



Commodore's Log

Labor Day 2009.

On June 28, 1894, Congress passed an act making the first Monday in September of each year a legal holiday in honor of workers. As you know, during

this national holiday there are many parades and celebrations across our nation. I'd like to share one with you

Total Length of Bridge (5 Miles)	26,372 Ft.
Length of Suspension (including Anchorages)	8,614 Ft.
Length of Main Span (between Main Towers)	3,800 Ft.

What Is This?



No, this is not the Golden Gate painted white. This, friends, is the "Big Mac." The Mackinac Bridge that connects Upper and Lower Michigan.

Every Labor Day the Governor of Michigan walks across this magnificent creation starting at Mackinaw City. (It is not a city, 809 people do not a city make.)

When completed, in 1957, the Michigan's Mackinac Bridge surpassed the length of the Golden Gate Bridge's to become the world's longest two-tower suspension bridge between anchorages.

Did you notice the two spellings of Mackinaw and Mackinac? Both spellings are correct and are pronounced MAK.IN.AWE. One spelling is the Indian name for the Straits of Mackinac and the other is the French spelling for the Fort Mackinaw. Locals spell the name both ways.

The Labor Day walk across the "Big Mac" has become quite a tradition and many Michiganders have shared this experience. The "Big Mac" is the dividing marker for Lake Michigan to the West and Lake Huron to the East.

Some interesting facts about Michigan: Minnesota is called the land of 10,000 lakes but Michigan has 11,000. California and Florida are well known for their beaches, but I could place you on a beach in Michigan and you would swear you were on the Pacific or the Atlantic. The Great Lakes surrounding Michigan have an impressive 3200 miles of shoreline. Florida and California combined cannot equal that number. Easy Commodore, you seem to be blowing Michigan's horn. Yes I am, I was born and raised in Michigan and bleed for the Maize and Blue. However, I love California winters.

What About Labour Day or Labor Day? This holiday, celebrated all over the world arose from labour union movements to celebrate the economic and social achievements of workers. Most countries celebrate Labour Day on May 1, where it's popularly known as May Day and International Workers' Day, and some celebrate on the first Monday of September.

The celebration of Labour Day has its origins in the Eight-hour day movement, which advocated eight hours for work, eight hours for recreation, and eight hours for rest.

That said, I hope you had a restful Labor Day.

Michael Tryon Commodore MBYC
 "My heart is in the wind"

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Commodore
 Mike Tryon
 (510) 227-5782
TheCommodore@MarinaBayYC.com



Rear Commodore
 (Vacant)
RearCommodore@MarinaBayYC.com



Secretary
 Judy Murray
 (916) 487-5351
TheSecretary@MarinaBayYC.com



Treasurer
 Tom Wolinski
 (510) 205-6358
TheTreasurer@MarinaBayYC.com



Fleet Captain
 Earlene Lagier
 (209) 599-6635
Fleet-Captain@MarinaBayYC.com



Safety Officer
 (Vacant)
Safety-Officer@MarinaBayYC.com



Past Commodore
 Barry Eldridge
 (916) 487-5351
Past-Commodore@MarinaBayYC.com



Webmaster
 Ed Johnson
Websman@MarinaBayYC.com



PICYA Representatives
 Barry Eldridge Paul Lagier
 (916) 487-5351 (209) 599-6635
PICYA-Representative@MarinaBayYC.com

New Membership Applications

We have a returning member, Lou Berg.



New Members

Lou didn't get to sail much at the Homer Yacht Club (Alaska) and being a salty guy, he decided to return to the fold. Welcome back sailor...!



Awww

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Gelcoat Repair:

Check out Gelcoat Repair by Don Casey on Google. He uses more words than he needs to but his process looks good.

Boat Maintenance:

The vast majority of boat owners regard a boat as a recreational vehicle, something to be used, parked and forgotten when not in use, ...Not good!

1. Make a List: Without some kind of schedule or list, much of what is needed just isn't going to get done. It's too easily overlooked.
2. What's Your Time Worth?: Whatever you do for a living, figure how much you earn on an hourly basis.
3. Who's Doing the Work?: Take that hourly rate and use it to set priorities on what you will do and what you will pay someone else to do on your boat.

Gaskets: Cylinder Heads, thermostat housing, manifolds and riser gaskets: If it's rusty or you see rusty water trails around gaskets, then salt water is weeping through gasket surfaces. Do something about this pronto or your engine may die.

Check Out: *Engines Maintenance Fundamentals* by: David Pascoe

What Club Officers Do

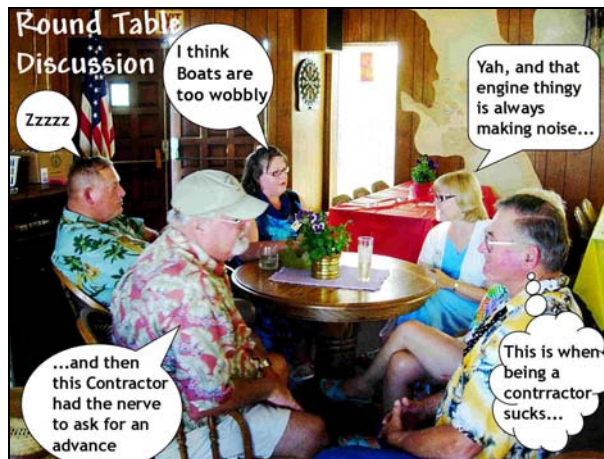
SIGNAL EDITOR: gathers articles and photos of interest to boaters, from MBYC Members and Officers, takes photos during club events and organizes this information in Word for the Club's Webmaster, Ed Johnson, who resolves the "kinks" and formats this for publication onto our Web Site.

The best part about this job is (1) the Signal is now published every other month, (2) the Editor has license to shape the Signal into whatever format he or she feels would appeal the most to our fellow club members and (3) it's fun poking fun at folks. The Signal Editor is not a voting member of the Board.

Fleet Captain's Report

Hello all... We hope everyone is having a wonderful summer. As you know, the Aug.8-9th cruise-out was to San Leandro YC.

Paul and I had a good trip over and arrived mid-afternoon without running aground. This harbor has yet to be dredged. It's been a "can do" project for over 5 years so no one is holding their breath.



After a hard day on the Bay...

Sailing Over On Friday:
Mike & Janice Tryon on "WINDLOCK"

Sailing Over On Saturday:
David & Sue Jacoby on "ENCHANTE"
Tom & Kathleen Wolinski on "GRACE"
Barry Eldridge & Judy Murray on "PIXY TRAILS"
Paul & Earlene Lagier on "LA DOLCE VITA"

Saturday Land Yacht Arrivals:
Beth and Jeff Easterling
Our daughter; Shari Lagier and grandson Caleb.



Good folks a great dinner and a wonderful time

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Cocktails and pupus were enjoyed by all on LA DOLCE VITA before going up the clubhouse for drinks and dinner.



We chained the Lagiers to the floor of the cabin, to serve rare libations and pupus.

Dena and Dale Snearly, of the SLYC, prepared a wonderful steak and salmon dinner with all the trimmings, a great evening. Then on Sunday, they did it again with a fine breakfast. The San Leandro Yacht Club simply outdid themselves.

Kudos to SLYC for an outstanding weekend.



I have no idea...

Several of us left early afternoon for the trip back to our home ports. The wind was very strong and crossing the "SLOT" was rough. All in all a great weekend was had by all.



Da man knows his stuff...

EDITORS NOTE!

Half Moon Bay: Ahhh, there were the naysayers who claimed that the good times enjoyed in the 2008 cruise-out to Half Moon Bay, could never be repeated. Not so...

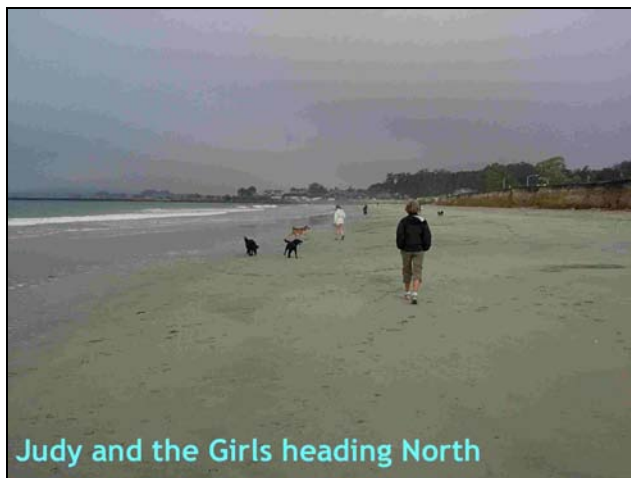
The fog on Saturday was a downer, but that was quickly forgotten during sunny Sunday and Monday. Good people, lots of popcorn, wonderful music, dogs running around and the HMBYC put on a terrific dinner (or so we were told), i.e. Our space at the table wasn't to be, so this band of sailors walked down the beach and ate at Princeton Seafood Company. The food there was terrific and the company was even better.

We brought our girls, Sophie and Derby, and they must have run a hundred miles up and down the beach, and in and out of the water. Every community should have a dog beach, for everyone was laughing, having fun and I'll bet that no one was thinking about politics or the Middle East.



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9-5-09 Half Moon Bay Yacht Club

Paul and I prefer early departures on cruise-outs, however we left our slip at the Pt. San Pablo YC at 10 a.m. There was going to be a strong incoming flood tide at the Golden Gate. With the high tide being about noon, we still had some current against us as we left the bay.

The ocean was calm with a light West wind. This wasn't strong enough to sail a heavy boat like LA DOLCE VITA, so we motor-sailed at a low R.P.M., anchoring in Half Moon Bay about 4:30 PM.

We set our 75 lb. anchor in hard as we were going to be here several days, and you never know if the wind may come up. It was good that we did this as we ended up having a boat rafted to both sides of us. We were all riding on our anchor.



We now set about inflating the dinghy so we could go ashore and visit other friends we know. We motored

into the harbor and found "GRACE" safely moored in a slip. Tom and Kathleen Wolinski were aboard and invited us for a cocktail. They had come in a day ahead of us.

Later Paul and I walked around town visited the Half Moon Bay YC for a cocktail and toured their beautiful new building and dining room. They also improved their automated dinghy dock water taxi. A leisurely walk back to the dinghy dock in the harbor and back out to LA DOLCE VITA for dinner.

ENCHANTE' with David and Sue Jacoby rafted to our Starboard side, then after Mike Tryon and Barry Eldridge arrived on Saturday, they tied WINDLOCK on to the Port side. Judy Murray drove over with the dogs and she and Barry got a pet friendly room ashore. WINDLOCK left us on Sunday morning making good time back the GG Bridge. PEGASUS with Marc Sykes and crew were spotted in the harbor, but not by your Fleet Captain.



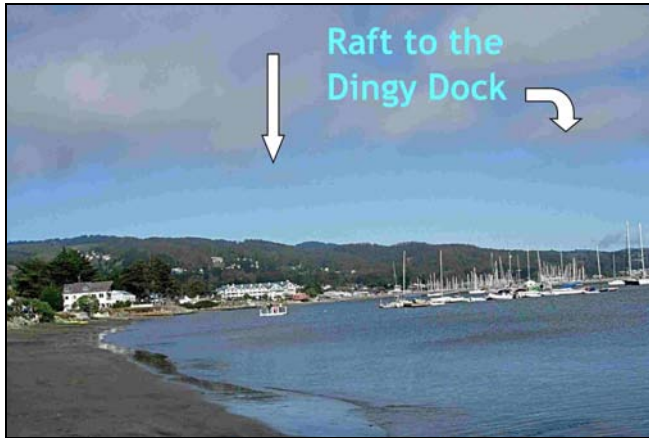
Settling In, ...what a pleasant setting this is.

Sunday afternoon we were invited for cocktails on another Beneteau that were friends of Dave and Sue Jacoby. There was some chop and we all got somewhat wet going over.

While we were enjoying cocktails and appetizers when the guys noticed another sailboat that was no longer anchored and was drifting down on the breakwater. So the dinghies were manned and soon the boat was safely moored to another vessel.

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HMBYC on the left & the harbor is just beyond



Ketch Joanne's, treated us quite well...

The remaining 8 of us had a great dinner on Sunday in town at Ketch Joanne's. Then we met at the Yacht Club for refreshments and dancing. We used their new dinghy dock and ferry and managed to stay dry. What a great evening.

LA DOLCE VITA got an early start Monday morning for our return to San Francisco, as we wanted to use the strong flood tide to assist us into the bay. We had the John Deere engine warming up at 7 AM.

ENCHANTE' let her lines go and we were ready to pull our anchor. Though we had pulled our anchor in hard, our hydraulic winch effortlessly raised it and we were underway by 7:30 AM. There was even less wind off shore than on Friday, so we powered back and were back in our slip about 1:30 PM.



Entertainment was late, so some of us improvised

Home in Ripon, and after a good night's sleep, we hit the road up the coast of Oregon and Washington to Port Townsend for the annual Wooden Boat Festival.

There is NOT a cruise-out in October. The annual meeting and dinner is Oct. 17th. You will be hearing more on this later from the Commodore.

Paul and I will not be at this meeting. A big family party is that same day, with cousins coming from England.

The November cruise-out is the 14th-15th to Schoonmaker's in Sausalito. Dinner on Sat. evening. If you are planning to attend this cruise-out and arriving by boat everyone needs to call Schoonmaker's by October 15th.

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The number is 415 331-5550. Leave a message if the Harbormaster is not available. Leave your name, number, and the name of your vessel.

I will have more info later in Oct. The option to drive over is always available.

Happy Boating,

Earlene Lagier
Fleet Captain, MBYC



Ahhh, Auto now has the helm, it's foggy and the Commodore is relaxed and looking forward to spending some time with friends...

Strange Thoughts

Losing Weight...

Americans on the average eat 18 acres of pizza every day, but then: banging your head against a wall burns up 150 calories an hour.

Women are like apples on a tree... The best ones are on the top of the tree. Most men won't reach for these because they're afraid of falling and getting hurt. Instead, men take the apples that are easy to reach, they aren't as good of course, but, ...well, they're easy!

The apples at the top think something is wrong with them, when in fact, they're really amazing. They just have to wait for the right guy to come along, one who is brave enough to climb to the top of the tree



If one has to wait for the tide... Is there a better way than enjoying a great breakfast with some friends?

Now, As For Men.... They begin as grapes, and it's up to women to stomp the crap out of them and work on their behavior, until they turn into a fine wine, ...something acceptable enough to have dinner.



More Strange Thoughts

When to Start Cussing: A 6 year old and a 4 year old are upstairs in their bedroom. "You know what" says the 6 year old. "I think it's about time we started cussing."

The 4 year old nods his head in approval. The 6 year old continues, "When we go downstairs for breakfast, I'm gonna say something with hell and you say something with ass, Ok?." The 4 year old agrees with enthusiasm.

When Mom walks into the kitchen, she asks the 6 year old, what he wants for breakfast. He replies, "Aw, hell, Mom, I guess I'll have some Cheerios."

'WHACK!,' he flies out of his chair, tumbles across the kitchen floor, gets up and runs upstairs crying his eyes out with Mom in hot pursuit, slapping his rear with every step. After locking him in his room she shouts, "You can stay there until dinner!"



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...and we were running out of fuel.

She then comes back downstairs and enters the kitchen. She looks at the 4 year old and asks with a stern voice, "And what do YOU want for breakfast, young man?"

"I don't know," he blubbers, 'but you can bet your ass it won't be Cheerios!"



"Hmmm! Let's see, now what did I just say...?"

Half Moon Bay Experience

Great local help in Half Moon Bay

We were looking forward to the cruise out to Half Moon Bay because we love being on the hook there. Pillar Point Harbor is a great anchorage: plenty of room, good holding, easy access to a dingy dock, and wonderful scenery. However, just before we left on the cruise out, we realized our house batteries were weak and not holding a charge so we got a slip when arriving at harbor to plug in and keep the batteries charged.

In the next two days we were able to order, purchase, and install two large, heavy batteries (weighing over 100 lbs) one of which was located in an awkward spot in the back of the stern cabin behind the engine. None of this would have been possible without the help of some very nice people who live and work in the area. Norm, a young man who crews on fishing boats, drove us over to Napa Auto Parts in Half Moon Bay to order the batteries and offered to install them the next day after he came back from fishing. We took the bus in town the next day to get the batteries and while at the store two people offered to help us take the batteries to our boat: Susan, a friend of a commercial fisherman, gave Kathleen a ride back to the marina and Jeff, a lanky 18 year old, threw the batteries in the back of his beat up pick-up truck and gave Tom a ride back along with his Mom and dog. At the marina, Jeff carried the batteries from his truck to our boat. Later in the day, when we heard Norm would be out until late, we called Jeff and he came back to our boat, installed the batteries and took the old batteries to the store with us for recycling.

What a wonderful experience meeting some very nice people eager to help us! As it turns out, Jeff's Mom & Dad own the Princeton Seafood Market and Restaurant at Pillar Point Harbor, a good place to eat.

The cruise out was terrific and afterwards we headed south to Monterey Bay for more sailing adventures. What a life!

Tom and Kathleen Wolinski

MBYC 2009 Calendar of Events

January

27 Board Meeting & Dinner
Lagiers Boatyard
Ripon via Land Yachts

February

23 Sierra Point Y.C.

March

15-16 Board Meeting & Dinner
CANCELLED, due to a fire in the
club's kitchen... "BUMMER"
San Rafael YC
St. Patrick's Day

April

19-20 Alameda Yacht Club for the
Western Dinner/Dance.

May

3-4 Board Meeting & Dinner
CANCELLED, They apologized,
...apparently, they had too many
cooks interpreting their Calendar,
which was "BUMMER #2"
Oyster Point YC
Cinco de Mayo

June

6-7 Board Meeting & Dinner
San Francisco Y.C.
Tiburon

July

3-6 Mandeville Island Raft-up
Fourth of July

August

8-9 Board Meeting & Dinner
San Leandro Y.C.
Hawaiian Theme

September

30-1 Half Moon Bay YC
Labor Day Weekend

October

17th Board Meeting & Dinner
Marina Bay Yacht Harbor
Room Meeting

November

14-15 Schoonmaker Pt. Drinks at the
Sausalito Y.C., Dinner at Scoma's
Restaurant. Each sailor Must call
Schoonmaker directly
(415) 331-5550, 30 days early for
berth,i.e. ...by October 15th

December

6-7 Board Meeting & Dinner
South Beach @ Gordon Biersch
Annual Meeting & Christmas Party

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

E-mail: Secretary@MarinaBayYC.com