

# GOLD COUNTRY YACHT CLUB NEWSLETTER



## a little dinghy 2000

<http://www.nccn.net/~gcyc>

January, 2000

Volume 19, Number 01

### COMMODORE S CORNER

Happy "2000" to everyone! Hope you had a wonderful holiday season. Tish & I really enjoyed having everyone here for the Christmas Party. We had a great time and hope you did also.

I want to thank all the 1999 Board members. You did a super job. Those leaving the Board (Tish, Nicki & Don Eagle) have had quite an impact on the Club over their years in office. Thanks, also to JoLynn Samuelson for her year as Cruise Director.

The New Board has large shoes to fill and a busy schedule ahead of them, starting with the Board meeting before the next Club Meeting. Major issues to be addressed at the BOD meeting will be the calendar for the year, our proposed Clubhouse and what to do with the fleet of boats the Club now owns.

It is very important that all our members come to our January meeting at the Brewery. We need some input from members as to what direction the Club wants to go in. We have always said that this is

a "working club." Now is the time to prove it. If we want a



### At Our Helm

#### Commodore

Wayne Buti 273-7819

#### Vice Commodore

Hugh Talman 272-2344

#### Secretary

Marcia Kent 272-8199

#### Treasurer

Doug Epperson 273-3551

#### Race Chairman

Don Hare (916) 774-6610

#### Cruise Director

Lynn Buchanan 272-6105

#### Newsletter Editor

Barry Karr 432-9448

#### Port Captain

Mark Jones 265-3811

#### Publicity/Membership

Ron Kent 273-8199

Clubhouse, it is time to step up. If you don't want a Clubhouse, now is the time to be heard. The Board cannot do all the work. In the words of Uncle Sam .....



If you can't make it to the meeting, please contact me with any suggestions, ideas or opinions you wish to have voiced.

Well, enough of my drum beating for now. Last year at this time I didn't know what to write about – this year there seems to be too much.

Don't forget that season passes at Scotts Flat are \$100 until the end of January, \$110 in February and \$120 in March. So buy now and save! Remember to reserve your mooring ball now since Karen has told me that they are going even faster this year than they did last year.

Racers – there are some possible changes in your season that will also be discussed at the Club meeting.

Yo Ho Ho  
And Away I go  
--Wayne

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## CAN'T GET ENOUGH?



## TRY VIRTUAL SAILING

With the sailing season over for the winter, a few of our die-hard racers continue to race by computer simulations. For the last three years beginning with the Whitbread around the world race, simulations have been on line for the "wired" (on the internet) sailors of the world.

Sounds like a fantasy? After having participated in these races I assure you everything that can happen on a real sailboat can happen on the simulator.

How is done? The staff at Quokka programmed the first virtual race. In their own words: "Quokka Sports pioneered a new form of sports entertainment. Using a variety of techniques and technologies, the company delivers Quokka Sports

Immersion [QSI] to the world, bringing you closer to the real intensity of sport experiences.

**There are no walls.**

**There are no boundaries.**

**It's just you and the athletes"**

Their first simulation was the last Whitbread around the world race. You could be the skipper on your own Whitbread 60 and set a course based on the factors such as the weather, currents and how hard you want to sail your boat. The program allows you to update your course every 4 hours and provides a view of your progress and the positions of the other racers, including the real boats. The simulator applied the actual currents and weather to your boat, calculates how hard you are pushing your Whitbread 60 and generates a position report showing the progress made or damage that occurred (damage is calculated in time taken to fix it). A sample log entry:

*MAINSAIL DAMAGED*

*12/28/98 10:00:00 PM*

*My main has a huge rip in it. We were blasting along with the autopilot doing a great job when, bang! There was a huge noise and I rushed up on deck.*

*Looking up I saw a four and a half-foot long rip running from the boom up the sail.*

In the first trial, which lasted for 9 months, more than 5,000 racers showed up and 2 GCYC entrants were in the top 10% of the fleet.

Another Quokka race that was run last year was the Around the World Alone (AWA). This simulator allowed the user to select a boat type, its displace-

ment, beam, keel length, and how many pounds of food you were going to carry (based upon the number of calories per day). Additional factors you had set were how much time allotted for sleep, sailing, entertainment, and maintenance.. All this is used to calculate the weight and speed of the boat as the simulator applied different conditions to the course you selected.

The AWA pitted the racers against real competitors. Over 10,000 racers from around the world joined in this race. The action became too real with some of us barely missing the Holbart disaster on our way to Auckland.

Quokka is now providing real time coverage of the America's Cup races in New Zealand.  
<http://www.americascup.org/>

Team Dennis Conner is even marketing a simulator, but many are available for free. Go to <http://www.louisvuittoncup.com/> for a free Louis Vuitton 3-D simulator. Download the program and practice alot, then you can skipper an America's Cup Yacht against some of the best virtual racers in the world.

You can also purchase programs that simulate various types of boats, wind conditions and allow you to trim, drive, see wind shifts, match race, all from your home computer. Many of these programs are available from West Marine.

Let us know how you do. Maybe GCYC can sponsor its own virtual regatta.

## Christmas Party 1999



**Jerry Lewis-1<sup>st</sup> place**



**Don Hare-2<sup>nd</sup> place**



**Barry & Earlene  
3<sup>rd</sup> place**



**Dale wins the coveted  
Steady as She Goes Trophy**



**Lynn and Dale sweep Trophies**



**Tish Buti admires her Trophy**



**Don, Judy and Ron enjoying the wine**



**Next years Champion?**

# Gold Country Yacht Club

## 2000 Renewal/ Membership Application Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Work: \_\_\_\_\_ FAX: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_ Participating Children: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Boat Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Type/Class/Design: \_\_\_\_\_

Year: \_\_\_\_\_ Sail No.: \_\_\_\_\_ CA Reg.No. \_\_\_\_\_

Boat Ownership is not a prerequisite for membership. Because this is a working club, every member is expected to help in some way. What would you like to do? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you interested in  Racing  Cruising  Jr. Sailing Program  Other \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like instruction in:  Boat Safety  Boat Care  Crewing  Racing

Racing Tactics  Racing Rules  Sail Trim  Rigging  Other \_\_\_\_\_

What other hobbies do you have? \_\_\_\_\_

Regular/Renewal membership is \$50.00 per year and includes monthly newsletter, discounts and participation in all club activities.

New Member  Renewal Member since \_\_\_\_\_

Supporting membership is \$20.00 and includes the monthly newsletter and attendance at monthly meetings.

Individual membership in US SAILING \$35.00 additional (see below)

I wish to make a donation to the RBOC\* \_\_\_\_\_ \$10.00 \_\_\_\_\_ Other amount

I agree to waive all claims against the Gold Country Yacht Club and its officers for any reason and join the club knowing the risks involved.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: Gold Country Yacht Club

Dues and other correspondence should be mailed to:

Gold Country Yacht Club

P.O. Box 813

Grass Valley, CA 95945

If you wish to take out an individual membership in US SAILING Golden Anchor Program, you may do so by going through the club before April 1, 2000. Fee for this is \$35.00 per member (normally \$40.00). Please either add this amount to your normal GCYC membership fee, or attach a separate check. For all individual memberships purchased through our club, the GCYC obtains a \$10.00 credit for purchase of items through the US Sailing program. These items are used for our Junior Sailing program.

\*RBOC stands for Recreational Boaters of California.

*If not delivered within 5 days  
Please return to: P.O. Box 813  
Grass Valley, CA 95949*



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***Produced by the Gold Country Yacht Club, a non-profit organization***

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