



THE WHISTLER NEWSLETTER

COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

August is the preparation month for our major event of the year, the Redwood Regatta, over Labor Day weekend. Do you want to get to know some other club members better? There is nothing like serving on one of our Regatta teams to build camaraderie!

Please be thinking of how you want to be involved as we need lots of volunteers to make this happen. Don't forget, the Potluck comes early this month, August 1. A sign-up sheet for the required Redwood Regatta tasks will be available at the Potluck."

Larry Fox, Interim Commodore

Around the Marks

- by Larry Fox, Vice Commodore -

The In-Bay Keel series has been fun and since I was gone for much of June, here are some belated results. First place went to Ed Mattson for the May 13th race with Curt Brown second and Garrett Coonrod third. The June 8th race had two boats, Richard Hendry was first, and I came in second.

The first Great Bay race on June 11th was won by Ed Mattson, with Curt Brown second and Garrett Coonrod third. What a race it was with a promise of strong wind, but fairly light wind at the start and very strong winds in the south bay for the trip home. I sported my reverse sail plan with

reefed main at the start and full genoa for the start of the hectic tack up the narrow south bay channel. See last month's Whistler for Richard Hendry's article and amazing graphic of the 57 tacks. Was there time on a short tack to partially furl a genoa? The answer was and is always yes, even if you end up in irons. I was reminded of that age old adage, if you think you should reduce sail, you should have done it 10 minutes ago.

We look forward to the Whistler race on the last day of July, here's hoping the sea gets a lot less lumpy by then!

WHISTLER



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& Vice Commodore:
Larry Fox

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A TOAD BY ANY OTHER NAME

.....aka, "Changing Your Boat Name -- The Hull Truth"
- by Richard Hendry -

Not surprisingly, I found out that my sailboat, "**Dauntless**," a San Juan 24', has had other names. An early and perhaps original name was "**Toad**." Sorry, that's no name for a club racer/cruiser. And I recently also came across a photo from 1993 showing my boat when she was called "**Dragonfly**." So, how does one change the name of a boat?

According to legend, every vessel is recorded by name in the 'Ledger of the Deep', and is known personally to Poseidon, or Neptune, the god of the sea. To change the name of a vessel without consulting Poseidon is to invoke his wrath, so in order to change a boat's name, a traditional ceremony is used to appease the gods of the seas [should involve no small amount of rum or brandy].

The first thing that must be done when renaming a boat is to purge its old name from the Ledger of the Deep, and from Poseidon's memory. This will involve wiping out every trace of the old boat name, and reciting a short ceremony to remove the boat's name from Poseidon's records.

The renaming ceremony can then begin, and should take place as soon after the purging ceremony as possible. Finally, the gods of the winds must be appeased with another short ceremony, which will assure you of fair winds and smooth seas, wherever you sail.

Cruising Tip: Show A Little Side

When two boats approach each other bow-on, both should turn to starboard to avoid collision. A little tweak isn't enough. The change of course should be clear and deliberate. Turn enough to show the oncoming boat some of the side of your boat.

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HUMBOLDT YACHT CLUB REDWOOD REGATTA

BIG LAGOON, CA.

Sept, 2-3, 2017

On-Line Registration

New this year is the ability to register on-line. Go to regattanetwork.com/event/15089#_home and then click on the quick link for online registration. Of course, you can still register using the old fashion paper form and snail mail.

Volunteer Sign-Ups

The sign up list for all those duties that need to get done to put on an outstanding regatta will be passed around at the potluck on Aug 1st: Camp set-up; loading the truck; race committee; dinner & breakfast chefs and helpers; load truck, etc.

Camp Clean-Up

Saturday August 26th at 1000 hrs. Bring your tools [riding mower, weed whacker, rake, brush trimmer, tarp, etc.] to make the campsite beautiful for our members and guests to enjoy during a beautiful weekend of sailing and camping on Labor Day Weekend. Remember, "many hands make light work." No reservations required.

Regatta Weekend

Camping is available for regatta registrants starting Thursday August 31st at 1330 hrs, through Sunday night on September 3rd. Camp closes promptly on Monday (Labor Day) September 4th at high noon. Skippers' meetings 1100 hrs on Saturday and 1000 hrs on Sunday. Racing First Shapes are 1200 hrs on Saturday and 1100 hrs on Sunday.

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SUCK THE MONKEY

Not quite as nasty as it sounds, the term actually describes the clandestine siphoning of spirits from one of the ships casks via a straw or other such tube. The word monkey has always been used in nautical vernacular to describe something diminutive in size, in this case the small wooden butt that contained the crew's grog ration.

The term was originally applied to the ruse of replacing a coconut's milk with rum, thus enabling a sailor to get hammered while strolling about the decks, innocently sucking on a coconut. Worked pretty well too, until the officers noted an alarming increase in drunkenness due to "bad" coconut milk.

The practice was also known as "Tapping the Admiral" after the brandy-filled cask used to transport Admiral Nelson's body to England after his death reportedly required topping off a couple of times prior to its arrival. Scholars say the missing brandy was absorbed by the admiral's body. However, those familiar with the ways of thirsty sailors have other theories....

- from *JACK TAR AND THE BABOON WATCH*
- by Capt. Frank Lanier

"MAKING MONEY"

The HYC is a fun sailing-oriented member club that serves its members with sailing activities and social events. We are privileged to have a beautiful Club House right on Humboldt Bay.

Before I became involved as a HYC Board member, I never thought about the financial aspects of the Club other than paying our annual dues. As a Board member, I am aware of the details of our revenue and expenses.

To be brief - the Redwood Regatta is our major fundraising source. And while it is a wonderful event with sailing and camaraderie for 2 days, it is also a lot of work primarily for Board and member volunteers.

So please support efforts that bring in other sailing enthusiasts from out of town by pitching in with your volunteer time. ~ Suzi Hendry, HYC Secretary ~

keeping a weather eye:

- Aug 1st Potluck - 1900 hrs - hosted by Buck & Barkley
- Aug 5th Single-handed Keel #1 - 1200 hrs
- Aug 5th Social Hour - 1700 hrs
- Aug 8th Board of Governors' Meeting - 1900 hrs
- Aug 9th FOG Watch BBQ - 1700 hrs
- Aug 13th Big Lagoon Dinghy #1 & Picnic - 1200 hrs
- Aug 26th Redwood Regatta: Camp Clean-Up - 1000 hrs



Potluck August 1st at 1900