



## COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

- BY BRIDGE RANDALL -

**It's Regatta season!** Humboldt Yacht club traveled to Whiskeytown for their memorial regatta. We had boats in most of the classes and made it to the podium.

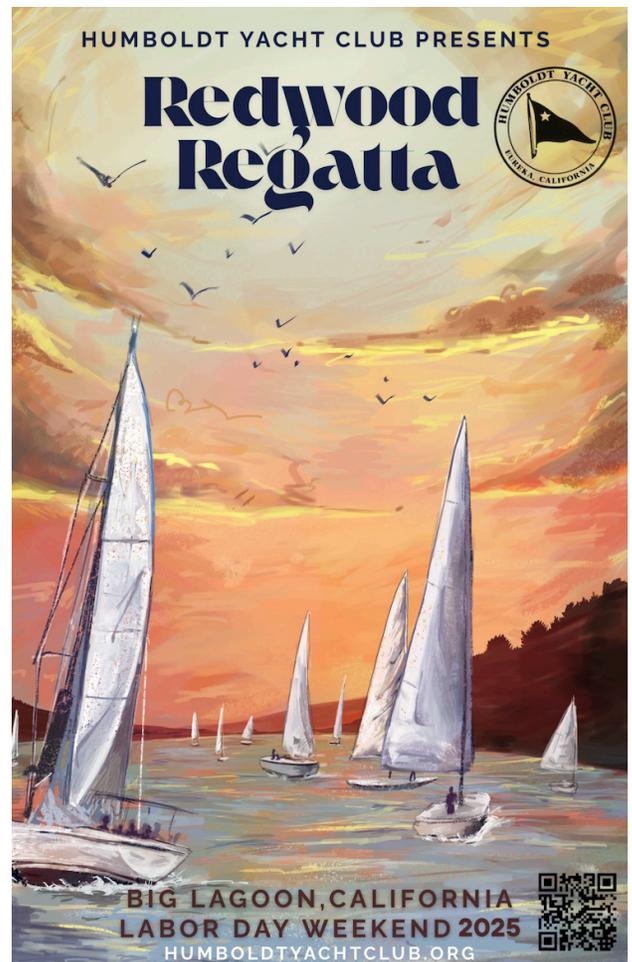


Nancy and I missed the 4th of July raft up and instead traveled to Klamath yacht clubs Firecracker regatta. Fantastic fun in a really big lake! 55 miles of fetch. If you haven't made it out to their club it's lovely with docks, ramp and crane! Plus they are a super friendly group of sailors. Lots of San Juan 21s, Hobbie 16s, and Catalina 22s cruising this lake.

Make sure you save Labor Day weekend for us! Redwood Regatta and camp out will be epic! We plan camp cleanup the weekend before and members are welcome to start camping! A growing volunteer list needs your

help! Come and race, relax and enjoy the lagoon!

Our Oyster fund raiser party moved us a wee bit closer to a new outboard. It was a lovely evening put on by Anjie and Nancy to the benefit of the club! Huge props to all their efforts! And thank you to everyone who came to support the club.



# WHISTLER

## Sail Trim, Headsails

Tom Whidden's book, "**The Art and Science of Sails**" offers the best discussion and analysis of the aerodynamics of sail trim I've read anywhere. There are hundreds of pages of very pertinent information for any sailor with special emphasis on racing performance. Summarized below are excerpts from several chapters concerning headsail trim.

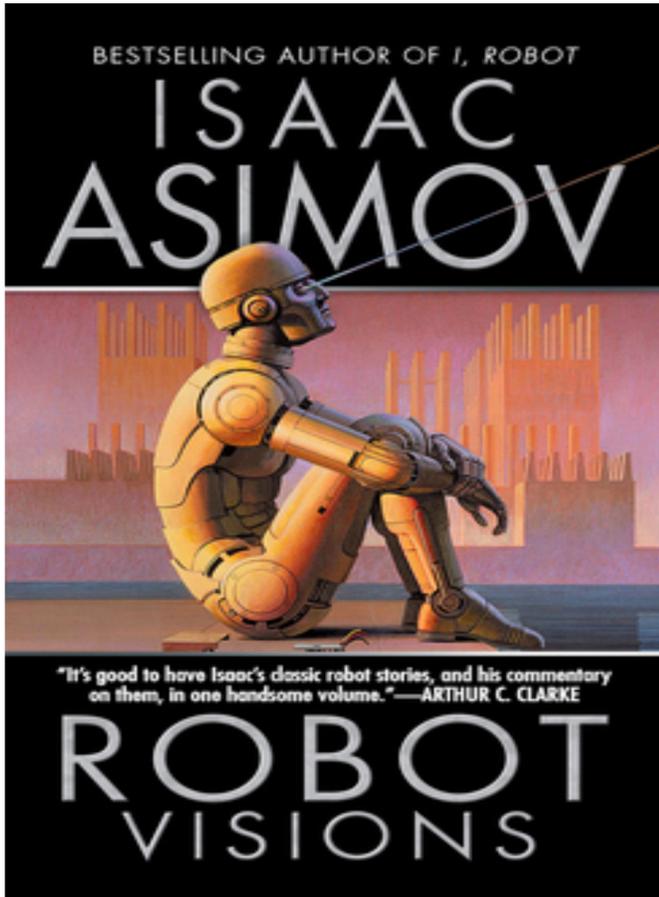
- 1) Use the correct size sail for the conditions.
- 2) Use the size and depth of the headsail to balance the helm. A heavy helm will be relieved by putting up a smaller, flatter headsail.
- 3) Be sure there are telltales on both sides of the luff of the headsail.
- 4) Check the sheet lead position. This means setting the lead angle and setting the fore and aft adjustment by drawing an imaginary line from mid-luff through the clew to the deck. Then fine tune the lead position by slowly rounding into the wind. All the weather telltales should flip up at once, indicating that the top and bottom of the sail are trimmed equally. If the top luffs first, move the lead forward, if the bottom luffs first, move the lead aft. Remember **BOTTOM, BACK!** Keep in mind it's better to err on the side of too far back. This increases twist and gives the sail a larger sweet spot.
- 5) Going hard to weather trim the sail close to but not onto the spreaders with some variation according to wind and sea conditions.
- 6) Use halyard tension to pull the draft forward, but do not tension the halyard so much you get a vertical wrinkle behind the headstay.
- 7) Adjust the sail to suit conditions. In flat water and medium air trim harder and move the sheet lead inboard. In waves, ease the sheet and move the lead outboard. In heavy air move the lead outboard and aft. In very light air move the lead outboard, ease the sheet and move the lead forward to maintain and even break on the luff telltales.
- 8) If the main is fluttering or backwinding excessively and all other settings are correct, move the sheet outboard or change to a smaller headsail.
- 9) When bearing away, move the sheet lead outboard to broaden the angle of attack of the headsail without compromising shape control.
- 10) When you are doing particularly well **note the conditions and adjustments and record them**, call it whatever you want, a "genoa trim card" for example. **Mark your settings on the boat for immediate future reference.**

Again, these are greatly simplified basic summaries of many chapters of a great discussion of what makes a sail plan perform to its highest level. Tom Whidden's sail trim advice helped win three America's Cups and he built North Sails into the largest sail making company in the world.

-Bill Wickman

# WHISTLER

## Book Review “Robot Visions”



Although not a sailing book, this series of short stories investigates the future (and current) dilemma of where the line is between inanimate objects and cognizant machines, their interactions with humans and what “rights” they might have. Sailors have always felt a bond with their boats. Feelings of care, protection and adventure are infused into the hull. Now we have “smart” boats that can feel the wind, waves and the bones of the boat. Where’s the line between rigging load cells and nerve cells? The brains of a modern boat can see obstacles in the water and adjust the autopilot to avoid collision. You can ask your boat to route a course taking consideration of wind, waves, currents plus the comfort level of your crew already!

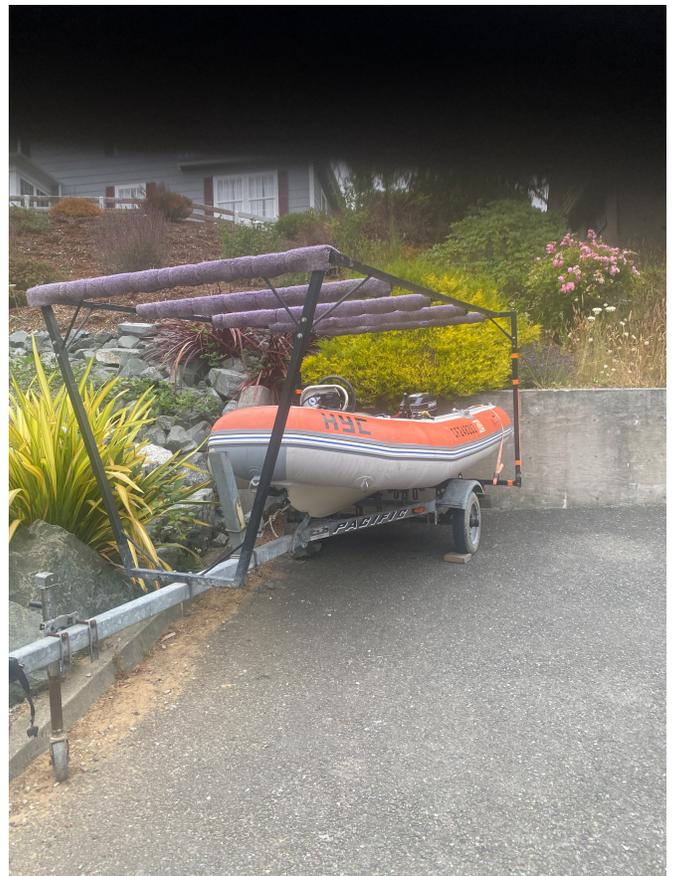
Is it weird that I talk to my boats and cars, especially in times of divine need. When will she start answering? How do you sell your beloved boat who has kept you safe for years? An amenable divorce?

Something to contemplate over a lovely sunset on your boat.

—Commodore Bridge

### Thank you Wing Inflatables!

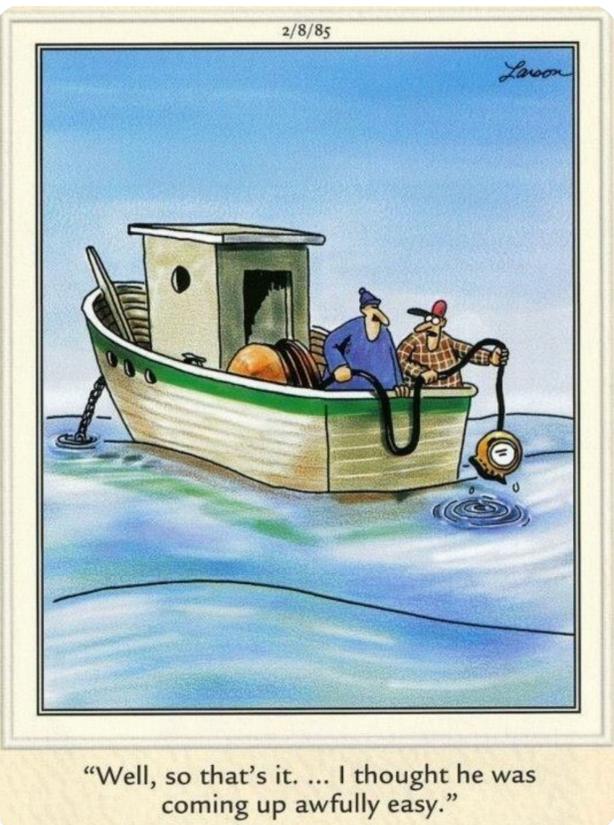
A huge thank you to Kevin for his hookup with **Wing inflatables!** They donated time and resources to repair our safety boat’s hull! Amazing! Now she’s all ready for regatta!





SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
27	28	29	30	31	Aug 1	2
			6pm Fog Race			12:30pm Great Bay Race #2 5pm Social Hour
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		6pm Potluck	6pm Fog Race			12:30pm Single Handed Keel #
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
		6pm Board Meeting	6pm Fog Race			
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
			6pm Fog Race			Camping @ Big Lagoon 2 more
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Camping @ Big Lagoon			6pm Fog Race			Redwood Regatta
31	Sep 1	2	3	4	5	6
Redwood Regatta			6pm Fog Race		Port Townsend Wooded Boat Festival	5pm Social Hour

Humboldt Yacht Club



**GOTTA’ REGATTA !**

Our premier sailing event of the year, **REDWOOD REGATTA**, happens this month on **August 30th and 31st**, as Labor Day falls on Sept. 1st.

For online registration, go to [regattanetwork.com](http://regattanetwork.com) - event 30020 [or search by date and name].

For paper registration, go to our club’s website [humboldtyachtclub.org](http://humboldtyachtclub.org) and under **Menu**, look for the **Redwood Regatta** tab, where you will see the link to a paper registration form to print, fill out and mail in along with your fees.

You can save money by signing up early online [or have your letter postmarked] by August 23rd, because after that the tariffs will kick in.

**See you at the regatta!**



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**Bridge Randall**

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**Larry Fox**

*Rear Commodore:*  
**Bill Wickman**

*Secretary:*  
**Brad McCabe**

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**Garrett Coonrod**

*Port Captain:*  
**Will Bagnall**

*Members At Large:*  
**Stephen Buck**  
**Nick Kohl**  
**Wendy Zampardi**

*Past Co-Commodores:*  
**Nancy Randall**  
**& Anjie McCabe**

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