



## COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

- BY BRIDGE RANDALL -

### Happy Holidays to All Yee Salty Sailors!

Thank you all for coming to the Flag Officers Dinner! We had an amazing meal and celebration of the passing of the torch. A huge thank you to all the fine members who stepped up and joined the HYC board. It's all run by volunteers and we always could use your help.

2025 is looking to be a fun filled year with a good mix of social, educational and racing events. Come pick up your club calendar to keep up with all the events and start times. The 2025 calendar came out beautifully! Thank you everyone who paid for a page.

Right off the bat, our New Year's Day Around the Island Race is a fun race for all! Bring your paddle boards, kayaks, sailboats and whatever floats and try to beat the tide around Tuluwat Island. Surprisingly the weather is usually amazing! Come out and join the fun!

Our monthly membership meeting is the Award Ceremony Seafood Boil! We have awards for the winning Race boats

from 2024. So if you raced you may have won a trophy! On the education front, we have a Race Committee training clinic February 12th. Being on the RC is super fun and we all need to put in some time to keep our races competitive and looking sharp.

A big welcome to a bunch of new members starting off the year, Michelle Marsonette, Jen Briar, Justin Carlson, Brady Gunther (cruising member), and Rory and Gavin (students). If you see someone new hanging around the club, make them feel welcome!

### January Events include:

1/1 Around Island Race 1PM  
 1/4 Crab Feed (seafood boil) 6PM  
 1/7 Potluck 6PM  
 1/12 Race Committee Training 12PM  
 1/14 Board Meeting 6PM  
 Fog races each Saturday 1PM

# WHISTLER

## Flag Officers Dinner!



The Commodorables! Past Commodores Anjie McCabe and Nancy Randall

Notorious reprobates! Club officers present and past, left to right, Bill Wickman, Wes Hodges, Steve Buck, Darren Weiss, Will Bagnell, Garrett Coonrod and Ed Mattson.



More Trouble! Members at Large Nick Kohl and Steve Buck, Rear Commodore Bill Wickman, Commodore Bridge Randall, Past Commodore Nancy Randall, Vice Commodore Larry Fox, Port Captain Will Bagnell, Treasurer Garrett Coonrod, Secretary Brad McCabe and Past Commodore Anjie McCabe.

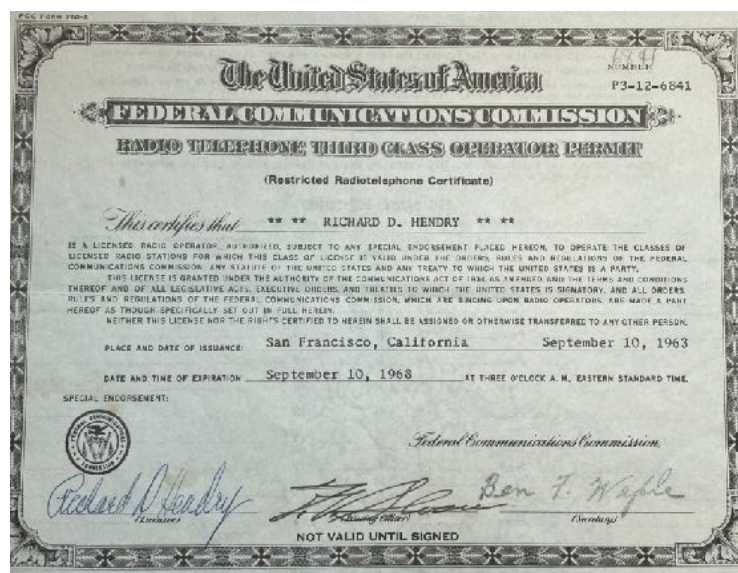
# WHISTLER

## VHF SHIP STATION LICENSE?

by Richard Hendry

These days anyone can use a VHF marine radio to communicate without requiring any special license, as long as they abide by certain rules. But this has not always been the case. In the 1960s, in order to use a VHF marine radio, you had to obtain a "ship station license" from the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), in the form of a "Radio Telephone Third Class Operator License". This license required one to go to a big city to take a test (for me - - San Francisco). Most people who took the FCC's test for a third-class license took a three-part test. The parts were called "elements." If you passed elements 1 and 2, you still had to pass element 3, the broadcast endorsement, and it was the hardest part. Lots of people passed elements 1 and 2 but flunked the 3rd, which meant that they had to take the whole thing again. The test touched on several subjects: Maritime: what are the standard distress frequencies used at sea; what is the meaning of the "Mayday" call; and what information should be included in a ship's position report? FCC Regulations: what are the basic rules regarding power output limitations for a third class radiotelephone operator; what are the restrictions on transmitting unnecessary

or offensive communications. When is a logbook required to be kept for communications? Procedure: How to properly call a station using radio procedures (phonetic alphabet, proper call signs); what is the correct format for a distress call: what are the standard radio frequencies for emergency communications; and how to handle routine radio traffic (relaying messages, and acknowledging. When passed, the official FCC certificate came in the mail a couple of weeks later. In those days, operators were required to post their licenses above the VHF radio from which they transmitted, so I had to frame mine, and I hang it proudly for display. On Jan. 5, 1979, the FCC eliminated the requirement to obtain a license to use a VHF marine radio.



The word "WHISTLER" is written in a bold, stylized, metallic font with a 3D effect, set against a dark, textured background that looks like a close-up of water or a similar surface.

## Travel

### Springtime in Greece, the start of the 2015 season

There is snow in the mountains of the Peloponnesus. More snow on the peaks to the north across the Gulf of Corinth, the Parnassus range above Delphi. Patti Smith is belting out "Because the Night" in my ear phones. The highway is new but rough along the south coast of the gulf and I'm headed west to Preveza on a bus from Athens. This is a road we've traveled many times and the olive grove plains and vineyards yield to mountains within a few miles and to what was for 900 years the old Spartan stronghold. I don't think I have many illusions concerning the Spartan way of life but the classic stories of good and evil are easy to visualize in this country. When Phillip II was threatening to come down out of Macedonia and invade the Peloponnesus he sent a diplomatic threat too Sparta. If he entered Spartan territory he would lay waste to the land. The Spartans sent back a one word reply, "If". Neither Phillip nor his peerless son Alexander the Great ever invaded Spartan territory.

It's a cool sunny morning and the gulf is deceptively calm. It can be really unpleasant beating to the west against the prevailing gulf winds in unsettled conditions. Best to hang out along the north shore, pick your times and/ or sail/motor westward in light air. There was a reason for galleys in the Med.

In few hours I'll see how things have gone at Cleopatra Marina over the winter. I hope to find the trusty steed reasonably clean and free from damage. Winter in Greece can still be winter. If the work I contracted to have done (installing a new water heater, not a simple job) is actually done and done well I'll be delighted. We're nearly to the rather magnificent Rio-Antirrio bridge at the west end of the gulf. Led Zeppelin's "All of My Love" playing, Robert Plant and Jimmy Page at their best. To the north towards Preveza the way is beautiful. Life is good!

Bill & Janet Wickman

SV Airstream

# WHISTLER



## BOARD OF GOVERNORS

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*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**

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## HUMBOLDT YACHT CLUB

Post Office Box 445  
Eureka, California 95502

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

## New Member Autobiography

### Michelle Maisonette

I have lived the last 53 years in Oregon's Willamette Valley where I raised three daughters and now get to enjoy being a grandparent. I am a business consultant and currently manage the Veterans for Peace Golden Rule (Goldy) Project which brings me to Eureka. I fell in love with Goldy in 2021 when I volunteered to crew from Hawaii to North America. The ocean crossing checked all of my boxes as an outdoor adventurer/enthusiast. Since the day I was born, my summers have been filled with endless camping trips to nearby rivers, lakes, and the ocean. As I enter my own golden age, I still prefer to live my life in the outdoors. I'm an advocate for peace and justice because the quality of the environment and health of humans directly impacts my passion for enjoying nature. If I had more hours in the day, I would climb more trees, grow more plants, and never get out of the water. Splash!

**Welcome aboard Michelle!**