

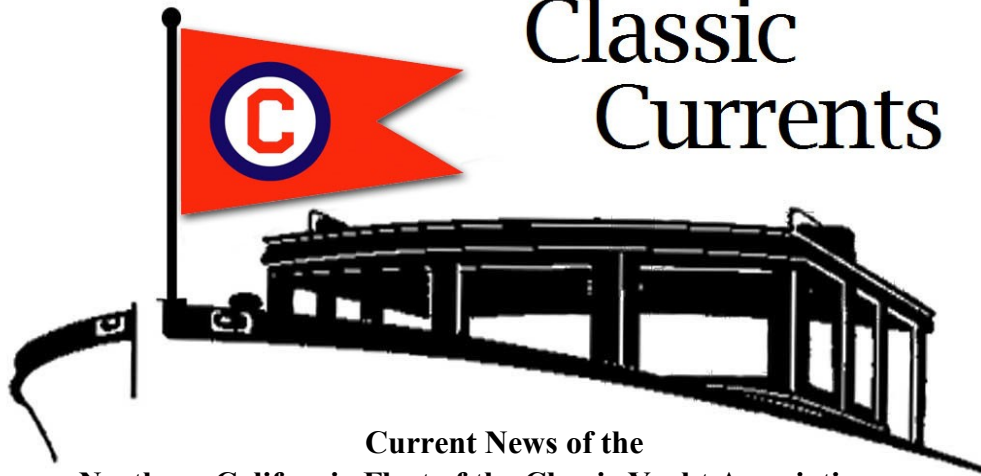
Classic Currents



FALL ISSUE 2016

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

Commodore's Report *by Steve Kadzielawa*

Time flies when you're having fun. It flies even faster when you're too busy to have fun.

It is nearly November as I reflect on this and I am amazed how fast the year went by. The Stephens Rendezvous at Delta Marina in late September and the Kruzin' 4 Kidz event at Jack London Square in October were two very special events that I had every intention to attend but was

unable to squeeze into my schedule. After having spent half the month of August at Lake Tahoe and cruising in to the Corinthian Yacht Club for our Classics at the Corinthian weekend, it was time to get back to work and pay back the time I took off. I must say, I do love cruising in to the Corinthian with our fleet and spending the weekend in

Tiburon. The view from the harbor is breathtaking day and night, the club



White Heron moves to new owners, Mark Jones and Heather Jones Jensen

accommodating and the charm of Main Street is steps away from the dock. It is like spending the weekend in fantasy land.

By time the year is up, the NC fleet will have covered a lot of ground. We will have had stops in San Francisco, Petaluma, Sacramento, Tiburon, Oakland, Emeryville, San Rafael and three delta trips

including Isleton, Stockton and Rio Vista. Clearly we are an equal oppor-

tunity fleet bringing the events to you.

This year we had the most action packed cruise schedule of any since I have been a member, with each cruise offering something unique and appealing for both the participants and spectators. All were thoughtfully organized to provide an enjoyable and rewarding experi-

ence. These entertaining events don't just happen, so I would like to acknowledge the time and effort involved with creating these distinctive activities and express my deepest gratitude to each of the organizers. At the same time if any members have ideas or would like to organize a cruising event, we would love to

Continued on page 2

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hear from you.

Next up is the Change of Watch. Rear Commodore Gerry Kamilos has selected an outstanding venue for this important and formal assembly. Having attended many, I must say, we all clean up nicely. And it serves as a reminder that there are shoes other than Topsiders.

On deck and immediately following is the annual San Rafael Lighted Boat Parade on Saturday, December 10. This has become a holiday tradition in San Rafael. The city and many local businesses all get involved to support the thousands of spectators who come out to view this beautiful spectacle. The homes along the canal plan their holiday parties around it and the gestures of appreciation and cheers are endless as each of the 80-100 boats cruise by. To support the event and our participation, The Marin Yacht Club on the San Rafael Canal offers us free berthing for the night. It is truly a festive experience and one that shouldn't be missed.

Recently, the application process was completed for new members to our fleet, Mark Jones and Heather Jones Jensen sponsored by Stuart Kiehl. There are a

couple of other new membership applications in the queue but as of this writing are still in the hands of the CYA membership committee. Mark and Heather are the new owners of the 58' classic yacht *White Heron*. She was built in 1926 by the Harbor Boatbuilding Company in San Pedro and I understand was once owned by a founding member of the Classic Yacht Association. Mark and Heather lovingly oversaw an intensive several month restoration at Bayside Boatworks in Sausalito shortly after taking ownership. The yacht is back in the water in her Sausalito slip and they sound eager to start cruising and sharing her history with the fleet.

Like I said, it has been an action packed year and it's not over yet.

(James Stitt was owner of *White Heron* and a member of the CYA from 1980 until recently selling the boat)

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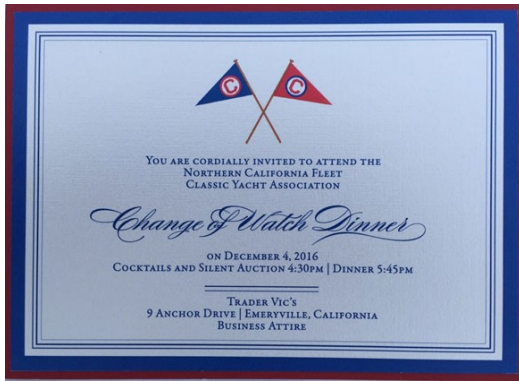
Orel beautifully decorated for the San Rafael Lighted Boat Parade

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2016/17 Change of Watch — by Gerry Kamilos



This December 4th the Northern California Fleet of the Classic Yacht Association will hold its Annual Change of Watch Dinner at Trader Vic's in Emeryville overlooking San Francisco Bay. All members and guests are invited. This is an event to bring along anyone who has the potential of joining CYA or just wants great evening out.

At 4:30pm, starts a cocktail reception with a hosted wine bar and hors d'oeuvres especially prepared by Trader Vic's staff for this event. During the reception, our silent auction chair, Candace Gable, will hold a silent auction with an array of wonderful items of photography, gift baskets, wines and other items of interest to our CYA members and guests.

At 5:45pm, we will all begin to be seated for a wonderful dinner prepared by order by the World class staff of Trader Vic's. First course shall be either Caesar or Trader Vic's salad. The selection entre menu includes: Chinese Oven Roasted Salmon, Wood-fired New York Strip Steak, Indonesian Rack of Lamb, and Vegetable Chow Mein. Dessert selection includes: Trader Vic's cheesecake or dark chocolate mousse parfait. This is planned to be a wonderful event to help enjoy the Holiday Season.

After dinner we will have a short traditional Change of Watch ceremony. The cost to attend the Change of Watch Dinner is \$65 per person. Friends and guests are welcomed.

For those who wish to stay the night we have made arrangements to reserve a room with the nearby (1/2 mile) Hilton Garden Inn, 1800 Powell Street, **Please ask for Stephanie Cain, guest services, 510-658-9300.** (This is the correct phone number versus the invitation)

For those who wish to cruise in, we have made slip arrangements with Emery Cove Yacht Harbor located next door to Trader Vic's; please contact Gerry Kamilos at either gkamilos@kamilos.com or 916-802-8070 to make arrangements. The invitations have been mailed out; however, if you have not received an invitation by the receipt of this newsletter or if you have any further questions; please contact the Event Chair, Gerry Kamilos at either gkamilos@kamilos.com or 916-802-8070. The RSVP date is November 12th, we need a final count for Trader Vic's by November 22, 2016. We can also make arrangements to mail invitations to guests you wish to invite.

We are still accepting donated items for our silent auction; if you would like to help out please contact our Silent Auction Chair, Candace Gable at either CandaceGable@gmail.com or call her at 707-481-4551.

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On September 17, 2016 the Northern California Fleet gave tribute to our service personnel who were captured and to those who are still Missing in Action. We also gave honor to the Holocaust victims and those who were fortunate to survive.

We pay homage to our veterans several times during the year, but barely a word is mentioned about our still missing veterans. It is their families our hearts should go out to, as they know not where their loved ones lie. We all agree it is easier to live with the death of a loved one than to live every day not knowing where they are, if they are alive and safe and hoping that someday they will return.

Our ceremony was beautiful. There were four wreaths that were blessed on the front steps of the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, Cathedral Square, downtown Sacramento by The Very Rev. Father Michael O'Rielly, It is just like a real Italian Duomo. Biographies were read about the Holocaust victims and survivors as

well as Father Jacquez Hamel, whom Isis killed in the Middle East. Our procession moved on to the



Sacramento Marina where we had a time of morning fellowship as our Captains readied their boats for shove off for the wreath laying on the Sacramento River waterfront Old Sacramento.

Once in downtown Old Sacramento the Air Force JROTC Honor Guard and the Color Guard as well as the percussions section of the local Natomas High School met us. We gathered at the Old School House for the presentation to the Western Holocaust Educational Museum, the American Flag and a prayer especially written for them. Once again the Holocaust's victim's biographies were read.

Then we moved to the

waterfront where our classic yachts together with ACBS and friends of our organizations proceeded

for the laying of the wreaths. It was a very moving ceremony. Most of us know or have a relative that served in the Armed Forces and that makes this ceremony special. What a way to remember and to say Thank you for your sacrifice! By the way all the flowers for the wreaths come from France. We also scatter sand from the beaches of Normandy. There was a couple from England that said this event was very moving for them as they lost their Uncle in WW I. I assured them that these wreaths were laid for all service men and women everywhere who fought for the

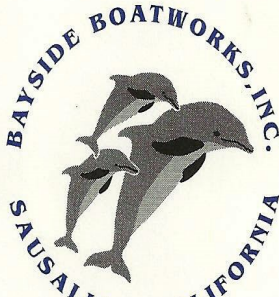
freedom we enjoy today. God bless our service men and women and God bless the USA.

For 13 years the "Forget Me Knot Allegory" has been a story that has revealed hidden meaning and a journey in which I wanted to share my growth and understanding of the war with our members. We have touched the hearts and souls of many people who lost loved ones or those that served. We tapped into the energy of the youth through parades and music. Our odyssey is chronicled on the internet "YouTube" under the search term Forget Me Knot Sacramento. In memory of the POW/MIA and the Normandy Invasion, may their sacrifices never be forgotten.

Thank you to all who made this event possible.

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The 2016 Stephens Rendezvous was held in late September at the delightful Delta Marina in Rio Vista. We had six boats, including Thom and Bryan Wiseman's magnificent yacht *Donella*,



Donella, owned by Thom and Bryan Wiseman

which has undergone major restoration over the last few years. The entire Wiseman family was on hand for their first CYA event, and Thom's son Bryan made quite a splash! Literally! Enroute from her home berth at Pier 39 in San Francisco, *Donella* had lost a trim-tab fitting, so Bryan was in the water with his wetsuit doing the repair work! He graciously also came over to put a temporary patch on a transom leak that our boat *MAKOTO* had developed over the weekend (waking up at 4 AM with bilge pumps going on every 3 minutes will definitely get your attention!).

Dick and Mavis Engfer attended aboard *Hiltot II*, Tom and Nancy Clothier attended aboard *Eslo*, Jim Staley arrived from San

Rafael aboard *Tule Lady*, and David and Bunny

Cobb, *Seabreeze*, cruised with us from Oxbow Marina to Rio Vista to attend. David, Bunny Susan and I thoroughly enjoyed seeing the cool classic steam launches that had gathered at B&W Resort for the weekend. We are going to try to coordinate an event with them next year!

We all enjoyed the usual Friday evening pot luck on the docks!

As a new initiative, Rusty Areias and I split the cost of some professional PR work, provided by Rusty's promotions and PR whiz Devon Ford. The result was a huge turnout for the boat show on Saturday. The boats were open from 11 AM to 3 PM, and we had over 80 visitors! This year we also decided to print up ballots and asked

the visitors to vote for boats in several classes:

best Classic Yacht won by *Sea Breeze*, best Vintage Yacht, won by *Donella*, best Interior, won by *Tule Lady*, and People's Choice, won by *MAKOTO*. We handed out ribbons and champagne for these awards at the Saturday evening group dinner at the Point Restaurant.

The Delta Marina Harbormaster also brought out a 48 foot Stephens (*Firebird*) that is for sale (the owner is unable to continue to care for her), and moored her with the other CYA yachts. If anyone is interested in this boat, please contact the harbormaster. She appears to be in good condition, and is apparently very reasonably priced.

About 25 of us enjoyed

dinner at the Point restaurant on Saturday evening. The Point did a very nice job hosting us in their reception room, with a magnificent view of the Sacramento River.

Boats started leaving around 10AM Sunday. Aboard *MAKOTO*, we cruised with *Sea Breeze*



and *Hiltot II* down the Sacramento River on a crystal clear Delta morning, made the turn at Three Mile Slough, and headed home. Leaks and all.

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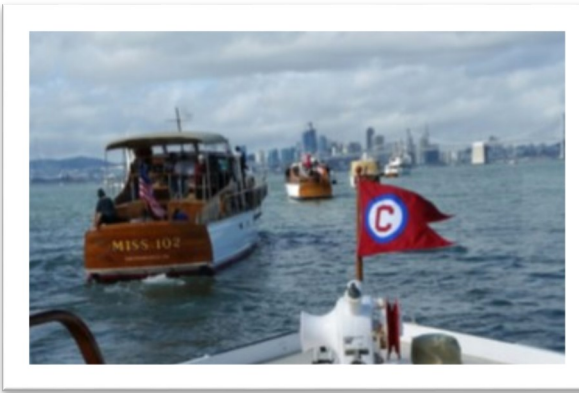
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Plenty of things have gone on around the Bay since our last newsletter and while we have the reports from the event chairs on these, I would like to take a minute and once again congratulate Jim and Bernadette Sweeny for organizing what has turned out to be an annual cruise-in to the beautiful Corinthian Yacht Club in Tiburon. Bernadette, who belongs to the Women's Auxiliary of the Club works with her group to sponsor this event. On Saturday afternoon the Captains of those yachts present at the guest docks welcome club members to view their yachts and provide light snacks and beverages to anyone who comes aboard. The club welcomes the CYA and puts on a great meal Saturday night for all attendees. Over the years more CYA yachts have made the trek to Tiburon for this great get-together, but since space is limited at the club it may be, in years to come, that it will be a first come, first served event to find docking space. We just about reached that point this year so be warned.

Next up on the list of events that has become better and better as the years go by is our annual charity cruise for the Chil-

dren's Hospital of Oakland which we have called *Kruizin 4 Kids*. Many CYA members, Shawn Ball, John DiLillo and Gerry Kamilos to name just a few who work many hours on this cruise which allows the young patients at the hospital and their families to get out on the



Bay for an exciting mid-morning voyage on the Presidential yacht, *Potomac*, that is followed in parade formation by yachts of the CYA fleet. Speeding police boats careening around the yachts adds a bit of dare-devil spirit to the parade which is capped off by the San Francisco fireboat fully charged up with all of its nozzles shooting water high in the sky. Only thing we might be missing for this show is the "Blue Angels" and, who knows, with the high spirits of this organizing group even that might be possible some day. The kids love this event and I am sure it is a help to them and their spirits after the

tough daily battles they face during their hospital stay. The Bay weather held for us though rain had been predicted. The wind did come up and the Bay was choppy, but all made it through unscathed. I had two guests aboard *North Star II* which was the oldest yacht in the

parade and even though there were times when things rocked and rolled the ladies

were great sports and laughed it all off, saying, when we returned to Jack London Square and disembarked, that they very much were looking forward to being in the parade again next year.

Our Change of Watch, Sunday **December 4th**, organized by Gerry and Karen Kamilos this year will be a first in NC CYA history, if memory serves me, to be held at a public venue rather than at a Yacht Club and I am looking forward to this event. It will also be my second go-around as Commodore of the fleet and it, no doubt, will be a most interesting evening. The venue chosen by Gerry is

the world famous *Trader Vics* in Emeryville with its renowned décor and meals that have been served there for decades. A silent auction is planned too for the evening. This will be a fun event and I hope all of our members will be able to take advantage of this great once a year get-together.

Finally, the yachting season winds up for this year with its annual Lighted Boat parades around the Bay. As been our tradition the Lighted Boat Parade on Saturday **December 10th** in San Rafael is the official NC CYA event, but if you can attend any of the other parades here are some dates to calendar. Just before our Change of Watch on December 4th the annual LBP on the Oakland estuary (on **December 3rd**) starts out at Jack London Square and parades in a circle in the estuary with many boats participating. There are many great viewing spots along the shore to enjoy this parade and have a drink or two in case the weather turns cold.

There are just not enough weekends in December to see all of the parades and another great event, this time off the waterfront in

Sausalito, takes place the same night as ours does in San Rafael. Beginning at 1800 hours the parade starts at the foot of Harbor Drive just north of the [Bay Model](#) in the [Marinship North](#) area and then goes south past the [Caledonia St. / New Town](#) area, but best viewing is in [Downtown / Ferry Pier](#) and [Bridgeway Promenade](#). The parade ends off of the boardwalk in [Old Town](#). At 1930 hours the fireworks display begins. The official headquarters of the parade is in a tent located in front of [The Spinnaker](#) restaurant and this opens at 1700 hrs with live music. You can buy drinks inside (Suggested donation of \$10 per person for entry, with the proceeds going to charity. You can also buy a \$65 VIP Ticket for food, a hosted bar and a private viewing area for the Lighted Boat Parade. Most importantly, the committee advertises "the tent is heated!"

Next an excerpt from the San Francisco lighted boat parade website: "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 on December 16, 2016. A holiday tradition since 1994, the parade includes members of the St. Francis



North Star II

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

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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."

So, in December there are a lot of things to do and I hope every CYA member will be able to take advantage of what is offered. The 2017 Bridge will meet early next year and begin our plans for the events for this yachting season. If you have any ideas for 2017 yachting please contact me at almquist.alan@gmail.com. In the meanwhile Nancy and I, your newsletter editors, wish you all a great holiday season.

Fall is absolutely the best time of the year for boating in the Delta. After

honored victims of the Nazi's concentration camps. Shawn Ball read the story of a lady who survived the death camps and a death march and lived to tell about it. Ceremonies were conducted at the Cathedral of the Blessed

Sacramento in downtown Sacramento and the Old Schoolhouse in Old Sacramento. ramento where wreaths, flower petals, and sand from Normandy were carefully laid in the river to honor those who sacrificed. The lead boat was a sailboat *Sea Eagle*, luckily she has a fairly new Yanmar diesel so she can run at hull speed for quite a while. After *Sea Eagle* came *Ranger* then *Gatsby* (Stephens) and *Patriot* (Chris Craft). After the bigger boats several runabouts from the ACBS followed. It was a great

trip on *Miss 102* (60 foot 1956 Stephens Brothers) to explore the Stockton Channel and McLeod



Forget Me Knot Ceremony

Labor Day weekend the crowds diminish considerably so guest slips are easier to find, you can get into your favorite restaurant without a wait and the weather is generally fantastic - cooler with less wind.

Sue and I piled into *Ranger* on September 15th and headed 40 miles up the Sacramento River to the Sacramento Marina. We were attending Les Cochren's 10th annual Forget Me Knot event honoring military veterans and this year including Father Jacques Hamel, a French priest who was murdered by terrorists shouting "Allah Akbar" as they killed him. We also

Sacramento in downtown Sacramento and the Old Schoolhouse in Old Sacramento. event and very moving. Les appointed me to be in charge of operation Neptune which was the boat parade from the Sacramento Marina to Old Sac-

Rusty Areias invited us to join him and friends for a



Tom Clothier and Dick Engfer on board *Hiltot* at Stephens' Rendezvous



Donna Stephens, Dick Stephens and Rusty Areias

Lake. We met at Dick and Donna Stephens house on the Calaveras River. Dick is the patriarch of the Stephens clan and designed many of their boats in the 1950s and 60s including *Miss 102*. Besides Dick and Donna Rusty's friends George and Pat Olsen, and Fritz & Phyllis Grupe were also aboard. Fritz developed much of modern Stockton and his family dates to the gold rush era. Between him and Dick we got a fascinating history of Stockton and it's waterfront. We were also some of the first people to walk on *Miss 102's* beautiful new decks.

We cruised from the Stephens home up the San Joaquin into downtown

Stockton enjoying a glass of wine and hors d'oeuvres along the way. Later Rusty's friend and famous chef Giancarlo Bortolotti served dinner on the upper deck as we cruised. We enjoyed a beautiful Delta sunset on the way back downstream. I would have to say this was one of the most fascinating evenings I have had in a while.

We had too many things going on to bring *Ranger* to the Stephens Rendezvous at Delta Marina in Rio Vista. We did make it Saturday night to join everyone for dinner at The Point restaurant. The weather was spectacular and I hear there was a

steady stream of visitors dropping by to admire the boats over the weekend.

I am excited to hear the change of watch will be at Trader Vic's in Emeryville. My favorite restaurant when I lived in Honolulu 50 years ago was Trader Vic's. I had many enjoyable evenings there. Sacramento had a copy of Trader Vic's from the 1949 through the 1990s it was called the Coral Reef. It was filled with artifacts the Maleville family collected during the 1930s and 40s during their travels to the South Seas and Micronesia. Sue and I look forward to seeing you there!

On the trip to Rio Vista for the Stephens' Rendezvous, MAKOTO had developed a transom leak. This was made worse by a faulty float switch in the mid-ship bilge pump. The result was the unwanted discovery of about 6 inches of water in the bilges, and that sinking feeling that comes with the forward bilge pump coming on every 3 minutes at 4 AM (I know, I timed it, bleary eyed, with my phone!). So the next weekend Susan and I cruised back down Georgiana Slough and made our way to the New Bridge Marina, just under the Antioch bridge. Jose Montano met us on the docks, and

ful!), we moved MAKOTO a few hundred yards to Bridgehead Marine where they hauled her out using their marine elevator. The elevator is very simple, but also very impressive. It lifts the boat out very gently, with no drama or concern for straps and such.

Mike at Bridgehead found the transom leak, re-caulked several seams, repainted the bottom, and replaced the zincs. We were relieved to find that the previous zincs, while somewhat deteriorated, were still reasonably sound after over two years, so that means either Oxbow Marina is not very electrically active, or our galvanic isolator is doing its job!

A few days later, on a very rainy day, we re-floated MAKOTO and saw not an additional drop of water in her bilges! I highly recommend both Jose, who does both teak restoration and brightwork, and Bridgehead Marine, who's elevator is a godsend for our old boats, and who have both the knowledge and appreciation to service these classic yachts.



we arranged to have him sand and varnish MAKOTO's exterior brightwork. Jose recently replaced the decks on *Miss 102*, and came highly recommended by Rusty. Once the brightwork was done (it is truly beauti-

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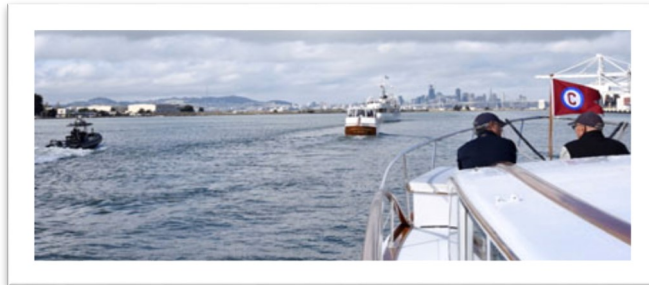
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For the fourth time, the children patients and their families of the Oakland and San Francisco Benioff Children's Hospitals enjoyed their annual Kruzin' 4 Kidz retreat from their day to day stresses with a calming and enlightening cruise on San Francisco Bay. With weather concerns on going all week; the 4th Annual Kruzin' 4 Kidz casted off at 1030 hours on October 15th on a partially sunny day with a mild southerly wind with



Oakland Police, Triple Crown, Potomac, Aurora V's foredeck/Photo-Cha

cruise seemed more like a Stephens reunion cruise that Dick Stephens would have enjoyed. The San Francisco's new Fireboat and Oakland Police's RIB high speed patrol boat participated entertaining almost 270 participants onboard the yachts. Over 150 were onboard the Potomac and the rest were onboard our escort yachts.

It takes many folks to implement such a fete. Commodores Shawn Ball and John Di Lillo chaired this event. The website and media relations were managed by Tom Bottenberg. Photography by Bill Hodges. Gerry Kamilos managed the fleet. We received donations or in-kind contributions from our sponsors: Port of Oakland, JLS Management, Almar Marinas, Vietnam

Vets of America, Potomac Foundation, Peirano Estate Winery, Oakland Police Dept., San Francisco Fire Dept., Sea Scouts, Hackworth Insurance, Prestige Flag, Phillip Mauer Photomount, Italian Catholic Federation, Raley's Supermarkets (Nob Hill), and Kamilos Companies.

We have already received

notifications from the Hospitals that they are looking forward to next year's cruise. The hospital staff have told us that our cruise provides very positive therapeutic benefits to the children patients that lasts for weeks and months. As classic yacht owners we already know how great it is to be out cruising on the water; now we all have an opportunity to share that experience with a great group of kids, their families, and dedicated caregivers. For more information with photos and videos of the 2016 Kruzin' 4 Kidz, please go to our website at: www.cyakids.org.

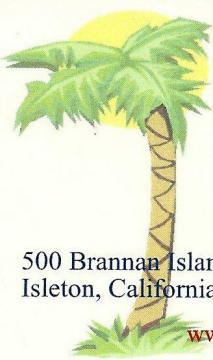


Maverick, Miss 102, Ahalani in foreground, Eslo and North Star II in back./Photo-Cha Levias

7 classic yachts escorting the former Presidential yacht, USS Potomac (Manitowac Ship Builders). This year's escort fleet included: Triple Crown (Stephens), Aurora V (Trumpy), Maverick (Stephens), Ahalani (Stephens), Miss 102 (Stephens), Eslo (Netherlands), and North Star II (Stephens) – a span of 50 years of motor yachting naval architecture on display for the public to see. This year's



Triple Crown, Potomac with children patients on board/Photo-Cha Levias



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Coming Events

CYA NC Change of Watch

December 4—Trader Vics in Emeryville
Gerry Kamilos, Chair

Lighted Boat Parade

December 3—Jack London Square.

Lighted Boat Parade

December 10—San Rafael
Steve Kadzielawa, Chair

Classics at the Corinthian—by Jim and Bernadette Sweeney



Bernadette greeting guests aboard Elizabeth—both 2 legged and 4 legged.

This year's show was the biggest and best to date, with ideal Indian summer weather. *ELIZABETH*, *FLAMINGO*, *TULE LADY*, *CALIFIA*, *AURORA V*, *TRIPLE CROWN*, and *ESLO* dressed ship and received a steady flow of

Corinthian Y.C. visitors and guests. *MISS 102* was unable to be in the show but dropped by briefly for her crew to say hello and enjoy lunch at Sam's Anchor Cafe. At

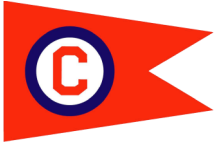
1000 hours Commodore Steve Kadzielawa convened a mid-day bridge meeting in the Corinthian Members Library and a good deal of lively discussion came about over a number of items on the agenda.

NC Fleet folks at the show, bridge meeting, and Saturday dinner party were: Steve and Cheryl Kadzielawa, Jim and Carol Staley, Mel and Gig Owen, Michael

Weber, Gerry and Karen Kamilos, Patrick Welch and Lucas Donovan, Alan Almquist, George Homenko, Candace Gable, Scott Andrews, Susan Takakmi, Tom and Nancy Clothier, and Jim and Bernadette Sweeney. The Corinthian Y.C. staff provided excellent professional services throughout the weekend and Saturday's dinner prompted numerous compliments to the chef for a superb dining experience.



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