



#### **ISSUE 2018**

#### Inside this issue:

Commodore's Report	1
Dispatch from the Delta	3
PICYA Report	4
Classic Histtory	6
Upcoming Events	11

### Commodore's Report-by Gerry Kamilos

Our Change of Watch (COW) dinner in November at Trader Vic's was a wonderful event with great food and drink that accompanied a spirit of optimism for this year's program. Thank you all that helped with the COW event with special acknowledgement to Vice Commodore, Scott

Andrews; Candice Gable who handled the Silent Auction; and David and Leigh Teece for the donation of all the dinner wine from their Mt. Beautiful Winery. Our Fleet is blessed to have dedicated officers including our Vice Commodore, Scott Andrews, Rear Commodore, Bernadette Sweeney,

2018 Bridge-Gerry Kamilos, Commodore, Scott Andrews, Vice Commodore, Nancy Clothier, Corresponding Secretary, Tom Clothier, Treasurer, Bernadette Sweeney, Rear Commodore and Alan Almquist, Staff Commodore

Historian, Jim Hackworth; Treasurer, Tom Clothier; and our Corresponding Secretary, Nancy Clothier who is also the publisher of our Newsletter, Classic Currents. Our Port Captains; Patrick Welch, Stuart Kiehl, George Homenko, Bill Wells, and Tom Clothier are committed to improving our membership.

Let me take this opportunity to introduce our newest members to the fleet. Let's give a rousing welcome to Marc Harrington who owns a 50' Stephens Cruiser, Navillus V, Jonathan Arambel who owns a 43' Stephens Cruiser, Firebird, Robert Sesar and Roberta Montero who purchased a

34' 1928 Stephens, SKAL. Welcome aboard to these captains and their crews.

As part of this year's watch, our Fleet has the responsibility to plan and host the 2019 International Change of Watch (ICOW) for January 17, 18, 19, & 20, so mark your calen-

dars! Our Fleet Bridge jumped on this task and ICOW committee has been form that includes: Alan Almquist, Bill Wells, Jonathan Arambel, Rusty Areias, Cynthia McMillen, Tom Clothier, Nancy

Clothier, Scott Andrews, Susan Takami, and George Homenko. An announcement will be made later with dates and time for some of the events that have been planned so far. We are all thrilled to announce that the

Continued on page 2



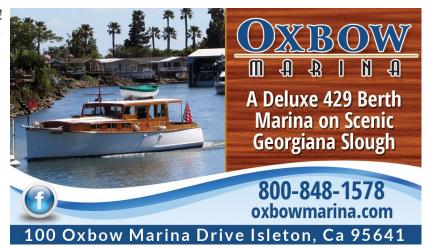
THE CLASSIC YACHT ASSOCIATION IS DEDICATED TO THE PROMOTION, PRESERVATION. RESTORATION AND MAINTENANCE OF FINE OLD PLEASURE CRAFT

# Commodore's Report—continued from page 1

location of ICOW for 2019 will be in Sacramento! For those members in our Fleet who live in Sacramento, we will have a lot to show off.

This year's event schedule is truly focused on quality not quantity. Already there is excitement building for each of these events that are located in both the Bay and Delta. Below is this year's event lineup:

April 6, 7, and 8<sup>th</sup> – Grindstone Joe's Cruise-In and our 2<sup>nd</sup> 2018 Bridge Meeting. Contact Scott Andrews (Scott@Cogenia.com) or Gerry Kamilos (gkamilos@kamilos.com) for information.





Northern California Fleet Past Commodores, Tom Clothier, George Homenko, Otto Schreier, Alan Almquist, Les Cochren, Susan Takami, Bill Wells, (Front Row) Jim Sweeney, Greg Sabourin, Steve Kadzielawa and Patrick Welch



Grindstone Joe's is a lovely historic private island in the Delta near the Tower Marina just off of Highway 12 near I-5. It's easy to get to by classic yacht or land yacht. This has been a stop for yachtsmen and yachtswomen since the 1920's. Everyone has to go to Grindstone Joe's at least once.

April 22<sup>nd</sup> - 101<sup>st</sup> Opening Day of the Bay – our annual fleet potluck gathering after the parade will be at a yet to be determined marina on the Bay. For information to participate in the parade or the gathering afterwards please contact Steve

continued on page 8

# Dispatch from the Delta — by Bill Wells

It looks like we are headed to an early boating season in the Delta. The weather has been spectacular and some are speculating that California is headed to another drought. Lately the legendary tule fog is almost nonexistent. A few short years ago the region would be blanketed in fog for much of the winter and early spring.

One April we were headed to the opening day parade at the San Joaquin Yacht Club and ran into a massive fog bank right at the Rio Vista Bridge. We hove to while we contemplated what to do when suddenly the fog lifted and we continued our journey, we arrived at the parade just as it started and slid into our position just like we had planned it that way.

The hyacinth and other invasive plants that blanketed the Delta in recent years have been brought under control thanks to the Division of Boating & Waterways with plenty of citizen oversight. There is an active reporting system and they have a team in place to combat the pests.



Fireworks at Mandeville Cut

There are plenty of fun events taking place in the Delta this summer. The Stockton Yacht Club is holding their Car and Boat Show on June 23<sup>rd</sup>. This show continues to grow each year, classic yachts are definitely invited. They have some great classic cars too.

Barron Hilton has announced that his fireworks display will be held on Wednesday July 4<sup>th</sup> this year at Mandeville Island on the San Joaquin River. I think this is the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this event that brings 3,000 or so boats from all over California to participate. Hilton started this in 1958 when he brought some fireworks to set off for his children. He said boats stopped by to watch and every year he kept increasing the amount of fireworks until now they bring a barge load up to the island and it has turned into a multi day extravaganza with the Coast Guard and local law enforcement on hand to make sure things don't get out of control.



The Stephens Yacht Rendezvous will be on the weekend of August 3rd, 4th and 5th at Village West Marina in Stockton. We have had many excellent events at this venue over the years and the Pellarin brothers that have owned the marina for a few years now are very supportive of classic yachts. Vickie Baumann, the manager who is part owner of Delta Marina in Rio Vista is a good friend of ours also. If you have not seen the marina for a while you will be amazed. They have removed tons of junk and unwanted vegitation. The marina now is a garden spot, there are even cabins for rent.

The 17<sup>th</sup> annual Taste of the Delta will be on August 4<sup>th</sup> at Village West Marina. This will showcase local wineries, restaurants, and artists. This event will dovetail nicely with the Stephens Rendezvous and both events will attract a good crowd of boat lovers and wine enthusiasts.

There are plenty of other events taking place in the Delta check the chamber website californiadelta.org for information.

Page 3

# PICYA Report—by Jim and Bernadette Sweeney

There is much going on at the PICYA and RBOC. Here are items of interest to the NC fleet.

The PICYA Change of Watch and Commodore's Ball were held at the Sequoia Yacht Club in Redwood City on January 27th.

(See attached photo of your delegates on the job.) Winston Bumpus was installed as 2018 Commodore and a number of annual PICYA awards were presented.

The first delegates meeting of the year took place on February 5th at the Discovery Bay Yacht Club.

Secretarial Consultant Lynda Myers pointed out that all club commodores need to submit a letter to her identifying

the names of their PICYA delegates for 2018.

PICYA annual membership dues have been increased. Payment is due March 31st. The treasury report indicates that the organization is "a little ahead of last year".

It was announced that planning for Opening Day on the Bay (scheduled for April 22nd) is well underway. This year's theme will be "Nations on the Bay". A meeting is scheduled to coordinate the Corinthian YC blessing of the pleasure fleet with the other activities.

The RBOC's Legislature Days (for meetings with State lawmakers to review pending actions bearing on recreational boating) took place in Sacramento February 20th to 26th.

The PICYA has a 10 minute powerpoint presentation available for club viewing that outlines RBOC activities. The RBOC continues its focus on managing invasive species, particularly by spraying herbicides in Delta waterways. A recent major success was securing a \$4.25 million dollar refund from California State Parks to clean water and recreational boating programs.

The new California State boater certification program safety classes became available on January 1st.

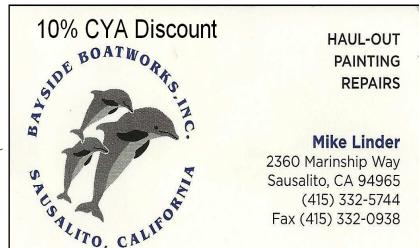
The 2018 Yachting Yearbook is being prepared. The deadline for submissions has been extended to March 1st. I am assembling the NC Fleet input with roster information provided by Nancy Clothier.

The Annual Mariners Sunday service, featuring the St. Francis Y.C. Sons of the Sea choir, was held at 10 a.m. on March 4th at St. Luke's Presbyterian Church, 10 Bayview Drive, San Rafael, followed by great brunch at the nearby Loch Lomond Y.C.

Revised PICYA rules for yacht clubs to accumulate points for awards will be released next month.



Sweeney family enjoying dinner at the International Change of Watch, Marina del Rey



# (PICYA Report ontinued from page 4)

The PICYA website is a great place to publicize events at no cost to member clubs. The website also has forms for applicants to the PICYA scholarship program and instructions for making donations.

The Stockton Y.C. is supporting the Make A Wish Foundation on May 26th with a goal of raising \$10,000.

Two clubs made RBOC donations at this meeting, one of \$395 and another of \$120.

While not an official bit of business it is worth noting that the delegate from Benicia Yacht Club advised me that the fuel dock in Benicia continues to sell diesel oil but is no longer selling gasoline. Vessels needing gasoline en route to the Delta must now continue on to Pittsburg for fuel.

The next two delegates meetings will be at the Richmond YC in March, followed by the Stockton Y.C in April.

# Opening Day on the Bay Sunday, April 22, 2018

Theme "Nations on the Bay"

Aurora V will be the Blessing Vessel at the Corinthian YC

Steve Kadzielawa is planning the potluck lunch

Details to follow

# International Change of Watch—Commodore Scott Andrews



Note from the International Commodore:

I was very pleased to take the helm as International Commodore of the Classic Yacht Association at the Change of Watch event hosted by the Southern California Fleet in Marina Del Rey, CA a few weeks ago. In addition to a lovely dinner, and a very collegial set of Board meetings, we were treated to a fun boat ride in Marina Del Rey Harbor and Santa Monica bay. Susan and I were lucky to have boarded *ATHENA*, a beautifully restored 1929 47' Stephens. It

was a beautiful day, and we

were able to see the entire Los Angeles basin from the ocean to the mountains.

You can visit us on facebook: http://www.facebook.com/pages/Classic-Yacht-

CYA website: http://www.classicyacht.org

Association/126059857432815





# The Atlas Imperial Diesel—a Bay Area Engine Company— by Alan Almquist

Atlas Gas Engine Company was founded in 1904 by former employees of another San Francisco early engine maker, Hercules Gas Engine Works. Atlas was in business for only two years when the Great San Francisco Earthquake struck in 1906. The company then relocated to Oakland where a new factory was built at 11th Ave. and East 9th St. ultimately covering over 15 acres. Marine engines were added to the line and by 1909 the company was generating revenues of over one million dollars. One, two, three and four cylinder engines were offered from 4 ½ to 200 HP. Atlas began development of a diesel engine in 1914 and by 1916 with their diesels now well advanced the company merged with the Imperial Gas Engine Company to become Atlas Imperial. Imperial was another San Francisco founded engine company located between Clementina and Tehama streets a few blocks from the water front. Production

line prices rising to 20 cents a gallon while fuel oil just a nickel both companies saw benefits in merging to work on the new diesel products.

The first Atlas diesel a six cylinder 4580 cubic inch engine was built and installed in the Seattle Ferry *Vashon Island*, and continued to power that vessel until after WW II. In 1919 the technological breakthrough of the solid injection fuel system in which fuel pressure was maintained by mechanical pumps that fed injector nozzles into the cylinders made the marine diesel finally practical. The original classic apple-green painted Atlas-Imperial diesel originally turned at about 350 rpm and came in models from two to six cylinders. During the mid-1930's more modern looking engines with the works enclosed were designed and the

rpm's increased to around 900. Smaller engines were later built along with the larger power plants at a factory constructed in Mattoon, Illinois. The Atlas Company didn't survive much beyond the end of WW II, a consequence of competition with the high-speed, light weight diesels that were being developed by General Motors. Around 1950 White Superior bought the company to get the name and the right to make spare parts for those engines some of which are still in operation today powering tug boats that were launched during the 1920's.



Sobre las Olas. Length: 105' LOA. Beam: 22'. Draft: 8'. Speed: 8-10 knots. Range: 5000 miles. Water: 2,700 gallons. Fuel: 5000 gallons. Range: 5000 miles.

of this brand began after the earthquake with a line of 1- to 4-cylinder overhead camshaft engines. By 1916 with gaso-



This year at the International Change of Watch in Marina del Rey I was fortunate enough to see a pair of these gigantic Atlas-Imperial engines fully operational, originally installed on the yacht *Sobre Las Olas*. While this yacht was built in Southern California at the Wilmington Boat Works, her diesels were hauled down from Oakland and installed in the vessel in 1929. Like most of our classic yachts, Sobre las Olas has many stories to tell. Two of her famous owners were J. Paul Getty and William Randolph Hearst. The opening reception of the 2018 ICOW was held aboard this beautifully restored yacht, and our hosts and current owners, Sean Connolly and Jeff Ganter, graciously welcomed the delegation aboard to enjoy fine wines and good food and a tour of the vessel from stem to stern.

# Classic History - (continued from page 6)

The yacht has been meticulously restored with a good eye towards maintaining its original charm and historic character. A substantial feat to accomplish indeed.

Much of the research on Atlas-Imperial engines along with information on numerous engine makers in North America can be found in the well-documented encyclopedia, American Marine Engines 1885-1950, by Stan Grayson. Published by Devereux Press, Marblehead, MA 2008. This is a must-have volume for any classic yacht owner who wishes to gain knowledge about the engines that once, and perhaps, still do power our yachts.

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The Atlas-Imperial Engines in Sobre Las Olas

# Order your Classic Yacht Association Name Badge



We have made an arrangement with a printing company so members can order name badges when they wish. The first order has a \$15.00 fee for the logo. CYA will reimburse the first order to cover that cost.



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Link shown belowhttps://nicebadge.com/mockups/33721\_2.php

# Commodore's Report—continued from page 2

Kadzielawa (SKadzielawa@comcast.net). This is a long tradition of our Fleet for decades as our Classics have historically led the Opening Day Parade along San Francisco's shore line. Then after the parade we cruise to a marina on the Bay and have a dock side potluck lunch. Opening Day, a dockside party, and classic yachts nearby; nice way to spend a Sunday afternoon!

May 17, 18, and 19<sup>th</sup> – American Graffiti Cruise-In – Petaluma Turning Basin for information please contact George Homenko.(ghomenko@gmail.com)

Whether you attend this event with your 1950's Stephens or Chevy Bel-Air; you will be impressed to see Downtown Petaluma transform itself into a 1950's culture scene including bee-hive hair do's and Elvis' all over. Our Fleet will tie-up in the Turning Basin in the middle of downtown and all the action.

<u>July 14<sup>th</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> Bridge Meeting</u> – Encinal Yacht Club, Alameda (<u>gkamilos@kamilos.com</u>)

August 3, 4, and 5<sup>th</sup> – Stephens Rendezvous and Taste of the Delta – Village West Marina – Stockton; please contact for information or to enter your classic yacht; Bill Wells (commodorewells@msn.com), Scott Andrews (scott@cogenia.com), or Rusty Areias (rareias@calstrat.com) If you are a Stephen's owner or enthusiast; this is the event you cannot miss; Village West Marina's new owners, also CYA members, are rolling out the red carpet for our Fleet to celebrate our classic yachts on public display on August 4<sup>th</sup> during the Taste of the Delta event. We are co-branding both events with the Delta Chamber of Commerce.

September 29<sup>th</sup> – Classics@theCorinthian and 4<sup>th</sup> Bridge Meeting – Tiburon Harbor –To enter your classic yacht please contact Jim Sweeney (james.sweeney3@comcast.net) or Gerry Kamilos (gkamilos@kamilos.com) If you ever wanted to visit for a weekend one of the most iconic harbors in the California, and be able to enjoy the Tiburon/Belvedere peninsula; this is the event for you and your yacht. With the sponsorship of the Corinthian Women's Club, on Saturday afternoon, we open our yachts for Corinthian members and invited guests to tour. Van Morrison

sightings not guaranteed.

October 13<sup>th</sup> – Kruz'n 4 Kidz – Jack London Square – Oakland – Please contact Gerry Kamilos (gkamilos@kamilos.com) This is a true community service event for our Fleet members to participate in; this will be the fifth time that several of our classics along with the USS Potomac will take over 300 passengers of children patients, their families, and medical support staff from the Benioff Children Hospitals for a cruise on the Bay. The hospital and its patients are very appreciative of this time on the water and look forward to it each year.



Aurora V at Kruz'n 4 Kidz

continued on page 9

# California Delta Chambers & visitor's Bureau

Enjoy the Delta 24/7 www.californiadelta.org www.tasteofthedelta.com



17th annual Taste of the Delta Saturday, August 4th, 2018 Village West Marina. Stockton

# Commodore's Report—continued from page 8

November 10<sup>th</sup> or 17<sup>th</sup> – Annual Change of Watch Dinner – Our incoming Rear Commodore, Bernadette Sweeney has been tasked with planning this annual event. Bernadette is already on the move to secure us a venue for this celebration and more information will be forthcoming on the progress that she has made to date. If you have any ideas or suggestions for our Change of Watch please get in contact with Bernadette at bernadettesw@comcast.net. The COW is our annual event and dinner that recognizes the year's achievements and introduces the new leadership who will continue our mission.

These are all exciting events for you, your family, your friends, and your yacht to participate in; I hope you can find the time to attend few events this year. We have a wonderful membership base and a dedicated Bridge and event Chairs. With the highly motivated team we have in place for 2018 I can guarantee you some exceptional experiences with your membership in Classic Yacht Association. On behalf of the Northern California Fleet Bridge; please have a fantastic and safe Classic Yachting season!





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# Grindstone Joe's, a short history—by Alan Almquist

The second Bridge meeting of NCCYA will be held at the iconic delta retreat known as Grindstone Joes on April 7th. We want to encourage all members to attend this meeting and take the opportunity to witness a very colorful part of delta history. The history of this now private retreat began with an individual who was named Joe Atello (or Attel - no one knows for sure), a Chilean in his early thirties, who arrived in the Terminous area in a sail-rigged rowboat sometime around the 1906 earthquake. Joe told boating friends later that he had jumped ship in San Francisco harbor, going AWOL from the Chilean navy.

Taking on a partner of unknown history, these men survived in the delta by netting for sturgeon, bass and catfish on the then-flooded Bouldin Island while establishing squatters' rights on what is now the Grindstone Joe island. The partner-ship soured later on when Joe discovered his partner was skimming profits from the sales of fish in the Lodi and Stockton markets, he threw the man out. According to legend the untrustworthy partner left, but not before destroying an indispensable tool of their trade, a grinding wheel. The grindstone fragment became a symbol of Joe's integrity and much later the source of the Island Association's name. The famous grindstone can be seen today permanently mounted on the club deck and reproduced on the club burgee.



First Pat Pending, a 40' Swanson, on first trip to the Island in 1936

Starting in the late 1920's with net-fishing banned, Joe had to augment his meager income, so by brute strength and stamina he worked with shovel and wheelbarrow to build up his island and, most importantly, create a roadway link between the island and the levee. He planted trees and flowers and snagged floating timbers to create the first docks which attracted early boaters from the valley and the bay area.

But from all reports Joe was very particular about whom he would allow to use his docks. He had hard and fast rules which he

insisted must be observed or a guest could forget about returning. For one reason or another he disliked sailboats. He was a stickler for good conduct, warning transgressors "If you come back, I cut your line." He kept his island immaculate and ruled it with an iron hand. Any boaters who respected that the island was his home had no trouble getting along with him, but those who treated the island as a public picnic and dumping ground were unceremoniously asked to leave and admonished not to return. Despite his reputation of a man not to be crossed, Joe reportedly increased his income about \$200 per month from the boaters who visited his docks.

By 1929, based on surviving photos, about nine power boats regularly docked at his island in the summer. Joe served this dedicated group of boaters up to the time of his death on July 31, 1944. Following the war, many of the same boaters returned and organized what later became the Grindstone Joe Association. They organized the fledgling group into a non-profit Corporation and arranged to acquire clear title to the "island" for recreational purposes.

Today, Grindstone Joe's is a private island in the "delta" owned and managed by the Grindstone Joe Association.

Adapted from a 1996 account written by Jo Bardet.

# **Coming Events**

### Grindstone Joe's

April 6, 7, 8, 2018, Chairpersons, Scott Andrews and Gerry Kamilos

### Opening Day on the Bay

April 22, 2018, Chairperson, Steve Kadzielawa

### American Graffiti, Petaluma

May 17, 18, 19, 2018, Chairperson, George Homenko–tentative

### Stephens Rendezvous, Village West, Stockton

August 3, 4, 5, 2018, Chairpersons, Bill Wells and Rusty Areias (in conjunction with Taste of the Delta)

### Taste of the Delta Village West

August 4, 2018, Chairperson, Bill Wells (in conjunction with Stephens Rendezvous

#### Classics at the Corinthian

September 29, 2018—Chairpersons, Jim Sweeney and Gerry Kamilos

#### Kruz'n 4 Kidz

October 13, 2018, Chairperson, Gerry Kamilos

### Change of Watch

November 10 or 17, 2018, Chairperson, Bernadette Sweeney

### 2019 International Change of Watch

January 2019, Chairpersons, Gerry Kamilos, Jim Sweeney, George Homenko, Alan Almquist, Patrick Welch, Bill Wells, Cynthia McMillen, Rusty Areias and Jonathan Arambel

# Cruise to Petaluma-May 18, 19 & 20

Mark your calendars, the CYA will be making our annual pilgrimage to the Petaluma Turning Basin to coincide with Cruisin' the Boulevard. Cruisin' the Boulevard is a salute the film American Graffiti



with a massive car show and parade on Saturday the 19<sup>th</sup>. Petaluma being the primary filming location for this iconic George Lucas movie.

Friday night will be a Bar B-Q at the Petaluma Yacht Club with members supplying hors d'oeuvre, salad and dessert. Saturday dining will be at one of the fine eateries that line the turning basin.

As many of you may know the Petaluma Turning Basin has some severe silting problems. I will be sounding the course to be sure we have enough water to make the journey. More information will be sent out to the membership after I complete these

soundings. Keep your fingers crossed. George Homenko, Chair



2380 Bay St. San Francisco, CA 94123

# 2018 Northern California Fleet Bridge Officers

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