

# ...a little dinghy

Newsletter Date  
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Gold Country Yacht Club 530-478-1667

## Commodore's Report – Pierre Chatelain

Less than a week before our biggest fund-raising event: The Go For the Gold Regatta. We need everyone's participation as we are a working club. I will bring the volunteer worksheet next General Meeting. Please make sure to set aside time to help your local sailing club. You will need to fill out a registration form (even if you don't plan on racing) to order dinners and T-shirts. I have participated in two regattas so far and they are a lot of fun. I have met people on Scott's Flat Lake I met again on our other regional lakes and on the Bay. Our Regatta has received great recognition in the past. We need to ensure we continue this exposure if we want more sailing activities on Scott's Flat Lake. Looking forward to see you on Wednesday the 30'th. (This is earlier than our usual time so that we can plan for the regatta).

Thank you! Pierre

## Membership / Publicity – Dave Bloch

### Membership Help Needed at Regatta

This year, for the first time since joining GCYC, my wife and I are going to be in the country on Regatta weekend. Speranza and I will be staffing the Information and Membership table at the GCYC clubhouse on Friday evening and all day Saturday.

That's a really long time, and we could use some help! Out of town guests may need info on just about anything; local and area visitors (including folks camping at the lake who just wander over to see what's going on) may be potential new members. (And besides, wouldn't it be great to have some folks at the table who actually know what's going on out there? It is, as I mentioned, our first Regatta.)

So if you're planning on coming out to Scott's Flat Lake on Friday evening or anytime Saturday of Regatta weekend, and you might have an hour or so to help us staff the table, please call me at 477-9472 or Email [dave@sierrabusiness.net](mailto:dave@sierrabusiness.net),

See you at the Lake!

### Individual Highlights:

Port Captain	2
Race	2
Treasurer	4
Calendar	4

## **At Our Helm**

Commodore  
Pierre Chatelain  
478-1667

[pierrechatelain@comcast.net](mailto:pierrechatelain@comcast.net)

### Vice Commodore

Bruce Cutshall  
477-1709

[bruce@comprepco.com](mailto:bruce@comprepco.com)

### Secretary

Tish Buti  
273-7819

[tbuti@yahoo.com](mailto:tbuti@yahoo.com)

### Treasurer

Jean Cutshall  
477-1709

[jean.cutshall@thomson.net](mailto:jean.cutshall@thomson.net)

### Cruise Chairman

David Niedziejko  
265-0264

### Publicity/Membership

Dave Bloch  
477-9472

[dave@sierrabusiness.net](mailto:dave@sierrabusiness.net)

### Port Captain

Wayne Buti  
273-7819

[wbuti@yahoo.com](mailto:wbuti@yahoo.com)

### Race Chairman

Jerry Lewis  
305-0533

[jml@usamedia.tv](mailto:jml@usamedia.tv)

### Newsletter Editors

Scott Muir  
265-5652

[muir@acomknoll.com](mailto:muir@acomknoll.com)

Dale Buchanan  
470-0511

[sailynn@comcast.net](mailto:sailynn@comcast.net)

### Sailing Education

Lynn Buchanan  
470-0511

[sailynn@comcast.net](mailto:sailynn@comcast.net)

## **Port Captain – Wayne Buti**

COME TO PLAY AT THE LAKE  
TUESDAY EVENING JUNE 12!!!!

From your Port Captain:

Our first BEER CAN, WINE BOTTLE (whatever you want to drink) sailing evening.  
The rules (for lack of a better word):

- 1) You must have a crew of at least 4. So those of you who don't have a boat please attend. We need you!
- 2) Start time is 5:30 to 6:00. Depending when everyone is ready.
- 3) We start at the 5 mile buoy at the ramp side. Very loose start. (No protests allowed)
- 4) We sail over to the 5 mile buoy at Cascade Shores. The first boat to round the Buoy (here is the tough part because if your drinking and not watching you might miss this) Everyone turns around and sails back to the Marina Buoy.
- 5) The first one to finish WINS!!! You have to come and participate to find out what you win.
- 6) We will have the charcoal hot so you can cook after the sail enjoy all the camaraderie with friends.

Please bring something to share like at the club meetings. A - M a salad, N - Z a desert.

Please come and support YOUR CLUB.

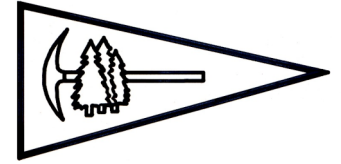
LET'S HAVE SOME FUN!

I would like to know if your going to be there so call me to let me know or if you have suggestions. Wayne 273-7819 home... cell 613-3699

## **Race Chairman – Jerry Lewis**

Alpha and omega, ying and yang, Venus and Mars, black and white. Pick your polar opposites and you'll begin to realize just how different race day #3 and #4 were from each other (May 6 and May 19).

On May 6, the barge was to be launched for 2007 and readied that Sunday morning. First problem was missing bolts that hold the top up/on. We improvised and raised the roof, using nails and lag bolts. Then the small group of workers launched the barge...it floated! And the motor runs! Pierre had swapped RC duties with Nic Odor (Pierre wanted to test out his new Corsair F-24 tri) and Nic headed out to the middle of the lake in VERY STRONG WINDS, unlike any seen at Scotts Flat Lake with the sky clear. There was a constant 15 to 18 knot breeze from the north (from up the creek, opposite the normal direction) and breaking waves at the dam. Initially we had four boats on the course, albeit a very late start due to the barge launch, extra time in setting marks and the inability to maneuver the barge in the strong winds (hard to make any headway). Then we found that the anchor line on board the barge didn't reach bottom with the lake so full and setting up in a different deeper position on the



## Race Chairman – Jerry Lewis - Continued

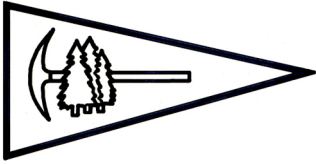
lake (remember, we're now 180 degrees from normal).

I supplied my anchor line from Kudzu to extend the barge's scope and we got it anchored. By then, the two multi-hulls decided it was way too much fun screaming/reaching (is that the source of the term "sreeching"?) back and forth across the lake on one hull - no racing for them apparently, but they didn't tell the RC. And Jeremy in his Lido 14, with Charisse as crew, felt it could be a very wet day due to the strong winds and waves leading to a likely capsize - so they retired to the docks as Rick, Heather and I set up Kudzu with a 110 blade and tightened rig to test out sailing in a strong breeze unlike any previously witnessed on SFL. Since we were still out there playing around, Jeremy came back out to give it a try - racing was "ON." Nic starts the sequence and then we are off, heading north to the windward mark. Halfway upwind we take a gust that must have been over 25 knots as we tip over (while still going forward, not rounding up) putting the rail of the Capri 22 under water, with some of SFL's green stuff going inside the cabin. I really didn't think this fin keel boat would go over that far with three of us on the rail, but it did. Fortunately it came right back upright as soon as we popped the sheets. One of the crew felt the spreaders may have even gotten wet! I don't know, I was watching the water go into the cabin as I was letting go of the traveller and mainsheet and looking for a place to land if I had to jump.

We made it to the windward mark and Jeremy and crew were still with us, but at the appropriate distance behind. We rounded the mark and set the chute - the first time we've tried that in this much breeze. Whump! We hit 9.2 knots downwind going past the RC barge. As we approached the dam and leeward mark, we were planning an early douse but got hit by another big gust that caused us to broach with the rudder OUT and the spinnaker pole IN the lake water. By the time I let go of the spinnaker and main sheets, we'd spun around more than 90 degrees - now looking back, toward the Lido 14. To our surprise, it wasn't there. Then, between waves, we could see that it was where it used to be, but no sails visible. I assumed they had capsized and we dropped the chute, rounded the mark (we were right there) and headed upwind to assist. As we got closer, it became obvious that it wasn't a capsize, but a dismasting. They were sitting in the upright boat, pulling sails, boom, and mast parts onto the boat. Nic arrived in the barge before we slogged back to their upwind position. Apparently a shroud had given out while surfing downwind and the mast broke right at the spreaders. Racing was halted and we retrieved the marks and pin and headed in. Maybe we should consider a wind limit for racing, like the America's Cup folks.

Fast forward a couple weeks to Sunday, May 19th and Pierre is on the barge, we have six boats at the start (two Catalina 22, two multi-hulls and two race boats) with clear, sunny skies and consistent breezes around 8-10...PERFECT race day weather. Pierre runs three A courses and the racing is great, with very close racing - until the third race. As Bill Andrew on Babe approaches the windward mark on starboard, Scott Muir on his cat had just tacked onto port ahead and to leeward of Babe - nearly stopped as cats often do in tacks. Babe could not see the catamaran as it was hidden behind the jib and main, and just as the boats met, the wind filled the cat's sails and it took off forward, crashing straight into the port side of the Ultimate 20, leaving a knife edge slit that poked through the fiberglass, balsa core and high tech materials. Taking on water on starboard tack, Babe retires to the dock. Scott follows. The remaining four boats finish the racing, this time with Jerry Grant's F-24 doing a "horizon job" finishing three and a half minutes ahead of the rest of the fleet. But with a PHRF rating of 90, he needed to be four minutes ahead to win. That boat is fast and now we have two of them on the lake (Grant and Chatelain).

Go For The Gold Regatta is coming up June 2-3. Hope to see all you racers out on SFL, keeping that gold in our area!



## Treasurer's Report – Jean Cutshall

In a little over one week is the 26<sup>th</sup> Annual GO FOR THE GOLD REGATTA. As treasurer, I just want to encourage all of the members to come out and participate as this is a major fund raiser for the club. This is the one time we ask all of our members to volunteer for one of the many assignments that make this event a success.

### It also plans to be a lot of fun!

All proceeds to go to benefit the club in many ways:

- the Junior Sailing program
- the Adult sailing training
- the weekly racing season
- keeping dues at a minimum
- Friendship Day
- Christmas party
- National Club memberships
- Club Liability Insurance

This event gives us local recognition. Many businesses, local and in the Bay area look forward to helping us by sponsoring the Regatta in various ways.

Let's all be out there to support the club and the long tradition of Sailing!

## Calendar

### May

30 - June General Meeting - SFL Clubhouse

### June

2-3 - GO FOR THE GOLD REGATTA - SFL

10 - Spring Race #5 - SFL

11-15 - Boy Scout Sailing Program - SFL

16 - Delta Dinghy - Lake Washington

18-22 - Junior Sailing Program - SFL

23 - Summer Sailstice - SFL

24 - Friendship Club Day - SFL

26 - GCYC Board of Directors Meeting

30 - Spring Race #6 - SFL

### July

4 - 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade - SFL

8 - Summer Race #1 - SFL

6-8 – Trans Tahoe – Lake Tahoe

7-8 – High Sierra Regatta – Dinghies – Huntington Lake

8-14 – Junior Sailing Program- SFL

14–15 – High Sierra Regatta – Keel – Huntington Lake

11 - General Meeting - SFL Clubhouse

21 - Summer Race #2 - SFL

22–28 – Junior Sailing Program - SFL

31 - GCYC Board of Directors Meeting

**Gold Country Yacht  
Club**

PO Box 813  
Grass Valley, CA  
95945

PHONE:  
530-478-1667

E-MAIL:  
pierrechatelain@co  
mcast.net

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