COMMODORES' COMMENTS

BY NANCY RANDALL & ANJIE MCCABE

As we say goodbye to the month of June, I am reflecting that we're already half-way through the year and that's hard to believe! I am hoping 'June Gloom' is also leaving us, bringing on a sunny July!

We had Whistler Race #2 this month with only a few of our sailors able to make it over the bar - - light winds and a strong current!

Father's Day weekend at Big Lagoon was pretty low-key. We had a few dinghies out and a Hobie cat! It was a beautiful weekend, with plenty of sunshine. Good company and those who sailed had a great time! I enjoyed a few days of paddling in my kayak. It was perfect!

Three of our club members, Brad, Bridge and Mario ventured off to the Delta Ditch Run which was sponsored by the Stockton Sailing Club and Richmond Yacht club. It was a 65 mile regatta and they had fantastic time out in the *Crazy Banana* Holder 20! Feel free to share your adventures with us

and we're happy to mention it in our newsletter each month.

With June we also had our first FOG watch BBQ and a foggy night it was. I hoped to see more attendance but there were a few who came and it was quite enjoyable. If you missed that one you have another chance in July and August. They're scheduled for the third Wednesday of the month. It's a fantastic view of the boat race.

BOOM! Get ready for July and fireworks! We have our annual raft up July 4th beginning at 6pm. This is where we all tie up together and celebrate Independence Day with a great view of the local firework display. As always, it's a great time to mingle with our sailing friends. We will have more to come with that. We'll need someone to volunteer to be the main anchor boat.

(Continued on next page)





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COMMODORES' COMMENTS (Cont'd)

The third Whistler Race is scheduled for the end of the month. July looks like a light month of racing so I hope you all have some vacations, or camping, sailing, etc., on your books! Get out and soak up the sun! Don't forget cocktail hour this month, hosted by the Randall's. It should be another great social hour! Thank you to Caris for hosting June, it was fabulous!

Lastly, Redwood Regatta is around the corner. It is our biggest event of the year and our primary fundraiser. Not to mention it's a lovely time. For new members, this is a great time to get know the club members and have fun! It's not too soon to plan so we will be sending out a volunteer list soon. Even if you don't plan to camp you can still sign up to help. It's not too long of a drive and it's beautiful! If you see the list and have questions, feel free to reach out to myself or Nancy. Many hands make light work and a great time!

Co-Commodore Anjie McCabe



FLOGGING A DEAD HORSE

Sailors were customarily advanced their first month's earnings when signing on for the duration of a ship voyage. Needless to say, what with buying food for his poor old mother, shoes for the orphanage, and contributions to the Marbelhead Home for Unwed Mothers (with maybe just a few trips to the local tavern in between) ol' Jack normally found he'd spent his advanced wages prior to even setting sail.

It was during that first month, traditionally called the *dead horse month*, sailors fancied themselves working for nothing but salt horse (their meals of salted beef or pork) while paying back the ship's master. The name itself was derived from the above mentioned salt, and the fact that most English ports were roughly one month's sail from the horse latitudes.

As the work ethic a Tar who felt he labored for nothing was less than enthusiastic to say the least, most officers agreed one was more likely to flog a dead horse into activity than get a wholehearted work effort from the crew during their first month at sea.

British sailors marked its end by "killing" the dead horse (an event signifying they'd finally worked off their advance wages) by constructing an effigy of a horse from canvas, straw, or other such scrap material. This they then paraded around the decks amid huzzahs and shouts of "Old man [captain] your horse must die!" The hated horse was then set on fire and cast over the side.

JACK TAR and the Baboon Watch
- by Captain Frank Lanier

PIRATE FUN DAY

- by Vice Commodore Ed Mattson -

July 20th at 1:00pm is scheduled as a Pirates Day. In the late 1980s, HYC had a Pirates Day which was essentially a water balloon fight on the bay.



The first year all the boats loaded up on water balloons and had the water balloon fight in front of our new yacht club. The next year we had the fight in the Eureka Channel at the foot of F Street so spectators could watch. That year the Coast Guard joined the fun with the sailors on the Barracuda spraying us with their high pressure water hoses. Everyone had a great time, especially the kids.

Sadly, we only did it twice because the balloons were polluting the bay, but with the advent of high power water blasters, hopefully we can get enough water pressure and capacity to make Pirates Day fun.

REDWOOD BIREGATTA

BIG LAGOON, CA. Labor Day Weekend - Aug. 31 & Sep. 1, 2024

In the Redwoods - By the Ocean Good Time Sailing - Camping Boat Launch - Camp Fire & Great Food



Race Entry Fee \$50 Weekend Camping \$30 Dinner Saturday \$35 Breakfast Sunday \$15

Paper registration: humboldtyachtclub.org

Under menu, look for Redwood Regatta tab, then you will see link to a paper registration form to print, fill out and mail in along with your fees.

Note: Late fees will be added if registration completed online (or postmarked) after August 23rd.





Volunteer Sign-Ups

The sign up list for all those duties that need to get done to put on an outstanding regatta will be passed around at the potluck on July 2nd: camp set-up; loading the truck; race committee; dinner & breakfast chefs and helpers; load truck, etc.

Camp Clean-Up

Saturday August 24th at 1000 hrs. Bring your tools [riding mower, weed whacker, rake, brush trimmer, tarp, etc.] to make the campsite beautiful for our members and guests to enjoy during a beautiful weekend of sailing and camping on Labor Day Weekend. Remember, "many hands make light work." No reservations required.

Regatta Weekend

Camping is available for regatta registrants starting Thursday August 29th at 1330 hrs, through Sunday night on September 2nd. Camp closes promptly on Monday (Labor Day) September 2nd at high noon. Skippers' meetings 1100 hrs on Saturday and Sunday. Racing First Shapes are 1200 hrs on Saturday and Sunday.

JULY POTLUCK & MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Bill and Janet Wickman will host the potluck on July 2nd at 6pm, and the theme will be Mediterranean. They will show a short youtube video about the 10 best places to anchor while visiting there.



Sunset Sail

Get your nav lights ready. The Sunset Sail is scheduled for July 6th at 7:00 p.m. The race should end just at dusk, so hopefully it's an opportunity to navigate using the flashing channel buoys and marina lights. Skippers' meeting is one hour before at the HYC clubroom. Try it - - you'll like it!

Whistler #3

The final race to the Whistler buoy (or inbay alternative) is July 28th at high noon.

keeping a weather eye:

July 2	Potluck & Member Mtg - 1800 hrs
July 4	Fireworks Raft Up - 1800
July 6	Social Hour - 1700 hrs
July 6	Sunset Sail - 1700 hrs
July 9	Board of Gov'nors Mtg - 1800 hrs
July 20	Pirate Fun Day - 1300 hrs
July 24	FOG Watch BBQ - 1800 hrs
July 28	Whistler #3 - 1200 hrs



Fireworks Raft Up July 4 at 1800 hrs





