

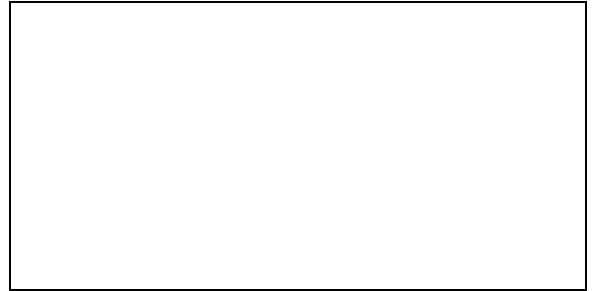


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The Marina Bay Yacht Club Signal is an official publication of the Marina Bay Yacht Club, located at the Marina Bay Yacht Harbor in Richmond, California.

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Join the Fun and Cruise with the Club this summer

Take a Minute to look inside, and find out what is going on. And if you want to put your two-cents worth in, email the editor with comments.

Commodore's Log



Barry Eldridge

Hi Sailors...

Well its mid year and I still haven't finished my spring list of Pixy Trails, "must do" items. Of course, I have lots of reasons

and if you give me a call, I would be happy to share them with you.

Moving on...

Membership Dinner: Considering it's summer when everyone is busy with vacations, family and friends, chores and Honey Do's, we enjoyed a good turnout for the Board meeting and dinner.

The Board Meeting traveled along some interesting paths, of which I've already written you about. The steaks and chicken turned out well and conversation was down, so apparently, dinner was a success.

The Steak dinner was hosted by Judy Murray and crew, with Josh Eldridge commanding the grill. We probably broke even on the dinner and we made a few bucks at the bar which, all things considered, that's OK.

Open House: As everyone now knows, the club is having an Open House-Membership Drive on Saturday, July 15, 2005, from noon until 3 p.m.. For the sake of simplifying the day, we won't be having a Membership Dinner. We hope many of you can make it for lunch and to help out with meeting folks and answering their questions. Ardelle is working on some informative hand-outs, however there's no substitute for a welcoming hand.

Cruise-Out: We had a wonderful time at the cruise-out on June 24th to San Rafael. Check out our Fleet Captain's report for the particulars.

Clubhouse: The deck has finally been re-surfaced and is accessible once again... well, almost. We still need ramps to comply to stringent ADA codes. This is in the works... Now, should they be made of concrete or wood? Only the Marina knows... Stay tuned!

Housekeeping Matters: Rear Commodore, Lou Berg, assisted by our new Safety Officer, Roy Edwards has been organizing the bar and storage areas, getting these areas ship shape for the open house... yeomen on fire I think. I'm betting the bar and store rooms haven't been this straight (sober?) since they were created. Thanks Lou and Roy for all your hard work.

Continuing On...

The plane from Panama to Barranquilla, Columbia was uneventful, except for all the stuff running around in my head... it wasn't a good time to have an active imagination. What was I getting myself into? I tried for a flight to Cartagena, but of course, there isn't an airport in Cartagena. As you may remember from 6th grade history, tons of gold and silver left this port bound for Spain. In time, pirates raided Cartagena so frequently, that they built fort above the city that was never breached. This also protected the slave trade... a violent history and the place was still an exciting magnet for adventure.

The landing in Barranquilla was uneventful. The town is sited on the coast about 80 miles east of Cartagena, and visually a pleasant surprise. That must mean that Cartagena is even better, for she had been around since the time of that nasty fellow, Pizarro.

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New Membership Applications

No new applicants as of this printing.



New Members

No new members at this time.

**The Deck is Finished...
Now We Can Enjoy This
Feature and Fuss with the
Next Line Item!**



.....Continued from page 1

I walked through what passed for customs and it was interesting to note; this fellow in a suit shaking of hands with the custom's inspector. The Inspector then looked furtively around before turning and coughing into his hand (while putting something in his pocket). The guy took one look at my meager items and waved me on with an impatient air, looking past me for someone else to shake, I mean inspect.

The bus trip was hot but otherwise OK and the road was good considering what I experienced in Mexico and Panama. My enthusiasm for Cartagena perked up a couple of notches, which lasted until the bus arrived in a swirl of dust. When I got off the bus I stood there looking around for someone I recognized... nothing of course. Old and crummy! I started walking and inquiring about Peace Corps workers (in broken Spanish). The day was hot, sultry and filled with music that changed according to how loud it was and how fast I walked. Mark told me he lived in the slums. What he omitted was; the slums went on for miles. After a couple hours, more bus rides, and lots of Puerto Rican music, I finally tracked him down.

It was Friday afternoon, there was still plenty of light and instead of working, my friend was sitting in the shade drinking beer some of his neighbors, guys only of course. Of course, I gave him a bad time about that, which lasted until I had another beer. Mark's house (a misnomer) was a single room about the size of my bedroom at home. The cooking and everything else was in the big room (outside). The walls were plastered adobe and dirty white. We slept in hammocks that were attached to imbedded wall hooks. Fortunately, there were extra hooks and I had my own hammock, or I would be on the floor with the scorpions.

The shower was a hose and there was no frig. I was cautioned "not" to drink the water and drink beer if I got thirsty... inconvenient but otherwise...OK.

The large plastic bottle, filled with water was for washing dishes and vegetables, etc. The water was pinkish, which was explained by the extra bottles of Iodine he had. He used a whole bottle when he filled the jug to kill worms, parasites and related characters. (I treated the hose like a snake).

Everything we ate had a ting of Iodine... weird. Rather than deal with this I prudently ate the cooked stuff in shops and drank a lot of beer.

In reply to my questions on the water problem, Mark told me a story...

He had been in Columbia about three months, when he got very sick. He couldn't hold food down and the local clinic didn't know what to do with him... so the Peace Corps was going to send him back to the states for treatment. He didn't want to go, as he didn't have family except for the Peace Corps...

This went on for about a week, when some of his workmen came by with a pickup and put him in the back with a couple of guys and headed into the mountains. They wouldn't tell him anything, except they were going to help and as it turns out, he didn't much care. If anything happened, it couldn't be any worse than what he was going through, he was convinced he was going to die.

After a couple of hours of bumpy road they arrived at this shack on the edge of a village. The guys got out and waited quietly for someone. Mark could hear village noises; kids playing and people talking, but couldn't hear any cars or see where anyone was living.

This old guy finally came out dressed in rags and suddenly, Mark wished he were somewhere else, as this guy looked a little scary. He had a long, gaunt face, red eyes and several teeth were missing. He was really grungy, like he hadn't bathed for years and he had long, dirty fingernails. His hair was stringy with feathers hanging behind his ears. He mumbled something and the men took him out of the truck and laid him on the ground. The old guy kneeled next to him and started poking him all over and brushing him with feathers while mumbling something he couldn't understand. After about 20 minutes or so, he got up and hobbled into his shack, where he could hear him pounding on something and moving stuff about.

He returned with this glass jar of thick, sloppy, stringy stuff and made motions for Mark to drink it down. Mark thought he was going to die anyway, so he took the jar and started drinking. One can only imagine what went through this guys head while drinking this gunk with the texture of stringy tapioca and hot peppers. Anyway, three days later he passed three worms the size of a 6 line halyard. Apparently, they didn't send him home and he lived happily ever after.... and here we didn't think people used Iodine anymore!

To be Continued...

Cruise-Out News

Heading to San Rafael on the June 24th Cruise-Out, was windy going out the Richmond Channel, but not in the Bay, go figure! Paul decided not to sail and so we had a pleasant cruise across the bay. The weather in San Rafael was warm and clear. It was early in the day, so after docking Paul and I walked into town.

Those attending included: our LA DOLCE VITA and Dennis Gade's DOLCE VITA and crew. Barry and Judy cruised across by land. Dennis hosted cocktails and pupus. The San Rafael club had a reception going, but insisted that we use their grill to do our steaks. We grilled the corn, and joined by the salad, the red vino was flowing. Given the balmy weather and lots of happy sailors about, this was a wonderful Cruise-Out.

Sunday morning it was a minus tide and LA DOLCE VITA was on the bottom. Paul and I walked up to the San Rafael Mission for the 9:30 Mass. Then we walked to a nearby boatyard to meet some friends.

We were afloat and underway about 2PM Sunday afternoon. What a very nice weekend everyone had.

This month we have two Cruise-Outs: July 8-9th to San Leandro, then July 29-30th to Ballena Bay for "Jimmy Buffet Night." Please call me if you have any questions. More info will follow soon as it becomes available.

Happy Boating,
Earlene Lagier
Fleet Captain MBYC



I'd rather be sailing...



But Not into This...

Quotes of the Month

"What, sir, you would make a ship sail against the wind and currents by lighting a bonfire under her decks? I pray you excuse me. I have no time to listen to such nonsense."

Napoleon to Robert Fulton

The trouble with the world is that the stupid are cocksure and the intelligent full of doubt.

Bertrand Russell

MBYC 2006 Calendar of Events

January

- 7-8 Cruise-Out to Point San Pablo
- 21 Board Meeting & Installation dinner

February

- 11 Board Meeting & **Cioppino Dinner**
Berkeley YC Cruise-In

Program this month is on boat maintenance: Getting Conditions in the Engine Compartment ready for the winter months.

Date for Cruise-Out: TBD

March

- 11-12 Cruise Out: Ayala Cove (Angel Island).
Pot Luck on "La Dolce Vita"

- 18 Board Meeting & Dinner
Traditional **St. Patricks Feast:**
Hosts: Judy Murray and Barry Eldridge.
Menu - Corned Beef finished off with apricots, Cabbage, Boiled Potatoes, Salad and Soda Bread.

- 18-19 Oyster Point YC Cruise-In

- 25-26 San Rafael YC Cruise-In

April

- 8 Board Meeting & Dinner
Easter Theme: Pot Luck
Club provides meat - members bring dish Host: Ardelle Cirino

- 29-30 Cruise out to Sierra Point YC

May

- 13-14 ~~Solano YC Cruise In~~ **Cancelled**

- 20 Board Meeting & Dinner
~~Mexican Theme~~ **Cancelled**

June

- 17 Board Meeting & Dinner
Western BBQ Theme
Host: Barry and Judy

- 24-25 Cruise Out to San Rafael

July

- 1-5 ~~Delta Hilton~~ **Cancelled**

- 8-9 Cruise Out - San Leandro YC

- 15 **OPEN HOUSE . . .** From Noon to 3 p.m.
MBYC provides a BBQ Lunch

~~Board Meeting & Club Dinner~~ **Cancelled**

- 29-30 Cruise Out - Ballena Bay, **Jimmy Buffet Night**

August

- 12 Board Meeting & Club Dinner - **HOST NEEDED**

- 10-20 Cruise-out to Loch Lomond YC
"Jamaica Me Crazy Night"

September

- 2-4 Cruise-out to China Camp - Rafting up for **BBQ** and stories

- 16 Board Meeting & Dinner - **Gypsy Theme:**
Armenian Chicken. Host: Dave & Sue Jacoby
Cruise In: Aeolian YC

October

- 7-8 Cruise Out: Alameda YC - **Pirates Party**

- 21-22 Cruise Out: Coyote Point YC

- 28 Board & General Membership Meeting
Dinner & Election of Officers
Octoberfest- Halloween Host: Katy Kirk

- 29-30 Cruise-out to Berkeley YC

November

- 18-19 Cruise Out: Sausalito YC **Lobster Feed**

- TBD Board Meeting & Dinner
HOST NEEDED

December

- 2 Board Meeting & Dinner
Holiday dinner - HOST NEEDED

NOTE: Please make reservations for each Yacht Club dinner you would like to attend.
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