



JUNE 2023

the Wind Word

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE BENICIA YACHT CLUB - FOUNDED IN 1977



BENICIA YACHT CLUB

400 E. Second Street
Benicia, CA 94510

www.beniciayachtclub.org
Lat: 38o 02.510N Lon: 122o 09.4W

Main Number	707-746-0739
Manager/Office	Option 1
<u>Reservations</u>	<u>Opt. 2 Call 12-4pm Wed-Sat ONLY</u>
Membership	Option 3
Accounting	Option 4
OFFICE HOURS	
Wed – Sat	Noon-4pm
CLUB/FOOD	Hours subject to fluctuation
	Last Order from Kitchen 8pm
Mon & Tues	CLOSED (Except for Special Events)
Wed & Thurs	Regatta Room: 4pm-8pm (by reservation only) Norton Lounge: Noon-8pm (Wed) Noon-10pm (Th)
Fri & Sat	Regatta Room: 4pm-8pm (by reservation only) Norton Lounge: Noon-10pm
Sunday	Norton Lounge 1-5pm (Bar & Potluck)

Ahoy BYC Members—

Opening Day was a great success! Many thanks to Vice Commodore Brian West, our stellar staff, the wonderful bands, vendors and all the many volunteers who worked so hard to make the event inviting and fun. Be sure to welcome our new members who joined and make an effort to get to know them—new friends!

Summer is upon us! After all the lovely welcome rain, we are ready for FUN in the SUN. We love the Thursday night Beer Can sail races. And we've been well represented at other races this season (see pg 6-7). Many fun cruise-outs are on the horizon. So enjoy being outdoors and on the water. And c'mon down to support the Club!

Cover Photo
by
Mark Campbell

Editors
Vicki & John Garcia



Submittals to Wind Word are due by 15th of month by 5:00 pm; will then appear in one of the two following issues.

Office / Events / Mgr / Restaurant Mgr		707-746-0739 opt. 1	
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Send emails for contacts below to: info@beniciayachtclub.org and your message will be forwarded.

To leave a voicemail, call the Main Number 707-746-0739, indicate who message is for & it will be forwarded.

Chef Carlos		Historian	VACANT
Commodore	Dena Stults	House Chair	Randy Norman
Vice Commodore	Brian West	Membership Chair	Kathleen Jones
Rear Commodore	Natalie Boltz Keller	Port Captain	Theron Jones
Secretary	Nancy Chertkow	Fleet Captain	Steve Penny
Treasurer	Bob Bohnet	Entertainment Chair	Wendy Peterson
Director	Goldie Pierce	Race Chairman	Dan Carnahan
Director	Kathleen Jones	Safety & Protocol	Paul Brighton
Director	Ken Buske	Ship Store Manager	Debi Hall
Director	Randy Norman	Social Media Chair	Dena Stults
Jr. Staff Commodore	Andy Zinkevich	Sunshine Chair	Kymberli Brady
Fleet Surgeon	Deb Murray	Wind Word Editors	Vicki & John Garcia
PICYA Representative	Richard Boehm	Youth Sailing Director	Derith Lutz
Audit Committee Chair	Fred Gibson		



FROM the HELM



Hello everyone,

Things are heating up at the Club and by now Opening Day has come and gone. I would like to thank Vice Commodore Brian West for organizing and running Opening Day. Thanks also to all our volunteers who were so generous with their time. As always, volunteering makes our Club a success—please consider volunteering for an upcoming event.

Please welcome and say Hello to Slu and Cristina, our new bartender/servers.

British Invasion Day (or Brit Day) is coming July 29, downstairs in the Regatta Room starting at 3pm. We will serve British food like fish & chips and offer British beers. Members are encouraged to talk like a Brit! We want to try on daytime events that seem very successful at other venues. Brit Day will feature a great Beatles cover band: Hey Jude.

I am happy to announce that we will be hosting **Ocean Cup offshore racing here in August**. Participants are looking to break world records and will be racing from the Benicia Bridge to the Farallon Islands and back. We have already had our first meeting. More information will come as we move closer to the event. This is world-class racing—don't miss it!

Mother's Day buffet ticket sales were a bit disappointing; I also received a couple of emails saying that the price was too high. The price may have seemed high, but wasn't really if you took out the tax and tip—which for example brought it down to \$45 dollars—and that was without staffing and overhead cost. However, for our demographic here at the Club, an all-you-can-eat-meal is more suitable for a much younger crowd with a stronger metabolism. With that said, lessons learned—in the future we will offer a couple of plate choices at a lower price.

As always, I like to get ideas from you. For example, the Halls suggested doing a once-a-month breakfast. I will look into this (if you have had Carlos's eggs you would agree with this, so darn good!).

Fair Winds & Following Seas—

**Commodore
Dena Stults**



Happy Birthday!

CURT	SUTTER	6/1		ROBERT	BOHNET	6/15
KATHRYN	DELLARocca	6/2		JASON	CROUCH	6/15
DAVID	HURDLE	6/2		ELLA MA- RIE	KALLIOS	6/15
TOM	WELSH	6/2		RACHELE	BOHNET	6/16
CHRISTINE	MACHADO	6/4		KEN	BUSKE	6/18
LAUREL	RAMEY	6/4		RANDY	NORMAN	6/18
NAJLA	SABA	6/4		HAROLD	DIEHL	6/19
DENISE	MAHER	6/5		FRANK	NEGRETTE	6/19
JORDAN	SIMPSON	6/5		JOHN	PAULSON	6/19
DENA	STULTS	6/5		LORRIE	PAULSON	6/19
MATTHEW	CHERTKOW	6/7		DEBBIE	COOK	6/20
JUDY	STEVENS	6/7		CATHERINE	ANTHENIAN	6/21
GINA	INKS	6/8		DON	WOOD	6/22
STEPHEN	CAMDEN	6/9		ROB	VALDERRAMA	6/23
FRED	GIBSON	6/9		MICHAEL	RICH	6/24
KOULOUB	COTRELL	6/10		JOAN	WESTERMAN	6/24
DANIELLE	FOWLER	6/10		DAVE	DIMMICK	6/25
GINA	CAVALLINI	6/12		GOLDIE	PIERCE	6/26
THOMAS	HO	6/13		NANCY	ROBERTSON	6/26
TERRY	HUGHES	6/14		VICTOR	PROSSER	6/27
HEATHER	TURMAN	6/14		DENNIS	LEAMAN	6/30

Adopt-a-Planter Program

The foliage that graces the grounds of BYC is calling out for care and feeding. If you have a green thumb and time available, there is a planter at BYC just waiting for your love and attention!



Please join us in maintaining our BYC curb appeal.

Contact House Committee Chair Randy Norman
(randydnorman@msn.com / (209) 470-2522)

BYC Cruise-Out



ST. FRANCIS YACHT CLUB
June 23-25, 2023

Cruise Directors: Armand &
Cynthia Seguin

Cruise sign ups began: May 20

To sign up for the cruise-out,
please email:
armand.seguin11@gmail.com

Berthing and dining spaces are
limited by St. Francis YC.

2023 Cruise-Ins

June 2-3	San Francisco YC	12 boats		August 4-6	Diablo YC	10 boats
June 9-10	Encinal YC	TBD		August 10-13	Delta Marina YC	10 boats
June 14-15	Sausalito YC	5 boats		August 18-19	Napa YC	10 boats
June 21-22	Discovery Bay	8 boats		August 25-26	Sequoia YC	6 boats
July 7-8	Oakland YC	10 boats		SEPTEMBER 2	JAZZ CUP	
July 28-29	Emeryville YC	6 boats		September 15-16	Discovery Bay YC	10 boats

BYC 2023 Cruise-Outs

MONTH	DATES	DESTINATION(S)	CRUISE DIRECTOR(S)	EMAIL(S)
June	23-25	St Francis Yacht Club	Armand & Cynthia Seguin	armand.seguin11@gmail.com
August (Summer Cruise)	5-9*	Delta Marina, Pittsburg Yacht Club (RV camping at Delta Marina)	Doug Vaughan Steve Penny	dugvon@sbcglobal.net sjpenny5@gmail.com
September	22-24	Angel Island	Brian West	brian@westengineers.com
October (Harvest Cruise)	20-29	Richmond Yacht Club, Schoon-maker, Oakland Yacht Club	Volunteer Needed	
November	8	Planning Meeting	All Interested	
December	16	Benicia Lighted Boat Parade	Benicia Marina	

*Note Date Change from Aug. 4 to Aug. 5

The Great Vallejo Race 2023

This year's Vallejo Race May 6-7 was an epic event for *E Ticket*.

It is a big commitment of time and effort to do the two-day Vallejo Race from Benicia. We need to take the boat down on Friday, race Saturday, race Sunday, and sail back to Benicia after the race.

It's a big race ... most years there are 100 to 300+ boats participating. This year is smaller with 75 racers.



Saturday Race, we notice that the Port tack and pin are favored. It is tough to start on Port against a fleet of 8. We decide to start on Port. One other boat, *Siren*, starts on Port also and squeezed us out from our barging position. We tack and gibe away to make a clean start.

We start on Port and have to duck 4 to 5 Starboard-tacked boats. When we come back together and round the Weather Mark, we are in 4th place in our fleet. The Port start did pay, but due to getting barged out of the start line and ducking boats, we lose some of the benefits of the Port start.

After the Weather Mark, we bear off and set Spinnaker and work the wind and current to finish 2nd for the day. There were not very many passing lanes in this race.

Saturday night we rafted at Vallejo Yacht Club amongst our fleet. Food was great. Bands were good.

Sunday Race turns out to be very challenging—winds are light and variable coming from the WNW.

Flood begins building in the racers face quickly a few minutes before our start. The start is in MI strait across from Vallejo Yacht Club.

We stay above the start line and watch the fleets starting before us ... we notice how significant the current is in relation to the light wind. Boats that have already started are barely making forward progress.



At 5 min we are at the Right side of the course and decide the Left side is favored. We head deep and slow to the Left side of the course and keep about 50' from the start line. It is slow going ... takes 3-plus minutes to cross the line. We appear to be early to the line.

Meanwhile the rest of our starting fleet is in traditional downwind positions over 100' behind us. The wind continues to lighten.

E Ticket turns towards the start line expecting to be early and run the line, since the other boats are set back so far from the line.

Our competitors set spinnakers to make start line. They have a very hard time carrying with spinnakers up.

We realize that we are not early ... but about the right distance and speed to the start line. We trim boat for speed and start very close to the line at the starting gun sound.

We look back and see the whole fleet considerably behind us ... several hundred feet. We hold off setting our spinnaker while the fleet struggles with theirs. Our lead grows. This may be the best down-bay start we have had over the years. We are easily 200' ahead of all of our starting competitors.

Continued on pg 7

Continued from pg 6

We stay to the Left side of race course for current relief. This pays well. Most of competitors are flying spinners and trying to stay up-wind and as a result of this strategy, they are directly in the strongest current.

On our way out of channel several boats start catching us on the Right side of channel as the wind fills in. We head over to cover our competitors on the Right side and manage to just stay ahead of them as we come out of the MI Channel and head into the San Pablo Bay. We lead the fleet from the Start and all the way down the MI Channel! This is very difficult to do.

After exiting the MI Channel, we stay to the Right and run the breakwater wall; the flood is running 1 to 2 kts. The breakwater wall on the right gives us some current relief.

At the end of the wall, we head across the race course to the far Left side to get current relief tucked behind Pinole Pt.

We worked the Left side and are challenged by several of our competitors: *Ahi*, *Harp* and *Sea Star*. We focus our tactics on our lead competitors and manage to hold and then extend lead by staying more in the Left shallows.

We approach Red Rock which is a Mark of the course and must be Left to Port. We battle with *Harp* to keep ahead and manage to do so.

After rounding Red Rock, *Sea Star* sets spinnaker early and cuts the corner towards the finish line.



This surprisingly works well and they gain quickly on us.

We deploy our spinnaker and sail to cover the challenge from *Sea Star*. We manage to hold off *Sea Star* and *Harp* and finish 1st in our fleet physically. After handicap corrections are applied, we hold onto the lead and finish 1st for Sunday. We beat the 2nd-place boat, *Harp*, by only 11 seconds corrected.

After the race we sail home and barbecue and relax for the several-hours ride home. We sail at about 8 to 9 kts due to the stiff breeze. Even though there is now an Ebb current against us, the higher boat speeds result in us making good time and we arrive home before sunset.

We are exhausted from our 10 hours on the water Sunday. We are happy with the results from the weekend—2nd on Saturday and 1st on Sunday, resulting in us winning our fleet for the weekend.

Our crew was simply amazing. The effort, focus, great attitude and team spirit obtained these great results!

—Noble Griswold, Captain of *E Ticket*

Paddle Craft Safety Training

The Coast Guard Auxiliary is providing a two-hour seminar and training on Paddle Craft Safety on June 24, 2023 from 9am to 11am in the Benicia Yacht Club's Norton Lounge. The presentation is open to members and friends of BYC. Topics will include safe operations of kayaks, paddle boards, canoes, and other self-propelled water craft. The focus will be for youth and families as we embark on the summer season and enjoy water activities on our lakes, delta waterways and our own Benicia shoreline. Please contact Randy Norman at randydnorman@msn.com to confirm space availability.



**2023 First Saturday
MEMBER CLEAN SWEEP**

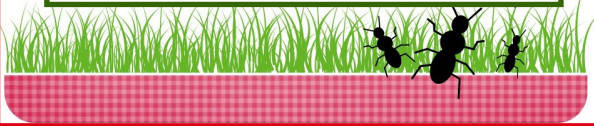
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**Maintain Curb Appeal
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Landscape Upkeep
Planned Projects**

8:00am to 11:00am

**The first Saturday of each
month**



**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED**

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Ad Size	Month	Year
2" x 2"	\$20	\$220
Business Card	\$25	\$275
1/4 pg	\$45	\$495
1/2 pg	\$85	\$935

info@beniciayachtclub.org



Karaoke



Karaoke



Hosted by Stephen Wheet—3rd Fridays

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*it's been a while since
i've seen you last*

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JUNE 2023

Watch for calendar updates on BYC website and on e-blasts

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Sail Boat Races 	2	3  Member Work Day 8-11 am
4 <u>SUNDAYS</u> NORTON LOUNGE OPEN DRINKS ONLY 1-5pm	5 <u>CLOSED</u>	6 <u>CLOSED</u>	7 Trivia 6pm	8 Sail Boat Races 	9	10 Singlehand/ Doublehand Sail Race #3
11 <u>SUNDAYS</u> NORTON LOUNGE OPEN DRINKS ONLY 1-5pm	12 <u>CLOSED</u>	13 <u>CLOSED</u> BYC BOD Meeting 6pm 	14 Trivia 6pm FLAG DAY! 	15 Sail Boat Races 	16 	17
18 <u>Father's Day!</u>	19 <u>CLOSED</u> 	20 <u>CLOSED</u>	21 Trivia 6pm BYC Members Meeting 7pm  <u>1st Day of Summer!</u>	22 Sail Boat Races 	23	24 Lighthouse Race/ Summer Sailstice
25 <u>SUNDAYS</u> NORTON LOUNGE OPEN DRINKS ONLY 1-5pm	26 <u>CLOSED</u>	27 <u>CLOSED</u>	28 Trivia 6pm	29 Sail Boat Races 	30	



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Each office is independently owned and operated

BYC Events Team members Needed

Our club is putting together
an Events Team to help with
private and club events.

The team would set up,
decorate and break down.

Please contact our Event
Chair Wendy Peterson at
petersonjjp@gmail.com
or text her 925 858-5915



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