

GARDEN BAY SAILING CLUB - Newsletter

Issue 167 April 2026



Melted Smart Plug. Find out why....



GARDEN BAY SAILING CLUB - Newsletter

Issue 167 April 2026

Race Results

| | | | |
|-------------|--------|-----------------------------|--------|
| March: | | For the Winter Series 2026: | |
| Paragon | 5/3, | Paragon | 33/28, |
| Bumpercar | 15/8, | Bumpercar | 42/35, |
| Elua Makani | 19/11, | TLC | 47/43, |
| Linnea | 23/14, | Peregrine | 59/48, |
| TLC | 22/18 | Wings II | 62/51 |

Congratulations to PARAGON on the winter series win!

New Date for the Malaspina Regatta

Our club regatta will be held on June 20th this year. The date was changed due to other events already being booked at the legion, other sailing events available in our area and just too many things going on on our past event day, Canada Day.

Book Your Moorage for Secret Cove Race Weekend!

secretcovemarina.com

Still a few stragglers for club dues.

Last call, your name will be removed from the contact list and you won't be cool anymore.

Movie Night - April 9 - 5-:30

This will be our final movie night for the season
Bring your appetite and enjoy the evening



GARDEN BAY SAILING CLUB - Newsletter

Issue 167 April 2026



1 APRIL, 2026

37TH MALASPINA REGATTA

New Date SATURDAY, June 20, 2026 New Date

**PLEASE NOTE THAT:
REGISTRATIONS & BOOKINGS FOR
HALF-RACK RIBS DINNER, WITH ALL THE
TRIMMINGS
MUST BE IN BY MAY 30**

It is just under three months until we will be hosting the
37th. Malaspina Regatta.

WE WOULD LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU!

The Race:

We would request all skippers to let us know ASAP if they are planning on taking part in this year's Regatta. The Registration Forms will be sent out at the beginning of July and must be completed and sent back to us by May 30. The Boat Registration Fee is \$40 per vessel. Funds can be e-transferred, or paid by cheque made out to GBSC.

Remember, this is a fun event! Come out and enjoy some family racing, followed by a social gathering and Half-Rack Ribs Dinner, with all the trimmings, at The Legion after the race.

Dinner at the Legion:

It is very important that we know how many people will be coming so that we can keep the Legion advised of the numbers. Please let us have your preliminary numbers, but final numbers must be in by May 30. Dinner Tickets are \$40 each.

We realize that it is early but even a preliminary indication is better than none!
Please let us know **as soon as possible**, davidtwentyman@dccnet.com



GARDEN BAY SAILING CLUB - Newsletter

Issue 167 April 2026

Garden Bay Sailing Club Secret Cove Race Weekend - May 23/24, 2026 -

Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions

The 2026 edition of the Secret Cove Race Weekend for the prestigious Upwood Cup will be held Saturday May 23rd and Sunday May 24th. Races will be on Saturday from Pender Harbour to Secret Cove and on Sunday from Secret Cove to Pender Harbour. There will be a "pot luck" dinner starting at 5:30pm on Saturday evening, on the dock at Secret Cove Marina. Secret Cove Marina has been advised of our plans and is looking forward to welcoming us. Participants must make their own arrangements for moorage with Secret Cove Marina. This can be done online at secretcovemarina.com

Race results will be based on the sum of corrected time for both race days.

Race Format

Saturday May 23 – From start line (Nares Rock to Cable Marker on Pearson Island), to finish line (Q51 green buoy, north end of Thormanby Island, to Red/White marker, Secret Cove entrance).

Sunday May 24 – Reverse of Saturday

Start time on both days will be 11:00am

Time limit will be 4 hours (cut off time will be 3:00pm)

Start Sequence

10:45am – Roll call/check in

10:54am – 6 minute warning sound

10:55am – 5 minute warning sound

10:59am – 1 minute warning sound, engines off

11:00am – Start sound

Communication

All race radio communication will be on VHF 09

Race Registration

All participants are required to pre-register with the race organizer Geoff Chambers at geoffc@janiechang.com. Please provide skipper/owner name, boat model/size, sail number or marking.



GARDEN BAY SAILING CLUB - Newsletter

Issue 167 April 2026

Melted Smart Plug. But, Why?

Alain on Imagine was having electrical issues. Any time even the smallest load was put on his AC system the breakers would trip. Alain did a bunch of Googling and when he couldn't find an answer he asked if I could have a look.

Tom, my son who is experienced in electrical, and I went to Imagine to see if we could help. Every AC plug in the boat was tested for correct wiring. All good. But, sure enough, turn on anything and the breakers would trip. Hmm. Could be the main breaker as they don't last forever. But it seemed odd that there was power with no load and even the slightest draw kicked out every breaker that was on.

When in doubt, let it out ...no, that's jib trim... start at the beginning! The shore power cord looked fine as did the plug on the boat. The inside of the plug, different story! It was a melted mess. Seems there was just enough wire left to let the power flow but when any kind of load was applied it would short out.

But why did it melt? Ah ha! If loads are on inside the boat when the shore power is plugged in there is a tiny arc as the electricity tries to jump the gap between the power plug spade and the receptacle. The bigger the power draw the bigger the arc. Eventually a little carbon deposit is built up and this is the first contact point. This contact point gets a little bigger every time you plug in or unplug the shore power. After a few hundred cycles the spade isn't making contact with the receptacle at all and all the electricity is flowing through the tiny carbon build up. Well, that can get hot. Really hot. Hot enough to melt wires and potentially start a fire.

Easy fix... Before unplugging your boat to shore power, turn off the main AC breaker. Then, when you unplug, there won't be an arc as there isn't any load. When plugging in your boat only turn on the main breaker after you've plugged it in, no arc. Easy peasy, no fires.

RonB.



GARDEN BAY SAILING CLUB - Newsletter

Issue 167 April 2026

The story of the Martin 244. Where did that come from?

By Colin Jackson

We had seven Martin 242's in our school in Vancouver. They eventually won out in our typical light winds over Goman 20, Catalina 22, Capri 22 and Cal 20s as the boats we could teach sailing when someone was just 'breathing heavily'. The strong local fleet was also complimentary for those stepping up to racing.

Our boats were getting tired and we had a few mast failures and maintenance costs were climbing on these exceptionally busy boats. I'd been working with Forbes Cooper (of Cooper Yachts/West Coast Custom Yachts) and, after a M242 in California was sacrificed to make brand new molds, I suggested we ship the molds up, build ten new boats (and more for anyone else wanting to partake) and ship the tooling back and forth once vs shipping finished boats one at a time.

Don Martin suggested that he designed the 242 in 1981 and, at that time in 2007, he was working with the America's Cup - measuring the competitors on and off the water in Valencia, Spain. He suggested that for ten boats, we'd be able to build many updates into a fresh design.

On a Thursday in May 2007, we got asked to sail the Swiftsure on a Transpac 52 and, while being on that boat, sitting on the rail next to "the Donald", he talked about how the T bulb keel would make for a boat that could be ramp launched easily. He also pointed out how far ahead we were aboard the newer technology over the 90's Santa Cruz 52 (seen the opposite side of that tale on the Van Isle 360's), but that was an epic trip and the record we set back then still stands today.

The project tied to a re-boot of the Jib Set Sailing Club and to refresh the school. Pretty hard not to love a boat that someone designed for us. We started building in December 2007 and built plugs, molds and 20 boats. 5 went to Ontario and a few to Seattle. Sadly, we were delivering the first client boat the same week that Lehman Brothers went bankrupt and the economic fallout caused a tapering of interest /activity. We had the right boat at the wrong time.

.....



GARDEN BAY SAILING CLUB - Newsletter

Issue 167 April 2026

Ironically, our Martin 242 "Seven" (hull 227) ended up in Hospital Bay with Dave Pritchard competing locally. We had placed third in the M242 champs with the boat just before selling it. That boat was a bit odd because the keel was a bit crooked, so it was way better on one tack than the other. Don Martin's daughter and son in law had been part of the crew. Dave has a different 242 in Gibson's now, and the Championships are in Gibson's this coming July. To fix any older construction issues like crooked keels the jib track and other key placements on the 244 is 'set' into the tooling... providing for much more matched boats.

Fast forward to our nest emptying and a change to escape the big city. It's been piles of fun to use the boat at the GBSC - with and without the dog - and crew at times. Getting Ron to sail the other one made it even better as we had a sistership to play with.

No Boat? - No Problem

The polite version of an old saying....

"If it flies, floats or fornicates, a different commitment may be in order"

JIB SET V3 is a program where members share unlimited use of boats, the back bone of which happens to be the Martin 244. It was that unique version of the future that caused the 244 to be designed and built in the first place.

Bookings for the boats are made using the club's <https://clubwizard.app> and we have regular online sessions and monthly face to face sessions that involve making the boats better in the mornings (maintenance mornings), followed by coaching (mentoring afternoons). Bumpercar will be made available in Pender Harbour if we get a minimum two members to make the \$299 annual commitment plus 12 months at \$199. Members also access shared boats at Granville Island, with more locations to come. Family memberships are also available. Additionally, Martin 244 TLC and a Martin 242 can be made available for a one year exclusive use lease.

Gibsons M242 Championships anyone?? One design fleet for GBSC? All possible!!

More info: <https://v3boats.club>

