



# THE SIGNAL

MARINA BAY YACHT CLUB

Richmond, California

Vol. XVII, No. 4

April 2002

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## COMMODORE'S LOG

This past month has been just incredible. Our outlook in January was a little gloomy; in February somewhat confused; but in March we surged forward with an enthusiasm unlike any we have seen in a long, long time. I attribute this to the dedication, imagination and industry of our Board and Committee members who have stepped up and made the month of March one of the best ever for the Marina Bay Yacht Club. I feel so fortunate to be a part of this group.

Bill Merkel and Ardelle Cirino, along with several other members, hosted a dinner and a cruise-in that has put us back on the map in the eyes of other yacht clubs. Larry Lawson set up a cruise to South Beach that was another winner in the face of incredible odds (weather and costs). Silent Dancer had to turn back with engine problems that morning so Erwin Gove, Kat Decker and I drove over and had dinner with Ed and Dorothy Johnson at Max's.

Ed Johnson, in addition to his usual duties, is spending a great deal of time outfitting the Boathouse for our use. Mike Green is doing a superb job getting us better organized administratively. I can't say enough about the quality of ideas presented and discussed at the Board meetings, or via email or telephone. With contributions from these experienced, insightful and articulate Board and Committee members, which includes James Taylor, George Naill, Don Wigle, Mike Faircloth, David Jacoby, and Erwin Gove, this will be an outstanding year.

Phillip Coker  
Commodore, MBYC

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## ANNUAL DUES

The deadline for paying your annual dues is fast approaching. If you have not paid, and are having difficulty because of the large dues increase this year, we will accept quarterly dues payments, with the payment due at the beginning of each quarter. At this time we have not instituted a surcharge for this service, so it will remain at \$60/quarter. We will also accept Visa and MasterCard for the

payments. We can set up the credit card payments on a schedule, so the member doesn't even have to remember when to charge the next payment. We can even continue into next year's dues if they wish.

My next dues reminder to those still delinquent will contain a form to authorize a credit card payment.

-----Ed Johnson, Treasurer

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## CLUBHOUSE KITCHEN

As you learned in the March Signal, the refrigerator in the clubhouse kitchen hasn't been cooling properly. The freezer section was at refrigerator temperature and the fridge section acted as a cooler. Foods stored in the unit were kept at an appropriate temperature, so there was no risk of spoilage.

Westrec declined to replace the unit since they plan to remodel the kitchen and install a commercial type refrigerator "in the very near future".

The Club has purchased and installed a used fridge to use in the interim. Our Port Captain, Bill Merkel, selected it, and it works great. He has experience in refrigeration.

When the commercial unit has been installed, the used fridge will be moved upstairs to replace the existing donated one, which is now in poor repair.

-----Erwin Gove

## MBYC HOTLINES

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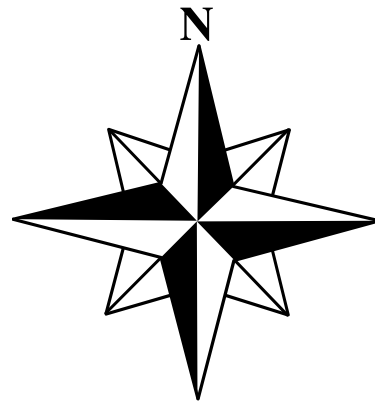
## MEMBERSHIP

### NEW MEMBERS

At the Board meeting held on March 16, 2002, the following people were elected members of Marina Bay Yacht Club:

- Hans & Victoria Kuhn of Brentwood

Welcome to the Club!



## FLEET CAP'N'S REPORT

The cruise-out to South Beach Harbor was interesting. At least Weather-wise. *Ripple* and *Lizard* left Brickyard Cove at 1040 on Saturday. The sky was a bit cloudy. The wind was up a bit during the night, but a bit light at the time. I put on my foulies thinking of a possible shower. We were motor-sailing south with the Big Daddy Regatta. We could observe a line of dark clouds by the "Slot" and some rough water below the line. "Great" I thought, "some wind". *Ripple* was about 200 yards to the south and west of *Lizard*. The squall hit *Ripple* hard. She went over and rounded up. I wasted no time putting in a reef. I was still on the cabin top when it hit. Yep, I went over and rounded up. After a few minutes I got it under control and continued south in big wind and chop. *Ripple* seemed to be having a bit of trouble and got spanked a couple more times. Now I'm in front. They got it under control and continued back on course.

We watched as a Cal 20, trying to hoist an asymmetrical spinnaker, went out of control when the squall hit him. The spinny was sent 20 feet in front of the bow and off she went to leeward. Finally the solo sailor was able to get it down. We then heard on the VHF about a boat dismasted between Alcatraz and Angel Islands. I did think it was a bit windy. Don and Jan later informed me we were hit with 49 knots and sailed for 30 minutes or so in the upper 30's and lower 40's. Finally it got down to the manageable 20's.

*Yes Virginia* left Brickyard a half hour after us, put in a double reef and sailed down in 25 knots of wind. *Mimi 'n' Me* followed with less than 25 knots. I guess we were lucky enough to be in the right place at the wrong time. It happens.

*Freya, Ann, Dakota, and Heron* all saw 25 knots or less. *Silverheels II* left later in the day and had a smooth sail down.

Like I have said, "Don't be too intimidated with winter sailin'. This weekend applies. We arrived in sunshine and some were even in shorts for awhile. I do like sunshine and most of the time I get it.

We had cocktail hour at the South Beach Yacht Club lookin' down at four tallships. The *Lady Washington* and *Hawaiian Chieftain* were doing charters. We were able to watch them depart and arrive back at the docks.

Phil, Kat, and Erwin showed up at the club. Phil had engine problems with *Silent Dancer* and they cruised in by auto. I love it when people make the cruise-out any way they can. Paul and Mary on *White Bear* had the shortest cruise. *White Bear* is berthed in South Beach.

We all went different ways for dinner. Don & Jan, Paul & Mary, and I went to Max's. Upon arrival, we found Phil, Kat, Erwin, Ed and Dorothy already there.

After dinner some of us drank Paul and Marys' good wine on *White Bear*. On the way back to our boats it started raining. I continued on to *Silverheels II* to visit Captain and Crew for a few minutes. Then off to bed. It rained really good that night and got off all the salt from the sail on Saturday.

The morning brought fresh, clean air, partly cloudy skies, and great moods. Peter Turner was given a gift and hugs for turning 50 during the week. Richard Pfand and his crew Rob were seen taking a picture of Richard's buddy Bob in front of Pac Bell Park. They spent the weekend taking Bob on a tour of the City.

With breakfast finished it was time to depart South Beach. The sun was shining and the winds light, but

good. I do love the sun! The sail back was wonderful. I had to keep on going to the Richmond Bridge because it was too good to go straight back.

Another great cruise-out. I want to thank all who went. Showing up is what makes the cruise-outs work.

The next cruise-out is to Sausalito Yacht Club on April 13/14. This cruise-out will consist of grabbing a mooring (two to a mooring) or anchoring across the channel. Think Dink. If you don't have one we will get you ashore. You should have RSVP'd by now. If not do so now. I need to know how many for dinner.

In May on the 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> is the cruise-out to Pittsburgh Yacht Club. This is a great one. Three days and the Blues Festival! I need a RSVP by the 15<sup>th</sup> of May. I need to know the boat size and how many people aboard for dinner, etc..

ALL RSVP's to:  
[FleetCaptain@MarinaBayYC.com](mailto:FleetCaptain@MarinaBayYC.com).

The weather is a changin'. Now is the time for a spring sail (I don't mean just the stores).

See ya out there. -----Lizard Guy

## YACHT RACING ASSOCIATION

Is anyone interested in becoming a Certified Race Officer with the YRA? The YRA will shortly be holding a training class to qualify anyone interested in getting involved. If you are interested, contact Dave Jacoby, our YRA representative at [YRA\\_Representative@MarinaBayYC.com](mailto:YRA_Representative@MarinaBayYC.com)

-----Editor

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**This page contained the**

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF  
DIRECTORS' MEETING  
MARCH 16, 2002,**

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

## CRUISE NEWS

### NATARAJA

Aloha all! As all of you were doing the Marina Bay YC cruise to South Beach, we did a Hawaiian Chapter of MBYC and cruised out to the Waikiki YC, in the Ala Wai Harbor. Some of you may have seen their ads in Lat 38 about the new docks, etc. We decided it was our duty to "scope out the situation and report back". We must say, the new docks are fabulous. They have a restaurant, bar, and a swimming pool, oooh.

I had the opportunity to visit the club a while back, and these were, by far, some of the worst docks I had ever walked on. Today, spectacular. They used some kind of new age techno plastic for the docks. It feels good on your feet. We don't really wear shoes here---just slippers, or as you mainlanders call them---flip-flops, so this is important.

But, one must note, that yacht club affiliation doesn't get you anything. Our fee for the night was \$1 per foot, ouch, which is what any Joe would pay. Of course, it does have a lot to offer---location, location, location. There are literally thousands of things to see and do within walking distance.



Nataraja at Waikiki YC

For dinner on Saturday night we took a leisurely stroll in the rain to the Fox & Hound, an English pub. They have, by far, the best fish & chips outside of England. The rain actually made it more interesting, just like Merry Ole London. We met up

with some friends and had a wonderful evening. After dinner, Eric and I walked back to the boat, had champagne in the cockpit, and I think you know whom we toasted.

Sunday morning we walked over to a friend's boat in the Ala Wai Boat Harbor to meet up with our hui (Chinese term for group). From there we headed off to Brunch on the Beach in Waikiki. Once a month the city hosts this event. There were 10 local restaurants represented. Kalakaua Street, which runs parallel to the ocean front, is closed to through traffic. The restaurants set up their booths, and there are also tables for the patrons. Scrips are purchased at the entrance for 50 cents each and are then used as payment. Plates run anywhere from eight to ten scrips each. The variety can't be beat. Great fun was had by all.

After brunch we took the scenic route through Waikiki and headed back to the boat. The sail off Waikiki was spectacular. The wind was light, eight to ten knots as we headed towards Diamond Head. We saw a number of humpback whales right off of Waikiki and one huge sea turtle. As we approached the channel into Keehi Lagoon, a mother whale and her calf surfaced about 50 yards off our port side. The calf was so tiny next to his mom. They stayed with us for a few minutes, then dove into the depths.

We are very busy preparing for our May departure to the South Pacific. Our first stop will be Palmyra; then we hope to see Tonga and Fiji. Unless we are able to find jobs south of the equator, we will then head to Bellingham, WA in the fall. We will hang there for a year or so, and then who knows where we'll end up. We will keep our updates coming.

-----Emmy & Eric, s/v *Nataraja*  
Marina Bay YC, Hawaii Chapter

## CROCODILE ROCK

For those who remember Richard and Grace of *Crocodile Rock*, who were berthed on "D" dock and attended many Club functions as guests, they are finishing repairs to their dismantled boat at Pedro Miguel Boat Club in the Panama Canal. Grace says that they love it there and are having a great time.

-----Phil

## LEEWARD ISLANDS CHARTER

[Since we are approaching Spring, it's a good time to plan for a cruise in warmer climes. To put you in the mood, we present the following account of our bare-boat charter taken in the Eastern Caribbean/Leeward Islands in early May 1999. Our credentials were established by listing on a questionnaire what boats we had sailed and where, and charters we had previously done. No problems.

The crew consisted of Erwin Gove, his son Erwin II with his wife Lee Ann, and their son (my grandson) Hunt, 4-1/2 years old. The cruise was taken just after high season. Lee Ann made most of the arrangements. This story consists of excerpts from the journal of Lee Ann and Erwin II, with interjections by Erwin.]

5/2/99-5/3/99 Sunday through Monday

The group left from San Francisco to Miami at 10:55 pm. None of us slept too much on the flight. We went to the Admirals' Club in Miami to kill time until the next leg of our flight. We left Miami at 10:55 A.M. for the flight to St. Martin.

(continued on pg 6)

Sun Yacht Charters picked us up and took us to Oyster Pond and our hotel, Captain Oliver's. The hotel is on the French side of the Island. Our mediocre hotel room cost \$180 for the night and didn't have an air conditioner. Hunt slept with his parents, while Erwin slept on a cot grudgingly dragged in by the staff. We ate lunch there (not too good).

We went to Sun Yacht and met Simon, who was very helpful and loaned us his car to go and provision. Erwin and Lee Ann took Simon's car over dirt roads, with help from bad directions, and eventually found the Food Fair. We bought a few things for just under \$100. Sun Yacht let us leave our cold food in their fridge overnight, since we couldn't board our boat until morning.

We went to the Iguana Bar and had our complimentary rum punches. Hunt had his pirate stuff (hat, eye-patch, sword and hook) on and made friends with an extended family from Portugal. Hunt managed to engage the Grandpa in a raucous battle (Hunt with sword, Grandpa with butter knife). The restaurant had an alligator and green back monkeys in cages.



The Crew (Hunt as pirate)

5/4/99 Tuesday

Hunt woke us all at around 0730. First order of business was breakfast. Good coffee, fruit, juice, yogurt and croissant (chocolate for Lee Ann and Hunt). Checkout was with Simon (very pleasant fellow). He

took a long, long time. It included our motoring the sailboat around the harbor and docking again. Before shoving off, we ate sandwiches at the dock.

We finally got underway at about 1500. Simon drove our boat out of Oyster Pond and jumped off into a chase boat. The water was a little rough and he almost went for a swim. We had a bit of a rough start, but we finally got things moving smoothly. Auto helm is great!

Made Gustavia on St. Barths (or St. Barts) by 1815, just before the sun set (at 1830). We saw the green flash! Anchored in Corossoc, a quaint little village outside the main port.

After dinner the three adults were up on deck talking. We spotted the Southern Cross, and after a moment, a falling star shot through it. We all saw it!

5/5/99 Wednesday

Went into the dock at Gustavia and checked into customs. Only one person from the boat needs to go with all the passports. It cost \$4.50. Then we went to La Creperie after getting some francs at the Bone. We had coffee and croissants. Then off we went to rent a car, which turned out to be a blue mini-moke for \$40 per day. We got a little messed up with the one-way streets at first but managed to find our way to the Lagoon beach to do some swimming. Then we went to lunch, where we had beef kabobs and incredible baked potatoes with garlic butter and parsley. The waiter/owner(?) used to be the *métier d'* at Captain Oliver's. Then off we went to see Columbiere at the north end of the island. Columbiere had a great view of many islands. Erwin was the designated driver and did an excellent job with the skinny roads and pitiful car. He dropped Lee Ann off to shop at "Made In St. Barths" boutique and

"Morgan" (French designer). She shopped while the boys went to the beach. All beaches on the French islands appeared to be topless, which was distracting.

Then back to the boat so the Erwins could fix the clogged head. You have a choice of fixing it yourself or having a repair boat from Oyster Pond chase you down and fix it for a stiff fee (if they decide it's your fault). It turned out to have been jammed by previous charterers. (As a side note, when we checked out our boat we asked where we could pump out the holding tank. The answer was that they don't use holding tanks in the Leewards.)



Hunt---not using the holding tank

While the men were plumbing, Hunt and Lee Ann "swam like fish" behind and around the boat. Then we all showered on the swim step and dressed for dinner.

We drove to town, parked by Le Select (bar where Jimmy Buffet used to show up) and walked around looking for Eddie's Ghetto (which is now called Eddie's Restaurant). We asked a couple (ex-pats from France) where it was and they took us there. On the way, they explained all about their involvement in the Episcopalian church we passed. The restaurant had a great atmosphere and decent prices; \$95 for dinner.

-----the Goves

(to be continued)



Marina Bay Yacht Club

# Upcoming Events

April 2002

For  
Details of  
**April's General  
Meeting Dinner**

See Flyer  
on back

**Cruise Out**  
**Sausalito Yacht Club**  
**April 13-14, 2002**

For additional information  
Contact Larry Lawson  
(707) 546-9657 or email:  
[FleetCaptain@MarinaBayYC.com](mailto:FleetCaptain@MarinaBayYC.com)

**Come Join the Fun**

## Coming Attractions in the month of May

**May 4th: Cinco de Mayo Celebration**

Bay Area Disabled Sailors Cruise In Luncheon

MBYC members and guests Dinner

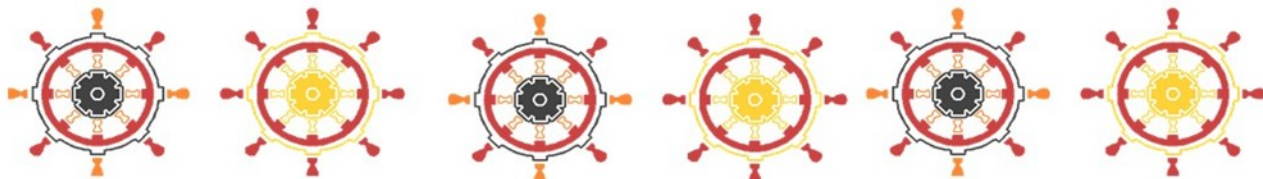
**May 18th: Board Meeting and Pot Luck Dinner**

MBYC will provide steaks

**May 25 - 27: Cruise Out to Pittsburg YC**

Including Jazz Festival at the marina

**Check next months Signal for more details**



**RSVP at least 2 days in advance** for all dinners at the Marina Bay Yacht Club. **Contact Ardelle 707 558-9637 or [SocialDirector@MarinaBayYC.com](mailto:SocialDirector@MarinaBayYC.com)** **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.** Request for alternative menu should be made at least **3 days** before event to ensure another entree will be available!!



# General Membership Meeting and Springtime Celebration

**Saturday April 20, 2002**

**Board Meeting: 4:00 pm**

**Bar open and snacks after meeting**

**Dinner: 7:00 pm**

**Membership Meeting after dinner**

**Dinner Menu**

**BBQ tri-tip and chicken, green salad, potato salad,  
rolls, coffee and dessert**

**Cost: \$10.50 pp Children <13 = free**

**Hosted by Joe Ledbetter, Adeliza Flores,  
Jim and Pamela Duvall**

*Spend the night on your boat, and come join us for a fantastic  
all-you-can-eat buffet We will have the best deal on the bay.*

**Sunday April 21, 2002**

**Buffet Brunch**

**available 8:30 am-10:30 am**

**Menu: Link Sausages Scrambled eggs Belgium waffles  
Potatoes English muffins strawberries & whipped cream**

**Coffee and Plenty of butter syrup and jam**

**\$3.50 for RSVPs \$5.00 for drop -ins**



**RSVP: Ardelle 707 558-9637 or  
SocialDirector@MarinaBayYC.com**

## 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)
- 9/10 Cruise-out to Loch Lomond YC
- 16 Board meeting  
Valentines Party – Pasta Extravaganza
- 23 Sausalito YC Cruise-in  
Clam Chowder Dinner

### MARCH

- 9/10 Cruise-out to South Beach Harbor
- 16 Board meeting  
St. Patrick's Dinner (Cirino)
- 23/24 Sea Scout/Rotary Club Cruise-in

### APRIL

- 13/14 Cruise-out to Sausalito YC
  
- 20 Board meeting (1600)  
Bar & snacks (after meeting)  
BBQ tri-tip & chicken dinner (1900)  
(Ledbetter/Flores)  
General Membership meeting  
(after dinner)
- 21 Buffet Brunch (0830-1030)
  
- 28 Opening Day on SF Bay (PICYA)

### MAY

- 4 Cinco de Mayo celebration  
BAADS Cruise-in luncheon  
MBYC members for dinner
- 18 Board meeting  
Potluck Dinner (MBYC will provide steaks)
- 25-27 Cruise-out to Pittsburg YC (Blues Festival)

### JUNE

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

### JULY

- 6/7 Aolean YC Cruise-in
- 13/14 Cruise-out to Sequoia YC
- 20 Board meeting  
Dinner

### AUGUST

- 3+/- Unorganized coastal cruise to Catalina,  
returning via Channel Islands for  
Labor Day---
- 10/11 Cruise-out to Vallejo Yacht Club
- 17 Board meeting  
Dinner
- 31 Cruise-out to Half Moon Bay YC---

### SEPTEMBER

- 1-2 ---and barbecue at Half Moon Bay
- 21 Board meeting  
"Santa Maria" style tri-tip barbecue

### OCTOBER

- 12-14 Cruise-out to Drake's Bay
- 19 Board meeting  
Annual Membership Meeting  
Chili Cook-off Dinner

### NOVEMBER

- 9/10 Cruise-out to San Rafael YC
- 16 Board meeting  
Cal Clippers Cruise-in  
Thanksgiving Dinner

### DECEMBER

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



Lawson

***MAENAD*** and ***RIPPLE***  
Captains Gove and Wigle  
Sailing home from  
Loch Lomond Yacht Club



Marina Bay Yacht Club

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