



THE  
**WHISTLER**  
 NEWSLETTER

## COMMODORE'S COMMENT

- by Larry Fox -

Warmest greetings from your new Commodore!

Last year's Board and the newly installed Board of Governors had a joint-meeting on November 13th and enjoyed an excellent transition. We are looking forward to planning a great year in 2019, and we already have many fun events scheduled for December this year.

FOG racing continues in December on Saturdays at 1400 hrs. We often have sunny weather [between rain storms] in December, and it's finally cold enough to wear that Irish Sailing Sweater that's usually too warm for plying the bay!

Come on out to the club room on Saturday, December 1st for our monthly Social Hour at 1700 hrs. Grab your favorite beverage, enjoy great camaraderie and head out to Arts Alive afterwards. This social hour has been mysteriously named the *Jingle Ball*. Come find out what this

could look like!? (P.S. dancing is not required but always encouraged).

Don't stay out too late though, so you'll be ready to join us for the 2019 Planning Meeting the next day, Sunday, December 2 at 1500 hrs in the club room. The entire calendar will be planned for 2019 and we need your great ideas!

Then its quick, catch your breath and come out to the Potluck on Tuesday night, December 4th for great food and friendship! Food line starts promptly at 1900 hrs.

2019 is yet to be planned but we have one event on the Calendar already. The Annual Crab Feed & Awards dinner will be held on Sunday, January 6th at 1900 hrs! It will be epic!

Here's to great sailing in 2019,

Larry.

# WHISTLER



## BOARD OF GOVERNORS

*Commodore:*  
**Larry Fox**

*Vice Commodore:*  
**Rich Robletto**

*Rear Commodore:*  
**Joe Hough**

*Co-Secretaries:*  
**Stephen Pepper & Mari Pepper**

*Treasurer:*  
**Garrett Coonrod**

*Port Captain:*  
**Bruce Braly**

*Members At Large:*  
**Bridge Randall**  
**Wesley Hodges**  
**Brad McCabe**

*Past Commodore:*  
**Stacy Lane**

**Newsletter Staff:**  
Richard Hendry, Editor  
Max Flood  
Mark Roundings

**HUMBOLDT YACHT CLUB**  
Post Office Box 445  
Eureka, California 95502

[humboldtyachtclub.org](http://humboldtyachtclub.org)

## THE WESTMAN AWARD

Since 1993 the prestigious Westman Award has been presented annually by the flag officers to a club member "who actively promotes good sportsmanship, good friendship and the good of the Humboldt Yacht Club."



Past Commodore Richard Hendry [left] presenting the "Westman Award" to this year's recipient, Vice-Commodore Larry Fox [right].



**VETERANS DAY RACE**  
**WAITING FOR THE WIND**

# WHISTLER

## CHANGE AT THE HELM: FLAG OFFICERS DINNER



**THE OLD GUARD -- Last Year's Board**

[L-R] **Richard Hendry**, Past Commodore; **Stephen Pepper**, At-Large; **Rich Robletto**, At-Large; **Jim Hendry**, At-Large; **Bruce Braly**, Port Captain; **Garrett Coonrod**, Treasurer; **Stephen Buck**, Rear Commodore; **Larry Fox**, Vice Commodore; and **Stacy Lane**, Commodore. [Not pictured: **Shane Mizer**, Secretary.]

### THE JINGLE BALL ??

[from the Commodore]

Near the end of the Planning Meeting last year we were wondering about some kind of Holiday Party and several ideas floated up. Out of the cacophony came the distinct words, "Jingle Ball."

Nobody knew exactly what that meant, but it was such a cute, catchy name that all agreed that it just had to happen! In our defense, it was near the end of a very long afternoon. So, now it is upon us.

This Saturday, December 1st in the clubroom at 1700 hrs is scheduled The Jingle Ball. Your new Commodore and Vice-Commodore are not exactly sure what that is but, never fear, they will add something fun to the Social Hour this Saturday. So come on out to the first-ever HYC *Jingle Ball!*



**2019 BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

[L-R] **Larry Fox**, Commodore; **Bruce Braly**, Port Captain; **Stephen Pepper**, Co-Secretary; **Rich Robletto**, Vice Commodore; **Joe Hough**, Rear Commodore; **Stacy Lane**, Past Commodore; **Wesley Hodges**, At-Large; **Garrett Coonrod**, Treasurer; **Brad McCabe**, At-Large; and **Mari Pepper**, Co-Secretary. [Not pictured: **Bridge Randall**, At-Large.]

### Anchoring Basics

Use a 7 to 1 Ratio  
 $(H + D) \times 7 = \text{RODE}$

Scope  
 Ratio of length of rode used to the distance from the bow to seabed

# WHISTLER

## SOFT SHACKLE ??

- by Max Flood -

Jib sheets attach to the aft-most corner of the jib (the clew) and run back to the cockpit on both sides of the boat. The jib sheets are used to trim the sail in or ease it out.

On most sailboats, jib sheets are usually attached to the clew in one of two ways:

1. When two individual sheets are used, both are often tied to the clew with a bowline. This knot can easily be untied when the sail is changed, but the two large bowlines form a big, heavy mass that can cause injury if it strikes you while wrestling with a flailing sail in the wind, or catches on shrouds when tacking.
2. When a single line is used, a metal shackle is often placed in a loop of the line at its center point, for shackling the lines to the clew. This also means a dangerous hard object that can injure a crew in the head or eye.

### - But There's Another Way -

A better solution is to use a soft shackle made with the single jib sheet itself, whipping line, and a short, extra piece of line. Here is one variation of the soft shackle I use on my boat.

There are a few advantages of using a soft shackle. It's lighter and less bulky (and therefore safer) than a metal shackle. It's also easier to tie and untie with sail changes, and less expensive. And it puts any bulky knot(s) forward of the clew ring and less likely to snag on a shroud.



First, form a loop at the center of the single line to be used as jib sheets. It should be about a 3" in diameter. Whip the line firmly to maintain the loop.



With a second short piece of line, form another loop that passes through the jib sheet loop. Tie a stopper knot to maintain the loop. I used a "diamond knot" [aka lanyard knot] which is a little more decorative.



Insert the jib sheet loop through the sail's clew ring.



Finally, pass the ends of the smaller loop and the knot through the end of jib sheet loop, as shown. Then pull the jib sheet to cinch the knot tight.

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## NOW HEAR THIS: 2019 CALENDAR UPDATE

The Commodore reports that only three months remain available for the yacht club's 2019 calendar. You can sponsor a month for the tiny sum of \$30, but nine months have already been purchased. That \$30 buys you the picture area (facing page) for a month on the new calendar, and you can submit one or several pictures for that space. Please email Larry Fox to sponsor a month. You can pay on-line or send a check to the Club's P.O. Box. Please email your photos to Larry as well at: [lawrencefoxiii@gmail.com](mailto:lawrencefoxiii@gmail.com).



SAVE THE DATE:  
CRAB FEED &  
AWARDS PRESENTATION  
JANUARY 6, 2019 at 1900 hrs



### *keeping a weather eye:*

- |         |                             |
|---------|-----------------------------|
| Dec. 1  | The Jingle Ball - 1700 hrs  |
| Dec. 2  | Planning Meeting - 1500 hrs |
| Dec.4   | Potluck - 1900 hrs          |
| Dec. 11 | Board Meeting - 1900 hrs    |

