



WHISTLER

NEWSLETTER

- AROUND THE MARKS -

Hello from your new Vice Commodore, Larry Fox. My wife Brooke and I are fairly new to the club, at least the 21st Century version but we were members way back in 1969. I sailed a Lido 14 (Pumpkin) with the old guard. We sure remember the old club house and the Kestrel and Snipe fleets, great folks!

I'm sailing a more comfortable keel boat now, a Lancer 28 named Truant. Truant isn't a word you hear a lot these days but every kid who ditched school back in the early 1900s knew about and feared the truant officer. My grandfather built wooden boats with my dad in the late 20s, early 30s, inboard runabouts that must have been beautiful. My dad remembered my granddad ordering steaming oak from Seattle so they could hold the stringers in the jig as the wood dried. He always named them "Truant."

It's the new year and the beginning of a great slate of events here at HYC. We have some races on Saturday this year and a new, trial in-bay alternative to the Whistler buoy course designed to be easier to sail for those that stay inside the bay.

New to racing? Come on out! We're a forgiving bunch. Only two rules will keep you in compliance 90 percent of the time: Boats on starboard tack have the right of way and the leeward boat has the right of way when both are on the same tack. The rest is details and be sure to give way when asked, sometimes bay channels don't give a lot of room to maneuver. We're out there to have fun and enjoy a good sail, regardless of how you finish.

Looking forward to seeing you out on the water!

GO AROUND AN ISLAND

Begin 2017 with a New Year's Day race. The *AROUND THE ISLAND RACE* is on Jan. 1st at high noon. As usual, the Skippers' meeting will be at 1100 hrs at the clubroom for instructions. Sail, kayak, raft, canoe, stand-up paddle-board, or pedalo your way around Gunther Island.

You can go in either direction once you cross the starting line. This race is open to the public and to all watercraft capable of passing under the bridges. Kick off the New Year with some aquatic fun on Humboldt Bay and go around an island.

WHISTLER



BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Commodore:
David SanGiovanni

Vice Commodore:
Larry Fox

Rear Commodore:
Jared Pepper

Secretary:
Suzi Hendry

Treasurer:
Stephen Buck

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Bruce Braly

Members At Large:
Jason Buck
Rich Robletto
Jan Carroll

Past Commodore:
Garrett Coonrod

Newsletter Staff:
Richard Hendry
Lee Shore
Max Flood

HUMBOLDT YACHT CLUB
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humboldtyachtclub.org

Are You A Card Carrying Member?

by John Bradley, on assignment in Hawaii

Here we are, stuck on Maui and wanting to visit our old haunt at the Lahaina Yacht Club for some pupus but we probably can't get in because neither of us is carrying our current HYC membership card!



With thousands of visitors here every day in Lahaina, "reciprocity" needs an extra level of protocol and the gatekeepers at the bar demand a current card to get past the swinging doors. (We forgot the damn thing last year, too, but Suzi sent us a duplicate and saved the day).

This year we will try talking our way in with last year's card and see if our story is any different

than the 100-a-day they probably get from thirsty tourists with Tiller Withdraw Syndrome (TWS). Adrienne is more optimistic than I am but it is worth try.

It was a Lahaina YC visit and view of their Junior Program that got me going on building an HYC version way back when I always had my current card in my wallet! If I have a new t-shirt from LYC (black or red only!) you'll know we made it to the bar.



Aloha to all from Maui celebrating our 50th anniversary.

- - John and Adrienne

NO POTLUCK IN JANUARY

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NO SOCIAL HOUR IN JANUARY

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HYC SOCIAL HOUR

Our first "Social Hour" was held on December 3rd, hosted by Commodore David SanGiovanni. David made what he called a "Dark and Stormy" [apparently the official drink of Bermuda], a concoction of ginger beer and America's-Cup-rum. The Social Hour will be held the first Saturday of every month at 1700 hrs, in conjunction with Eureka's ARTS ALIVE. Hope to see you there in February.

[Remember: No Social Hour in January]

"Many Hands Make Light Work"

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: A task is soon accomplished if several people help. And just when you are thinking too many cooks spoil the broth, suddenly someone will remind you that many hands make light work.

Please sign up to be a potluck host, or a host for one of our monthly social hours. Or sign up to be Race committee for one [or two] races next year. There are still several vacancies that exist. If interested, call Vice Commodore, Larry Fox, at 822-5539. We thank you!

NOW HEAR THIS:

Crab Feed & Awards

January 8th

1800 hrs

RSVP to Larry Fox at 822-5539

**DON'T FORGET TO BRING YOUR
CRAB CRACKER, PICK & BIB**

- Board Bits -

The more you know, the better!

- Crab Feed will be priced based on cost of crab, and other food/supplies needed. Agreed to \$20 Crab and \$10 Spaghetti dinner.
- Awards to be presented at Crab dinner.
- Need to update email list on web site with current email addresses for all including family members.
- Open House ideas discussed for May date. No one has time/energy to organize garage sale, so will focus on fun activities for current members. Sailboat rides, BBQ, maritime history, flare disposal, and youth involvement.
- Financials presented and Club is just breaking even for 2016. Our CD for Club will be renewed in January 2017.
- Want to form subcommittees to include more members in planning and organizing events. Groups for Race, Social, Youth, Membership.
- Author, Jim Lynch, will be speaking at April potluck about his new book "Before the Wind".

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Coast Guard Boardings and Your Fourth Amendment Rights - by Max Flood

Forget about it, you don't have any rights! The U.S. Coast Guard can board your boat any time they want, and look anywhere they want, without probable cause or a warrant.



They can do this on the open sea, or while you're asleep aboard in your marina at midnight. They can look through your bedsheets, in your lockers, in your bilges, in your jewelry box, or in your pockets. They can do it carrying just their sidearms, or they can do it carrying assault rifles.

Why can the Coast Guard search our boats without a warrant or probable cause, when, under the Fourth Amendment, the police need them to search our homes, cars, offices, motorhomes etc? It's always been this way. The same congress that passed the Bill of Rights passed the *Revenue Service Act of 1790*, which gave *revenue cutters* the right to search any vessel anywhere in US waters, and any US-flagged vessel anywhere in the world.

Our fledgling nation was strapped for cash, and tariffs were the way to solvency. This was controversial even back in 1790, since many of our gripes against the British, as stated in our Declaration of Independence, had to do with tariffs [Boston Tea Party). The crews of revenue cutters were allowed to board vessels to make sure they'd paid the tariffs on their cargoes.

Nowadays the Coast Guard is checking our documentation, safety gear, seeing if we're drunk, and checking for environmental violations. Are we dumping oil/fuel/sewage into our precious waterways? It's common to check bilges for oily water, and if there's an automatic bilge pump in that oily water, we're so busted.

They're also checking for fisheries violations, people smuggling, arms smuggling, and drug smuggling. Twenty-six percent of Coast Guard activities are related to drug interdiction, and they are looking for illegal narcotics on every vessel during every boarding.

If you'd like to know a little more detail about the boarding policy and their other procedures, you can find a longer document, meant for the public, in their own words at:

<http://www.uscg.mil/d1/prevention/NavInfo/navinfo/documents/Enforcement.PDF>



keeping a weather eye:

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| Jan. 1st | Around the Island Race - - 1200 hrs |
| Jan. 8th | Crab Feed & Awards - 1800 hrs |
| Jan. 10th | Board of Governors' Meeting - 1900 hrs |

REMINDER:
FOG Races are every
Saturday at 1400 hrs