

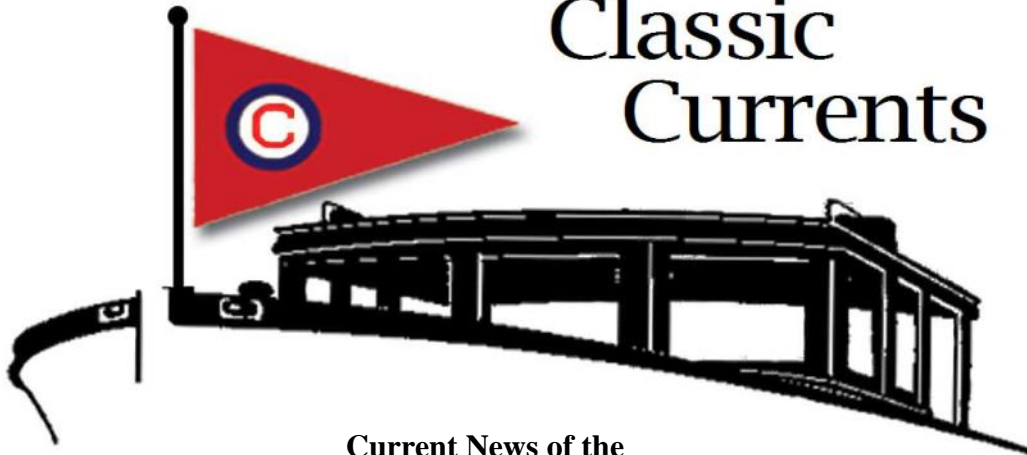
Classic Currents



ISSUE 2014

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

Commodore's Report *by George Homenko*

I had the pleasure of attending the Bell Street Rendezvous for the first time last month. For those of you who are not familiar with this event, it is held in Seattle on Father's Day weekend

I know the North West has always been a mecca

I don't see the Northern California Fleet ever having a show of sixty boats. Knowing we don't have the numbers of the PNW fleets, we certainly still have our share of great classic boating enthusiasts. Northern California without a doubt boasts the finest restored classic of them all with the amazing one



Seabreeze—Opening Day on the Bay 2014—Photo by Stuart Kiehl

each year at the foot of Bell Street in Seattle. It is the largest Classic Power Yacht show held in the USA if not the in the world. It was just an amazing show, some 60 classic boats in all states of repair and all proudly displayed. When you see a show like that one you are just amazed by the size and depth of the fleets in the PNW and Canadian.

for old boats. They have a long tradition of great boat builders in the area and an abundance of covered berths and boat barns, to keep them looking good, is also a plus. I guess I should also mention they have a few additional miles cruising area then we do. I must say after attending the show I was pretty envious.

hundred and thirty six foot "Acania". Dave Olson spared nothing in the total restoration of this historic yacht. This vessel is just mind-boggling when seen gracefully parting the waters of the bay.

It was also a real treat to see Rusty Arias' sixty foot "Miss 102" at the Stephens Rendezvous in Petaluma. She has gone

through a massive restoration and is looking as good as I have ever seen her. Rusty also brought back from the edge of destruction the graceful fifty foot "Contessa". I only wish the legendary 1952 Stephens "Westlake" was still around to see what Rusty could have done with her restoration.

Continued on page 2

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

Now that I have started this line of thought more and more boats keep coming to mind and I am not sure how I am going to end it. But I really need to mention William Parker's thirty six foot Stephens *Mergaser*". This complete restoration was shown at the Stephens Rendezvous in Stockton two years ago. For those of us that were lucky enough to see her, what more can I say? Now gracing the clear waters of Lake Tahoe, she was on the cover of the last issue of Classic Boating Magazine. And now that I have mentioned Tahoe I just have to say another name "*Thunderbird*".

Speaking of our fleet boats in magazines it was great to see the results of "*Makoto's*"

restoration at this year's Stephens Rendez-

vous. Scott and Susan have done a fine job of bringing back this thirty four foot Stephens to her former glory. "*Makoto*" was written up in major article a few months back in Wooden Boat Magazine. Scott also maintains a blog on Wooden Boat Forum.



Opening Day on the Bay Parade-2014

Sometimes the beauty is so close and seen all the

time you don't appreciate it as you should. I have to say I fall into this trap

train of thought, I am afraid that I will have left someone or some boat out of my ramblings. If I have I apologize in advance. I do know that now that I have completed this I don't feel envious of the PNW fleets after all.

with my good friend Steve "K's" stunning thirty six foot Chris Craft "*Flamingo*". This boat looks better today than any time in her life and she is used continuously for everything from cruising to fishing on the bay and delta.

Now that I have started this runaway



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Welcome to New Members!

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**September 20, 2014
Forget Me Knot Wreath
Laying Ceremony
(International Event)**

The Northern California Fleet of the Classic Yacht Association will be hosting its 10th year of the Forget Me Knot Wreath Laying Ceremony on Saturday, September 20th, 2014. This years event will include venues at Old Sacramento, California, Kimswick, Missouri, and Cumberland Rhode Island. Along with our wreath laying, petals from the garden in Normandy, France “Les Fleurs de la Memoire”, the site of D-Day, will be sprinkled along with the wreaths. The Maritime Military Museum (M3), located in Old Sacramento, California, will host the pre and post ceremonial events. There will be four wreaths laid following the playing of taps. They are as follows:

- POW/MIA's.
- 3. For those loved ones that lost their life during the year and
- 4. For anyone that lost their life on the Sacramento River.

The wreaths will be laid simultaneously at 1 pm west coast time – 3 pm Central and 4 pm Eastern Time. Participants include the Sacramento Marina, the US Coast Guard and US Coast Guard Auxiliary, the California Military Museum, US Armed Forces, the Honor Guard from AFROTC Del Campo High School, the drum corp from Natomas High School, Rio City Cafe (lunch reservation and platform for presentation of honors), the Old School



- 1. WWI & WWII veterans,
- 2. All veterans, especially the

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House Museum, DART rescue team, the Golden State Chapter of the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners and WGS Corporation.

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Save the Date!
“Classics at the Corinthian” Show
September 19-21, 2014

Friday: Arrive in Tiburon-Belvedere for socializing
Saturday: Northern California Fleet Yacht Show followed by cocktails and dinner in the Corinthian Yacht Club
Sunday: Depart for home ports




2014 Stephens Rendezvous. Susan Takami and George Homenko, Chairs. While not the largest Stephens Rendezvous in the history of this great event, the turnout was lively with nine boats braving the Petaluma Channel in San Pablo Bay to the mouth of the Petaluma River, which in its winding course up to the turning basin in downtown Petaluma, is a beautiful cruise. Those boats attending with their captains and crew were *Killara* (Greg and Amy Sabourin), *Makoto* (Scott Andrews and Susan Takami), *Seabreeze* (David and Bunny Cobb), *Eslo* (Tom and Nancy Clothier), *Catherine E*, (George Homenko and Candace Gable), *Kona Trader* (Chris and Julie James), *Flamingo* (Steve and Cheryl Kadzielawa), *Allure* (Martin and Janis McNair) and *Miss 102* (Rusty Areias). Our boats started arriving at the city docks on Friday and were greeted by the local band of Sea Scouts who assisted in the docking maneuvers. That evening everyone enjoyed drinks and a delicious (as always) pot-luck dinner.

On Saturday shore leave was granted by the captains and all who wished could tour downtown Petaluma with its fine restaurants and interesting shops. A skeleton crew remained on board, however, as our boats were opened up to the public from 1000 to 1200 hours, although individuals interested in our “fine old powercraft” continued to show up throughout the day and were made welcome. A number of our members, including yours truly along with Meg Starr, came up to see the show by land yacht and enjoyed going from yacht to yacht, reconnecting with old friends. Speaking of which one surprise visitor was our one and only Johnnie Johnson who stopped by on his way over to the coast where he and Patty have a weekend home. We hadn’t seen Johnnie for quite a while and were delighted that he had the time to run by. Patty, unfortunately was off tending to the numerous grandchildren and couldn’t



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break away. Dinner Saturday night was at the Petaluma Yacht Club consisting of a choice of steak or chicken main course, lots of salad, potatoes and cake for desert. No one went away hungry from that meal! Sunday morning our boats and crew cast off their moorings and started the journey back down river to their home ports. It was a beautiful warm day

and no unforeseen adventures were reported on the way back home. Another great NCCYA event thanks to Susan Takami and George Homenko who were the cruise captains and made sure that all went off without a hitch. Thanks, Susan (and Scott) and George (and Candice) for a truly delightful time for us all in Petaluma.



STUART KIEHL
PHOTOGRAPHY
stuart@vineyardvideo.com
707 799-1927

The Delta Chambers & Visitor's Bureau held their first annual Delta Rat Poker run on April 29. 100 people paid to participate and there were about 30 boats. It started at Spindrift with a continental breakfast served at 0900 hours and the boats set out at 1000 hours. They headed to Moore's Riverboat, Rosa's Italian Restaurant at Tower Park, Sugar Barge, and the Rusty Port-hole. It was a fine day, sunny with a gentle breeze. There was no requirement to go to every stop but the proprietors had special items for those that did. The cards were dealt upon return to Spindrift and one lucky fellow walked away with \$300 cash. Everyone got dinner and a custom Delta Rat T-shirt for their trouble. A drawing was held and many collected prized donated by Delta businesses, including dinners, weekends at resorts, chart books, maps, you name it. Don't miss this fun time next year.

Les Cochren held the

grand opening of his Military Maritime Museum in Old Sacramento (1111 2nd Street, Old Sacramento, third floor) He had plenty of food and drink as well as an assortment of interesting people attending. He even had a young lady singing the National Anthem to the onlookers on the street. The museum is filled with nautical antiques and memorabilia. Check it out when you are in the area.

I have been checking out area restaurants as a service to my fellow Classic Yachters. Moore's Riverboat has reopened and the menu has gone back to standard Delta fare. I stopped in with some other journalists recently and had a BLT with avocado for lunch, it was great my friends had a prime rib sandwich and a burger and they both said they were great. Memo's at The Point (Delta Marina in Rio Vista) is serving consistently great Mexican food, they have a great selection of Tequila and plenty of

cold beer too. Windmill Cove is open again, I have not been there but my friends have and report good food and the music has become country. Don't forget Rosa's at Tower Park even though it is billed as an Italian Restaurant they have great burgers. The pizzas are excellent there too.

They just installed a wine tap from Victor Vineyards, it is proving popular as it keeps wine at a stable temperature and every glass is as fresh as the first from the keg.

Barron Hilton's people advise me that his annual fireworks display at Mandeville Island will be on the 4th of July (Friday) this year, every year it is either on the third or fourth. This is about the 56th year he has been holding the event. A Dutra barge or two are brought in as platforms for this great show. About 3,000 boats from all over the west coast attend

this weeks long party. At



this writing early in June some of my friends are already anchored there for the pre-party.

The 13th annual Taste of the Delta wine and food sampling event is coming up on August 9th. It will be held at KOA Tower Park Resort. You can come by car or boat if you come by boat make reservations with Tower Park Marina (209-369-4031) or Marina West Yacht Club (209-477-7653). This is always a fun party with live music, auctions, drawings, artists, vendors, and live dancers.

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Classic Yachts—far and wide by George Homenko



Lyndall II

For over 8 years the Northern California Fleet has had a loyal member that lives over 7,000 miles away in Australia. His name is Andrew Tink. Andrew became a CYA member thanks to his curiosity of our local classics and Steve K. One afternoon while Andrew was staying in Santa Venetia (east of the Marin civic center) he decided to do some exploring. Like any good boater he checked out the local marinas. That is where he met Steve, who became his sponsor. The rest is as they say history and how we have in our fleet the most distant member from any fleet.

I first met Andrew just after he first became a member of our fleet on a trip I took with my Candace to Australia. Candace grew up near Sydney. Not knowing Andrew at the time, I gave

him a cold call and told him I was a member of the CYA and I was going to be near his home. I could not have

been more surprised and delighted by the greeting I got. Australians may have their markers red when leaving port but other than that are just like us and they like to show off their boats.

Andrew insisted on driving over an hour to pick us up and take us to his boat in addition to returning us. We had a wonderful afternoon with him learning the history of his beloved 1934 Lars Halvorsen named *Lyndall II*. An early predecessor to the modern Kong and Halvorsen. Unfortunately at the time the vessel was having some construction being done, and we were not able to go out on it.

When we found out Andrew was coming to Northern California for a short stay, Steve, Candace and I wanted to reciprocate his hos-

pitality by showing him the sites of the bay. And what better way to show him around for an afternoon then Steve's immaculate Chris Craft *Flamingo*.



Candace Gable and Andrew Tink aboard Flamingo

Although winds for the day were predicated to be gale force the early afternoon was calm and flat. We had a wonderful ride.

This is a two part story. Candace and I will be returning to Australia this spring and we have been promised a ride on *Lyndall II*, weather permitting. I hope to take a

bunch of pictures and have them in our next newsletter.

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CYA members Seven Bells, Kismet and Makoto recently underwent major refits in our shop.

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The Beverly Partridge Distinguished Service Award given to the Honorary Mayor of Old Sacramento, Sam Funari. Past Commodore, John Di Lillo presented the award to Rudy Juarez, who accepted on behalf of Sam.

The twenty sixth of May was one heck of a Memorial Day for that was the day that the Maritime Military Museum's Beverly Partridge Distinguished Service Award was first granted to the honorary Mayor of Old Sacramento, Sam Funari for his service to the community in Old Sacramento, California. The certificate and portrait was delivered to Rudy Juarez, who accepted the award on behalf

of the honoree. Presenting the award for the Maritime Military Museum was the CYA Northern California fleet staff commodore John Di Lillo and museum curator and past commodore Les Cochren. The ribbon cutting ceremony was performed by Susan Hicklin of the Old School House Museum, curator. Looking on during the ribbon cutting ceremony were Mark Denger, Chief Warrant Offi-

cer Four – Curator – Archivist and Lieutenant Cornell Kieth Tresh of the California Military Museum.

The “Bill of Fare”, donated by Christel Spooner of the WGS Corporation catering was a cornucopia of delights. Patricia Andreasen of PCBS Accounting and Tax Services, added her interior decorating skills to create a first class ambiance. Maureen O’Neil, mixologist extraordinaire, insured that beverages poured a plenty at the hosted bar. Past Commodore Wells, a distant descendant of Clark of the Lewis & Clark Expedition, discussed his travels up and down the delta while guest watch the video. Commodore Wells provided an astonishing display of his photographic art detailing his travels. Antique ships, guns and swords were provided for the Silent Auction by Rudy Rodriguez of the Penny Farthing.

The documentary video fea-

ture was the history of the USS Potomac, President Franklin D. Roosevelt's yacht known as the “The Floating White House”. The event held a moment of silence at 3pm on Memorial Day in honor of our veterans. A Youtube Memorial Day Tribute and 21 gun salute was played over the PA system. Following the moment of silence Devin Farrell, Voice Major (Jazz) student at the University of the Arts – Philadelphia sung “ Anchors Away” while guest waved the flag outside on the streets of Old Sacramento.

If you want to track our progress and/or submit a tax deductible donation, please visit our website at www.mycya.org.

And so it went on the twenty sixth of May, a day of which my dear friend Beverly would have been proud.

That is All!

Past Commodore Cochren – Curator
Maritime Military Museum (M3)

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.

Pirates Lair—<http://www.pirateslair.com>,
Located in Sonora, CA Amy and Ken Miller
Telephone: 888-724-5286



A new CYA Email Forum by Stuart Kiehl

We are planning to launch a new CYA Email Forum that will allow any member to send a post to all members, or to reply privately. Some have asked why we need this new service and the answer is that more communication between members cannot help but to broaden the interest in the group, increase our membership and offer some benefits such as event and meeting notifications, new member introductions, boats and parts for sale, advice as needed, ride sharing to events, invites to meet or cruise, availability

of overnight docking (for example, Giants games, Sausalito...) among other things.

All other boating organizations have this type of communication between members, and two local boating groups have had this system in use for over a decade. This new service will broaden the scope of communication between the members but will not replace the periodic announcements that Nancy Clothier, Corresponding Secretary, does in getting the word out on important

events and activities.

The Northern California Bridge has approved this effort, and the following have given their support and/or participated in putting this together, in no particular order or inclusion: John DiLillo, Tom Bottenberg, George Homenko, Les Cochran, Bill Wells, Mel Owen and Shawn Ball. By the way, this will be a great forum to introduce the new NC CYA website that Tom Bottenberg is putting together. Check out www.cyanorcal.com it

looks great.

Please reply to stuart@vineyardvideo.com so that we can include you in our NC CYA email forum. When you do this you will receive a formal request from Google, to which you click on the "Accept" link. We will then activate your participation and send a Welcome and How to Operate email, which is pretty simple. You can unsubscribe at any time.

Let's all give it a shot, participate and say hello.

Brotzeit Beer Fest

Join us at our first Brotzeit Beer Fest at the Brotzeit Boathaus & Biergarten restaurant in Oakland on August 23rd

It's right on the water on the Oakland estuary. We'll be there from 11 am to whenever you want to leave. We have free slips for about ten boats and can make overnight arrangements if you want to wait until the next day to leave. The owners, Tony & Krista Granieri, are new CYA members and will be introducing a new beer for CYA members. We'll have new member boats there such as Xantippe, Nirvana and Shibui. You'll especially want to stop by and see Fifer. Fifer is a 105' 1939 Burrard that has had extensive restoration, and this will be a rare



chance to get aboard and see her up close.

So come by boat, car, bicycle, or walk and join us for a beer on the patio.



Fifer resting at home port

16 + taps, German craft beer
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The CYA took a third place in the Opening Day on the San Francisco Bay for "Flags & Streamers." The plundered "Booty" for the win consisted of wine, (no women or song) shirts, dinners, sunglasses, buttons, and a few other things, not to mention an improvement in our overall PICYA club point score. Congratulations to all who participated.

The Margo Brown Wheel Chair Regatta – is scheduled for **Saturday September 27th** at the Encinal Yacht Club. The 18th Regatta honors veterans and their families with a cruise on the bay followed by a picnic lunch. You can support this worthwhile event by volunteering your Boat; or Help shore side for the 7-9AM Set Up Continental Breakfast, or for the 9AM-3PM cruise. The committee needs help with the 9AM to Noon food preparation, the 11:30 -3PM food serve, and the 2-5PM restore order (that's

cleanup). You can also help out with a donation of food, drink, \$\$\$, or items for Vets gift bags. Forms to volunteer are available from Dick Engfer – we will get them to you! (The forms are not yet available on the PICYA website). Mail the completed forms to Linda Blue.

PICYA Scholarships – The entry deadline is September 30th! One \$2,500 award has been donated by World Wide Boaters Group. Relatives of PICYA club members are eligible. All requirements are listed on website. Time to get started with application is now. In previous years four scholarships have been awarded, however it is uncertain how many will be available this year. More later.

RBOC VP Greg Gibeson (Meeks Bay YC) reports **Operator Certificate** for those operating power boats is expected to be

required for 20 year olds and younger by 2018 with older persons by 2025. The issue involving **Copper bottom paint** is still a work in progress. The RBOC position is to base the requirements on science and availability of effective economical substitutes. The RBOC is strongly opposed to any **Rock Barriers** in navigable waters of the Delta as they are opposed to the proposed "Tunnels". Greg Gibeson discussed Ethanol in fuel with officials in Wash DC – he advised that this fuel mixture is a hazard to boating (involving engine failure when at sea, etc) and actually causes more environmental pollution than fuel that does not have ethanol mixed in with it– one problem is, what to do with all that ethanol?

FREE PUMPOUTS – There is a pilot program underway for free "Honeypot" service for bay area yacht clubs with cruises into the Delta. Mobile pumpouts will be funded by San Francisco Estuary Partnership and Division of Boating & Waterways. Arrange particulars with James Muller 510 622 2406 or jamul-ler@waterboards.ca.gov

2014 PICYA Yachting Yearbook is in hand. Additional copies are available - call Linda Blue at 510-851-4387

PICYA Mini Conference will be held on July 26th from 0830AM to 1230 hours at Elkhorn YC (Moss Landing). **FREE.** Subjects to be discussed include: Safety (Coast Guard), ABC, Insurance, IRS audits, Landed/Paper Clubs. Optional lunch is \$10. Contact Eric Schoenwisner at 510-502 4277 or Maggie Sabovich 510-787 1358.

Websites:
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Next Bridge Meeting
Saturday,
August 16, 2014
10:00 a.m. to noon

Encinal Yacht Club
In Alameda

All members invited

Another famous boat building company of the Pacific Northwest was founded in 1903 when Lewis Lee Grandy left Seattle's Meadheart & Stone shipbuilders to begin boat building operations in buildings owned by Tacoma's Puget Sound Iron & Steel. Grandy first built 8-14 foot clinker rowing skiffs and launches that Thea Foss and her sons used to supply food to sailing ships in Puget Sound. In 1908 Grandy brought in a partner, Charlie Taylor, and they began to construct larger yachts, the new "raised deck" cruisers that were becoming popular with Puget Sound sportsmen.

With the outbreak of World War I, significant naval defense money flowed into the Bremerton Naval Shipyard and Grandy and his two sons, Earl and Bill worked there. After the war in 1922 Earl Grandy purchased a floating boatyard and moored

it on the Northwest corner of Seattle's Lake Union. There with his brother they opened the Grandy Boat Company as a repair facility. They soon purchased adjoining lakeside property complete with a haul out railway and joined in the competition with Blanchard, Vic Franck and Lake Union Drydock as a

Standard single cylinder gas engine. The yacht was capable of cruising at 7 knots

During Prohibition while much of the company's income was made by repairing fast runabouts, the yard's bread and butter came from a steady production of skiffs and small

When the sail-only restriction for Bristol Bay fishing was lifted in 1951 many Alaska based fishermen ordered new workboats, and the Grandys begin to produce many 30' "pocket seiners." During the 1950s, the yard built several larger "limit" seiners for the Alaska fisheries, some over 50' in length.



bona fide boat yard.

Taylor and Grandy built at least four raised deck cruisers, the last being the 26' double ender, the *GloryBe*, launched in 1914 and powered by a 16 h.p. Eastern

boats which the yard produced in the hundreds. These skiffs were affordable even during the depths of the Depression, and as late as the 1940s, Grandy skiffs sold for \$3 a foot.

During the late 1930s, the Grandys began building power cruisers to the designs of Ed Monk who had established a drafting office in the yard. Building upon experience, gained building the Monk cruisers, the Grandy yard won many World War II military contracts. From skiffs to 40' patrol to workboats, they built hundreds of military vessels.

During the 1950's the Grandy yard began building "stock" cruisers in the 27-32 foot range. Lynn Senour, a Grandy shipwright developed a bottom for the Grandy 27 that enabled speeds up to 30 mph with a single engine. That feature, combined with the Grandy craftsmanship, set the Grandy built cruisers above most of their regional competitors. In 1959 California automobile dealer Ted Tate, working with the Grandys, established a dealership for what he called the Marlineer Sport Fishing Cruising boats - i.e. boats built to his requirements by the Grandy Boat Company, and were produced in lengths from 40' to 62'. However, in 1967 a disastrous fire destroyed the boat yard, and while a few Marlineers were built in other Seattle yards following the fire, the Grandy Boat Company, as did so many other boat builders of the time and with the advent of the fiberglass era went out of business.

Northern California Fleet Change of Watch

Sunday, December 7, 2014
Encinal Yacht Club, Alameda

The Northern California Fleet of the Classic Yacht Association will pass flags at the Change of Watch banquet on Sunday, December 7, 2014. The venue is Encinal Yacht Club in Alameda. Toasts will begin at the club's new bar...a clever adaptation of a classic Stephens stern and transom. Cruise-ins are welcome at the club's docks. This could be of interest to members sailing the Lighted Boat Parade on Saturday December 6. More details to follow.

Coming Events

Visit to Brotzeit Beer and Food Fest in Oakland

August 23, 2014
Toni and Krista Granieri, Chairs

Cruise in to the Corinthian YC Tiburon

September 19-21, 2014
Jim Sweeney, Chair

Forget-Me-Knot Sacramento Marina

September 19-21, 2014
Les Cochren, Chair

Delta Rendezvous

Location to be determined
September 5-7, 2014
George Homenko, Chair

PICYA Wheelchair Regatta Alameda

September 28, 2014
Dick Engfer and Greg Brazil, Chairs

Crusin' for Kids

Saturday, October 18, 2014
Shawn Ball and Susan Takami, Chairs

Lighted Boat Parade San Rafael Canal

December 13, 2014
Alan Almquist, Chair

Lighted Boat Parade Oakland Estuary

December 6, 2014
Patrick Welch, Chair

NC Change of Watch

December 7, 2014
Encinal Yacht Club
Christopher James, Chair



So, who are those guys?

The Classic Yacht Association has many annual events which are held at various marinas in the San Francisco Bay and the Sacramento and San Joaquin Delta. Often there are several of our classics at each venue and visitors in in awe of the time, effort, and money, spent to restore and maintain these floating museum pieces in top condition. If they chat with the owners, they will find out that

we are a dedicated group of enthusiasts called, "The Classic Yacht Association." However, without the verbal interaction they might not realize who we are, and that we have a membership open to all old boat enthusiasts, and they can join in the fun. To this end, we have purchased two additional CYA banners and all event chairs are encouraged to hang one at the event in a conspicuous location to inform the general public of our organization. Additionally the CYA brochures can and should be placed on a table near the banner and each member can have brochures and membership applications aboard their boats. The CYA Historian has all three banners which are 21' x 3' or 12'x3". Arrangements can be made by the event chair to obtain a banner prior to the event and also return it after the event.



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2014 Board of Directors

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CLASSIC CURRENTS IS PUBLISHED 3 TIMES A YEAR: *MARCH, JULY & NOVEMBER*

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE: October 15, 2014

