



COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

- BY BRIDGE RANDALL -

Happy May! Spring is here and the winds are up. Thank you North Pacific High. We have two sailing events this coming month. Great Bay Race and In Bay Keel boat races are beautiful. Make an effort to come out and play for the day. Wednesday night Fog races are fun for a quick sail, but nothing grows your skills as captain and crew like a full day of sailing. The end of the month wraps up with camping at Whiskeytown for their annual regatta. Camping all weekend in warm waters. Sounds Great!



I have long been fascinated by our perpetual trophies. Some are lost in memory as to what race they represented, and others just have tarnished. We should re-invigorate them! At the moment we have trophies for most of our

race series, but need three more for Single Hand Keel, In Bay Keel, and the Whistler Race. If you happen to have an old silver water pitcher, or some sort of suitable shiny thing (trophyish) to donate to the club, that would be fantastic.

The other option is maybe your business or friends' business would like to sponsor a trophy and have a perpetual home in the case.



Our preparations for the Redwood Regatta have begun. We are working on some new club swag and starting our flyer for promotion. It's time to start thinking of what volunteer job you might be interested in signing up for. We always need help, and many hands make it fun and easy. A signup sheet will be coming soon.

WHISTLER

What Was Your Favorite Place?

I used to roll my eyes at that question and say something like 'impossible'. There were too many wonderful places from the Pacific to SE Asia to Greece, Turkey and the Med. But lately it has become obvious it deserves an answer. For me that answer is "Vanuatu".



The physical beauty of the islands that make up the archipelago, the relatively intact indigenous culture and the experiences we had there made it very special.



Coming into lovely, lush, undeveloped Resolution Bay on the island of Tanna arriving from Fiji with the active volcano of Mt. Yasur erupting above the bay, the same volcano that has been in continuous

eruption since Cook first saw it in 1774, was a wonderful beginning.



We had a rugged but beautiful ride in the back of a truck over the mountains to the community where we could check into the country.



Hitchhiking on Tanna

We hiked to the rim of the volcano and spent a spectacular evening viewing the eruption. We sailed the trades north into the archipelago and enjoyed the relative sophistication of Port Vila and Luganville and the unspoiled villages everywhere else.

WHISTLER

We visited “cargo cult” villages where “John Frum” is the principal god worshipped, especially on Tanna.



We chuckled that Vanuatu ‘officially’ declared cannibalism to be over in 1968. And that the word hadn’t got out completely because an unlucky tourist got killed and eaten a couple years before we arrived. We met sweet people everywhere.



With Stanley, the Chief, Port Resolution

We took our dinghies up the cool freshwater streams to the ‘blue holes’ on Espirito Santo. We dove and did penetrations to depths of over two hundred feet on the spectacular wreck of the President Coolidge.



After a + 200 ft. Dive

James Michener got his inspiration for “Tales of The South Pacific” from his time on Espirito Santo during WWII. Vanuatu was the “New Hebrides” in those days. To me it is still a most special place.

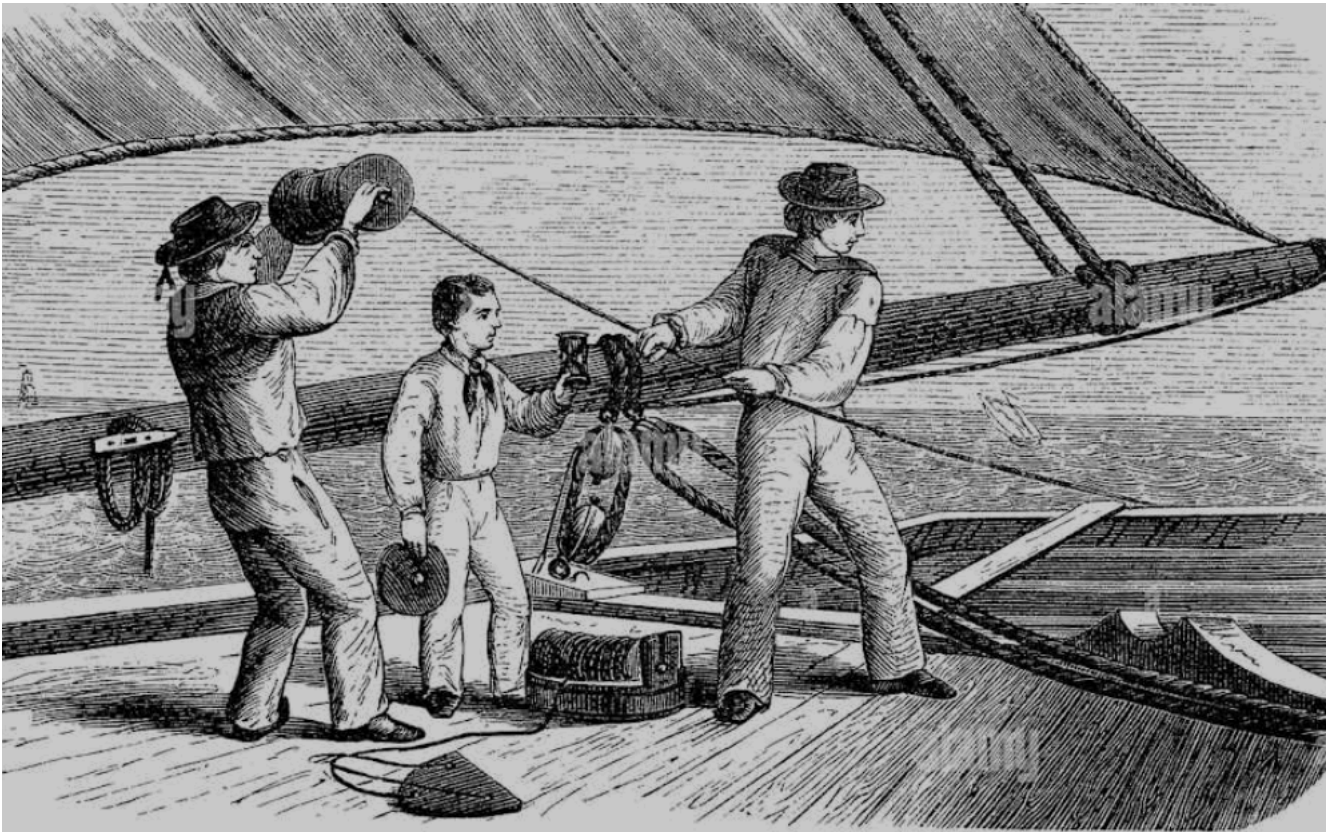
- Love to all, Bill & Janet

WHISTLER

NAUTICAL MILE vs. KNOT What's the Difference ?

The simple answer: one measures distance, the other speed!

A nautical mile is based on the circumference of the earth, and is equal to one minute of latitude. It is slightly more than a statute (land measured) mile (1 nautical mile = 1.1508 statute miles) 6076 feet, 1.386 inches to be exact. Nautical miles are used for charting and navigating.



A knot is one nautical mile per hour (1 knot = 1.15 miles per hour). The term knot dates from the 17th century, when sailors measured the speed of their ship by using a device called a "common log." This device was a coil of rope with uniformly spaced knots, attached to a piece of wood shaped like a slice of pie. The piece of wood was lowered from the back of the ship and allowed to float behind it. The line was allowed to pay out freely from the coil as the piece of wood fell behind the ship for a specific amount of time. When the specified time had passed, the line was pulled in and the number of knots on the rope between the ship and the wood were counted. The speed of the ship was said to be the number of knots counted (Bowditch).

-Thanks to Richard Hendry



Today < > May 2025 Month						
SUN 27	MON 28	TUE 29	WED 30 • 6pm Fog Race	THU May 1	FRI 2	SAT 3 • 5pm Social Hour
4	5	6 • 6pm Potluck	7 • 6pm Fog Race	8	9	10 • 1pm Great Bay Race #1
11	12	13 • 6pm Board Meeting	14 • 6pm Fog Race	15	16	17 • 3pm In-Bay Keel #2
18	19	20	21 • 6pm Fog Race	22	23	24 Whiskeytown Regatta
25 Whiskeytown Regatta	26	27	28 • 6pm Fog Race	29	30	31



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Happy 20th anniversary to Wendy and Todd!