



The Marina Bay Yacht Club Signal

Volume XXX Number 6

Marina Bay, Pt. Richmond, CA

Jan, Feb, Mar, 2013

Commodore's Log



Mike Tryon

Getting ready for Spring and the America's Cup

Spring is upon us: seventy degree days are establishing themselves and many sailor's will be taking their boat out for the first time in 2013.

Getting 'shipshape' in spring

is like sailing on the bay, conditions are always unpredictable. As for the racers among us, excitement is starting to grow.



AC72's Taking Off. Wait! Where's The Wind?



Pointing High On San Francisco Bay

The America's Cup event will no doubt dominate the headlines in sailing magazines this summer, but what if the wind doesn't blow?

While reading about this race on line, I learned there is always one boat that other boats want to beat: the winner of last season's race.

When I read the race rules, I felt like I needed an attorney. I couldn't understand some of the rules and I also read these can change. Perhaps that's the problem. Maybe the race committee is composed of too many attorneys.

We entered Windlock in the 2011 Vallejo Race. However the word 'Race' didn't seem to fit. It turned out to be more of a crawl, for there was little to no wind at all.

About three hundred boats sailed toward the San Rafael Bridge and we were racing (crawling) against other Islander 36's. No one was designated as last season's champ although one boat won most of the time.

The big contenders are the 72-foot catamarans that are 45 feet wide with masts over 100 feet tall and draw 14 feet. This takes the

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Club Officers for 2011

To Email a Club Officer, see Club Hotlines on the club's Web Site: www.marinabayvc.com



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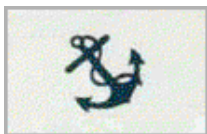
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New Members

There were no new applications during this period.

Point Molate

The brick fortress at Point Molate was built by the California Wine Association in 1907. This site became "the largest winery in the Universe." For twelve years, they were exporting wine to all parts of the world; even to France, when that country suffered a drought.

When the Prohibition was passed in 1919, tanks of wine were poured into the Bay. There were tales that the fish were so drunk, that one could catch them by hand, which may or may not be true. It's certain that the Bay was polluted in a way it has never been before or since. Wine bottles must have also been tossed, because glass 'pebbles' were collected for years by beachcombers.



The Old Winery At Pt. Molate...

In 1941, the Navy moved into the winery buildings and constructed 20 large concrete tanks on the hill-sides above for fuel storage. Thousands of drums of fuel were stored in huge buildings, pipelines were laid and a new pier was built. Despite the switch from wine to fuel, the historic district remains virtually unaltered from its days as a winery.

The Navy continued to operate the fuel depot during the Korean and Vietnam Wars and was decommissioned in 1995.

Commodore: Continued from Page 1

Berkeley Circle out of play. The crew is composed of eleven fit and hardy sailors. The press release says the crew are as fit as professional athletes.

Fast? You bet! According to their published releases, these boats with wing sails are capable of going twice the speed of the wind!

What? Wait a minute! The wind can blow a good forty knots on a warm Summer day. Are we to believe the AC72 can sail 87 mph? If they can, one hopes they have air brakes! It's only 2.62 miles from the Golden Gate to Alcatraz.

I'm not sure but all these numbers paint to a very strange picture. If I was a betting man I'd say the Bay is going to win. Hang on, this is going to be a lot of fun!

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

Club Officer Positions

To encourage MBYC Members to serve as a club officer. we will provide information on one of the Officer positions that govern your club.

SIGNAL EDITOR: Using Publisher or other program of choice, determines the composition including filler photos in each issue of the MBYC news letter, The Signal.

1. **Publications:** The number of publications in any given year is depending on the club's schedule and general course of events. We plan to have six issues during 2013.

2. **The Task:** Edits all stories, articles, photos and subjects of general interest to our members relative to layout, composition and available space.

3. **Content:** Each issue of the Signal includes: Commodore's Log, Roster of Officers, New Member information, Cruise Out stories and Cruiseout Schedule. The Editor, at his or her dis-

cretion determines the layout and when room is available, selects additional subjects of interest for that issue. For example: articles of interest can be instructive, of nautical content, informative, humorous and historical, including supporting photos.

4. **Uploading:** On or about the end of the publishing period of one, two or three months, the Editor places the draft in the PDF format and submits this to the club's Web Master for up-loading into our Web Site >www.marinabayyc.com>

A Real Fairy Tale

A married couple in their early 60s were out celebrating their 35th wedding anniversary in a quiet, romantic little restaurant. Suddenly, a tiny yet beautiful fairy appeared on their table and said, "For being such an exemplary married couple and for being faithful to each other for all this time, I will grant you each a wish."

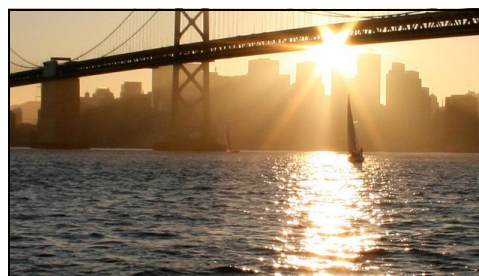
Ooh, I want to travel around the world with my darling husband" said the wife.

The fairy moved her magic stick and ~ abracadabra! ~ two tickets for the new QM2 luxury liner appeared in her hands.

Now it was the husbands turn. He thought for a moment and said: "Well this is all very romantic, but an opportunity like this only occurs once in a lifetime, so, I'm sorry my love but my wish is to have a wife 30 years younger than me".

The wife, and the fairy, were deeply disappointed, but a wish is a wish...

So the fairy made a circle with her magic stick and - abracadabra! The husband became 92 years



A pleasant way to end the day on San Francisco Bay

True Story...

A Spanish teacher was explaining to her class that in Spanish, unlike English, nouns are designated as either masculine or feminine.

"House" for instance, is feminine: "la casa."

"Pencil," however, is masculine: "el lapiz."

A student asked, "What gender is 'computer'?" Instead of giving the answer, the teacher split the class into two groups, male and female, and asked them to decide for themselves whether "computer" should be a masculine or a feminine noun. Each group was asked to give four reasons for its recommendation.

The boy's group decided that "computer" should definitely be of the feminine gender ("la computadora"), because:

- 1 No one but their creator understands their internal logic;
2. The native language they use to communicate with other computers is incomprehensible to everyone else;
3. Even the smallest mistakes are stored in long term memory for possible later retrieval; and
4. As soon as you make a commitment to one, you find yourself spending half your paycheck on accessories for it.

The women's group, however, concluded that computers should be Masculine ("el computador"), because:

1. In order to do anything with them, you have to turn them on;
2. They have a lot of data but still can't think for themselves;
3. They are supposed to help you solve problems, but half the time they ARE the problem; and
4. As soon as you commit to one, you realize that if you had waited a little longer, you could have gotten a better model.

The women won.



In The Gulf Off Isla San Francisco

Cruising Lower Sea of Cortez

Jim Duvall is cruising with in the lower Sea of Cortez with Joe Ledbetter and Chris Powell on his 46 foot Ericson Sloop, Red Dolphin, .

We recently completed a quick, but fruitful cruise, starting from La Paz, BCS, and visited six ports in record time. At the end of the ten day cruise we were tired, but satisfied.

We left for Isla Carmen, Bahia Salina fully intending to sail directly there. Unfortunately we encountered stiff northerly winds and the famous saw tooth wave form. So, instead, we entered the beautiful sandy-bottom anchorage of **Isla San Francisco** and hooked up next to the National Geographic Sea Star. As they have superior satellite gear we were able to get the weather forecast from them and then continued on to Puerto Los Gatos, on La Costa.

Puerto Los Gatos is one of those enchanted places about which most cruisers dream. Fossilized cream and red colored sand dunes line this northern anchorage and we took the time to both swim here and explore the dunes. Once the sun set we set sail for **Bahia Salina** and were able to reach it by 4:00 A.M. Anchoring there, even on a moonless night was easy as it is a wide open bay, and almost entirely sand and mud.

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Cruising Lower Sea of Cortez: Continued from Page 4

The next day had us in our dinghy off on an exploration of what used to be a very productive sea salt production facility. Over 250 people lived here and now it stands as a ghost town, with all of the old production gear still in place. The old salt pond has become a wonderful salt sculpture garden with intricate crystal pattern growing out of the water.

Puerto Escondido beckoned us next with its easy mooring ball tie up and excellent facilities. Anyone who sails up to this part of the Sea, whether it be Isla Dazante, Isla Carmen, etc., normally stops here as you can take a break from anchoring in a very sheltered basin and have access to a great little grocery store, or take a taxi



The Old Atlas Is a Poor Substitute for a Navigational Chart...

to Loreto for provisions. The Hidden Port Yacht Club is located here and has recently moved to the old API building, but has an extensive library of videos and books.

Agua Verde was next... Once again we anchored in sand. This protection northeast facing

from most winds that the Sea can throw at a boat. The village, that lies about 40 miles south of Loreto is made of fisherman and their families. It even boasts a part-time restaurant and a small grocery store. The people here are very friendly and it is a beautiful place to hike. The hills surrounding it are stunning in their greenery, especially when contrasted with the blue waters.



Finally we sailed even farther south to **Ensenada Grande on Isla Partida**. This volcanic island has a series of western-facing anchorages that are well-protected and have sand bottoms. Ensenada Grande rivals anything that Hawaii offers. Four anchorages compose this small bay, all of which have white sand beaches. Volcanic rock formations drip down to the and brain corals line the rocky stretches with all of the normal array of tropical fish, morays, and a riot of other forms of life We even spotted two large turtles on our way in.



Enjoying A Sunset On The Bay.

Finally, we sailed even farther south to **Ensenada Grande on Isla Partida**. This volcanic island has a series of western-facing anchorages that are well-protected and have sand bottoms. Ensenada Grande rivals anything that Hawaii offers.

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After two days of great snorkeling we raised the hook and spent six hours returning to **Marina de La Paz**. Fortunately, we came across two separate pods of dolphins, one which was clearly made up of over 200 animals. Earlier in our cruise we had encountered many other dolphins as well as five

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Cruising Lower Sea of Cortez: Continued from Page 5
or six whales. All normal here in the Sea.

Marina de La Paz is always a hotbed of activity. Our arrival was assisted by their fantastic crew. And were once again able to enjoy fine Mexican cooking!

Capt. Jim Duvall

SV/Red Dolphin
542377
KI6USI



A Pod Of Purposes Cross Over The Bow



Questions To Ponder

Why does a round pizza come in a square box?

Bright Ideas For The Boat

In clear water, to determine your distance from the horizon, use this formula. Distance from the horizon = 1.17 x the square root of the height above the sea in feet.



Irish Luck

Flynn staggered home very late after another evening with his drinking buddy, Paddy. He took off his shoes to avoid waking his wife, Mary.

He then tiptoed as quietly as he could toward the stairs leading to their up-stairs bedroom, but misjudged the bottom step. As he caught himself by grabbing the banister, he swung around and he landed heavily on his rump.

A whiskey bottle in each back pocket broke and made the landing especially painful. However, he managed not to yell. Flynn then sprung up, pulled down his trousers and looked in the hall mirror and saw that his cheeks were cut and bleeding.

He managed quietly find a full box of Band-Aids and began putting them on as best he could. Then he hid the now empty Band-Aid box and shuffled and stumbled his way to bed.

In the morning, Flynn woke up with searing pain in both his head and bun and Mary was staring at him from across the room.

She said, "You were drunk again last night weren't you?"

"Why do you say such a mean thing? "

Well," Mary said, "it could be the open front door, it could be the broken glass at the bottom of the stairs, it could be the drops of blood trailing through the house, it could be your bloodshot eyes, but mostly.....it's all those Band-Aids you stuck on the hall mirror .

Re-visiting A Bit Of History

Sailing Adventure into the San Juan Islands. Excerpts were barrowed from the Aug ust 1997 Signal. Posted by Past Commodore Al Burdi.

Continuing From The Last Signal: Deer Harbor had a heated pool and spa in addition to comfortable showers, which were included in our slip fee.

After an on-board barbecue dinner we hit the spa, in a setting that overlooked the harbor. We discovered that each island seemed to have their own distinguishing flora and fauna. We always found and different flower and our vase at dinner was becoming quite interesting. At 2100, we returned to the boat for some wholesome conversation, then called it a night..

After a continental breakfast, we made plans for the next stop on this adventure and that was Friday Harbor (the big one!).

This son, daughter and grandson of Erwin and Joan Gove, were stopping at Jones Island State Park, to hike on their trails. When we got wind of this we jumped ship for the day and joined the Goves on *Chandelle*.



Jones Island State Park

The trip to Jones Island took only an hour. On approaching the dock, a 36' cruiser was just leaving a space which we quickly occupied.

We hiked up and across the island on a trail being upgraded by the Civilian Conservation Corps.

Our hike was tough due to fallen trees from that severe storm in 1990 .

On reuniting with the Goves at the trailhead, we debriefed each other regarding our hikes and fed some truly tame deer by hand. Within the hour we hoisted sails and headed to Friday Harbor, ever mindful of the illusive orca.



The weather was consistently sunny and mild. We may have had 15 minutes of rain during our entire trip.

On approaching Friday Harbor we called for a slip and as we pulled in we saw *Freedom Affair* just across the finger. The previous night was the end of the cruise for the speedy catamaran *Double Tall*. It was being placed back into charter that day.

After' straightening up, we went into town to shake the place out and everyone went their own way. Friday Harbor is a sizable town, with many restaurants, markets and shops of all types, including art galleries, a picturesque, hillside community.

We met back on board at 1730, for cocktails and

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San Juan Islands: Continued From Page 7

another leisurely barbecue dinner. Afterwards, some of us went back into town for an after dinner treat. The day ended with an evening walk along the marina and down the coast, while enjoying the clean fresh air.

The next morning after a wonderful breakfast in town, we got everything ready for our last port of call, Hunter Bay on Lopez Island.



Walking along the marina in Friday Harbor

On approaching Hunter Bay the bottom came up quickly and we had to anchored out. This left us vulnerable to westerly's, which swept over a low maintain saddle and directly into the bay.

Chandelle, with less draft anchored a lot further in. We dinked to shore only to find that the entire beach was private and was laced with homes and cabins. We located an spot for a dingy landing spot and for the first time on any of the islands, we saw some totem poles. One place had three in front.

We forged a trail up the hill behind the house and continued to rise for 300 yards befor leveling off. and it ended in someone's backyard. When we turned around and headed back we were attacked by the most voracious mosquitoes ever. This was the first time we were bothered by these but it was with a vengeance. We ran most of the way back and were glad to get out of there.

Hunter Bay was one rough anchor and our boat rotated around the anchor. The halyards and hauls on the mast kept us awake most of the night. Bill

on the mast kept us awake most of the night. Bill and Lore had the worst of it since the mast ran through their sleeping compartment and acted as a resonance chamber. The male crew members all got a turn going topsides in the middle of the night to check things out. The winds howled all night long

Morning found the bay calm and sunny and we didn't drag our anchor. Because of the midday, negative tide, this is when we should have slept. We had a leisurely sail back to Anacortes, our home port. We arrived at the harbor at 1500 hours, about two hours later then we planned..

We slipped right in with plenty of water beneath our keel and proceeded to the fuel dock. After pumping out, we topped off all tanks and made way to our slip. Then we all said our "until next times" and we each went our own way.

Lynne and I spent the rest of that day in the bustling town of Anacortes. There is an interesting maritime museum by the waterfront and nice little shops throughout town.



Anacortes Harbor at the End of the Day

The following morning we went into town for breakfast and found ourselves in the middle of a Shipwreck Fair and Flea Market. The main street was cordoned off with lots of interesting booths. We enjoyed our stay in Anacortes very much, as we did the entire cruise and we recommend this experience to all.

Editor's Note: We believe Al Burdi served the MBYC as Commodore sometime in the late 1980,s, early 1990's



Marina Bay Yacht Club

CRUISE-OUT SCHEDULE for: 2013



April

20-21 Alameda Y.C. - for Dinner...
Board Meeting @ 4:00

August

17-18 Loch Lomond Y. C.
For their Luau Dinner...

May

18-19 Papa's Taverna - for Dinner...
on the Petaluma River

August 30 to September 2

The Half Moon Bay Y.C. Bar-B-Q
Labor Day Weekend,

June

15-16 Oyster Point Y.C.
It's a Western Night Dinner...

October

12 General Membership Meeting
Marina Bay Meeting Room @ 4:00
"Open House" with Pizza @ 5:30

July

20 MBYC Open House at
Marina Bay Yacht Harbor
Meeting Room

December

7-6 South Beach Marina, in South S.F.
Holiday Gathering at BoBo's

Make reservations for each Cruise Dinner you would like to attend by contacting the Fleet Captain - (916) 996-4241 - for email info, see the Club Hotlines page.

It's True

As I hurtled through space, one thought kept crossing my mind - every part of this rocket was supplied by the lowest bidder. ~ John Glenn

The best cure for sea sickness, is to sit under a tree. ~ Spike Milligan

