

# THE SIGNAL

## MARINA BAY YACHT CLUB

Richmond, California

Vol. XVII, No. 2

February 2002

### COMMODORE'S LOG



The first dinner of the year was excellent. I would like to thank Paul and Earlene Lagier for giving us a wonderful meal (gourmet meal). The new Officers and Board Members were introduced to the Members and flags were handed out. New members were voted into the Club and burgees were handed out. Peter Turner brought in a burgee from a yacht club in New York that Barbara Peterson visited and it was presented to the Club as well.

Saturday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> we will be having a painting party in the main foyer. The Sea Scouts will be joining us to clean the new tables we purchased for the dining room. All are invited to join in. Lunch is on the Club for those that participate. Sandy and I will be hosting the Super Bowl Party the next day. Even though the 49ers and Raiders won't be playing it should be fun anyway.

Fair Winds,  
Willi Robles

---

### VICE COMMODORE'S LOG

First, let me apologize for asserting in the last issue that we now have the boathouse back. I was misinformed. I was told that the City of Richmond would "rubber stamp" an approval of what I thought had been negotiated. But shortly after I submitted that article to The Signal, I learned that the City of Richmond wanted to make some revisions to our contract before granting consent. My understanding then was that there would be a term of five years and a slight change to the wording of City of Richmond and Westrec use.

The revised contract was faxed to me without any indication of what had been changed but I noticed two changes at a glance. First, the term that had been agreed upon between MBYC and Westrec (ten years with a ten year option to renew) is now to be five years with no option to renew and second, use by the City of Richmond and Westrec (the downstairs on a non-conflict basis Monday through Thursday) is to be unrestricted (the entire boathouse) Monday through Friday plus any weekends if we have not given notice of a specific planned function at least three months in advance. Rent, however, remains the same even with

these significant reductions of the value of the lease to us. There could be other changes to the contract but I have not been able to compare the old and new versions side by side to find them.

In my opinion, these new changes to the contract are unreasonable and, to me, make no sense. I am at somewhat of a loss on how to deal with this. In my professional life I negotiate and draft contracts to buy, sell, and lease commercial property for a private trucking company. In some of the leases we are the landlord and in others the tenant. Most of these contracts involve a lot more money than this one for the boathouse. But none have been as difficult. Most are concluded within a week or two. This contract Negotiation will soon celebrate its first birthday. Is it because this one involves a government agency?

(continued on page 4)

## MBYC HOTLINES

### Commodore

Willi Robles

[Commodore@MarinaBayYC.com](mailto:Commodore@MarinaBayYC.com)

### Vice Commodore

Phillip Coker

[ViceCommodore@MarinaBayYC.com](mailto:ViceCommodore@MarinaBayYC.com)

### Rear Commodore

George Naill

[RearCommodore@MarinaBayYC.com](mailto:RearCommodore@MarinaBayYC.com)

### Secretary

Michael Green

[Secretary@MarinaBayYC.com](mailto:Secretary@MarinaBayYC.com)

### Treasurer

Ed Johnson

[Treasurer@MarinaBayYC.com](mailto:Treasurer@MarinaBayYC.com)

### Fleet Captain

Larry Lawson

[FleetCaptain@MarinaBayYC.com](mailto:FleetCaptain@MarinaBayYC.com)

### Port Captain

Bill Merkel

[PortCaptain@MarinaBayYC.com](mailto:PortCaptain@MarinaBayYC.com)

### Social Director

Ardelle Cirino

[SocialDirector@MarinaBayYC.com](mailto:SocialDirector@MarinaBayYC.com)

### Past Commodore

Don Wigle

[PastCommodore@MarinaBayYC.com](mailto:PastCommodore@MarinaBayYC.com)

### PICYA Representative

Mike Faircloth

[PICYA\\_Representative@MarinaBayYC.com](mailto:PICYA_Representative@MarinaBayYC.com)

### YRA Representative

David Jacoby

[YRA\\_Representative@MarinaBayYC.com](mailto:YRA_Representative@MarinaBayYC.com)

### Signal Editor

Erwin Gove

[SignalEditor@MarinaBayYC.com](mailto:SignalEditor@MarinaBayYC.com)

### Marina Bay Yacht Club

P.O. Box 281, Sta. A  
Richmond, CA 94808  
(510) 232-6292

Website: [www.MarinaBayYC.com](http://www.MarinaBayYC.com)

Webmaster – Ed Johnson

Clubhouse: The Boathouse  
2580 Spinnaker Way, Richmond CA

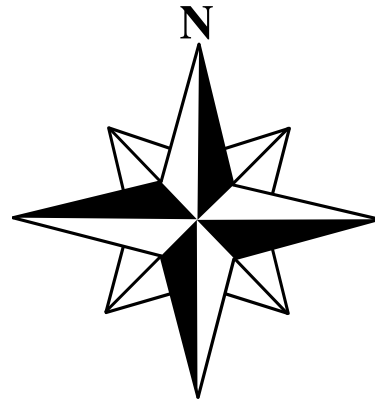
## MEMBERSHIP

### NEW MEMBERS

At the Board meeting held on January 19, 2002, the following people were elected members of Marina Bay Yacht Club:

- Richard Bartlett of Richmond
- Theresa & Doug Haight of Pinole
- Charles & Barbara Hayes of Moraga
- Bryan & Jaime Sheridan of Berkeley

Welcome to the Club!



### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

- Ken & Louise Landis of Pleasant Hill, who sail the Islander 36 *Sea Fair*. Sponsors are Tony Burg & George Naill.

## FLEET CAPTAIN'S REPORT

The cruise-out to Angel Island in January was great! What a party!! The hard-core cruisers were..... Myself on *Lizard*, Don & Jan on *Ripple*, Peter on *Silverheels II*, Jon and Libby on *Mimi 'n Me*, Bill & Lore on *Yes Virginia*, Richard on *Ann*, Dave & Sue on *Enchante'*, and of course Erwin on *Maenad*. All these cruisers came out in spite of the heavy fog that covered the Bay. These really are hard-core cruisers.

There was lotsa live music, good food, much surge, noise and wind at night. This was really fun. I don't think anyone there would have wanted to be anywhere else. Well, almost anywhere.

On Sunday some left early, some walked around the island. No rain!! Like I said..."Don't be intimidated by the weather on the Bay." If it's really bad you'll be forewarned. The winter trips are all short, fun, and a bit on the cool side.

The next cruise out will be to Loch Lomond Yacht Club on February 9th. There will be a -.5 low tide. I'm not sure of the depth there, but I think it's shallow. I'll let you know ASAP. The Port Captain there has been in Oregon, but will return soon. High-water slack is at 1055 and this is a good time to arrive. Yea... Get outta bed. This would be a good time to avoid mud. There is also a 4.6 ebb at 1421 with low water slack at 1818. Not a good time to arrive. I also have learned that we should keep mid-channel when entering the harbor. As you enter, keep to the port and pass the fuel dock. The club is straight ahead.

I do need a RSVP by February 1st. Boat size and number of people on board. I don't know about dinner

at the club yet. If they don't have an event happening, I'm not going to request a crew come in to feed us. There is a cafe, Bobby's, at the harbor. We could eat there or eat on board. Whatever, it will be fun and/or an adventure.

The cruise-out to South Beach Harbor on the 9th of March has created a great response. I've done what I could to reserve slips, but I could only get 10. These I did. Not to worry, yet. If you don't get one of the 10, all you have to do is call the harbormaster at 415-495-4911 and reserve a slip for yourself. Do this soon. I also need an RSVP ASAP. Some have already done this, but do it again please.

At South Beach Harbor you have the whole City at your disposal. There are several good restaurants within walking distance and much stuff close by. The South Beach Yacht Club will be open for cocktails and a visit, but no dinner. They know about all the other fun that is available. I'll get more to you about this in the next week or two.

Once again...If you have not heard from me in your email then you need to send me your email address. Send it to [FleetCaptain@MarinaBayYC.com](mailto:FleetCaptain@MarinaBayYC.com).

Hope to see ya out and about.

Lizard Guy

---

## CLUB NEWS

At present our club has 71 members (or memberships; the Bylaws Committee is in the process of thrashing this out). We have lost several members (not renewing) and have gained a few.

Our contract with Westrec for use of the Boathouse has been changed to accommodate a City of

Richmond requirement. We now will have a five-year contract with no right to renew, instead of the 10-year contract with the right of a 10-year renewal that MBYC and Westrec had previously signed. In addition, our access to the clubhouse will be restricted.

Improvements have already started in the clubhouse. We now have a larger, fixed bar with stools, a back-bar refrigerator and a drink cooler. The bar needs refinishing and a sink needs to be installed. Looking good.

There will be a Marina Bay Opening Day, one week before the PICYA Opening Day for the whole SF Bay. It will include a Blessing of the Fleet and a boat parade with prizes. MBYC, Westrec, the Sea Scouts and West Marine are sponsors. The committee boat will be the Northland. Date and times are forthcoming. Plan to get involved; it's more fun!

The Board of Directors has discussed the possibility of providing the Signal by e-mail to any members who would prefer this option. The advantages are pictures in color, receiving it a day or two sooner than by snail mail, and less paper for you to recycle through the birdcage. If you are interested, please e-mail a note to Ed Johnson at [Treasurer@MarinaBayYC.com](mailto:Treasurer@MarinaBayYC.com).

-----Erwin Gove

-----  
Vessel Assist is offering a 10% discount on all Vessel Assist memberships and renewals to the members of MBYC. To obtain the discount, our members should call 510-812-5913 and speak to Philip Delano to receive the discount.

Philip will contact Ed Johnson, following a member's inquiry, to confirm that the member is in good standing.

-----Ed Johnson

## PORT CAPTAIN'S REPORT

As your new Port Captain, I'd first like to say that this promises to be an exciting and productive year for the Club, with all that's planned for sprucing up the building and all the great events scheduled. This should be a fun year for everyone as we proceed through the various projects and better get to know one another. It's like we've suddenly gone from renting our vessel to owning it and that is empowering.

Your help is essential to the Club achieving its goals for the year. If you have anything that might be useful to the Club, please contact myself or one of the other Board members. If you have some free time, there will be any number of projects you can volunteer for. If you want to host a dinner but are afraid it might be too much work.....then volunteer to help someone else do a dinner and see first-hand how much fun it can be. This is your Club so let's work together and make it everything it should be.

-----Bill Merkel

---

## VICE COMMODORE'S LOG (continued from pg. 1)

We need to rethink where we are going with this. We voted to increase the dues and to commit "seed money" to a contract with terms that were supposed to be final but, in fact, were not. Certainly we do not want to spend money for improvements that we will not be able to enjoy for a reasonable period of time. I believe that it is time for an in-depth review of this situation at a general meeting of the membership.

Phillip Coker  
Vice Commodore

## WORKING IN ANTARCTICA

Wow - where do you start? Arrived in Punta Arenas on Saturday evening (less baggage). On Sunday, strolled the town, picked up baggage and went to our warehouse. The boat, scheduled to arrive on Sunday, was late from the last cruise and didn't arrive till Monday. BTW, I thought that the boat had been caught in the ice for three days in October - turns out it was three weeks, not three days!!

Took a short tour of the boat on Sunday, and then a more detailed one on Monday. The boat, in short, is incredible. The facilities on board make it pretty much self-sustainable (with the exception of fuel). We've got a wood shop, rigging shop, machine shop, an electronics shop, pc labs, multiple science labs, etc. with spares for everything. We even carry spare props. The size of the equipment is pretty intimidating. Each of the four motors is about as big as my entire boat. The work onboard requires a lot of equipment to be deployed over the side, so there are GIANT winches scattered all about the ship. I think there are eight to nine decks total with an ice observation tower that extends another two stories above the bridge.

On Tuesday, we moved aboard the boat and I had my first day of real work. In the morning I got issued all my clothing while the boat got moved to its regular pier (it got bumped by a cruise ship because it was late). I fixed a camera (bad signal cable), some radios (bad diodes on power), and went up the science mast (even higher than the ice tower - kinda scary) to clean the soot off some radiometers.

Today, Wednesday, the plan was to fix more gear and load up all our cargo. About 9 AM, I was with some

co-workers down on the main deck (inside), when we heard two or three successive booms. We gave each other the 'uh-oh' look and bolted outside to see what had happened.

The ship's crew (all from Louisiana) had started to off-load our little utility boat, the "*Cajun Cruncher*" - yes - that's the boat's name. One of the turnbuckles (about 1.5 inch thick steel) gave and one end of the boat dropped about 30 feet to the concrete pier. The boat is all steel and weighed about 26 tons. It crushed the guard shack and gangway below on the dock - thankfully, and damn luckily, no one was inside or hurt.

So we had a big to-do here today while the port authority spent the morning taking pictures and the boat, with a cracked steel hull and the railings ripped off, was towed to a shipyard. At about 5:30, we finally got to start loading cargo on the boat, which was fun - I got to play longshoreman for a day.

I could go on and on, but that's the short of it. I'm anxious to leave port. We are going to deploy some really cool equipment this cruise - side scan sonar and some giant air guns that allow you to get a profile of the sediment and rock under the ocean. Word is we are also going to visit some really beautiful areas and should get a few days in zodiacs at some islands.

Hope all of you are well and happy!!

Take it easy,

-----Brent Evers

(Brent has a job for six months working on a research vessel in Antarctica. He's not cruising, but it is summer down there. His story will be continued.)

## MBYC 2002 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### JANUARY

- 12/13 Angel Island Raft-up
- 19 Board meeting  
Installation Dinner – Ciopino (Lagier)
- 26 Berkeley YC Cruise-in  
Salmon/chicken Dinner

### FEBRUARY

- 3 Super Bowl Sunday (drinks & snacks)  
Club open by noon, Game at 1500
- 9/10 Cruise-out to Loch Lomond YC
- 16 Board meeting (1600)  
Valentines Party – Pasta Extravaganza  
(Cirino) (1800/1900)
- 23 Sausalito YC Cruise-in  
Clam Chowder Dinner (Stephens)  
(1700/1900)

### MARCH

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

### APRIL

- 13/14 Cruise-out to Sausalito YC
- 20 Board meeting  
Dinner

### MAY

- 18 Board meeting  
Dinner
- 25-27 Cruise-out to Pittsburg YC (Blues Festival)

### JUNE

- 8/9 Cruise-out to Encinal YC
- 15 Board meeting  
Dinner

### JULY

- 13/14 Cruise-out to Sequoia YC
- 20 Board meeting  
Dinner

### AUGUST

- 10/11 Cruise-out to Vallejo Municipal Marina
- 17 Board meeting  
Dinner
- 31--- Cruise-out to Half Moon Bay YC---

### SEPTEMBER

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

### OCTOBER

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

### NOVEMBER

- 9/10 Cruise-out to San Rafael YC
- 16 Board meeting  
Annual Membership Meeting  
Chili Cook-off dinner

### DECEMBER

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



Eric/Emmy

***NATARAJA***  
Flying Dutchman 37  
Eric Willbur & Emmy Newbould  
Enjoying the Good Life in  
Poka'i Bay, Hawaii

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

First Class Postage

**MARINA BAY YACHT CLUB**

**SIGNAL**