

THE SIGNAL

MARINA BAY YACHT CLUB

Richmond, California

Vol. XVII, No. 1

January 2002

Commodore's Log...



Happy
New Year!
I hope
everyone
enjoyed the
holiday
season.

The Christmas dinner was excellent and fun was had by all that attended. During the dinner I announced that the club was seeking a Port Captain for the 2002 year. Bill Merkel stepped up and offered to fill the position. The Board of Directors will consider him for the position at the next Board meeting on January 19th.

Last year we sent flyers for all the events for the first half of the year and emailed, and advertised in the Signal, events for the second half of the year. There was no

decrease in attendance by not sending a special flyer. In an effort to cut mailing costs this is what we are doing. There is going to be a dedicated page in the Signal of social events. The Signal will be published prior to the end of the month. Dinners, Cruise-ins and Cruise-outs will be emailed two weeks prior to the event. A reminder email will be sent one week prior to the event. There will a bulletin board at the club with events posted with sign-up sheets. Notifying us in this manner will save the club money that can be used elsewhere. The page can be pulled out of the signal or one of the emails can be printed to remind us of when and where the event is to take place.

Which takes us to a related topic. We need everyone to update his or her contact

information. Mail has been bouncing back, we have a few phone numbers that have changed and a few emails that have changed. It is important that we be able to keep all the members apprised of what's going on at the club.

The Installation Dinner is on January 19, so join us and meet the new Officers and Members of the Board of Directors. I look forward to cruising with all in 2002.

Fair Winds,
Willi Robles

**HAPPY
NEW
YEAR
!!**

MBYC HOTLINES

Commodore

Willi Robles

Commodore@MarinaBayYC.com

Vice Commodore

Phillip Coker

ViceCommodore@MarinaBayYC.com

Rear Commodore

George Naill

RearCommodore@MarinaBayYC.com

Secretary

Michael Green

Secretary@MarinaBayYC.com

Treasurer

Ed Johnson

Treasurer@MarinaBayYC.com

Fleet Captain

Larry Lawson

FleetCaptain@MarinaBayYC.com

Port Captain (Pro Tem)

Bill Merkel

PortCaptain@MarinaBayYC.com

Past Commodore

Don Wigle

PastCommodore@MarinaBayYC.com

PICYA Representatives

Don Wigle

Jim Taylor

PICYA_Representative@MarinaBayYC.com

YRA Representative

David Jacoby

YRA_Representative@MarinaBayYC.com

Signal Editor

Erwin Gove

SignalEditor@MarinaBayYC.com

Marina Bay Yacht Club

PO Box 281, Station A
Richmond, CA 94808
(510) 232-6292

Website:

www.MarinaBayYC.com

Webmaster - Ed Johnson

Clubhouse: The Boathouse
2580 Spinnaker Way, Richmond CA

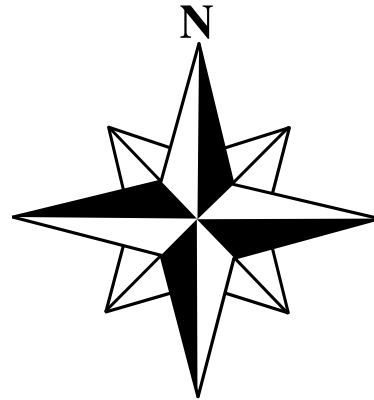
MEMBERSHIP

NEW MEMBERS

At the Board meeting held on December 15, 2001, the following people were elected members of Marina Bay Yacht Club:

- Leif & Kelly Larsen of Kelseyville
- Louis Fiammetta of Fremont

Welcome to the Club!



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS

- Charles & Barbara Hayes of Moraga, who sail the Yorktown 33 *Teresa*.
- Richard Bartlett of Richmond, who drives the Silverton 40 *Jim's Toy*.
- Bryan & Jaime Sheridan of Berkeley, of *SSS Northland*.
- Theresa & Doug Haight of Pinole, of *SSS Northland*.

This section intentionally left blank.

**This section contained the
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF
DIRECTORS' MEETING
DECEMBER 15, 2001,**

**and it is not intended for the
general public.**

FLEET CAPTAIN'S REPORT

Here it is.....2002! Another year gone by. Last year had some great cruises. Some even went to Catalina and the Channel Islands. Some to the South Pacific and me,,,,,,, slammin' up the California Coast. Some to the Monterey Bay area. Some up the Delta and to Drakes Bay. Was it awesome or what?

This year we'll do more good stuff. Most of my planned cruise-outs will be around the Bay. We'll do Half Moon Bay and Drakes Bay this year. I'll be crewing on a boat to San Miguel Island, Santa Rosa Island, and Santa Cruz Island in August. If some of you are heading down that way, I hope to see ya. We'll finish our cruise at the Half Moon Bay Yacht Club Party Labor Day weekend. I'll see all of ya there.....right?

Don't be too intimidated by the weather in January. We still have fun in the cold, wet weather. Come on out to Ayala Cove, Angel Island on the 12th and 13th of January. Just be prepared to pick up your own mooring if the weather turns bad. Otherwise we'll raft up. Fun, fun, fun! You may even get to use your foulies!

Now..... I need all the email addresses. I recently sent out notices to all the club members with email on the club roster. If you did not receive an email from me, please send me your address. Mine is llawson@highstream.net.

In the future I'll need RSVP's for cruise-outs to other clubs. This is for the purpose of obtaining slips, dinners, etc.. If I don't receive the RSVP you may not get a slip or dinner. Please do not embarrass me by showing up without the RSVP.

See ya out there.

Lizard Guy

VICE COMMODORE'S LOG

At Last! We have recovered from the loss of control of the boathouse. After fourteen years, we have it back. Beginning January 1, 2002, we begin a ten-year lease that gives us control of the entire boathouse except for the back utility room, restrooms and outside storage lockers. We now enjoy the fruits of the dedication, determination and plain old elbow grease of our members, some who are no longer active but without whom we probably would not exist today.

There are obligations as well as benefits in the lease, of course, and the rent is not a steal by any means, but we can turn this into the best thing that has happened to us in a long, long time. All it will take is a little effort from each of us from time to time. We exist only because of the voluntary support of our members – not only in spirit but also in body.

Actually, MBYC probably needs your body more than your spirit right now. There is a lot of work to do. Over the years, for reasons known only to them, the City of Richmond has let the building sit essentially unused and neglected. The place is a mess. It needs to be cleaned and painted upstairs and downstairs. It needs carpeting downstairs, improvements in the kitchen and a fixed wet-bar. Some things will have to be done commercially but there is a lot that we can do ourselves. Unless someone beats me to it, for example, I plan to bring in my steam-vac and try to save the upstairs carpet. Maybe we can get a few more years out of it.

The sole purpose for creating our club in 1986 was to have a shore-based facility supporting social activities for boaters primarily berthed in Marina Bay. We lost the facility after only two years back then but with your help we won't lose it again.

Come on. Pitch in. Call our Commodore and ask what you can do. We need you.

Phillip Coker
Vice Commodore, MBYC
Silent Dancer

CRUISE NEWS

CAPRICE

Happy Holidays. It's been a busy year aboard Caprice! We brought the New Year in with champagne and fireworks in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico. While there we mounted solar panels, played, ate, spent \$, played, ate, etc. Karen's brother and sister-in-law (Lanny and Dee Owren) flew down for a week's R&R – was great to visit with them.

We left Puerto Vallarta on Feb. 14th (Valentines Day) for points south; Chamela, Tenacatita, and Barra Navidad. Along the way visited with boat friends that were heading north for the RV season. Arrived on March 12th at Zihuatanejo. Ixtapa is close by with its high rise hotels and golf courses. At Z-town we provisioned for our first offshore and longest sail, 2765 nm as the pelican flies to the Marquesas Islands.

We sailed on April 7th and because we aren't pelicans we logged 2892 ship miles, toasted King Neptune as we crossed the equator on May 1st and arrived at Hiva Oa on May 9th.

Hopped around the Marquesas to Tahuata, then back to Hiva Oa (Hanamenu), then to Hakahau, Oa Pou then onward to Nuka Hiva arriving on June 8th. Highlights on these islands were the wood carvers, tattoo artists, drummers and outriggers.

Mid June found us sailing to Tahiti, arriving at Papeete on July 1st, anchoring at Maeva Beach. Toured, shopped, ate, drank and were merry.

Hard place to leave but...westward we must go.

August was spent sailing to more of the French Polynesian Islands. Cook's Bay, Moorea; Port Bourayne, Huahine; Raiatea, Hamene, Hurepiti Bay, Tahaa, then BoraBora just outside Bloody Marys. Ferried to Maupiti on Sept. 11th - World Trade Center Day. Could throw in a hand full of adjectives here and there to describe but lets just say they are beautiful.

Sept. 15th sailed to Tonga, arriving at Neiafu on the 27th, one of our favourite spots. No swell, friendly people that speak our language - English. There are over 30 protected anchorages in this Vava'u Group of islands. Anyway, we messed around here until the first of November, then sailed toward Nuku'alofa, Tonga, the southern group of islands. Left there on the 10th for New Zealand and arrived at Tauranga on the 24th. On route we logged, 10,000 nautical miles since leaving San Francisco in 1999 - a long ways!

So, we're here in Tauranga. Our visas are good for one year. Karen says "I'm staying till they kick me out." Friendly people, good food, beer and wine. Looks like we'll buy a car and tour the islands. Haven't made any plans for the sailing future yet.

Again, Happy Holidays and if you head this way we'll leave the anchor light on for 'ya.

-----Wes and Karen on *Caprice*.

P.S. for the best snorkeling and fishing spots, we will give individual tips on request or better yet, come yourself!

NATARAJA
THANKSGIVING IN HAWAII

On Thanksgiving morning *Nataraja* and *Makai* (neighbor and friend Deb and her Columbia 45) left our slips at Keehi Lagoon and headed to Ko Olina. Winds were very light and the swell on the large side, so we spent most of the trip motoring. *Makai* had devised the handicap system for our race. The faster *Nataraja* had to make four circles around *Makai*, the "Tiltin' Hilton" as Eric has lovingly nicknamed her. Upon our arrival at Ko Olina, we began preparing our Thanksgiving dishes. Our two Ko Olina friends already had the turkey on the BBQ. We ate, drank, drank, ate and were all passed out by 9:30.

Friday morning found all of us moving very slowly. Lots of hot coffee and long showers breathed new life into us. About noon we cast off our dock lines and set sail for Poka'i Bay on O'ahu's west shore. The trades had filled to about 13, so it was a pleasant downwind run. Again, *Nataraja* had to perform her handicap circles and still made it in about an hour ahead of *Makai*



Diamond Head

Poka'i Bay is very small. There is room for only two boats to swing. More could easily fit if you rafted, or anchored bow & stern. We had the place to ourselves and both boats swung on their own anchors. There is a small breakwater at the

southern end of the bay to protect the anchorage. A small marina occupies the northern end. The beach here is very popular with the locals, and the fishermen line the breakwater day and night. At night we watched the glow of the lights underwater as the divers went after lobster and crabs. On shore there is a *heiau*, which is an ancient holy place that was constructed in the 15th or 16th century out of coral and lava rock. The *kahuna* at this temple trained others in astronomy, navigation, and religious traditions.

The bottom is sand, and the water only about 10 feet deep. At our end of the bay the water is almost flat, but at the northern end of the bay the surfers hang out to catch the swell as it wraps around the breakwater.

We strung up the hammock and swung lazily under the stars. The stray cats roamed up and down the breakwater catching the small crabs and the little fish that became trapped in the tidal pools. It was really nice until the wind switched and brought with it the smell of the pig farm. Oh what a smell! Then the mosquitoes attacked and we retreated down below.

On Saturday morning we all gathered in *Nataraja's* cockpit for breakfast. We feasted on eggs and chorizo, French toast, bacon, sausage and Bloody Mary's. After breakfast, *Makai* weighed anchor and headed for home. *Nataraja* now had the bay to herself for the rest of the weekend. We spent the day lounging, reading, swimming, walking the beach, finally getting to see our new wind generator in action, swinging in the hammock and just plain enjoying life. That evening, we sat in the cockpit reflecting on all the fun times we've had at all the different cruise outs. This was the first time we had buddy boated with anyone in Hawaii. We really miss the camaraderie and shenanigans of all our Bay Area

cruises. We then raised our glasses: A champagne toast to all our friends in Richmond!

Sunday morning we weighed anchor and headed for home. The wind had piped up so we tucked in a reef for the beat back. As we approached Barber's Point we spotted a submarine. It didn't seem to be moving. I got on the radio and hailed them to see what they wanted us to do. I was thanked for my cooperation with the Navy, then was informed that they were practicing "swimming maneuvers" (What the heck is that!?) and that we were free to pass them in any direction. As we got closer, we could see the men lined up on the top of the sub. Never did see any of them doing any swan dives though. Shortly after we passed them, they powered up and disappeared.

-----Eric & Emmy
S/V *Nataraja*

EASY PASSAGE

Hi Everyone! Happy Holidays!!! Well, we aren't in La Paz, but we are in a beautiful spot, Bahia de Magdalena, which is about 200 miles north of Cabo San Lucas. We are going to stay here for Christmas, then go on farther south.

It's been an adventure! We went back to Isla San Martin from Ensenada, and stayed there another four to five days, fishing and relaxing. We had one night of very strong winds; the waves going past the boat looked like we were moving, but the anchor held, just made lots of noise as the wind moved us around, and the chain was moving back and forth in its tray on the bowsprit.

From there we went to Isla San Jeronimo. The anchorage was a little bit more rolly, but still it was good. Steve and Dan did more fishing. We had more wind and rain, and the bowsprit made more noise than ever.

(CRUISE NEWS, *EASY PASSAGE*)

We checked it the next morning, and it was now loose! The whole structure was moving back and forth with the chain movement. So Steve got out some HUGE bolts and fastened it down. It doesn't move any more!

From San Jeronimo, we went to San Benito Island. This was about a 12-hour day, and it was rough all the way. Lots of current and wind moving in different directions than we wanted to go. We left at 4:30 in the morning, and got there around 4 pm.

The next morning we left for Turtle Bay, but we were just out of the harbor when one of the engines overheated. Steve went down to try to fix it, but it was taking too long, and we were not going to make Turtle Bay before nightfall, so we pulled in to a sheltered cove on Cedros Island. Steve let the engines cool, then found and fixed the problem with the starboard engine. (A loose hose!).

Then on to Turtle Bay the next day. This was supposed to be a very good port for provisioning, getting fuel, etc., but no banks, no cell phone service, and only very small stores. We did stay there four to five days, went shell collecting on a really nice beach, found some whalebones! Had dinner at the restaurant a couple of times. Met up with some friends from Long Beach and found out that everyone has problems, it wasn't just us. We used the one phone in town for Long Distance to check in with family. Oh, and took on water. We'd gone through 400 gallons in just a week, and ran out at San Jeronimo. We had drinking water, but no showers 'til Turtle Bay. They were \$3 per person, but well worth it! We'd been using Baby Wipes 'til we got there! Thank heavens for those! They brought the water out to the boat in 50-gallon drums, then we pumped it aboard. The panga could bring two

drums at a time, so it took him four trips. Needless to say, we are still on water conservation rationing, and wash up with a sink-full of water, and don't use the shower on board!

From Turtle Bay, we made two more stops, then did a 22-hour run to Magdalena Bay. Mag Bay is about the same size and shape as SF Bay. It has an entrance similar to the Golden Gate (no bridge) with hills on either side. We are anchored at Man Of War Cove, near the little town of Magdalena. It is so beautiful here, we decided to stay for Christmas. To get to the internet cafe and bank, we had to take a panga across the bay to San Carlos, \$60, then a taxi to Conception, \$50. This is our second trip here, so it's getting expensive. We burned up the impeller on the raw water intake for the generator, so Steve is shopping for one while I do the internet thing.

----- Steve & Kathy Smith
M/V *Easy Passage*

CROCODILE ROCK

We are presently at the Pedro Miguel Boat Club in the Panama Canal. The club is actually in the Canal so we only transited two of the six locks that complete the transit from the Pacific to Atlantic. We love it here. It's referred to as the 'crossroads of the world' and at present many countries are represented here – Canada, USA, Scotland, Switzerland, New Zealand, England.

I don't remember where I left off in our dismasting saga, but allow me to summarize. Our repairs didn't quite go according to plan. Our mast was retrieved from the bottom of the sea and taken to a shop and cut and spliced back together. It was repainted along with the boom and the vang. All the parts were ordered – sails, furler, rigging, etc...and then we ran into a snag with DHL. They wanted 8000 pesos to clear our parcels through customs. As an

incentive they returned one of the shipments saying 'you still have four more but it's going to cost you'. Unfortunately the shipment they returned was the forestay, and without it the rest was useless. If we couldn't hold up the mast, we certainly didn't need the rest. Anyway, after much e-mailing with senior staff at both DHL USA and Mexico City, and with the windiest weather in the Tehuantepec rapidly approaching, we made like a powerboat and motored off.

We have now come 1500 miles with two 9.9 outboard engines. To say it was a slow trip would be a great understatement. Our plan was to head to Florida to a) get some work and make some cash, b) seek legal redress from DHL, and c) fix the boat. It appears that all those things can be done from here. We have been here for two days now, and Rick already has a rigging job and they have hired me for the wiring.

-----Grace & Rick, *Crocodile Rock*

EDITOR'S DESK

Bill Merkel has been appointed the Port Captain pro tem. He will be voted upon at the next Board meeting. Ardelle Cirino is the Social Director.

When you read the Commodore's Log, you saw that we are trying to get the Signal published before the first of the month. This will provide timely information on Club activities. We apologize for being late this month. The holidays got in the way.

By now you should have received your 2002 Club dues statement. Please pay promptly, as the Board will stick more closely to the rules on delinquency this year. And be sure to fill in the info for current e-mail address. The Board will be relying more and more on e-mail to provide info on Club activities.

-----Editor

MBYC 2002 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JANUARY

12/13 Angel Island Raft-up

19 Board meeting (1600)
Installation Dinner-Ciopino (1800/1900)
(Lagier)

26 Berkeley YC Cruise-in
Salmon/chicken Dinner (1700/1900)

FEBRUARY

3 Super Bowl Sunday (drinks & snacks)
9/10 Loch Lomond YC cruise-out
16 Board meeting
Valentines Party-Pasta Extravaganza Dinner
(Cirino)
23 Sausalito YC cruise-in
Dinner (Stephens)

MARCH

9/10 South Beach Harbor cruise-out
16 Board meeting
Dinner

APRIL

13/14 Sausalito YC cruise-out
20 Board meeting
Dinner

MAY

17 Board meeting
Dinner
25-27 Pittsburg YC cruise-out (Blues Festival)

JUNE

8/9 Encinal YC cruise-out
15 Board meeting
Dinner

JULY

13/14 Sequoia YC cruise-out
20 Board meeting
Dinner

AUGUST

10/11 Vallejo Municipal Marina cruise-out
16 Board meeting
Dinner
31 Half Moon Bay YC cruise-out---

SEPTEMBER

1-2 ---and barbecue at Half Moon Bay
14 Board meeting
Dinner

OCTOBER

12-14 Drake's Bay cruise-out
19 Board meeting
Dinner

NOVEMBER

9/10 San Rafael YC cruise-out
15 Board meeting
Annual Membership meeting
Chili Cook-off dinner

DECEMBER

7/8 Angel Island Raft-up
14 Board meeting
Holiday dinner



Marina Bay Yacht Club

UPCOMING EVENTS

Special Note: I had wanted to include pictures from the Christmas Party in this newsletter. My camera was not working, so no pictures. It is working now, and we will have pictures of these events for future issues of the Signal. Approx. 50 people showed up for the Christmas dinner. It turned out to be a great party.--Ardelle Cirino

Cruise Out

Angel Island

January 12-13, 2002

Contact Larry Lawson for details

(707) 546-9657

email: fleetcaptain@marinabayyc.com

For the adventuresome among us.

The first meeting of the MBYC events committee will be January 19th at 2:00 pm. All wishing to participate in planning activities, please come and give your ideas. Call Ardelle to confirm 707 558-9637

INSTALLATION DINNER

January 19, 2002
Board Meeting @ 4:00 p.m.
Cocktails after meeting Dinner @ 7:00 p.m.
Cioppino (Italian Fish Stew)
Cost: \$15 (under 13=free)
Hosts: Paul & Earlene Lanier

CRUISE-IN

Berkeley Yacht Club

January 26, 2002

Cocktails at 5:00 Dinner @ 7:00

Menu: Salmon and Chicken

Hosts: TBD

RSVP to Ardelle Cirino- 707 558-9637

SocialDirector@marinaBayYC.com



SUPER BOWL SUNDAY

February, 3, 2002

The Yacht Club will be open by noon

Game time is 3:00 pm

Bring a snack to share. (Contact Ardelle 707 558-9637, or SocialDirector@MarinaBayYC.com to let us know what you are bringing, so that we can have a wide variety of munchies) or \$3.00 per person for club provided snacks.

Cruise Out

Loch Lomond Yacht Club

February 9-10, 2002

Contact Larry Lawson for details

(707) 546-9657 e-mail:

FleetCaptain@MarinaBayYC.com

Cruise In:

Sausalito Yacht Club

February 23, 2002

Cocktails at 5:00 p.m.

Dinner @ 7:00 p.m.

Menu: See details in next months issue-

Hosts: Dan & Ruth Stephens

Valentines Party

February 16, 2002
Board Meeting @ 4:00 p.m.
Cocktails after meeting
Dinner @ 7:00 p.m.
Pasta Extravaganza
Cost: \$12.50 (under 13=free)
Hosts: Nestor & Ardelle Cirino

NOTE: If for health or any other reason you are not able to eat the entree being provided for any dinner, and you want to attend, **Please feel free to request an alternative.** Contact Ardelle 707 558-9637 or SocialDirector@MarinaBayYC.com
Request for alternative menu must be made at least 3 days before event to ensure another entree will be available!!



MARINA BAY YACHT CLUB

SIGNAL

PELICAN

Northgate Banjer 37
Captain George Naill with
First Mate Ellie on the bow
Cruising up the Bay

Marina Bay Yacht Club
P. O. Box 281, Sta. A
Richmond, CA 94808

First Class Postage