

Commodore's Log



Mike Tryon

Ahoy MBYC Skippers, First Mates and Family Members:

Michigan's Water Wonderland was the principle driving force behind a young boy's affinity for water. This no doubt led to my secret and deep desire to investigate the underwater world.

I became a Navy Seabee Diver and this is one of my stories. It takes place off Monastery Beach in Monterey in 1973.

1973 Monterey Bay was a protected area and you couldn't take anything like Abalone. I was sitting on the bottom with a large flat rock in my lap, holding me steady in about 35 feet of water. As you may know, Abalone is a one sided shell that literally eats rocks. Well, it makes a hole and as the Abalone grows so too does the hole.

To the untrained eye the Abalone is difficult to see as it tends to look like the rock it lives on. When undisturbed, the Abalone adheres loosely and one can see little black hairs protruding along its edges. However, the Abalone can suck itself so tight to the rock, it can literally separate the bones in a finger. Abalone divers use heavy pry bars to remove this delicacy.

Back to my story: I was sitting there, watching sea creatures and a rather large sting ray came into view, twice, while foraging for food. It stirred up the sand, causing sand devils much like the wind can do top-side. In front of me was a large boulder, about eight feet across and this was covered with Abalone.

Suddenly a Sea Otter appeared and seemed unaware of my presence. As I watched, It dashed to one of these Abalones, then reached under one and tried to pop it off. Apparently, it wasn't quick enough, for the Abalone sucked itself tight in place.

I could see the little guy pulling fiercely and at first, I didn't understand its predicament. One of the Otter's claws was trapped between the Abalone and the boulder. The Otter slammed his free paw against the shell and kicked at it with his hind paw without success.

I rolled the rock off my lap and pulled my diving knife from its sheath. I knew full well how difficult it would be to pry Abalone off the boulder. I turned my knife around, swam over and while keeping an eye on the Otter, I hit the Abalone as hard as I could with the hilt. The shock was just enough for the Otter to free itself and then it shot like a lightning bolt to the surface, ...I was a very happy diver.



I checked my air and I still had half a tank so I settled back to my place with the rock in my lap. Five minutes had gone by when I noticed a bit of a sand storm behind another boulder. I thought about investigating this further, but decided to sit quietly and wait for another show.

The sand storm stopped and I saw something move quickly to the surface. Then a few moments later the sand was tossed around again and then, around the corner of the boulder came my friend the Otter. He was rolling a rock as large as he was across the bottom. Then he seemed to vanish again, no doubt for the surface for more air, but moments later he was back, rolling this rock.

Continued on Page 3



Commodore
Mike Tryon
(510) 227-5782
For email info, see the Club Hotlines Page



Vice Commodore
Barry Eldridge
(916) 487-5351
For email info, see the Club Hotlines Page



Rear Commodore
(Vacant)
For email info, see the Club Hotlines Page



Secretary
Judy Murray
(916) 487-5351
For email info, see the Club Hotlines Page



Treasurer
Tom Wolinski
(510) 581-4543
For email info, see the Club Hotlines Page



Fleet Captain
Glen Bigelow
(916) 424-1907
For email info, see the Club Hotlines Page



Safety Officer
(Vacant)
For email info, see the Club Hotlines Page



Past Commodore
Barry Eldridge
(916) 487-5351
For email info, see the Club Hotlines Page



Webmaster
Ed Johnson
For email info, see the Club Hotlines Page



Signal Editor
(Vacant)
For email info, see the Club Hotlines Page



PICYA Representatives
Barry Eldridge Paul Lagier
(916) 487-5351 (209) 599-6635
For email info, see the Club Hotlines Page

New Membership Applications

No new applications at this time



New Members

Art and Anny Caya. From Tracy. Their Islander 30, Wuchurhuri, is birthed at Marina Bay, F-167.

Look for them on their boat, then give them a big MBYC 'welcome to our club...' We hope to see them at a cruise-out soon...



Someone has a good sense of humor...

Continued from Page 1

The Otter made eye contact with me and I know he could tell I was watching him. He vanished again and I adjusted my own rock and searched the water above me. I couldn't see the surface but I had about twelve feet of visibility which was good for Monterey Bay.

The Otter swam into view again and was back to rolling his rock. When he arrived at the large boulder, he stood erect, hoisted the rock above his head like a miniature Hercules, he hit the Abalone. The rock bounced back toward him and he vanished again, like a magician. A few moments later he swam into view and he lifted and threw this again. This occurred over and over and on the sixth attempt the abalone popped loose. The Otter one-handed his meal and looked into my eyes with a fierce, strong jawed stare. He won this battle.

Mike Tryon, Commodore
The Wind is in My Heart

Information You Can Use

Personal Flotation Devices (PFDs)

- ◇ Have at least one Coast Guard-approved device per passenger and a minimum of two on board.
- ◇ An additional throwable device is required if the vessel is more than 16 feet long.
- ◇ Explain the location and use of all PFDs to passengers and **crew** that may be new to the vessel.

Tools and Spares:

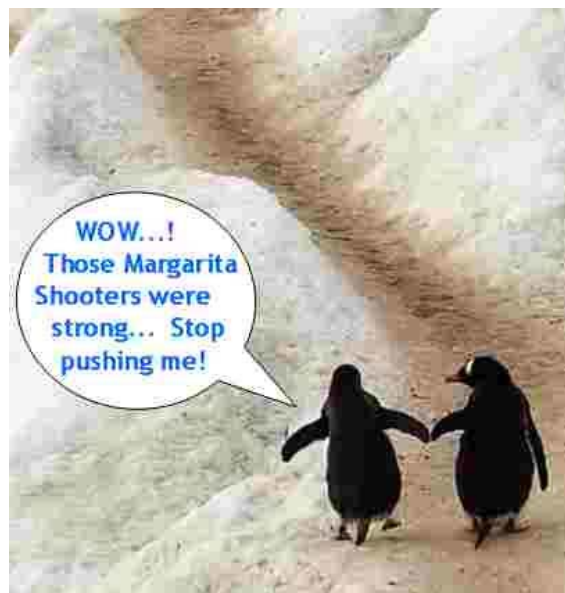
- ◇ Carry a basic toolbox with tools appropriate for your boat.
- ◇ Carry a box of spares including fuel filter, light bulbs, head parts, through-hull plugs, etc.

Fire Extinguishers:

- ◇ Carry at least one fire extinguisher and make sure it is accessible.
- ◇ Make sure you have at least the number required by Coast Guard rules.
- ◇ Check to be sure mounts are secure and functional before departure.
- ◇ Take the time to point out locations to passengers and crew.

Distress Signals:

- ◇ Make flares, day signals, etc., accessible and ensure they are stored in a dry location.



- ◇ Carry signals at all times even if not required by the Coast Guard.
- ◇ Inform the crew and passengers of their location and safety rules for proper usage.
- ◇ Have a horn capable of producing a four-second blast audible for at least 1/2 mile on board. Using portable air horn? ...then have a spare can of air or an alternate device.
- ◇ If you are going out the Gate, then attach a whistle to each PFD.
- ◇ Have at least one anchor set up and bent-on to your anchor line.
- ◇ Have a radio on board to receive weather updates.

Fuel and Oil:

- ◇ Top off your fuel tanks.
- ◇ If you can't, at least have enough fuel to provide a reasonable margin of safety for your return.
- ◇ Check the engine oil and coolant levels.
- ◇ If there are fuel smells, shut down the engine and look for the source of the leak.

Weather Forecast and the Tides:

- ◇ Always check the weather forecast and tides, before boating. Check Out the following on Google...:

[Tide Location Selection for California.url](#)



Secretary's Report: March

Directors' meeting, 13 March 2010, at the Sequoia Yacht Club in Redwood City: Treasurer, Tom Wolinski, sent his report via Email to the Board, which was read and accepted by the Board.

Commodore Mike Tryon, suggested that the minutes and treasurer's reports be placed onto CD's for more efficient storage and that old receipts, some dating to the 60's, be discarded. This was roundly approved by all present.

Fleet captain, Glen Bigelow, reported that the cruise-out schedule is firm through June. He suggested that we join the Pt. San Pablo club for the cruise-out to Mandeville Island, in the Delta for their July 4 weekend fireworks. Also, reservations will be made for the Half Moon Bay YC, Labor Day weekend.

Although no responses from 200 fliers mailed out, that given the relatively low cost of \$25., it was moved and seconded that we send out another 200 soon.

The membership application from Art and Anny Caya was unanimously accepted by the Board.

Glen suggested that we find a website where members could order MBYC logo apparel online. Mike will provide the company that has our logo on file. He also suggested that we advertise the club's existing inventory in the *Signal*.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m.



**Great Dancing Music...
and a good time was had by all...**

March Cruise-Out Report

March Cruise-out to Sequoia YC

The March cruise-out was a trial by fire. I decided on a cruise to Redwood City's Sequoia YC, for the St. Patrick's Day celebration. I should have known something was amiss when the usual MBYC sailors said they would be traveling overland.



Lou Berg and Roy Edwards signed on with "Wildcat" and I was joined by my long time sailing partner, Ron Bryan on "Gratitude." Then we braved the 27 mile trip to Sequoia YC. 27 miles? ...in the name of Odin, what were we thinking.

**Lou Berg was there,
...Wait! Where ???**

When we arrived at the Redwood Creek Channel markers 6 hours later, the wind was a honking 22 knots.

Once we settled into our slips, we joined up with those traveling by land yacht...: Mike & Janice Tryon, Barry Eldridge & Judy Murray, Paul & Earlene Lagier, Tom & Kathleen Wolinski and Jeff & Beth Easterling.



Most everyone present wanted to join in, but then, ...this didn't look like line dancing

Sequoia YC served up a great corned beef and cabbage dinner, followed by Irish folk dancing by a wonderful group of teenagers, and some dancers were younger.

Continued on Page 5

Continued from Page 4

Sometime during the evening, Sequoia YC realized they didn't have a MBYC burgee, so our Commodore, Mike Tryon and Byron Jacobs, Commodore of Sequoia YC, exchanged burgees. For the record everyone, Sequoia YC was a wonderful host...

Sequoia Y.C. put on a great, traditional St. Patrick's Day (lots of corned beef) feed and one of their members came in early Sunday morning with delicious pastries and great coffee.

Anyone who missed this Cruise-Out, missed a really great time.!



Jeff and Beth Easterling , ...on a Port tack I think, Wait! Who's on the helm?

April Cruise-Out Report

April 24th Cruise-out to San Leandro YC

The April cruise-out to San Leandro YC was fun and interesting for several reasons. Although, it wasn't as long as the cruise to Redwood City, it is still a jaunt to get to the very interesting San Leandro Marina, which lies just south of the Oakland Airport.

I received input from members regarding depth concerns in regard to the marinas entrance channel and depths within the marina itself. But later learned the channel and Marina were dredged in November 2009, to a minimum depth of 6 ft. at low tide.



Good Friends, Good Times...

Several members, because they lived near by or had other time constraints, decided to travel by land yacht. That left Paul and Earlene on "La Dolce Vita" and Ron Bryan and I on "Gratitude" for this gallant cruise into the South Bay.



Gratitude and La Dolce Vita, hanging out...

Low Tide was at 4:00pm and Bryan and I left Marina Bay at 10:00am. This turned out to be an unwise decision as we were buffeted by heavy currents almost the entire trip. That put us into the 1.7 nautical mile long San Leandro Channel about 2:30pm. Thank goodness, I only draw 4 feet as we consistently crossed places along the channel that read 6.2 ft by the depth sounder.

Continued from Page 5



The End of the Day at San Leandro Y.C.

We finally arrived at our slip at 3:00pm and were met by Paul and Earlene, who had departed around 8:00am and arrived several hours ahead of "Gratitude." We had some maintenance chores on "Gratitude", but I Brian about half-way through and joined Paul and Earlene on board "La Dolce Vita" for some wine and great snacks that Earlene had put together and of course the amazing almonds that Paul prepares.



Around 5:45pm, the 4 of us went up and found the land yacht crews waiting for us. We were soon joined by Mike & Janice Tryon and Tom & Kathleen Wolinski.

Then, after a few grogs and some tall tales, we had an absolutely delicious

dinner prepared by Faye Stevens, including: jerked chicken, rice, green onion slaw and fried sweet plantains. The San Leandro YC members were most gracious hosts. They may be a small club, but they were a wonderful host, ...we felt very welcome.

On Sunday morning, Paul and Earlene got away early,

around 9:00am. Bryan and I were waiting for high tide, so we asked Frank Wilson, SLYC Port Captain, if he could join us for breakfast. Frank ran us over to the municipal golf course, a few blocks away, for a very tasty breakfast.

On returning to the boat, I changed out my impeller as my engine seemed to be running hotter than normal on the trip over. The new impeller fixed the problem as the temperature returned to normal for the balance of the trip.



A fun club and wonderful folks. Notice how the wind is programmed for cocktail hour... Hmmm!

It had taken us 5 hours to make the trip down, from Marina Bay to San Leandro on Saturday. On Sunday, however, we left at high tide and the trip home only took 3.5 hours. ...The Bay currents can make a really big difference.

MBYC Cruise-Outs: We always have great fun and good times on our cruise-outs. So, come and join us May 15 to Coyote Point...yes, I know, I know... another South Bay destination. What can I say...the place is starting to grow on me. Details of the trip will soon follow.

"A ship in harbor is safe, but that is not what ships are built for."

Glen Bigelow Fleet Captain, MBYC





Where shall we Go? Hmmm?

Should you be looking for a place to sail, here is a partial list of PICYA destinations in the greater, San Francisco Bay you might consider, ...there are 95 members in all.

Keep in mind that there may be a misunderstanding by some, that membership in PICYA automatically confers reciprocal privileges among all clubs. This isn't the case. While PICYA believes all member clubs have a spirit of sportsmanship and friendliness toward other boaters, they support every club's right to establish its own policies with respect to visiting privileges.

PICYA Yacht Clubs in the Greater Bay Area

Alameda YC (510) 865-5668	Alameda alamedayachtclub.org/
Ballena Bay YC (510) 523-2992	Alameda mail@bbyc.org
Benicia YC (707) 746-6600	Benicia info@beniciayachtclub.com
Berkeley YC (510) 843-9292	Berkeley berkeleyyc.org
Corinthian YC (415) 435-4771	Tiburon cyc.org
Coyote Point YC (650) 347-6730	San Mateo cpyc.com
Encinal YC (510) 522-3272	Alameda encinal.org
Golden Gate YC (415) 346-2628	San Francisco ggyc.org/
Half Moon Bay YC (650) 728-2120	Half Moon Bay hmbyc.org
Island YC (510) 521-2980	Alameda lyc.org
Loch Lomond YC (415) 459-9811	San Rafael lochlomondyachtclub.com
Marin YC (415)453-9366	San Rafael marinyachtclub.com

Marina Bay YC (510) 232-6292	Pt. Richmond Sectry@MarinaBayYC.com
Martinez YC (925) 228-2450	Martinez
Napa Valley YC (707) 252-3342	Napa, CA nvyc.org
Oakland YC (510) 522-6868	Alameda oaklndyc@ix.netcom.com
Oyster Point YC, (650) 873-5166	So. San Francisco opyc.com
Petaluma YC (707) 765-9725	Petaluma stormloader.com/petalumayc
Pittsburg YC (925) 432-1056	Pittsburg pittsburgyc.com
Pt. San Pablo YC (510) 620-9690	Pt. Richmond pspyc.org
Presidio YC (415) 332-2319	Sausalito presidioyc.org
Richmond YC (510) 237-2821	Pt. Richmond richmondyc.org
St. Francis YC (415) 563-6363	San Francisco stfyc.com
San Francisco YC (415) 435 9133	Belvedere sfyc.org/
San Leandro YC (510) 351-3102	San Leandro sanleandroyc.org
San Rafael YC (415) 454-4661	San Rafael SRYC@att.net
Sausalito YC (415) 332-7400	Sausalito syconline.org
Sequoia YC (650) 364-9643	Redwood City sequoiayc.org
Sierra Point YC (650) 952-0651	Brisbane Marina sierrapointyc.org
South Beach YC (415) 495-2295	San Francisco southbeachyc.org
Tiburon YC (415) 789-9294	Tiburon tyc.org
Treasure Island YC (415) 434-4475	Treasure Island tiyc@pacbell.net
Vallejo YC (707)643-1254	Vallejo vyc.org

OK, who did we forget???



While in Court...

'Mr. Clark, I have reviewed this case very carefully,' the Divorce Court Judge said, 'And I've decided to give your wife \$775 a week.'

'That's very fair your honor,' the husband said. 'And every now and then, I'll try to send her a few bucks myself.'



Sailing(?) North Along the Coast

In March, 2006, I purchased a 1982 sailboat birthed in San Diego. Then in April, my good friend, Bryan, and I traveled to San Diego to prepare the boat for our trip North to Marina Bay Yacht Harbor in Richmond, CA.

The 30 foot US Yachts sailboat, named "Gratitude" was very roomy, dry and comfortable, which summed up all the main attributes that I was looking for in a boat. I brought my laptop computer to post our progress to friends and family. This was to be my email journal and on our arrival, my daughter Sarah sent me a compilation of my emails as a chronological diary, using the subject line from the first email as the title. So, I invite you to join me...in the "Odyssey of Gratitude".

Glen Bigelow

Well All,

As you are all aware...I lost my senses awhile ago and bought a sailboat in San Diego. I've questioned that decision since that time, but now it feels like self flagellating, so I'm trying to stop. Of course, the most pressing dilemma in this decision is that now that I had the boat, I had to get this back to Northern California...not an undertaking to be taken lightly, but with my trusty partner Tonto...I mean Bryan, I decided to stare the jaws of death squarely in the eyes and dare him throw his best...and Bryan has been cursing me ever since.

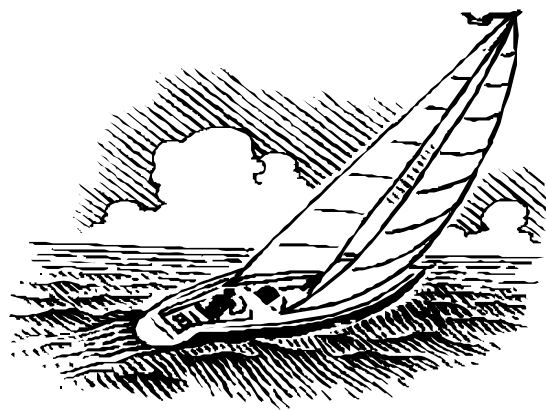
I explained we had to look at this as an adventure, and

at our ages we didn't have that many adventures left. Then, Bryan explained that I was totally full of s#!t... and, I had no idea what I was getting myself into and somebody needed to go along to keep me alive. I totally discount his cynicism, and believe my thinking true and honorable. And, of course I see this as an opportunity to join in the spirit of the sea and wind and all of the sailing Gods...practicing heart-felt camaraderie and sharing the bond of brotherhood. Of course, all we've done so far is malign each others shortcomings and throw slurs and criticism in large doses. But hey, that's just me and Bryan...we're buddies.

OK, we arrived in San Diego on April 2nd, and spent most of the week getting the boat ready. Then Wednesday night Bryan got sick. I got him a motel room the next morning and he spent all day Thursday and night sleeping. He was feeling a lot better Friday morning and so, it was back to work and we got the boat ready by 5:00pm Sunday afternoon.

Odyssey of Gratitude Day 1, Monday, April 10

We Left Shelter Island Marina in San Diego at approx. 7:00am and motored for around 7.5 hours to Oceanside, motoring all the way, due to a complete lack of wind. Oceanside has a very nice little marina with excellent facilities.



Day 2, Tuesday, April 11

Left Oceanside at approx. 9:00am and as there was no wind, we motored the entire way to Newport Bay Marina, about 6.5 hours. Although this public marina appeared adequate, this turned out to be one of the worst nights of my life.

Before we left, Denise, my sister-in-law reminded me about getting some lip balm with SPF protection...but

Continued on Page 9



Marina Bay Yacht Club

January

16-17 Marina Bay Y.H.
Salute's Dinner
Board Meeting & Dinner

February

13-14 Oyster Point Y.C.
Crab Feed

March

13-14 Sequoia Y.C.
Board Meeting
St. Patrick's Day Party

April

24-25 San Leandro Y.C.
Dinner

May

15-16 Coyote Point Y.C.
Board Meeting
Dinner.

June

19-20 Sierra Point Y.C.
Board Meeting
Dinner

July

2-4 Delta Cruise
Mandeville Island Raft-up
Fourth of July

August

14-15 Oyster Point Yacht Club
Board Meeting
Louisiana Bayou Party

September

3-6 Labor Day Weekend
Half Moon Bay Yacht Club

October

TBD Marina Bay
General Membership Mtng
Dinner

November

TBD Schoonmaker Marina
Board Meeting
Dinner in Town

December

TBD South Beach Marina
Christmas Party

Note: Coyote Point Y.C. for May is a change

Please make your Cruise-Out reservations with the Fleet Captain if you plan to attend, by calling: (916) 424-1907, or by Email: FleetCap@MarinaBayYC.com