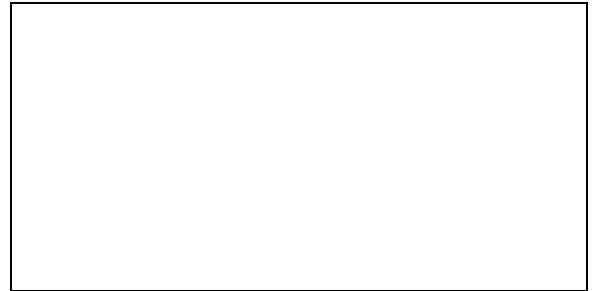




Marina Bay Yacht Club  
2580 Spinnaker Way  
Richmond, CA 94804-4569

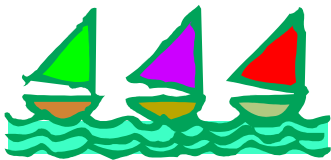


The Marina Bay Yacht Club Signal is an official publication of the Marina Bay Yacht Club, located at the Marina Bay Yacht Harbor in Richmond, California.

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Signal Editor  
P.O. Box 281, Station A  
Richmond, CA 94808-0281

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**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.**



**Barry Eldridge**

## Commodore's Log

Hi Sailors...

### Board Meeting:

As you know, I took the liberty of Emailing everyone a brief of our November Board Meeting, if any of you know of someone who didn't get this, please let me know.

**Christmas Dinner:** We've planned the BIG sale (starting at 9 a.m.) on the day of the Christmas Dinner, to be held on Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>. We've invited everyone, including old and new members and including some whom we would like to join the celebration. Although the reasons for this event are frustrating, I would like to encourage everyone to look upon our new old club as a promising new adventure in boating.

Judy and I hope to see all of you on the 2nd.

**Continuing On:** We are sailing east in the Molokai straits, heading for Lahaina, Maui. We had good wind of course, but in the wrong direction... We took short tacs in rough conditions, but we arrived at the Lahaina basin about two in the afternoon. Then, "Ahh" the Gods were with us... we had a place to tie up. Lahaina is notorious for not having guest berths... usually, one has to anchor out in questionable conditions or forget Lahaina all together. Apparently, a sailor left for Oahu that morning, for a haul-out, minutes before our arrival. The fellow in the next berth, sensing apprehension, waved us in, and there we were, a stones throw from the old Lahaina Inn... right on the edge of town. Of course we hit shore for a few ~~hours~~ hours to celebrate our good fortune.

Side Note: I stayed at the Lahaina Inn once... suf-

ficie to say, that early settlers required considerably fewer comforts before remarking to anyone within earshot: "What more could one want?"

We stayed for another day, hitting the hot spots, shopping and playing fake tourist. What a treat! The following a.m. we left early as usual, only to have the jib take that moment to twist around the halyard. Without a lot of thought I volunteered to go up the mast...

Side Note: Climbing the mast in turbulent water is something I will give considerable thought to should this opportunity ever surface in the future. We couldn't return to port for another grateful sailor had already occupied our berth. There wasn't a transit dock... so Rocking and Rolling in 4-foot swells, up the mast I went. I was above the spreader and just as I figured what to do the boat to lurch, I lost my grip and away I went.

Have you experienced flying on a 6-foot lead, one side to the other from the top of a 40-foot mast? The exhilaration is quickly squashed by the fear of shooting out of the Boson like a stone from a sling. I caught a shroud on the second or third time back and quickly got my legs around the mast... I attached a short line to the roller block at the head and secured this to the mast.

I was an aching lump when I was finally lowered to the deck... bummer! I thought later about how our ancestors hunted Mastodons with slings... with a smaller version of course.

Mindful of my aches and pains... Someone took the helm and I relaxed on the fore deck as we worked our way north along the Maui coast to

Continued on page 3



Commodore  
Barry Eldridge  
(916) 487-5351

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



Vice Commodore  
Katie Kirk  
(916) 899-6995

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



Rear Commodore  
Louis Berg  
(510) 231-0424

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



Secretary  
(Vacant)

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



Treasurer  
Judy Murray  
(916) 487-5351

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



Port Captain  
(Vacant)

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



Fleet Captain  
Earlene Lagier  
(209) 599-6635

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



Safety Officer  
Roy Edwards  
(916) 817-6570

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



Past Commodore  
Jim Taylor  
(707) 575-1104

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



Webmaster  
Ed Johnson

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



Signal Editor  
(Vacant)

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



PICYA Representative  
Jim Taylor  
(707) 575-1104

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

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## New Membership Applications

No new membership applications at this time.

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## New Members

No new members at this time.

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....Continued from page 1

Honolua Bay. It took us about 2 hours to get, but once we got in the bay, conditions improved dramatically. We had the bay to ourselves; the water was like Gin, full of turtles and a snorkeler's delight.

The willing crew set anchor and tidied up the boat, while I applied ointment to shroud burns and perused the bay. I thought about my first time on this island. It was in the mid '70s, I was a year out of grad school and excited about my new adventure in the Islands. I was in Maui to look at a project site and had a few hours to kill, when curiosity caused me to drive around the north end of Maui. After a few hours of nosing around, I was approaching Lahaina when I stopped on this high bluff for the view. The coast stretched out for miles and looking down, some 3-400 feet below, was a round bay surrounded down by lush vegetation and right in the center was a small sailboat. There were people diving and swimming around the small boat and I could tell they were having a wonderful time. I remember thinking then... "Hmmm, I wish that was me."

I laughed, "Wow," Its ten years later and here I am... I looked up to where I was many years ago and someone was standing where I was back then, looking down... I waved, but he didn't wave back. Perhaps he didn't see me. He flapped his arms to his side as he turned away, which said it all. After a swim we paddled to shore and walked the densely wooded valley at the head of the bay. This terrain was relatively flat and it seemed like stepping back in time. The trees were old Monkeypods, Hala, Koa and Mimosa or Silk Tree, and there were ferns everywhere. The passion fruit was in flower and moss underfoot was like walking on a plush couch. Flame vines were seen which suggests that someone lived here at one time a long time ago. Except for the stone walls on the uphill side of the stream the property appeared virtually untouched. The terraces supported by the stone were probably used for Taro years ago, before the trees shaded them out. Given the current demand for development, our guess was that this site was old Hawaiian and taboo to such thoughts.

Back on Second Chance, we made things shipshape for an early sail to Molokai. After a full day of doing anything we wanted, we hit the sack early and slept like tired sled dogs.

The next morning was Hawaiian wonderful. We had the usual 85 degrees and the Trade Wind were a steady 20 knots and today it was in the right direction. We were getting excited so we set sail right after coffee. Distances are deceptive on water. We thought we would be within a football throw of Molokai's shore in an hour, but it took us almost four hours to get there. Of course the prevailing currents had their way with us.

Molokai is mysterious, wild, tropical and full of history and forbidden terrain... with most of its population on the western end of the island. The cliffs along the northeast start at great depths and rise almost vertically to over 1,000-1,500. feet above us. We were able to sail less than 50 feet from these volcanic walls without concern. Every now and then waterfalls would drop beside us, spreading a cool mist across the boat. We watched as seabirds swirled around nests that cling tight to a stony niche or to tenacious vines.

At about three that afternoon, we pulled in to a small bay for the rest of the day. Surrounded by cliffs there was no place to go ashore. However, someone spotted a cave so we unbuckled the kayaks, climbed in and headed off to investigate. We rode in on a swale, steering the best we could as we raced and bumped our way through the rocks. The kayaks were wide and stable, so we weren't concerned about tipping over (not much anyway...). Reaching the cave, my thoughts turned to the one I wrote about in the Channel Islands off Santa Barbara several years ago. I admit to being more cautious this time, for angry sea lions are scary buggers. Then reason surfaced when I was reminded that those big guys don't live in Hawaii. Except for the placid Monk Seals, the worse thing one could step on was a Sea Urchin or Moray eel, but then, those guys can grow to some 15 feet long and they have a lot of teeth... Hmmm

The remarkable qualities of this cave were many, beginning with the Gin clear water (OK, I like that term). We expected to be entertained, but what we found was a show stopper. The shifting plains on

the water's surface provided a thousand prisms; spears of light flashed back and forth, and they were everywhere... a light show that Sher and Madonna would happily pay big bucks for. ... all we needed was some Greek music and a bottle of wine.

The rest of the day we spent going back and forth in the kayaks. The challenge was to catch the top of a swale just before the rocks, when it hits its peak before the rocks and before it pushes through... its hold tight to your paddle as you scream through the rocks. "Wow!" We thought white water kayakers had nothing on us ... (OK, the thrill was in short bursts and the water was warm... not exactly the same, but who cares?).

To be Continued



## Fleet Captain's Report

November Cruise-out to Sausalito YC

Our trip to SYC was by land as no slips were available in the harbor. It was a very nice evening with dancing after dinner. The lobster was yummy and we all enjoyed each others company.

Those attending were Barry Eldridge and Judy Murray, Jim Taylor and friend Tom, Dave and Sue Jacoby, Dennis Gade, and Paul and Earlene Lagier. There was a large crowd for this popular event. This was also the last cruise-out for this year.

Thanks to all who participated this year on our cruise-outs. We had fun and I appreciated your

support. Looking forward to next year. Any ideas for January?

Paul and I wish everyone a Happy Holiday Season and a great New Year.

Happy boating,

Earlene Lagier  
Fleet Captain, MBYC



# 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**

## August

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

- 19-20 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

## November

- 11 MBYC **Chili Cook-Off**

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

## December

- 2 Board Meeting & Dinner  
**Holiday & Goodbye dinner**  
Hosts: Paul & Earlene Lagier  
Co-Hosts: Dennis Gade and David & Sue Jacoby

**NOTE: Please make reservations for each Yacht Club dinner you would like to attend.**  
**E-mail: [ViceCommodore@MarinaBayYC.com](mailto:ViceCommodore@MarinaBayYC.com)**