle from the racks. She will work with the Port Captain for another arrangement.

Port Captain - Wayne Buti: Have not yet met with NID concerning the Dinghy Dock and other matters. Pierre asked if Tish & Wayne would act as liaisons with the lake. They agreed. Wayne and Dale reported that a couple of the motors have been dropped off with Gordon Fellows for evaluation and possible repair. If he is unsuccessful, we will seek the assistance of a mechanic in Colfax. Dave Bloch has donated a 7.5 Honda to the Club. Currently does not run well, but could with a little work. The club's 8 HP will be placed back on the barge. Dave N. offered to take it home and work on it. There is an assortment of parts for gas tanks and Wayne and Dale have sorted some of it out, but may need to purchase some new hoses and ends to match our motors. Also one new gas tank needs to be purchased to replace the old metal one that leaks.

A preliminary evaluation has been done on the superstructure of the barge. With the suggestions from the last board meeting, it would cost about \$1,000 to make the suggested repairs. It would be most cost effective to replace the broken welds and purchase new sheeting for the roof, plastic caps for the sides. We'll be looking to schedule a Work Party Day in April to do this.

Also, there were 4 Dry Storage spots left at the lake as of last Friday.

Membership/Publicity Chairman - Dave Bloch: Sounds like we have a lot of fun planned and would like to include in the new flyer. He has established a new domain for files that we are working on as a Board. Also, Susan Murphy has been great about getting our info into the Union. The Board set up a telephone calling list arrangement to remind members about the meetings. Calls are to be made Tuesday night before the meetings. Lynn also suggested that we do an OPEN HOUSE in June. She offered to Chair the event – maybe in conjunction with the Summer Sailstice.

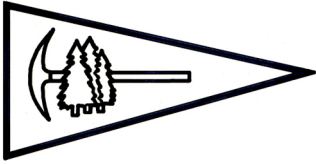
Need to get our sign updated for 2007.

Newsletter Editor - Scott Muir: Would like articles by Thursday. We will try to get the email delivery of the newsletter up and running in the near future. Biggest obstacle is getting it out on the web.

Vice Commodore - Bruce Cutshall: Still working on a free weather station at Scotts Flat.

Other Business

Bylaws: committee needs to set a meeting – 03/13/07 at lunch.



Secretary's Report - Continued

Entertainment for next meeting: couple of options discussed

GFTG: planning meeting set for 6 PM before the General Meeting.

Budgets: all officers are to prepare their budget requests and have for the next BOD meeting. Please include income as well as expenses. If you need a history, contact Jean Cutshall and she'll provide for you.

Adjourned: 8:30 PM

Newsletter – Scott Muir

This month the newsletter included the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting. I know – such excitement is hard to handle. However, it does show that the BOD does more than consume umbrella drinks when we get together. (The cruising director might wish it was otherwise...).

It seems like winter is dragging on at this point – my boat hasn't been on the water since I went sailing in Santa Barbara over the New Year holiday. But, the weather seems to be turning, the snow has melted (at my house, anyway), and Pierre reports that the lake has plenty of water. For those who enjoy racing, it seems like regatta season is beginning to get started. The Richmond YC had their pirate themed "Big Daddy" regatta for keelboats on the 10th and 11th. The "Big Dinghy" regatta is at the end of the month and includes buoy races on Saturday and a long pursuit race on Sunday. The pursuit race is fun as they start the slowest boats first, fast boats last. If all works out then the fleet should be arriving at the finish line in a big group. Closer to home the FLYC has a spring series that is already underway.

I hope that those who came to the February meeting enjoyed my presentation. I had fun putting it together, and I didn't see too many folks sleeping. This month Pierre is going to talk (and show some video) about America's Cup racing. The Swiss boat "Alinghi" took the Cup from the Kiwi's four years ago, and now they have to defend their title. Perhaps Pierre will have some insights into the Swiss strategy for managing the defense...

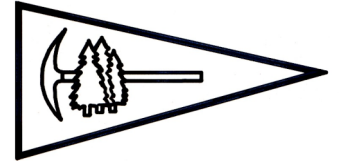
My thanks to Bark O'Lounger for his article which appears in this newsletter.

Lazy Boy Musings

Ok folks this month's review covers a couple of survivor books; no not TV's Survivor show but real survival. The first book, Adrift, written by Steven Callahan takes place in the 1980's. Steve sails south from France to the Canary Islands, off the coast of Africa, in his beautiful, home-built, racer/cruiser sloop, Napoleon Solo. From there he sets off west towards the Caribbean. With the wind abaft and double headsails wung out Solo is surfing west at above hull speed one night when she suddenly hits something and begins to rapidly sink.

I don't know if "wung out" is the proper term. I could say, "winged out", but that doesn't sound right either. But, you know what I mean. It's like wing and wing but with no main and two headsails hanked onto the forestay. Each sail is held out with its own whisker pole. One to starboard and one to port... But I digress...

At any rate, he quickly jumps into his life raft and proceeds to spend the next 76 days drifting west while trying to



Lazy Boy Musings - Continued

survive. That's right 76 days! And, wouldn't you know the raft decides to spring a leak too. It is a terrific book.

Now on to the next book, Red Sky in the Morning, by Tami Oldham Ashcraft. All right ladies, pretend you are on your boat sailing from a southern Polynesian island north to Hawaii. It is a wet and windy night and you are sleeping in your cozy bunk while your fiance steers the boat out in the cockpit. You fall asleep listening to the wind, and the rain splattering on the overhead skylight. Suddenly the boat turns ass over teakettle upside down then slowly rolls back upright while you bounce down over the open cupboards, sink countertop, and open drawers to be wedged unconscious between your former bed and the open drawers. When you come to, it is daylight. You are cut and banged up from head to toe and you have a terrible gash on the top of your head. Your left hip and right shoulder don't feel so good either. You are lying in a gooey soup of broken eggs, spilt juice and milk, open containers of flour, sugar, coffee, and ketchup surrounded by various pots, dishes, cutlery and broken glassware. Water is sloshing around and has risen above the floorboards. You reach for the shortwave radio to contact the out side world but, of course, it is not working. The boat has been demasted; is a mess from stem to stern; there is water down below. Worst of all, your life's partner, the ship's captain, is nowhere to be found. Man, are you in for a survival story when you read this book.

These are both stories of real survival. I met Tami at one of those Sail Expo's in Alameda. She now lives in the Seattle area.

A. Bark O'Lounger



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