



CO-COMMODORES' COMMENTS

- BY NANCY RANDALL & ANJIE MCCABE -

Wow! What a big change in the weather! We went from zero wind and 70 degrees to hurricane breeze and pouring rain!

I suppose that aligns with all the other big and small changes in our world. Election night at HYC went smoothly with incredible savory food shared by all. Congratulations on the new board for 2025! The official passing of the torch comes at the Flag Officers Dinner. This year we are having the party at Gabriel's. Lovely food and great company. Dress up and celebrate with us!

The planning party, where we schedule all of our social and racing events was well attended and I think we found a good combination of events that everyone can attend. The racing schedule is different than in the past, with varied start times and scheduled alternate race days. NORs to come soon.

Speaking schedules, Steve made a Herculean effort to crank out the calendar to sneak under a massive discount deadline. This lets the club provide a calendar for free to the members by donations of a monthly picture. If you would like all of us to enjoy your special photo, send it to the secretary for 2026!

We have one last sail race for the year, Single-hand keelboat #4 on December 7th. Cocktails by Garrett & Caren Coonrod afterwards! Come on down to the club to watch the sailing, or better yet join the Race Committee for the best view in the house!

On a personal note, I've really enjoyed this last year Co-Commodoring with Anjie! We had a great time and hope you did too! Thank you all for the time and energy you tirelessly gave to the yacht club.

Co-Commodore Nancy



BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Co-Commodores:
Nancy Randall & Anjie McCabe

Vice Commodore:
Ed Mattson

Rear Commodore:
Bill Wickman

Co-Secretaries:
Steve Buck & John Brown

Treasurer:
Garrett Coonrod

Port Captain:
Will Bagnall

Members At Large:
**Darren Weiss
Caris Cassady
Mike Bynum**

Immediate Past Commodore:
Wesley Hodges

Newsletter Staff:
Richard Hendry, Editor
Marlin Spyke
Gail Foreswin
Lou Wurd

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JUMPING JACKS

Ever wonder what that staple instrument of torture used in every high-school physical education class got its name? Thank Captain Cook’s crew - - it’s what they called penguins during his voyage of exploration to Antarctica, in reference to the way they jumped from the ice flows (*jack* being a euphemism for the common man).

...from *Jack Tar and the Baboon Watch*
by Captain Frank Lanier

WHISTLER

A TRIAL OF BOWLINES

- by Gail Forsewin -

There has long been a dispute about which is better: the “Classic” bowline with the tail inside the loop, or what seems to be known in the colloquial style as the “Cowboy” bowline, with the tail ending outside the loop.



CLASSIC



COWBOY

The Cowboy bowline is a variation espoused by the Dutch and German Navies, because they considered it superior since the working end is not so easily pushed back by accident. The Cowboy bowline is also sometimes called the Winter bowline because the exposed working end on the outside would blow in the wind and prevent it from freezing to the loop on ships in the North Atlantic during winter.

As there had been inconclusive debate as to which form is superior, I see that *Marlow Ropes* offered up their testing facilities back in 1987, and tested a variety of different kinds of ropes used aboard yachts for different purposes, and they tested these two types of bowline to destruction. They tested individual batches of rope twice to discover actual strength. The Classic bowline was consistently, if only marginally, stronger in all tests. For instance, the tests on Three-strand Nylon, which has a Guaranteed Minimum Breaking Load (GMBL) of 3,000 lbs (with an actual strength at 3,663). The Classic bowline took a strain of 2,627 (71%), while the Cowboy bowline was 2,383 (65%).

For me, my go-to form is the Classic bowline, although I admit that there are times when the tail inside the loop interferes with a block or something else, so I will often tie the knot in the Cowboy fashion with the tail on the outside. As the difference in strength is nominal, either one might work equally well for you too. Try it!

SINGLE-HANDED RACE #4

The last race in this year's single-handed series will be held on Saturday December 7th at 1300 hrs.

Skippers' meeting as usual at noon.



SEA SCOUTS

Four members of the yacht club are currently involved in Sea Scouts: Richard Hendry, John Bradley, Will Bagnall and Bridge Randall. You may know that Sea Scouts is a co-ed program for youth ages 14-20 and is a branch of Scouts America. Our local unit (called a Ship) has been providing youth with a maritime experience since the mid-1930's. "Ship 1 Yankee" has been sailing the bay and lagoons of Humboldt County now since 1969.



The ship meets twice a month on Wednesdays and Scouts learn sailing, rowing, kayaking, paddle-boarding, maintenance of watercraft, seamanship skills and safety. For more information call (707) 702-1601.

RACE RESULTS

Results from this year's racing events can be found on-line at humboldtyachtclub.org and under the racing tab there. Check them out!

2025 BOARD OF GOVERNORS

- Commodore:* **Bridge Randall**
- Vice Commodore:* **Larry Fox**
- Rear Commodore:* **Bill Wickman**
- Secretary:* **Brad McCabe**
- Treasurer:* **Garrett Coonrod**
- Port Captain:* **Will Bagnall**
- Members At Large:* **Stephen Buck, Nick Kohl, & Wendy Zampardi**
- Past Co-Commodores:* **Nancy Randall, & Anjie McCabe**



keeping a weather eye:

- Dec. 7** **Single-handed Race #4 - 1300 hrs**
- Dec. 7** **Social Hour - 1700 hrs**
- Dec. 10** **Board of Gov'nors Mtg - 1800 hrs**
- Dec. 13** **Flag Officers Dinner - 1800 hrs**



2025 EVENT SCHEDULE

Jan 1	1300	Around the Island Race	Jun 28	1200	Dinghy Weekend on Bay
Jan 4	1800	Crab Feed	Jun 29	1200	Dinghy Weekend on Bay
Jan 14	1800	Governors' Mtg	Jul 1	1800	Potluck & Member Mtg
Jan 12	1200	Race Committee Clinic	Jul 4	1800	Fire Works Raft-Up
Feb 1	1500	Splicing Clinic 1	Jul 8	1800	Governors' Mtg
Feb 1	1700	Fundraiser Social	Jul 12	1300	In-Bay Keel #3
Feb 4	1800	Potluck & Member Mtg	Jul 12	1600	Oyster Feed Fundraiser
Feb 9	1200	Splicing Clinic 2	Jul 20	1230	Whistler Back-Up (if needed)
Feb 11	1800	Governors' Mtg	Aug 2	1230	Great Bay Race #2
Feb 16	1300	Women at the Helm #1	Aug 5	1800	Potluck & Member Mtg
Feb 22	1230	Whistler #1	Aug 9	1300	Single-handed #3
Feb 28	tbd	Bowl for Kids' Sake	Aug 12	1800	Governors' Mtg
Mar 4	1800	Potluck & Member Mtg	Aug 23	1000	Regatta Clean-Up/El Toro Challenge
Mar 8	1200	Man Overboard Clinic	Aug 30	1200	Redwood Regatta
Mar 11	1800	Governors' Mtg	Aug 31	1200	Redwood Regatta
Mar 15	1300	In-Bay Keel #1	Sep 9	1800	Governors' Mtg
Mar 29	1000	Clubroom Clean-Up	Sep 27	1200	Single-handed Back-Up (if needed)
Apr 1	1800	Potluck & Member Mtg	Sep 28	1230	Women at Helm #2
Apr 5	1400	Open House	Oct 7	1800	Potluck & Member Mtg
Apr 5	1500	Weather & Nav Clinic	Oct 12	1500	In-Bay Keel #4
Apr 6	1230	Whistler #2	Oct 14	1800	Governors' Mtg
Apr 8	1800	Governors' Mtg	Oct 25	1000	Planning Mtg
Apr 12	1230	Single-handed #1	Nov 4	1800	Potluck & Member Mtg
May 6	1800	Potluck & Member Mtg	Nov 9	1400	Navigation Rules Clinic
May 10	1300	Great Bay Race #1	Nov 11	1111	Veterans Day Race
May 13	1800	Governors' Mtg	Nov 29	1200	Great Bay Race Back-Up (if needed)
May 17	1300	In-Bay Keel #1	Dec 9	1800	Governors' Mtg
Jun 3	1800	Potluck & Member Mtg	Dec 12	1800	Flag Officers' Dinner
Jun 7	1400	Single-handed #2	Dec 14	1200	RC Sailboat Clinic
Jun 10	1800	Governors' Mtg			
Jun 21	1230	Trinidad Race north			
Jun 22	1230	Trinidad Race south			

Social Hour at clubroom first Sat. each month 1700-1900

FOG Races on Sat. at 1400 Nov-Mar; and Wed. at 1800 Mar-Nov