

Gold Country Yacht Club

... a little dinghy

Volume 24, Issue 8

August

Special Points
Of Interest

Soundings From The Poop-deck

- **JR Racing...**
- **Tahoe of the North?**



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ATTENTION: OUR MEETING THIS MONTH WILL BE AT :Scotts Flat Lake Gold Country Yacht Club -Club House – August 10th, 7:00pm Meeting .

Vice Commodore Lund will have the BBQ fired up and ready for you to use at 6:00pm !!!

Here's the drill....Everyone brings their own main course and ..very importante! ...if your last name is A-L bring a Salad to share if M-Z bring a Dessert to share.

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Vice Commodore -Jeffery Lund

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Secretaries Report -***Karen Fellows***

July 13,2005 Gold Country Yacht Club General Meeting

7:10 P>M> meeting called to order by Commodore Bruce Cutshall

Minutes of Board meeting approved as published in the newsletter . June General meeting minutes not published as submitted to the news chairman.

Treasurer report given by treasurer Jean Cutshall. Request for any remaining bills from the regatta be turned in to Jean for reimbursement. Thanks were given to the sponsors of donations to the regatta Requests to donate rides on sailboats to donors who request rides.

Thanks to Hugh Talman for preparing the club house for meeting.

Hugh Talman report that the Junior Sailing program classes and Friendship club events were very successful.

Hugh made a suggestion to design and build a rack for the Sunfish used in the Junior Sailing program. David Nedziejko volunteered to help in that project.

Pierre presented a report on the Junior Sailing classes. Thanks to the volunteers who helped. 18 year old plus classes are available times to be determined.

Dave Block presented a way to provide better communication between club members. E-mail groups.yahoo.com/group/GCYC

David Nedziejko offered to give a class building small boats. He can give a class for up to five members.

Catalina 22 national report was given by Don Hare. First cutoff date is October 2005 NOTICE OF RACE,

Sailing instructions due May 2006 and Regatta June 2006.

Charging members to enter Scott's Flat Lake for General Meetings was discussed.

Meeting adjourned 8:10 P>M> by Commodore Bruce Cutshall

Membership/Publicity***Chairperson Beth Buti*****Welcome our newest members:****Nic Odor and Cheree Simmons****Barbara Gonzalez and Jeff Cox**

Welcome to GCYC! We are glad to have you aboard, and look forward to getting to know you better. Please feel free to call or e-mail me if you have any questions about our club. See you at next month's meeting!
Beth Buti

David Cowell....Field Correspondent....dateline Lake Almanor.....

Jamie and I just returned from a great sail on Lake Almanor. This was an alternative to Tahoe which has recently hit the news with a sewage spill and lake contamination. (That and 4 stroke outboard hassles decided for an alternative.) Almanor is at 4500 feet and is 13 miles long by 6 miles wide and is not as touristy or crowded as is Tahoe. The water is also a lot warmer as it doesn't have Tahoe's depth. I went up Tuesday to launch the boat, scout the lake, and get a camp spot for the weekend (I'm kind of slow and the web site showed several places). Jamie came up Friday with the dog. There's only two stop signs and a light between here and there and it took only four hours including stopping for gas, food and road crews. That's taking Hwy 89 up from Truckee through Quincy. A most enjoyable drive as it winds along through the mountains having only a couple of low passes and small towns to do. Very unlike taking Hwy 89 south through the mob scene.

I arrived at Lake Almanor around one. The public ramp at the dam wouldn't let me leave the truck/trailer overnight so I launched the Catalina at the Plumas Pines Resort. It's a lousy ramp but there's a nice marina, store and restaurant there and cabins if one wishes to do that. I sailed across to the east side to check out the resorts over there looking for the perfect setup of tent-site-near-lake. The first stop was Lassen View Resort which is an older RV resort. This also has a poor ramp but has a small store and marina and a hamburger joint lakeside. Excellent burgers (they won't give you catsup!) but they claim to be shutting down next month after 25 years at that site so it's a dine now thing.

I anchored off shore and spent the night on the boat. Most of the east side of the lake has homes which all have their private docks and buoys so it was a matter of finding a gap in the line. It was very pleasant as there aren't the mega-power boats racing between casinos and bars and the grebes and gulls lulled me to sleep. The next morning was flat. I motored over to the Big Cove resort area to check that out. This area has three marinas and multiple RV sites but no tent sites at all. It's a much higher rent district as the golf course is just up the hill and the resorts are newer and more planned. It was here I learned that PG&E (who actually own the lake) don't allow overnighting on boats ala SFL! Oops.

I motored out and put up the awning for some shade and started a nap. Deep into dreams of sailing large yachts to exotic places I was awakened by a violent shaking of the boat. Popping up, I was startled to find whitecaps and a stiff wind blowing. So it was down with the awning and away with the loose gear and yahooo for the blow. I was off to the upper end of the lake with a good wind on the beam. Perfect conditions. That's about eight or so miles of sailing past expensive lakefront homes on one side and natural forest on the other. Only when you get to the north end you find - nothing. It's all meadow and large swamplike area which clued me into the fact that the water is shallow. When you can see the weeds under the keel it's time to reverse course and so I beat back down to the point of West Almanor which is one of those golf-course-retirement communities with the architecturally pure homes over the water. Nice \$1M shacks. Heading back along the shore I waved to one of the few sailboats I saw on the lake. A Thistle. They too were enjoying the great breeze. I anchored off the Almanor NFS campground and spent the night there.

Thursday I found out the truth about the campground. I had visited the NFS website and had seen that all the campsites were reserved for the weekend and so I hadn't looked at it any further. The facts are that only thirty or so sites are reservable (from the web) and that there are an additional fifty or so that are first-come-first-serve so there were plenty of sites available. Nice area too. Large trees, plenty of water, and good access and ... a good launch ramp with a dock with free parking. All within walking distance. It was enough to make an honest man out of me. So I selected a site and waited for Jamie. After we set up camp we adopted a simple routine. Lounge in camp until 2:00 PM and then go to the lake. The wind never came up until after two, then it blew at about 20 knots out of the southwest and then went down with the sun. Some days it started later but it always blew. One day it was out of the North-West but the timing was still there. The weekend was great except for one little incident, when your-inobservant-servent forgot to drop the keel (we'd been anchoring the boat off the beach nights) and we just sailed off until the PM winds hit. That first gust almost put us on beam ends and until then I'd never seen water pouring over the coaming into the cockpit. Fortunately I had the jib sheet in hand and popped the genoa so she'd come up, that and a lee helm meant we had nothing more serious than wet feet and some odd stuff floating around in the cockpit. Jamie wasn't even rattled although y-i-s was a little more careful on the reaches for awhile. That was our trip. I recommend going to Almanor as it seems to have all the qualities of a great trailer-sailing destination. The water is extremely clear and warm enough to swim in. The fishing for trout and salmon can be good if you know the techniques and lake. The campground and resorts are easily reached and have good support (gas, food and slips were available everywhere). The Plumas Resort restaurant has a dock and good food and music Friday and Saturday nights; we didn't go to the Almanor Inn but it's on the lake as well. Chester is only 10 miles away. None of it was crowded. We only saw four sailboats, the Thistle, a Ranger 25, a motor-sailer, and a Tanzer 22. It wasn't as cool as Tahoe but you can stay in camp in the trees until noon and then go out in the PM. And then the wind blows reliably.

For information go to

<http://www.anglernet.com/web/lakes/almanor/almadat.htm>.

2005 GCYC Junior Sailing Program Graduates 12 Students

Twelve GCYC Junior Sailors completed a beginners course in sailing Sunfish sailboats during the period June 26th through June 30th. The cost of the course was \$60.00 to GCYC member students and included a US Sailing Start Sailing Right textbook, US Sailing Junior Sailor membership and rules book, and various sailing handouts. A swim test/parent orientation meeting was held at Club Sierra Fitness Center in Grass Valley on Sunday June 26th, where the students performed a 25-yard swim, floating, and donning a life jacket test while treading water. Six Sunfish sailboats, two safety boats and the GCYC Clubhouse were used for on the water lessons at Scotts Flat Lake. The twelve sailors ranged in age from 8 years old to 18 years old. The 30-hour course was taught by US Small Boat Sailing Instructors Lynn Buchanan and Pierre Chatelain with assistance from GCYC member volunteers, Gary Wade, Dale Buchanan, Mike Bringolf, Hugh Talman, Elizabeth and Jim Hillis, J.T. Kohler and Kathy Eldredge. Students were instructed in knot tying, water safety, sailing terminology, weather, caring for and rigging a sailboat, rules of the road, capsize recovery, man overboard recovery, points of sail, tacking, jibing, departing and returning to docks and beach departures and arrivals. The winds were light to moderate during the five days on the water. The last day of lessons offered skills contests in mark rounding and racing. The last day ended with trophy presentations followed by a potluck BBQ with the students, parents, instructors, and volunteers.





Sorry to have missed last month's article. I was on vacation on the Outer Banks of N.C. But only on power boats, sadly no sailing.

There has been a lot of racing since our regatta in June. Bill Andrew finished atop the Spring Series with his Ultimate 20 *Salsa*, followed by Jeremy Gicker and Kent Bennett on *Capri 22 #183*. Jerry Lewis and various crew (mostly Brant Hoffman or his collegian son Blake) were in third aboard *Kudzu*. The remaining standings were pretty much determined by attendance and not performance. We could use more folks on the race course, more often. We had 13 different boats compete during the Spring Season, but only averaged 5 boats per race with the max being 7 boats.

The Summer Series is starting out a bit better. The June 25th race saw three different boats winning three very close races with 7 boats on the line. July 16 and 17 was our second "double" weekend (races both Saturday and Sunday), with 8 boats on Saturday but only 5 on Sunday. The eight was a new high for the season, despite the Spring Series champion no longer having his Ultimate 20 *Salsa*....he had an offer he couldn't refuse and sold the boat after finishing third at Huntington Lake. Bill is now 'looking' rather than racing.

The final three race dates are July 30 (Jeremy Gicker), August 7 (Gordon Fellows) and tentatively August 13 (W.Buti/D.Buchanan) – which is a make up for the very first race of the season getting rescheduled, bumping Wayne and Dale to the 'make-up' race date.

If they'd prefer, this race may be changed to Sunday, August 14 or the next weekend, either August 20 or 21, whichever is most convenient for the forcibly moved race committee. Hopefully this will be decided and announced before the August General Meeting at the SFL clubhouse.

An interesting phenomenon in that, since we are scoring BOATS rather than skippers this year, the Lido 14 #1159 is nearing a third place podium finish for the overall championship due to Jeremy Gicker racing it when Kent is out of town on their Capri 22, his son-in-law John raced it a few other times, and now that Bill has sold *Salsa*, Pierre is racing good ol' #1159 and it keeps piling up the points. But since it hasn't performed any Race Committee duty (or does Jeremy's get to count for both the Capri and the Lido), it is not eligible (reminder to all those that have not done RC yet---you can double up with anyone for the remaining races).

Hope to see you out on the lake. Watch for those puffs and holes!
Jerry

Letters From the Editors

Mike & Jean Hauser

Thought we'd have a little Yachting Quiz to keep our minds in tune while our bodies melt in this heat. Here we go.

1. This Yacht Club claims the "Merlin Rocket" as its' main training boat?
2. The name of the fictitious American boat bringing home the Americas Cup in the movie "Wind"?
3. True or false...The Harlem Yacht Club is located in Harlem?
4. This Yacht Club offers "Tennis, crokey, intellectual pursuits and swimming". (What no macramé?)
6. The San Francisco Yacht Club is located in?
7. The Dubai Golf and Yacht Club offers everything but?
8. The Gold Country Yacht Club was founded in what year?
9. Muskrats ate through the thru hull hoses and sank a power boat at this Yacht Club.
10. Bill & Pat's next yacht will be...hint.....



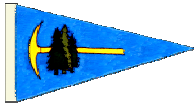
August 2005						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

September 2005						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

General Meeting August 10th At Scott's Flat Lake
August 7th— Summer Series
August 13—Summer Series
August 20—small boat FUN Race
August 28—small boat FUN Race

General Meeting September 14th At Scott's Flat Lake
September 10th Small Boat Fun Race
September 18th Small Boat Fun Race

ATTENTION: OUR MEETING THIS MONTH WILL BE AT :Scotts Flat Lake Gold Country Yacht Club Club House August 10th -7:00pm .



Gold Country Yacht Club

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We're on the Web! Look for us at - www.nccn.net/~gcyc