



**Current News of the  
Northern California Fleet of the Classic Yacht Association**

**FALL/WINTER  
ISSUE 2010**

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**Enjoying Summer Events with the CYA**

**JULY 10TH  
MARIN YACHT CLUB CAR AND  
YACHT SHOW**

This popular show has become an annual event that gets better every year. Proceeds of the 2010 show benefited the Sea Scouts. Turnout was the largest yet, with 142 classic and high performance automobiles, twenty vendors' booths, and a half dozen modern yachts on display by brokers. The NC Fleet was well represented by seven beauties and their owners: FLAMINGO - Steve and Cheryl Kadzielawa, TULE LADY - Jim and Carol Staley, NORTH STAR II - Alan Almquist, COLLEEN - Patrick Welch, CIELITO - Mont and Cynthia McMullen, RENEGADE - Stuart Kiehl, and SOME DAY - Wayne and Susan Mooers.

The Marin Y.C. harbormaster assigned the NC Fleet slips conveniently

grouped together at the end of one dock.

The waterborne half of the show also included the 1945 classic sloop EOS, Howard Arneson's 46 ft custom gas turbine powered ocean racing catamaran, and a couple of patrol boats from the Marin County Sheriff's Department and San Rafael Police Department.

Our fleet began arriving Friday night and several attended the Marin Yacht Club's "All American" (diner style) buffet dinner party.

Saturday's show was graced by fine weather and a great turnout, including "land yot" arrivals Commodore Bill Wells and Sue; Mel and Gig Owen; Jim and Bernadette Sweeney; and Richard and Sandra Solomon.

Alan Almquist's dockside blender churned out a prodigious supply of superb Ramos Fizzes for a civilized start of the day. Marin Yacht Club furnished appropriate background music, beverages and tasty lunches for sale. The vast number of show automobiles and yachts was spectacular. Our Classics received a host of visitors and COLLEEN won the People's choice Award.

After the show we boarded NORTH STAR II for a pleasant cruise up the San Rafael Canal and sunset dining al fresco at The Seafood Peddler restaurant. This post-show supper party has become a favorite NC Fleet tradition and we thank Alan for graciously providing transportation aboard his fine Classic.

**Relaxing at Lake Tahoe by Jim Sweeney**


**JULY 30TH-31ST**  
The NC Fleet hosts events at beautiful Lake Tahoe on more or less alternate years. For 2010 Jim and Bernadette Sweeney decided to arrange for activities on the East, South, and West Shores. Sunshine and clear mountain air contributed to a wonderful weekend. The fun began Friday morning with a tour of millionaire George

Whittell's fabulous Thunderbird



Lodge Estate. Mel and Gig Owen, Jim Sweeney, and the Sweeney's guests Jim and Donna Purvis took the hour and a half walking tour.

*(continued on page 4)*



**THE CLASSIC YACHT  
ASSOCIATION IS  
DEDICATED TO THE  
PROMOTION,  
PRESERVATION,  
RESTORATION AND  
MAINTENANCE OF  
FINE OLD PLEASURE  
CRAFT**

September 2010

After leaving Shawn Ball's terrific Stephens Rendezvous we headed down the San Joaquin and back up to Oxbow Marina. It was a beautiful Sunday and a relaxing cruise home. My friend Bourke had come down from Seattle to hang around with us for the weekend. He keeps a Sea Ray on Puget Sound and a few jet skies at his family cabin at Lake Almanor here in California so I felt good that he was still interested in our antics.

Jim Sweeney got the CYA involved in a great car and boat show at the Marin Yacht Club in late June. There were scads of interesting vintage and antique automobiles as well as several yachts from the NC Fleet. The event was a charitable affair and judging by the hundreds of people attending it looked like it was a great success. Gig Owen found her original country crossing 1963 VW Bug that was on display. Mel and Gig had their 1956 Bentley at the event too. Our Vice Commodore Patrick Welch won first prize for yachts with his beautiful 1929 Blanchard *Colleen*.

On July 30, Jim and Bernadette had a barbecue at their summer home in the Tahoe Keys. About 20 members attended and enjoyed grilled sausages, and chicken with salads and many other delicacies. This was the weekend of the South Tahoe Wooden Boat Classic which we attended on Saturday July 31. After we left the Sweeney's on Friday evening we went up to the Nevada side of the border and saw another excellent car

show featuring mainly old style hot rods.

We went to the boat show on the 31<sup>st</sup> thanks to Jim acquiring tickets for us. The show was magnificent with about 70 classic wooden boats including Tahoe Port Captain Alex Kanwetz's beautiful Stephens *Huapala* and also the famous *Thunderbird*, which is now a CYA member, owned by Foundation 36. The show was amazing and a feast of teak, mahogany and exotic motors. We hung around most of the day admiring these craft and got to see and



Cynthia & Mont McMillen

hear one of the Allison aircraft engines powering *Thunderbird* run. Awesome!

On August 14 Jim Sweeney put together an event, this time at the Corinthian Yacht Club that featured several member boats. While we were there we saw Bill & Grace Bodel's schooner *Eros* making it's way out of Rac-

coon Straits against a flood tide. The weather had been pretty windy with high seas in the area so a few boats could not make the event, and Sue and I had to go to another event in the Delta so we could not stay for the dinner that evening. I am thinking we should call this the summer of the Sweeney's. Please buy Jim and Bernadette a cocktail next time you see them. They were executing all of these events at the same time completing repairs and conducting sea trials on *Bounty*. A busy summer indeed!

I was involved in sponsoring the annual Taste of the Delta event at Windmill Cove in Stockton on July 17th. We were troubled by the heavy presence of sheriff's patrol boats from several counties and a Coast Guard boat. The officer in charge of the Coast Guard Station in Rio Vista invited me over to discuss their activities and tour their facility. Senior Chief Boatswain's Mate Rob Goley explained that they have a coordinated operation with all local law enforcement agencies periodically and it was coincidental that it was on the day of our event. I learned a lot about their safety efforts. While the sheriff and police boats need probable cause to stop another boat, the Coast Guard can and will stop anyone for a safety inspection. If the Coast Guard stops you they have a checklist of items they go through and will cite you if you have a violation. If you appear to be intoxicated they will turn you over to local

law enforcement officials. One thing I have always been unclear on is how fast to go when you are in the vicinity of a law enforcement boat displaying a blue light or sounding a siren. In these cases you have to slow to a speed to maintain steerage only, not a no wake speed or 5 mph. If they display the light or siren and you are in visible proximity and exceeding what they consider steerage speed they can stop and cite you and or check your boat for violations.

The Senior Chief explained one of the common violations is not having enough life jackets. Realistically most accidents involve small runabouts and personal watercraft. Alcohol consumption is a factor in many accidents. I think the CYA has a great safety record but it never hurts to review federal and state boating laws to make sure you comply with them. Regarding equipment, my policy is to always exceed Coast Guard requirements not just meet them.

By the way on the day of the Taste of the Delta a Yolo County Sheriff deputy rammed another boat tied to a dock punching a good size hole in the side. The boat later sank! She was a wooden vessel reportedly once owned by Yul Brynner.

There is still plenty of good boating weather left I hope to see you out on the river. Don't forget our Change of Watch on November 21<sup>st</sup> at the Corinthian Yacht Club.

Bill Wells  
Commodore

Your Rovin' Reporter traveled to Stockton via asphalt cruiser to spend the week end aboard Eslo and enjoy the Stephens' Rendezvous. I was thrilled to see twenty-six participating boats at the dock and when I saw "Florenca" I started a trip down Memory Lane. The McDougals, were owners of "Florenca" during the 80's and 90's when we often had large groups of boats at CYA events. I believe she was among the 36 boats that participated in the Golden Gate Bridge Fiftieth Birth-

day celebration when Bob was commodore of our Northern CA Fleet. That event lasted four wonderful days even though the weather did not cooperate. Then the memories turned to the years with "Fantasea". We purchased her in July 1960 - fifty years ago!! She was accepted as a CYA member in 1980 - thirty years ago! The cruises, celebrations, changes of watch, lighted boat parades and friendships formed a beautiful collage in my mind. This led to my think-

ing of "Fantasea's" future and the realization that she probably should have a younger caretaker and once again be able to participate in these wonderful events.

But back to Stockton where Shawn coordinated a terrific event. The Friday night pot luck was as sumptuous as ever and desserts were not missing. Stuart's guest contributed a delicious peach cobbler and chocolate was also on hand. Shawn complained when her chair headed for Davey Jones

locker and Tom actually ate Mexican food without complaint. Unlike some Stephens' Rendezvous in the past when temperatures soared, the wind kept the weather very comfortable. However, it did not make for a very comfortable cruise up from the Bay and there were many interesting tales of this adventure. The other summer events were missed by your Reporter, but Fall is in the air and more events are on the calendar so watch this space when your Reporter starts rovin' again.

### Thank you to Stuart Kiehl and John DiLillo from Commodore Bill Wells

Our newly appointed "Creative Coordinator" and "Minister of Technology" (NC Fleet Webmaster) Stuart Kiehl, John Di Lillo, and I have been working on improving our Internet presence. If you go to the main Classic Yacht Association home page at <http://www.classicyacht.org/> you will notice that it no longer reads as a promotion of the PNC Fleet. Rather it reads as a generic welcome and it has a rotating picture gallery. We have changed the content on our NC Fleet page <http://www.classicyacht.org/nc>. Stuart's name has been added as "Creative Coordinator" and the following links are available so you can get information. The Facebook link is especially interesting. Over 100 people have already linked to this new CYA site. On the Facebook page we can have pictures, running commentaries, albums, etc. If you have some ideas on additional things to add to the Facebook page send your ideas to Stuart. View the Classic Yacht Association Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Classic-Yacht-Association/126059857432815>.

We have received our own passwords to make changes to our Fleet page which means that we can start creating albums to load pictures of our member's boats. We will start loading pictures we already have within the next few weeks. We have pictures on some member's boats but not all so expect a call from Stuart or John asking for pictures of your boat. We will be adding "Albums" that can hold at least 25 pictures for each of our boats. We may be able to add videos, we will let you know. Please give special thanks to John and Stuart for their creativity and hard work developing these ideas!

## CYA Clothing Report *by Les Cochren*



It is always fun to have CYA clothing to wear at the various events or just lounging on your boats. (Maybe not when varnishing). We have two embroidery companies that have our logos on file and so you can order any item from their catalog and get it customized. They will also add the name of your boat.

The Embroidery Factory, 6000A Egret Court, Benicia, CA 94510-1255, (707) 746-7625 (Shirley)  
[www.embroideryfactory.com](http://www.embroideryfactory.com)

American Logowear, 603-B East Bidwell Street, Folsom, CA 95630 (916) 983-8800  
This company will put the logo on your own clothing for about \$10.00

## Fun Weekend at Lake Tahoe



Thanks to the diligent work of preservationists the grounds and buildings of this astonishing residence have been substantially improved since our previous visit a few years ago. The tour has been expanded to include additional locations and artifacts and the staff of docents has an enhanced repertoire of historical anecdotes about the estate and its colorful master. The 600 foot tunnel, secret rooms, elevator, menagerie (highlighted by African lion "Bill" for 30 years), "money bin", list of famous guests, seven Duesenberg automobiles, parties, antics, eccentricities and last but not least 55 ft 1939 Hackercraft commuter yacht THUNDERBIRD and its enormous boathouse are truly the stuff of legends.

Friday evening the Sweeneys hosted a cocktail and barbecue supper party on the grounds of their South Lake Tahoe residence. The guest list included Commodore Bill and Sue Wells; Patrick Welch and his pal, Jim; Mel and Gig Owen; Wayne and Susan Mooers; Jim and Kathy Hackworth; Jim & Donna Purvis; and the Sweeney's sons, Jimmy and Tom. C.Y.A. dignitaries in attendance had their presence acknowledged by officers' flags flown from the yardarm of the house flagpole. Bill Wells fired salutes to C.Y.A. and other yachting organization officers present on Jim's pair of carbide cannons (a.k.a. "The Guns of Abalone").

The Hackworths and Purvises engaged in competitive bouts of badminton and table tennis. In a nutshell, libations and food were in abundance and a fine time was had by all.

Saturday morning's highlight was the ACBS "South Tahoe Wooden Boat Classic" show at the Tahoe Keys Marina, benefiting the South Lake Tahoe Boys and Girls Clubs, Kiwanis, and Thunderbird Lodge Preservation Society. A stunning array of over seventy antique, classic, and high performance boats participated in the show, including the N.C. Fleet Classics THUNDERBIRD and HUAPALA. Bill Watson, Managing Director of Foun-



ation 36, Inc. welcomed us aboard THUNDERBIRD and Alex Kanwetiz was the gracious host we all have come to know aboard HUAPALA. The ACBS did a great job managing this show for the second year. It is expected to become an



Huapala at Lake Tahoe

annual event.

Saturday afternoon a group which will remain nameless left the boat show for a meeting of the exclusive (men only) West Shore Club. Needless to say, the fun continued.

## Boating Tips

by John DiLillo, Yacht Broker

### Holding Tanks

One of the biggest improvements you can make to your classic vessel is the installation of a holding tank for the heads. You can use standard sizes and shapes or custom order one to fit any shape. A complete system with deck caps, hoses, clamps, and tank should cost between \$300-\$500. Many marinas and insurance companies are now requiring holding tanks and prospective buyers are reluctant to purchase boats without them.

### Surveys

Surveyors are now looking for the following items. These are small items but will be noted as "deficiencies" during a survey.

1. Oil Discharge Signs
2. Carbon monoxide detectors.
3. Up to date battery boxes.

USCG Document or Certificate of Number document on the boat.

### Bilge Cleaning

Over time all sorts of items end up in the bottom of a boat. They can hide things you should know about such as, lots of oil and water, broken bilge pumps, inoperable valves, wires under water, rusting pipes, and leaking hoses. It's worth the time to periodically clean and organize. No sense paying for fuel to carry an extra 100-200 pounds of items you will never use.



**News Items From RBOC** – Copper based anti fouling paint is in the process of “revaluation” by the California Dept of Pesticide Regulation (DPR). The American Coatings Association of Manufacturers hope to work with the DPR. The Delta 2 Gate Proposal is being studied by the US Dept of Interior. RBOC’s position is that boat locks should be constructed to preserve boater access to the waterways without boater expense. **Boating Photos** are requested by Linda Bendsen for use by RBOC. Go to [lbendsen@pacbell.com](mailto:lbendsen@pacbell.com) for more information.

**The Delta Is Still Threatened**

– An article in the September 8 San Jose Mercury News reports that a committee that has been meeting for three years to solve California’s water problems, now allows only key members to meet in closed talks. While this is said to be legal, critics are concerned that there is little or no representation of Delta interests. At stake is how much water will be taken from the Delta, how (“water conveyance”) will it be taken and who will pay the costs.

**The PICYA LOG** is published every two months, and is also available on line at [www.picya.org](http://www.picya.org). Articles or dates of club activities are requested – two month lead time is required – send to editor, Johnnie Owen [jowen@real.net](mailto:jowen@real.net). **Johnnie wants articles!**



*Beverly Partridge with her grandson, Ethan Jones, 2010 PICYA Scholarship winner*

**PICYA Scholarships.** The winners of four \$2,500 for 2010 will be announced at the Nov 1st delegates meeting at the Encinal YC. Our unnamed informants tell us that the winners are associated with the Presidio, Tahoe, Delta Marina, Ballena Bay &

**Classic Yacht Assoc !!**

**The 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Wheel Chair Regatta** was held on Saturday Sept 25 at the Encinal YC.

**The PICYA Website**

[www.picya.org](http://www.picya.org). Most signups for events can be done online! Member club events are listed as well as links to information about other boating groups.

**The Fall Management Conference** was held on Saturday Oct 16th at the

Sportsmen Yacht Club in Antioch. Topics included insurance, membership, reciprocity, regattas, USCG, ABC. This annual event provides much useful information for managing the affairs of a yacht club.

**Opening Day SF Bay 2011** is scheduled for Sunday, May 1<sup>st</sup>. Rear Commodore Mia Bernt I

is the event chairperson. Go to [picyamia@yahoo.com](mailto:picyamia@yahoo.com) for more information.

**America’s Cup** could be a reality in San Francisco Bay. Believe it! Whenever the opportunity presents itself, please SUPPORT the effort to bring the 34<sup>th</sup> America’s Cup to ‘our’ bay. [www.americascup.org](http://www.americascup.org).

**The 2011 PICYA Board** – Nominees for the Board are Linda Breninger, Commodore; Mia Bernt, Vice Commodore; Lou Long, Rear Commodore; Reggie Smith, Jr, Staff Commodore. Nominees for the Board of Directors are Liz Allison, Lenora Clark, Deanna Desin, Lee Halstead, Fred Rutledge, Eric Schoenwisner, and George McElvain.

**Questions** –If you can not find answers to your questions on the PICYA website, please contact Dick Engfer and he will try to find the person with answer. [hiltotij@sbcglobal.net](mailto:hiltotij@sbcglobal.net).



**Come Winter at Ox Bow Marina!**  
Secure off-river harbor in 25 foot deep lagoon  
Access on Georgina Slough near The Delta Loop - Isleton  
***Winter Price Special:*** 1<sup>st</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> months are FREE!  
Available ~ 18, 24, 28, 32, 36, 40, 44, & 50 ft. Covered Berths  
Includes: Weekend Brunch, Clubhouse Friday Socials, Free Private Launching Ramp & Swimming Pool. Gas & Diesel. On-site Nordic Marine & General Store, Large Guest Dockage. WiFi. • [oxbowmarina.com](http://oxbowmarina.com) • Email: [oxbow@citlink.net](mailto:oxbow@citlink.net) • 800/848-1578 100 Oxbow Marina Dr., Isleton, CA 95641

.Fall was marshaled in for the CYA on September 25<sup>th</sup> with the first of this season's Bridge Meeting held on the deck outside the club house at Willow Berm Marina in the Delta. (A big thank you to Kip Korth for allowing us to use the facility)The Bridge meeting was scheduled so that members attending could drive up the levee to "Perry's" where Tony Gieldt had organized the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual wooden boat event at his refurbished harbor. *Eslo* and *Hiltot II* made the trip up from the Bay to attend this event. The Bridge meeting was called to order by Commodore Bill Wells, and the business at hand was conducted. The Bridge agreed to allow paid advertisements to be printed in forthcoming issues of Classic Currents to help offset the costs of the newsletter. Ads will be accepted on a first come, first served basis.

Plans for the 2010 Change of Watch at the Corinthian Yacht Club on Sunday November 21<sup>st</sup> is coming along nicely and you all should have received the invitation in the mail from Rear Commodore Les Cochren.

The Nominating Committee consisting of Past Commodores, Alan Almquist, George Homenko, and Steve Kadzielawa offered a slate of Bridge Officers for 2011 consisting of Patrick Welch, Commodore; Les Cochren, Vice Commodore, John Di Lillo, Rear Commodore, Shawn Ball, Recording Secretary, Nancy Clothier, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, Tom Clothier, and Staff Commodore, Bill Wells. This slate was ac-

cepted and approved by the Bridge.

As the boating season for 2010 winds down, last but not least of this year's events (and certainly a fun one in the past) is the Lighted Boat Parade on the San Rafael canal calendared for Saturday December 11<sup>th</sup> and should not be missed. If you are planning to bring your decorated boat to this event please contact Alan Almquist as soon as you can. Dockage for the CYA participants will once again be at the Marin Yacht Club. More details on this later. Classic yachts have also been invited to attend the Lighted Boat Parade on Saturday, December 4<sup>th</sup> at the Encinal Yacht Club in Alameda. Contact Commodore-Elect Patrick Welch for more information on this parade.

Jim Sweeney informs me that he and Bernadette have joined the Marin Yacht Club as social members and has jumped into the fray in developing plans for the 2011 Car and Boat Show now on the books for July 9<sup>th</sup>. He also informs me that the Corinthian Yacht Club will invite the CYA back for another weekend next year but no date has been set for that cruise-in as of yet. According to Jim, *Bounty's* engines are running smooth now after the latest series of problems have been corrected with the installation of a new (and smaller) pair of jacket water coolers. However one last glitch remains to be solved after the starboard sea water circulating pump inexplicably failed on a recent trial. Hope-

fully, Jim tells me the FINAL! sea-trial is awaiting the replacement pump that is on the way out from Florida. My bet is



Alan Almquist with *North Star II*

that we will see *Bounty* at the Lighted Boat Parade in December.

And this report in from Tony Gliedt:

"This second annual Delta Wooden Boat Festival event, had another great turn out from the public, CYA members and folks that just wanted to enjoy one more great weekend on the Delta before the seasons change. My friends at Perry's Marina, where we are located, have worked hard to renovate the island over the last year, and provide me with a great location for the event. We had a small marine swap meet, some beautiful boats and some bone yard boats for sale, as well as participants that just wanted to show off their pride and joy. There were also a few vendors that are related to the marine industry who will be invited back to give monthly seminars and

workshops this year as we work hard to expand our education program at the shop. We are already planning next year's event which will also be the last Saturday in September 2011, the weather in the Delta is fantastic this time of year. We expect to expand the same format, so if you have parts, or a woody in any condition that you would like to show or sell, the criteria to participate is simple, just give me a call. I would personally like thank all of the CYA members that I have met so far, you have all been a great help to me in developing this event and in my new venture in the marine business with the Boat yard. Your support is appreciated and is one of the reasons I have found myself with these opportunities."

Finally, one of the founding fathers of the CYA (Charter Member #10) and avid boater, Thol Ogden Simonson passed away on October 10<sup>th</sup> at the age of 98. Before he retired in 1976 Thol was head of the special effects department at United Artists and Goldwyn Studios. Besides his long standing interest in the CYA Thol was a 29-year member of the ACBS and a 49-year member of the Long Beach Yacht Club among numerous other boating activities and meritorious awards. He will be missed.

## 2010 Change of Watch—November 21, 2010



"All is Wells that ends Wells" —*author unknown*

The sounds of the waves we together shared  
gave us fun in the Yachts for which we all cared  
The shadows of Stephens regally stands  
Strolling like camels in Stockton on liquid sands

But now as the tides of change come in  
and we see the fall colors blend again  
We will adjust our pants a notch at this year's  
**"Change of Watch" on November 21, 2010**

### **THE CORINTHIAN YACHT CLUB**

**Cocktails at 1700 and dinner at 1800—\$75.00 per person  
children under ten for \$15.00 per person**

Make checks payable to: CYA

Contact or mail to Les Cochren. Rear Commodore  
915 "L" Street PMB 361 Sacramento, California 95814 (916) 932-052  
rivercatws@msn.com



**Perry's Harbor**



**September 2010**

## Coming Events

**Northern California Fleet—Change of Watch,  
November 21, 2010—Corinthian Yacht Club,  
Outgoing Commodore, *Bill Wells*  
Incoming Commodore, *Patrick Welch*  
Chairman, *Les Cochren***

**Lighted Boat Parade—December 11, 2020,  
San Rafael Canal, *Chairman, Alan Almquist***

**International Change of Watch-Victoria, B.C.,  
January 14-16, 2011**

### **CLASSIC CURRENTS**

*Bill Wells, COMMODORE*

**PLEASE SEND ARTICLES,  
PHOTOS OR "For Sale" to:**

**Alan Almquist  
ajalmquis@yahoo.com**

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