

**CYA
2005**

**Spring
ISSUE No. 47**

Classic Currents



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

Many Left Their Hearts in San Francisco

by Nancy Clothier

"Have you been to the Argonaut Hotel?" That was the question asked at the Northern California Fleet's first Bridge Meeting of 2004. Cynthia McMillen made a presentation on the Argonaut as a venue for the 2005 National Change of

Watch. The photographs, showing the nautical theme of the hotel, its history, along with the nautical museum next door sold our membership. Location was ideal in the center of San Francisco's Fisherman's Wharf, Hyde Street Pier, and Aquatic Park. And the planning began...

As a member of the Golden Gate Yacht Club, Cynthia booked the Friday night cocktail party at that location. The club's remarkable views of the Bay and Golden Gate Bridge were a great attraction for the out-of-towners. Lucy Alderman volunteered to prepare the food and it was spectacular. Our commodore, Jim Sweeney, welcomed the 80



National Commodore, George Homenko

plus guests, and Tom Clothier introduced the many National and Fleet Commodores in attendance. Cynthia thanked her committee for their participation in the preparations.

The Saturday and Sunday meetings were lively and interesting as usual. A major

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Visit our web site at
www.classicyacht.org

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

National Change of Watch 2005

(continued from page 1)

decision was made to move the date requirement for regular members to 1959. The original 1942 date has made it difficult to

attract members, as many of those boats are gone. There will be two classifications – classic and vintage, with each class having a different color burgee. The positive vote on this proposal was met with applause

and champagne, as this discussion has been ongoing for many years. We welcome the expanded membership.

Saturday's Banquet and Change of Watch began with a cocktail party in the Nautical Museum. It was a perfect venue for the "old boaters." Displays in the museum featured "Recreational Boats of California's Past." Original plans for the banquet were to have dinner in the museum, but with the size of the boat display, there was not enough room. The dinner was moved to one of the hotel's Banquet Rooms. Outgoing Commodore, Peter Riess, spoke about his year as National Commodore and thanked his bridge and committee personnel. Peter's remarks described the

CYA membership as "old goats with old boats," and judging by the laughter, many attendees identified with that comment.



Incoming Commodore, George Homenko, was introduced and presented his bridge for 2005, Vice Commodore, Andy Blair and Rear Commodore, David Gillespie. George presented Peter

with a custom plate etched with a picture of his boat, "Riptide." George spoke on his plans for the upcoming year.

Our plans for a Sunday afternoon "boat ride on the Bay" had a "weather permitting" clause, as we had experienced rain, wind, fog and cold in the past days. Sunday morning dawned as beautiful sunny and brisk weather. Tom Clothier had secured the location of the Hyde Street docks for staging the boat ride. Linmar (Dave and Lynn Olson), Marguerita (Sidney and Lucy Alderman and Eslo (Tom and Nancy Clothier) picked up passengers at the docks and proceeded for a 2 hour tour of the bay, including SBC Park and the Golden Gate Bridge. Approximately 75 people participated in these boat rides, which capped a spectacular weekend.

Special thanks to Cynthia McMillen for her work and perseverance in making this event such a success.

Cynthia wants to thank her committee: Tom and Nancy Clothier, Beverly Partridge, Sidney and Lucy Alderman, Dave and Lynn Olson, Doug and Shawn Ball, Gene Moore, Steven Rogers and Argonaut Hotel and Fri Night shuttle drivers (David Brown, Charlie Rickard, Jim Sweeney, Tom and Nancy Clothier) and many others. A special note of thanks to the Argonaut Hotel for their cooperation and support of this event.



Committee setting up for Friday night party - Cynthia, Beverly and Nancy



om the Engine Room of DUNTY

ings I Like About Classic Yachting

With each passing year the differences between our classic yachts and current production watercraft become more pronounced. This probably leads many to consider classic yachts mere floating chronisms. We know there is much more to the story than that. Membership in the Classic Yacht Association establishes that a person has a distinct set of interests including not only a love of the sea, water sports, and yachting activities in general, but also a deep appreciation of superb designs, performance, and craftsmanship of a bygone era. It is this latter aspect that sets our members apart from the vast multitude of pleasure boaters. It confers upon our vessels the respect and honors they garner at public events. Consider the following:

Preservation and Restoration

There are many maritime museums in the

world. Some of their artifacts are contemporary with or even younger than vessels in the Classic Yacht Association. Museum pieces tend to be static specimens and are frequently displayed with the patina of antiquity, exactly as they looked when discovered or donated. By contrast, Classic Yacht Association members diligently strive to restore and maintain their prized vessels in the best possible condition. An abiding appreciation, if not outright affection, is clearly at play overriding the dismal science of practical economics. The end results benefit all. Owners enjoy their yachts, living history is displayed to the public, and enduring beauty is preserved for posterity.

Competition versus Operations

There are clubs and associations dedicated to all kinds of classic and antique objects, from architecture to automobiles, sports memorabilia, and even toys. Some organizations foster competition for prizes awarded to the car, boat, or whatever that meets judging rules and standards. This can result in bizarre situations. I once saw a "Best in Class" 1931 Stutz roadster pushed onto the winners circle at Pebble Beach because its engine would not start. Toy train collectors assign premium value to a mass-produced object if it is in its original "never opened" box. Over-restoration is another variation. Classic cars and boats can completely lose functionality and become the "trailer queen" possessions of owners to whom merit is measured by coveted trophies. Perhaps worst of all, judged competitions have been known to deteriorate into accusations of cronyism and ill will.

The Classic Yacht Association is different. We have standards too, but thankfully no judged competition. We like our yachts to operate and be enjoyed. That places seaworthiness ahead of any arbitrary

(man-made) set of competitive judging rules. Our restoration and maintenance efforts therefore, "answer to a higher authority".

Aesthetics

The word "classic" means "possessing elements of enduring value", a basic prerequisite for yacht acceptance into the Association. Safety and reliability are paramount considerations in naval architecture. Personal comfort and beauty are highly valued in yachts. We consequently accept the benefits of modern silicon-bronze fasteners, engines, adhesives, paints, varnishes, GPS navigation, radar, and microwave ovens as useful enhancements to the seaworthiness and functional enjoyment of our yachts. Vessel safety, durability, and operations are upgraded without compromising the aesthetics of the original exterior design. An outsider (such as an antique toy or classic car owner) might find this contradictory and ask, "Isn't preservation of originality the whole point?" In my mind the apparent paradox is in fact a defining element of genius in the broad wording of the Classic Yacht Association's by-laws and membership eligibility criteria.

Our organization exists to promote and encourage the preservation, restoration, and maintenance of fine old power driven pleasure craft. Modern materials and equipment simply represent the best and most durable means to those ends. Their employment is consistent with standard marine industry practice and clearly supports our purpose of preserving the original good designs of our classic yachts for future generations.

Best wishes for smooth sailing in 2005,

by Jim Sweeney



"THE FLEET WANTS YOU!"...
and anyone you know who has a
CYA type boat for enlistment.

Northern California CYA is now
accepting membership.

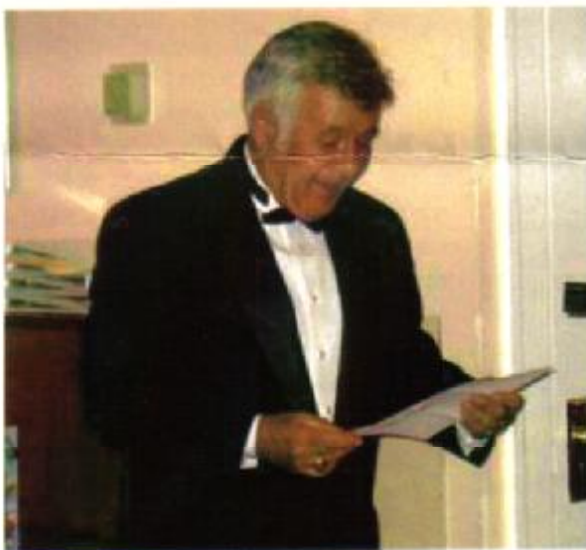
- * See the world
- * Learn a trade
- * Make new friends
- * Have great outings
- * Have great comradeship

Contact your local recruiter...

Vice Commodore, Alex Kanwetz
(530) 583-2403,
cell (775) 846-0560
email alexeyk@aol.com

Northern California Change of Watch 2005

*Commodore Jim Sweeney accepting
his orders and then showing his
dancing skills with wife Bernadette*

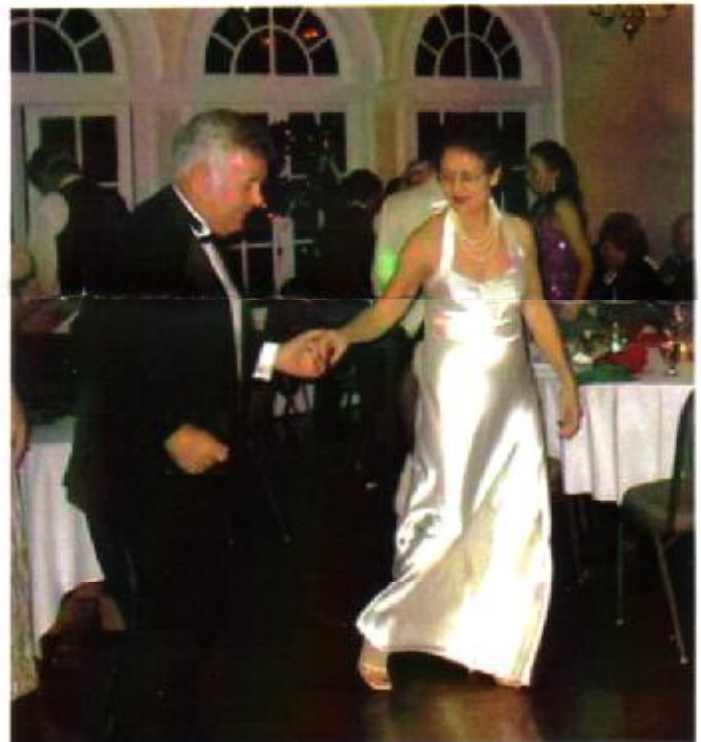


Northern California Fleet - 2005 Officers

Commodore, Jim Sweeney
Vice Commodore, Alex Kanwetz
Rear Commodore, Greg Sabourin
Treasurer, Martin McNair
Secretary, Bernadette Sweeney



*Anna brought Mom and Dad to the
party*



Rovin Reporter...

December and January were busy times for Your Roving Reporter. Our December Change of Watch in the Cove House at San Francisco Yacht Club was a swinging affair this year. Tom, as MC, gave the evening a light touch, but after the serious business of installing our new Bridge, Jim's daughter provided music for dancing!

Your reporter missed the Lighted Yacht Parade, but the lucky ones in attendance gave it rave reviews. Your reporter wouldn't think of missing the long awaited National Change of watch in January and it proved to be a great success. Cynthia McMillen's hotel room was the place to be on Friday as helping hands gathered to fill the Welcome Bags for our visitors. Nancy and Beverly were surprised to find Ruth and David Gillespie on hand to help - after all, they were visitors! It was quite the social scene as others dropped in to help. George and Candice, Mont and even the hotel manager arrived to celebrate the finished job with a champagne toast.

Then it was on to Golden Gate Yacht Club to decorate for the cocktail party. Cynthia had a treasure trove of available nautical goodies so the room and tables were transformed in short order. The party was a huge success. Lucy Alderman and her volunteers provided a beautiful array of hors d'oeuvres and Lucy's clam chowder was the piece d' resistance. Your reporter heard that Bill Wells arrived in town too late to attend the party so visited a number of local watering holes in search of partying CYAers. Also heard from David and Leslie

that they will be welcoming a family addition in June - move over Anna Schreier.

On Saturday afternoon, after ordering food for the Sunday boat rides, Cynthia, Nancy and Beverly walked across the street from the hotel for lunch at Fisherman's Wharf only to discover that we had chosen Nancy's favorite high school hang out. Over the lobster bisque in sour dough bowls she shared some reminiscences of those days.

The business meetings will be discussed elsewhere, but I have to say that these were the shortest and smoothest running meetings that I have ever attended - and there have been many in the last twenty-five years. I'm sure Bob is smiling at the astonishing result.

The cocktail party in the Maritime Museum set the tone for the Saturday night banquet. Everyone looked elegant in party clothes - quite a change from boating attire. It was indeed a grand week end and now we can look forward to Mystic CT for 2006.

Our own Bridge Meeting on February 12th was conducted by Commodore Jim in an orderly manner with a long agenda smartly completed in time for lunch in the Corinthian YC dining room. The weather was glorious so we could enjoy the spectacular view of the Bay and San Francisco. The cruising calendar for 2005 sounds great so get out the paint and varnish to be ready for April Opening Day.

by Clara Yeats Aseltine



SALE! Watch for great new CYA clothing and other items. In the meantime, here are some half off items for sale:
Women's sun visors - \$5.50
Men's classic polo shirt, white w/red logo, size large - \$16.00
Men's white sweatshirt w/ red logo, size medium - \$15.00
Men's navy fleece vest w/ red logo, size large - \$25.50

Contact Beverly at
bevpart@alamedanet.net to
purchase

Embroidery Factory

6008 Egret Court
Benicia, CA 94510
707 746-7625

www.embroideryfactory.com
Shirley and Les Housley

Order shirts and sweatshirts with the PICYA Special Logo for the 2005 Opening Day on the Bay Theme is "Movies by the Bay"
Polo's - \$30.00
Sweatshirts - \$45.00
Call 707 746-7625 to order

PICYA Stuff....

November 1st delegates meeting traditionally is to present awards for 2004 activities. Ebony Boat Club received the Bay & Delta Yachtsman Public Service Award for their work with inner city youth. Richmond YC received the Club of the Year trophy for most points earned by supporting PICYA activities. Other awards will be listed in the 2005 version of the Yachting Yearbook of Northern California. Speaking of which, please do yourself a favor and be sure to get a copy of this wonderful source of information (available April/May?) with its many new features (resulting from reader suggestions).

2005 Commodore Michael Billington and other new officers were installed during the January 29 Dinner Dance held at Emeryville Holiday Inn.

March 7 is delegates meeting at Aeolian YC, any subjects to be presented, please so inform Mavis or Dick Engfer.

Leadership Conference to be March 5 at Pittsburg YC - \$25 gets you instruction on how to run a yacht club with presentations by Coast Guard, RBOC, PICYA Regional Affairs, Calif Dept Boating & Waterways, BCDC, ABC, etc and lunch. 8am registration 9am start.

Opening Day on SF Bay to be April 24 with the theme for decorated boats of "Movies By The Bay". A days outing aboard the Official Committee boat can

be had for \$50 which includes breakfast & lunch – boarding at 9am at Encinal YC, return about 3pm. Reservations- Lizette Collins 124 Bahama Reef Novato 94949 deadline April 11.

Tall Ships are to return to SF Bay this year, expected to be mid summer. Too



Coast Guard Tallship from event in 1999

early for exact info – watch for news releases as this will be an event worth your time. July 1999 was the previous Tall Ship visit.

Wheelchair Regatta to be Sept 24 again hosted by Encinal YC (Margot Brown).

Boats, money, volunteers are all welcome to help with this outing for our military veterans day of boating.

Recreational Boaters of California (RBOC) take positions on all legislative that impact recreational boating to protect boaters rights, while promoting

responsible use of waterways. Some 1000 director volunteers are drawn from PICYA and SCYA with BoatUS also represented. Two

professional advocates assist where needed. 2004 was considered to be a successful year in that some 231 bills were worked up with success. These efforts are entirely supported by donation such as done by our CYA. Individual donations are welcomed mail direct to RBOC c/o Doug Hipsley 26 Paradise Park Santa Cruz CA 95060. Doug is 2004 president and is a member of Santa Cruz and Meek Bay YC's – also to his credit enjoys pizza at world famous Engfer Pizzeria Works. If you are aware of matters detrimental to boating, please so inform Hipsley

pacificol@juno.com is the most effective way to

support RBOC is to respond to their "Call to Arms" when posted upon website www.rbo.org. These letters of support have proven to be very effective.

by Dick and Mavis Engfer

Big Change in the Classic Yacht Association!



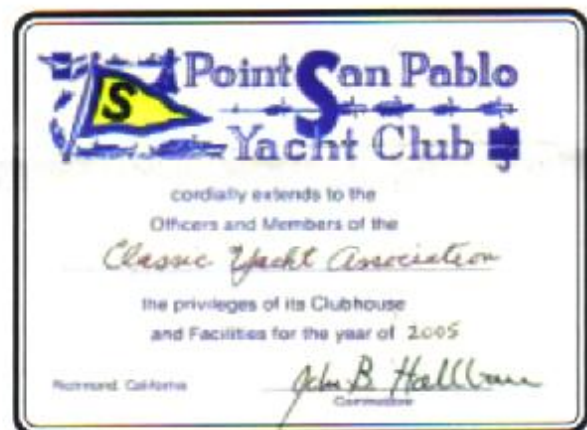
The Classic Yacht Association has made a significant change in membership eligibility. When the club was formed over 30 years ago, regular member boats were built before December 31, 1942. That date was significant because of major change in design on pleasure boats built before World War II and those designed and built after. Many of these "old" boats are gone because they are now over 60 years old. At the recent National Change of Watch, the eligible date for regular member boats was changed to 1959. Those boats built between December 31, 1942 and December 31, 1959 will be "vintage boats" and fly the blue burgee.

This will enable expansion of our fleet - look for those boats in your marina and encourage them to join. Our Membership Chairperson is Alex Kanwetz, 530 583-2403, cell 775 846-0560 or email alexeyk@aol.com

Where are They Now?

Name	Year	Length	Manufacturer	CYA Years
Adventure	1940	55'	Stephens	1974-1976
Lice	1936	41'	Swanson	1984
Illegro	1928	50'	Stephens	1975-2002
Cally	1940	46'	Matthews	1977-2000
My K-IV	1940	34'	Kneass	1981-1994
Ann Tiki	1916	46'	Madden/Lewis	1974-1976
Quila	1925	35'	Stone	1977-1980
El Canto	1937	43'	Grandy	1985-1986
Betty M	1921	43'	Schertzer	1977-1981
Big Toot	1934	38'	Matthews	1985-1992

The above "most wanted" old Classics were members in the past. Some of these vessels may be destroyed, name changed or have new owners. If you have any knowledge of any of these vessels and/or location/owner, please contact your Fleet Membership Chairman, Alex Kanwetz, 530 583-2403, cell 775 846-0560 or email alexeyk@aol.com



Invitation from the Pt. Richmond
Yacht Club

Coming Events

February 12, 2005 - 10 a.m.
Bridge Meeting
 Corinthian YC, Tiburon

Tahoe Event
August 2005

Alex Kanwetz, Chairperson

Opening Day on the Delta
April 9, 2005
Bethel Island
Tom Clothier, Chairperson

Champagne Classic Boat Show
October 1 & 2, 2005
Bill Wells, Chairperson

Opening Day on the Bay
April 24, 2005
Martin McNair, Chairperson

Wine Country Tour
September/October
Greg Sabourin, Chairperson

Stephens' Rendezvous
July 2005
Shawn Ball, George Homenko,
Chairpersons

Lighting Yacht Parade
December 2005
Loch Lomond
Tom Clothier, Chairperson

After Stephens' Event
July 2005
Alan Almquist, Chairperson

Change of Watch
December 2005
Greg Sabourin, Chairperson

Events may be subject to change. Please contact coordinators and/or see further information coming in the mail or in future newsletters. If you are interested in participating in the planning of any of these events, please contact Jim Sweeney, Commodore.



2005 Opening Day
on the Bay
"Movies by the Bay"
Sunday, April 24, 2005

Martin McNair is putting together this year's Opening Day on the Bay. With the help of Mel Owen and Jim Sweeney, our Saturday night/Sunday morning events are taking shape. Dock space will be available for a limited number of boats at the San Francisco Yacht Club. Dinner and breakfast will be at the Corinthian Yacht Club, also for a limited number of guests. Look for a flyer with more information.



Opening Day on the Delta

Save the date! April 8, 9, 10
Rusty Porthole Docks, Bethel Island



We're going back! - After a few years of missing Opening Day on the Delta at Bethel Island, Tom Clothier has put together a great weekend for the CYA. Starfjord (owner Miles Davis) is docked near the Rusty Porthole and has invited us to visit his classic yacht.

Friday night - potluck dinner
Saturday noon - parade
Saturday evening - dinner at the Rusty Porthole

Dock space will be available for our boats. Look for flyer in the mail with more details

CLASSIC CURRENTS

Jim Sweeney COMMODORE

**PLEASE SEND ARTICLES,
 PHOTOS OR "For Sale" to:**
 Nancy Clothier,
 2380 Bay St.,
 San Francisco, CA 94123,
 namcmc@pacbell.net

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