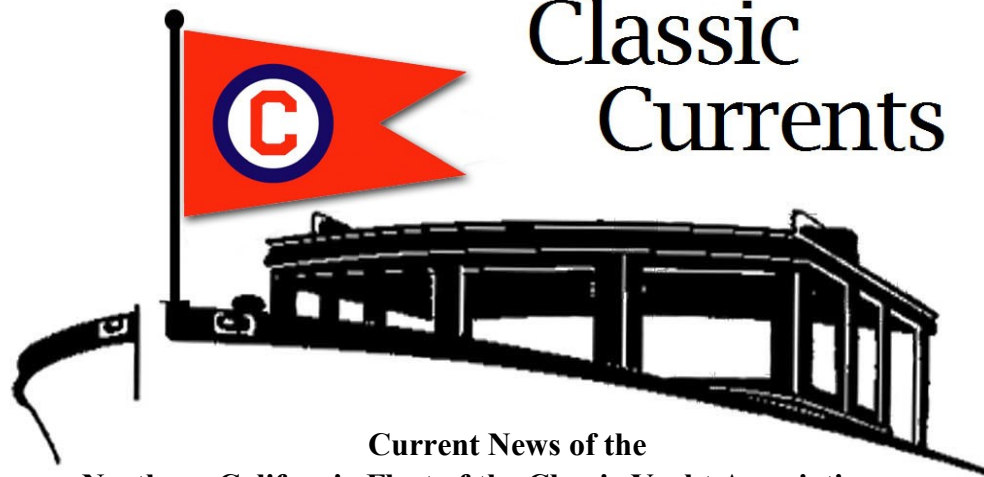


Classic Currents



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



ISSUE 2017

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Commodore's Report -by Alan Almquist

The Fall newsletter always winds up to be the swan song of the current Commodore. We look back over our year of boating activities and hopefully report on all of the great cruises that we had and the fun times that everyone enjoyed. Well, to be honest 2017 didn't play out

that way for the most part. The weather was the biggest problem, that was for sure. Opening Day on the Bay usually sees a large turnout of yachts, but the weather is always problematic with high winds and rough water. We got those, but thanks to Steve Kadzielawa we braved the conditions

and held our annual pot-luck on the docks of South Beach Harbor, wing gusts and all. Opening Day in the Delta was a bust, however, with rain that caused us to abandon our hopes of a cruise around Bethel Island as we have done in the past. George Homenko worked hard to make the arrangements for the event but at the last minute had to cancel. George was stymied again in May, not so much by the weather this time but from the shallow water and mud that made a cruise up the Petaluma River to be part of the annual "American Graffiti Days" difficult for all but one of our boats. Many of us drove up to Petaluma and enjoyed a great dinner in the town, but as a CYA event we were most disappointed by the shallow-water conditions of the downtown docks in the turning basin.



Sweeney's cruising Lake Tahoe

Our unofficial trip to the canals in France went off pretty well, but the weather followed us there, and it rained off and on throughout the week even though the sights, food and wines of France were much enjoyed by all who made the journey. After we returned from France Tom Clothier

put together a great week long trip up to Delta haunts culminating in the "Taste of the Delta" event at the Stockton Yacht Club co-sponsored by the Delta Chamber, Bill Wells' organization. This was a good time thanks to Tom and Bill and it was good to get back up to the Delta. The trip home across the Bay, however, is always problematical and

Tom and Nancy Clothier on *Eslo* and I on *North Star2* were hit with strong winds and rough seas once we departed our overnight in Benicia.

Jim Sweeney introduced this year an idea to get-together every month for an

Continued on page 2



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informal lunch where we could just enjoy each other's company and talk about what ever came up in conversation. While we didn't manage to put together a lunch every month, these gathering were fun and I hope will continue on in 2018. Certainly, our trip to Tahoe and boat ride on the lake with Steve and Cheryl and Jim and Bernadette was a great way to spend a beautiful August day.

Another real disappointment for us, as participants in the annual "Kruisn 4 Kids" event, is reported in the Around The Bay column. It wasn't rain this time that caused the postponement but the smoke in the air from the fires that raged through the North Bay for weeks in October. Sadly, now the event is canceled for this year.

At our final Bridge meeting of the year on October 21st we looked ahead at the last two events of 2017. The upcoming "Change of Watch" booked once again at the famous Trader Vic's restaurant in Emeryville looks like another great success thanks to the tireless efforts of our Vice Commodore, Gerry Kamilos and Rear Commodore Scott Andrews. However, the annual "Lighted Boat Parade" in the San Rafael Canal tentatively set for December 9th may not fare as well as reported by Steve Kadzielawa, again due to mud and shallow water of this waterway.

So I guess you can't win them all, as they say. But always the optimist, under the command of up-coming Commodore for 2018, Gerry Kamilos, things look bright for the future. Gerry has already roughed out a schedule of Bridge meetings and tentative events for the year that, with a little luck, look very promising. We certainly want to encourage



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more of our regular members to sign up for Club events as well as encourage our members who do not have boats to let us know their interest in participating too. We can always find space aboard our yachts for anyone who would like to come along.

Finally, 2018 will be a year of a lot of planning and preparation for the International Change of Watch Event that the Northern California Fleet will host on January 18-20, 2019. We have already started to think about a venue for this major event and we will need many volunteers to help make this one a great success. A call to Gerry Kamilos to offer your help will be most welcomed.

Signing off, I look forward to seeing you all at Trader Vics on the 18th. Alan

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Hans List - President

In Memoriam—Donna Hamilton

We recently had to say good bye to long time CYA member, Donna Hamilton. If you were around the Delta in the 1970's or 80's you probably knew Bob and Donna Hamilton. They purchased Skol in 1971 and then their beautiful Marcy in 1975. They were two of the first people we met when we started boating. Bob was always ready for a practical joke and Donna was a lady with style and grace. We have wonderful memories of events with Bob and Donna.

After Labor Day things wind down in the Delta, schools are back in session and the vacation season is over. There is still plenty of great boating weather left however and there are fewer crowds to deal with. Most of the resorts and restaurants are still open for at least another several weeks.

B & W resort at the confluence of the Mokelumne River and Georgiana Slough has been the center of some interesting vintage boat activity over the last several weeks. In late September the Northwest Steam Society cruised in for a weekend rendezvous. They are a pleasure to watch in action, being much simpler with fewer moving parts than our type of boats. Jim and Bernadette Sweeney owned a steamer *Leviathan* before they upgraded to their current Stephens Brothers, *Elizabeth*. Jim has regaled me with many stories of cruising from the Bay to the Delta aboard her and forcing his children into the engine room to stoke the boiler.

I guess the main thing I like about the steamboats is that they are slower than my boat.

I have engaged in races with steamboats a couple of times on Georgiana Slough and am proud to report I have won each time. They spent the weekend cruising around the area and a bunch of them traveled over to Tower Park on Saturday for lunch. When I was checking out the boats I met Joel and Rosie Erickson who had recently joined the group. Joel is related to Mel and Gig Owen.

The following weekend the Antique and Classic Boat Society came into B & W for their annual Delta meet. These boats are always a delight too. They cruised around the area providing many photo ops for local residents. They all headed over to Grindstone Joe's for a Saturday luncheon.

After our successful Taste of the Delta event I was scheduled to take *Ranger* back to the Stockton Yacht Club on Labor Day weekend to be part of their boat and car show. Just as I was pulling out of my slip I noticed a gasoline smell so pulled back in to check it out. A fitting was leaking on the fuel line between the fuel pump and the carburetor on my starboard motor. At first I thought I could fix it that day and still make it to the event but as I started to work on it the +100 degree heat got to me so I aborted the trip. I did have my Mustang entered in the show also, so it

was still a good day and we joined the folks at the club for a great time.

By the time you read this I should have my boat going again. Replacing the fuel line has been a saga. I felt since one was leaking I should replace the lines on both motors but at first I could find only enough line for one motor which I replaced. I had trouble finding more of the correct USCG approved line and in the process lost a couple of the fittings on my other motor. Anyway, now it looks like I have the right

parts and just need to go install them.

I had lunch recently at Moore's River Boat in Isleton and The Point in Rio Vista, a couple of our favorite CYA hangouts in the past. They both are under new management and serving great food at reasonable prices.

Be sure to check out the Delta Chambers website to keep up on local events: <http://californiadelta.org/>



The gang at Taste of the Delta—Kim, Arnold, George, Candace, Tom, Nancy, Patrick, Sue, Bill, Alan and Michael



This report covers the activities of the Delegates meetings for August, September and October.

The monthly PICYA Delegates meeting for August was held at the Sacramento Yacht Club on the 7th. The primary business of the evening was the award of PICYA college scholarships to five richly deserving high school graduates from a field

of eleven applicants.

A report from the RBOC included positions on two current issues:

1. RBOC delegates from both the Northern and Southern California regions have joined in unanimous opposition to the Delta tunnels.
2. Assembly Bill 71, which has moved from committee to the floor, would eliminate the mortgage interest deduction now allowed on second homes and recreational vessels. RBOC and Realtors are united in opposing passage of this bill.

The PICYA Delegates meeting for September was held at the Berkeley Yacht Club on the 11th.

The primary business of the evening was the presentation of ten trophies for youth and adult regatta winners.

Jim Sweeney delivered a CYA NC Fleet donation of \$100 in support of RBOC activities.

The following are the PICYA Events that were scheduled during the month of September: Coastal Cleanup Day, September 16th; Wheelchair Regatta at Encinal Y.C. on September 23rd. It was announced that on November 18th the Management Conference will be held at Loch Lomond Y.C.

The monthly delegates meeting for October was held at the Tahoe Y.C. on the 14th. At this meeting the following items of business were covered.

A budget for 2018 has been prepared and the

budget committee anticipates it will be another "break even" year.

A donation check in the amount of \$5,000 has been received from BoatUS.

The fall management conference has been rescheduled to Saturday, November 18th, at the Loch Lomond Yacht Club.

The nominating committee is preparing a slate of candidates for 2018. Nominees will be announced at the next Delegates meeting to be held at the Encinal Yacht Club. The meeting at Encinal will be held on November 6th and will include the presentation of the annual PICYA awards.

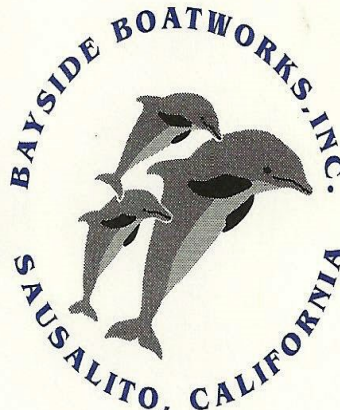
Last month's Wheelchair Regatta was sadly diminished by the breakdown of a bus carrying seventy-five veterans who were consequently unable to participate.

The updated PICYA web site is now operational and ready to publicize club events. Send the information to Vice Commodore Winston Bumpus.

The PICYA Change of Watch and Commodore's Ball will be held January 27th at the Sequoia Yacht Club. PICYA is seeking sponsors for this event.

The Bridge Marina Yacht Club is temporarily closed following a barge collision and fire. Repairs may take six months to complete. As a result the February Delegates meeting, scheduled to be held at Bridge Marina, will be changed to a different location to be announced.

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International Change of Watch

January 11, 12, 13, 14, 2018

The Southern California Fleet is looking forward to hosting the International Change of Watch in January of 2018.

The weekend will be held at the Jamaica Bay Hotel in Marina del Rey which is approximately five miles north of the Los Angeles Airport.

Besides our important Board meetings, we have planned several outings and dinner. The welcome cocktail party will be held on a 105 foot 1929 classic yacht, SOBRE LAS OLAS. In addition a classic yacht harbor cruise is planned, as well as our traditional Change of Watch Banquet. We will be hosting a Friday bus trip to the Reagan Presidential Library to see decades of archived treasures and where you will go onboard the 707 Air Force One that ferried 7 Presidents all over the world. After lunch at the Reagan Library, we go on to the Nethercutt Museum which Autoweek Magazine says is one of the five greatest Auto Museums in America.

Lake Tahoe Gathering and Lunch— by Jim Sweeney

Alan Almquist, Steve and Cheryl Kadzielawa, Patrick Welch, and Jim and Bernadette Sweeney participated in this first-time event at Lake Tahoe, held in perfect August weather. The day, Friday, August 4th, commenced with an exhilarating two-runabout cruise from Tahoe Keys Marina where both Steve and Cheryl and Jim and Bernadette have separate residences to Zephyr Cove on the east shore of the Lake, Steve and Jim being the skippers. Our boats were moored to buoys while we went ashore for a great lunch at the Zephyr Cove Restaurant, famous for hamburgers, fries, and milkshakes made the old-fashioned way. We made use of the water taxis that were available to take us from the buoys to shore. The water level of the lake was as high as people could remember as a consequence of the heavy rainfall of the previous winter so we had no trouble negotiating the channels of the Keys to moor unscathed in our respective berths.

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After the very hot days of August it is nice to return to the cooler temperatures and calmer winds that mark the Fall season around the Bay. At least that is what we all anticipated. What we got was something quite different from our usual Fall weather. California was not to be spared from the natural disasters that have hit the nation over the past few months. While we avoided the hurricanes that have devastated the southern part of the U.S. the ever present danger of forest fire from the dry conditions of the region visited us with a vengeance. Striking close to home the North Bay was hit with numerous fires that ravaged the wine-producing regions of Napa and Sonoma, destroying over 1500 homes and burning thousands of acres. These fires were made worse by the unusually high winds that blew the blazes at breakneck speeds engulfing everything in their paths and leaving some residents scrambling to flee the flames with just moments to escape. Some tragically were not so lucky and the death toll continues to rise. Almost everyone has had friends and family who were affected by these fires. Fortunately, the friends that I have in the fires path made it through without injury or property damage. George Homenko and Candace Gable were one of the lucky ones as flames threatened their home west of Santa Rosa, forcing them to evacuate. Candace left with their dog, Tillie, while George stayed on to do what he could. Fortunately the back fire set by fire fighters saved the day and halted the main fire's advance about one-quarter mile from the home. All Homenkos are safe and sound.

After over a month of touch and go for many North Bay residents the fires are mostly controlled and manageable with a reduction in wind velocity and cooler, moister conditions. The fires, however, had had other impacts on the people who live in the area even outside of the fire zones. These blazes created a massive smoke problem for Bay area

air for weeks that also extended into the Central Valley. The air pollution was so bad for many days that it forced the cancelation of the annual charity event, K4K ("Kruisin for Kids") where children who are patients of the UCSF Benioff Childrens Hospital of Oakland are given an opportunity to get out of the hospital for a few hours and enjoy a cruise on the Bay hosted by the Not-for-Profit Foundation that manages the former Presidential yacht *Potomac*. It was hoped that this event could be postponed to another date in December, but considering the fact that our beautiful (usually) October weather might not hold until then the event has been officially canceled this year. The organizers of K4K are now looking forward to an even better event-program for Fall 2018.

The Pacific Interclub Yacht Association (PICYA) meets for its last meeting of the year at the Encinal Yacht Club on November 6th. This group monitors the activities of the local yacht clubs and sponsors numerous events throughout the year relating to boating. Through its lobbying arm, the Recreational Boaters of California (RBOC) the shenanigans of the state and local government are monitored. At this final meeting of the PICYA a number of annual awards are made to individuals who have served the boating community in an exemplary fashion. This year one of our own, Bill Wells was surprised at the meeting by being honored with the Boating Historian of the Year award. Congratulations, Bill, a well-deserved honor.



A couple of other things are worthy of mention. The venerable Svendsen's Marine in Alameda, a boating landmark of the East Bay since 1963, will be closing its doors as a boatyard soon. The people I talked to at Svendsens told me that the Marine Store will remain open for a time but they were vague as to how long that would be. Rumor has it

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that the grounds will be converted to residential housing which seem to be popping up all over the former industrial side of Alameda along the estuary. If traffic in and out of the island wasn't bad enough!

Last but not least. In my wanderings around Alameda, as I was chasing down a rumor of the existence of another source of boat fuel I found instead a fun, but quite small place that served a real good lunch located underneath the Harbor-master's office at the end of the pier at Grand Marina. Moseley's café has a few tables and bar stools for the counter that overlook the estuary so you can indulge in a sandwich or salad and beer, if you choose, at the same time enjoy watching the passing boats. If you come by boat there are tie-ups available at the dock.



To get yourself into the Christmas spirit here are two Bay area traditions of the lighted boat parades you may want to catch.

The 41st annual lighted yacht parade with the theme of a Winter Wonderful, will take place on Saturday, December 2. This year the parade will follow a longer route pass-

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ing by Fortman and Grand Marina to include the Alameda and Island Yacht Clubs. Staging between Wind River and the Fortman Marina's public pier as the sun goes down. Starting about 5:30pm the boats will proceed down the Alameda side past Encinal and Oakland Yacht Clubs, where they judges are.

Proceeding down the Alameda side past the Rusty Pelican where the boats will cross to the Oakland side and pass by the Port of Oakland, Scott's and Kincaids continuing down the Grand Marina where the parade will turn and make its way past Grand Marina and Fortman Marina back to the staging area at Wind River.

Following this parade on December 15th, the Fisherman's Wharf Community Benefit District and the St. Francis Yacht Club will join once again to present the oldest and largest lighted holiday boat parade on San Francisco Bay. Boats festooned with lights and holiday decorations, will parade along the waterfront. A holiday tradition since 1994, the parade includes members of the St. Francis Yacht Club, Fisherman's Wharf Fishing Fleet, Golden Gate Yacht Club, PIER 39 Marina, and the Sea Scouts. The parade route will begin just off of PIER 39, proceeding west past Fisherman's Wharf, Fort Mason and the St. Francis Yacht Club, and will turn around off of Crissy Field to return along the waterfront.



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Corinthian Yacht Club Cruise — by Jim Sweeney



Pat Pending cruising all the way from the San Francisco Yacht Club to the Corinthian

Kamilos to assemble a representative number of high quality photographs and captions for that purpose.

Space is always a premium for this event due to the limited guest dock at the club, therefore, the wise skipper will plan early to make a reservation for next year. We will announce the date for this event in early 2018 so mark your calendars and plan to join our fleet members for another memorable cruise-in next Fall.

The annual "Classics at the Corinthian Yacht Club" was a very successful event again this year with the NC Fleet "showboats" including *AURORA V*, *ELIZABETH*, *FLAMINGO*, *PAT PENDING*, and *TRIPLE CROWN* in attendance. Most of the Classics arrived by Friday night and departed for home ports on Sunday. Each was in Bristol condition and every skipper and crew entertained visitors in fine style for the yacht's open house hours on Saturday.

The chef of the Corinthian Yacht Club prepared a post-show gourmet dinner for sixteen of us in the Members Dining Room and a wonderful time was enjoyed by all of our yacht's skippers and crew along with George Homenko, Candace Gable and Cynthia McMillen who arrived via "land yacht".

Classic Boating Magazine made a request for an article on this event and I am working with Gerry



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16th annual Taste of the Delta
August 5th 2017
Stockton Yacht Club

Taste of the Delta Event—by Tom Clothier

On the weekend of August 5th and 6th 5 NCCYA boats, skippers, spouses, and guests traveled to the Stockton Yacht Club to attend the Taste of the Delta and enjoy the wines and food of many restaurants and vineyards throughout the area. This was the 16th annual The Taste of The Delta sponsored by The California Chamber and Visitors Bureau and has been held at different venues throughout the Delta

We arrived at the docks on Friday afternoon then relaxed and unwound while preparing for evening meal of Pizza at the SYC Clubhouse. On Saturday we stuffed ourselves with the offerings from the local merchants then on Saturday evening joined the members of the yacht club for a fabulous meal and entertainment in their beautiful clubhouse. The SYC treated our group as royalty and were exceptional hosts.

On Sunday mid day we headed to Windmill Cove and were treated to some exceptional music prior



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to our evening meal in the restaurant overlooking the San Joaquin River. Monday morning we traveled to Village West for a breakfast at Bob's and a day of relaxation. On Monday afternoon we paraded to Korths Pirates Liar and were treated to a special reception by Kim Korth and a BBQ on their private deck. Needless to say, on Tuesday morning we had one of the renowned Korths Café breakfasts before heading for home. If you missed this event mark your calendar for next year, you will not be disappointed

Those in attendance were North Star II, Alan Almquist, Catherine E George Homenko and Candace Gable, ESLO, Tom and Nancy Clothier, Ranger Bill and Sue Wells, Flamingo Steve and Cheryl Kadzielawa.

Joining the event by land cruiser were Kim Korth, Arnold Strecker, and Patrick Welch.

Bill Wells awarded the Lloyd Ryland Historical Award From the PICYA—November 6, 2017

On Monday, November 6, 2017, eight members of the Northern California Fleet attended the PICYA Awards Dinner to enjoy the presentation of the Lloyd Ryland Historical Award to long time member Bill Wells. Bill has been a writer for the Bay and Delta Yachtsman for many years and chronicles not only the happenings of the CYA but boating throughout the Delta Region.

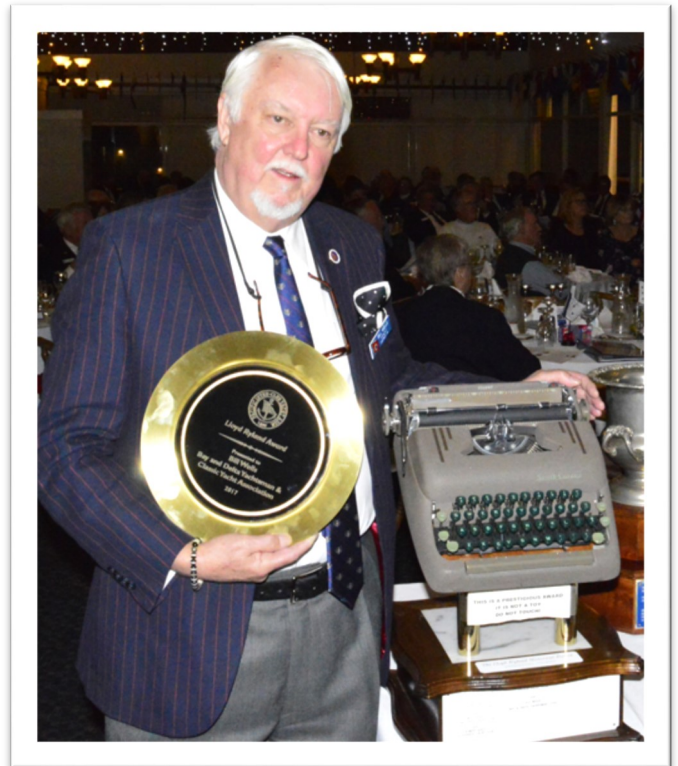


Bill is a member of the California Delta Chamber of Commerce and writes a column on their website of all the happenings in the Delta. You can read it by going to:



California. Bill's wife, Sue, joins and supports Bill in his busy life chronicling the history of this beautiful area of California and promoting the preservation and maintenance of this precious resource. All northern California boaters owe him a debt of gratitude.

Congratulations Bill!



<http://californiadelta.org/category/commodores-corner/>
Bill's love of writing and boating are captured in his actions benefitting the boating activities in the Delta and



Welcome Aboard In-coming Commodore Gerry Kamilos



Gerry Kamilos and his wife Karen have been members of the Classic yacht association since 2013. Right from the beginning Gerry has been an active member of the club and has worked hard in organizing the fleet for the

annual Kruz'n 4 Kidz cruising event that benefits children patients of the Children's Benioff Hospital of Oakland by taking these children, their doctors, caregivers and parents for a day's trip on the Bay on the USS Poto mac. Two years ago Gerry agreed to accept the position as the Northern California Fleet's new Rear Commodore and has served in that capacity with distinction. This year as the Vice Commodore, Gerry and his wife Karen acted as hosts aboard their beautiful Trumpy yacht, Aurora V, serving as the Blessing Yacht for the Blessing of the Fleet annual event off the shores of the Corinthian Yacht Club for Opening Day on the Bay. This event earned the Kamilos' an honorary membership in the Corinthian Yacht Club. Gerry and Karen are members of the Grindstone Joe's Association. This year Gerry will be accepting the duties of the Commodore of the NC CYA fleet taking over the responsibilities of out-going Commodore, Alan Almquist

Gerry is a 3rd generation Sacramentan and resides with his wife and daughter Julia, in Fair Oaks, California. While growing up in Sacramento, Gerry was a Sea Scout, cruising on a 1943 Stephens AVR named *Trident*. He earned two degrees while in college with first a de-

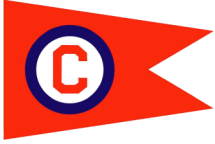
gree in mechanical/petroleum engineering from Cal poly Pomona, and later a Master's degree in Business Administration from Saint Mary's College in Moraga. While in college, Gerry earned extra money on weekends crewing on sailboats making many runs to and from Catalina. Gerry by profession is an engineer turned master-planned community developer with many large projects completed to his credit. He is the managing partner of Kamilos Companies in Sacramento since 1990.

Gerry and Karen purchased their beautifully maintained Aurora V in 2013 which was launched in April 1969 at the Annapolis Yard of John Trumpy and Sons on Spa Creek, Maryland. Trumpy started building yachts in 1909. This 58 foot, fifteen foot 4 inch beam, four foot draft double-planked mahogany hull coastal cruiser was designed and built as Trumpy's next generation yacht to propel this company into the future just as fiberglass became the prevalent choice of hull material. Trumpy closed its doors in 1973. Trumpy only built between 6 and 8 yachts per year. The Trumpy family since 1946 began building certain yachts for their own personal use and to serve as showrooms of their craftsmanship. With numerous amenities these yachts were named "Aurora". Since 1946 there were only 6 Auroras built, four of which are still active today. John Trumpy Jr. personally oversaw the design of Aurora V in collaboration with Frederick C. Geiger, noted naval architect who joined the Trumpy firm in 1955.



Gerry has great plans for 2018 events, already scheduling his first bridge meeting for January 6, 2018 at Emery Cove Yacht Harbor in Emeryville. **Mark your calendar and join us.**

He has also scheduled an event with bridge meeting at Grindstone Joe's the weekend of April 4 and 5. Stay tuned for more details on 2018 events.



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