

# *the Wind Word*

MARCH 2023



THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE BENICIA YACHT CLUB

FOUNDED IN 1977



# BENICIA YACHT CLUB

400 E. Second Street  
Benicia, CA 94510

[www.beniciayachtclub.org](http://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<br>(by reservation only)<br>Norton Lounge: Noon-8pm (Wed)<br>Noon-10pm (Th) |
| Fri & Sat           | Regatta Room: 4pm-8pm<br>(by reservation only)<br>Norton Lounge: Noon-10pm                        |
| Sunday              | Norton Lounge 1-5pm (Bar & Potluck)   |

## Top of the day BYC,

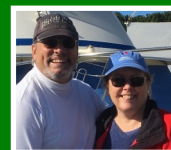


It's March already and with it Spring arrives. We don't know about you but we are ready for it to get here and the sooner the better.

Spring will bring back weekly sailboat races, more boating to other clubs, using our straits for fun recreation with all of our different toys and longer and longer daylight. Can't wait to see more people down at the Club, enjoying all of our activities.

Remember—"A best friend is like a four leaf clover; hard to find and lucky to have." Also that on March 17 everyone is Irish so—celebrate!

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 |                               |
|--|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| Accounting                             | Melissa Smithcamp | 707-746-0739 opt.4  | Melissas@beniciayachtclub.org |
| Regatta Room                           |                   | 707-750-5197        | info@beniciayachtclub.org     |

Send emails for contacts below to: [info@beniciayachtclub.org](mailto:info@beniciayachtclub.org) and your message will be forwarded

|                       |                      |              |  |                        |                     |                      |
|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------|--|------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| Chef Carlos           |                      | 707-750-5197 |  | Historian              | VACANT              | E-mail if interested |
| Commodore             | Dena Stults          | 707-208-4498 |  | House Chair            | Randy Norman        | 209-470-2522         |
| Vice Commodore        | Brian West           | 707-761-2307 |  | Membership Chair       | Kathleen Jones      | 707-297-6606         |
| Rear Commodore        | Natalie Boltz Keller | 707-361-5972 |  | Port Captain           | Theron Jones        | 707-400-9050         |
| Secretary             | Nancy Chertkow       | 707-746-0739 |  | Fleet Captain          | Steve Penny         | 707-373-1191         |
| Treasurer             | Bob Bohnet           | 707-334-3802 |  | Entertainment Chair    | Wendy Peterson      | 707-858-5915         |
| Director              | Goldie Pierce        | 707-704-8319 |  | Race Chairman          | Dan Carnahan        | 707-319-5706         |
| Director              | Kathleen Jones       | 707-297-6606 |  | Safety & Protocol      | Paul Brighton       | 707-746-8852         |
| Director              | Ken Buske            | 707-280-6400 |  | Ship Store Manager     | Debi Hall           | 707-290-9382         |
| Director              | Randy Norman         | 209-470-2522 |  | Social Media Chair     | Dena Stults         | 707-751-1582         |
| Jr. Staff Commodore   | Andy Zinkevich       |              |  | Sunshine Chair         | Kymerli Brady       | 408-691-7826         |
| Fleet Surgeon         | Deb Murray           | 925-586-2007 |  | Wind Word Editors      | Vicki & John Garcia | 707-745-3738         |
| PICYA Representative  | Richard Boehm        | 925-586-2731 |  | Youth Sailing Director | Derith Lutz         | 401-258-7304         |
| Audit Committee Chair | Fred Gibson          | 408-836-6519 |  |                        |                     |                      |



# **FROM the HELM**

Hello everyone-


We are now into March and the beginning of spring and nicer weather which is **time for a clean-up at and around our beloved Club.** Please sign up to help with that wherever possible. Remember our Club essentially operates on volunteer power.


Thanks to Chef Carlos for preparing a delicious and romantic Valentine's Dinner. Thanks to Susan Linn who took on the very popular Crab Feed.

**Mardi Gras in March** will take us back to New Orleans, with food and music from the region that promises to be a good time for all. Many thanks to Goldie Pierce for creating this event. On **St. Patrick's Day** we will be serving the traditional corned beef and cabbage meal and have dancing afterwards with the Shuffle Band.

We have a new admin/event coordinator in the office who may look familiar to many of you—please welcome back Cheyenne Heald. Cheyenne has replaced Gloria in the office and has hit the ground running. We also have a couple new bartenders, Linda Khalaf and Ryley Boutain, and a new dishwasher, Mariano Elias, who has a jazz band and may be playing the Club soon. Please make them all feel welcome.

Randy Norman will have held his second **Nautica Group meeting** by now; if you haven't been to a meeting you should attend. The Nautica Group fosters and promotes all activities on the water which include sailing, power boating, kayaking, sailboards, paddleboard, whaleboat rowing and so on. You get the picture. Youth involvement is also being promoted as these are our future yacht club members. Thanks Randy.

We love it when members bring guests, it's how we gain many new members. Please  make sure your guests have a name tag on, and are signed in with you in attendance. You are also responsible for your guests' behavior. Bartenders have been instructed to not serve people without name tags. Thanks for everyone's help in this department.

 As many of you know, restaurants and clubs like ours in the time between New Year's and Spring tend to be the leaner months for us financially, but this is a cycle that happens every year. The good weather tends to bring the people back in, but in the meantime, **please come on down and support the Club.**

Commodore  
Dena Stults





|           |                                   |      |  |           |             |      |
|-----------|-----------------------------------|------|--|-----------|-------------|------|
| MARK      | AMARO                             | 3/2  |  | DELENA    | DARNELL     | 3/16 |
| ROB       | FORREST                           | 3/2  |  | ROBERT    | HEDRICK     | 3/18 |
| BARBARA   | HENRETTY                          | 3/2  |  | SUSAN     | JONES-SZABO | 3/18 |
| KRISTINE  | HOFFMAN                           | 3/3  |  | KIM       | LEAMAN      | 3/18 |
| WENDY     | PETERSON                          | 3/3  |  | RON       | DODSON      | 3/19 |
| COSIMA    | CARNAHAN                          | 3/5  |  | PAUL      | BRIGHTON    | 3/20 |
| STEVEN    | CORWIN                            | 3/5  |  | PAT       | BELCHER     | 3/21 |
| JOHN      | MCGUIRE                           | 3/5  |  | RICHARD   | JACKSON     | 3/22 |
| KATHY     | MONROE                            | 3/5  |  | TRACY     | VERRETT     | 3/22 |
| TERRI     | CANEPA                            | 3/7  |  | DAVEY     | CHAPMAN     | 3/23 |
| MELISSA   | DEMMON                            | 3/7  |  | DAVID     | NICHOLAS    | 3/23 |
| PAT       | HOLT                              | 3/7  |  | DANIEL    | DEMMON      | 3/25 |
| MICHELE   | NOLAN                             | 3/7  |  | MARTY     | DIEFENBACH  | 3/25 |
| JOSHUA    | BADGER                            | 3/8  |  | JEFF      | HALL        | 3/25 |
| ELIZABETH | HAYGOOD                           | 3/8  |  | JOHN      | LAZAR       | 3/25 |
| KATHLEEN  | LEMKE                             | 3/8  |  | ROSS      | MOSBARGER   | 3/27 |
| LETICIA   | DE LA CRUZ<br>SALAS<br>NATTENBERG | 3/10 |  | RON       | TOSCH       | 3/27 |
| CAMERON   | SAUNDERS                          | 3/12 |  | CAROL     | FISCHER     | 3/29 |
| STEPHEN   | PENNY                             | 3/13 |  | DOMETRIUS | FOWLER      | 3/29 |
| SHELDON   | SCOTT                             | 3/13 |  | NICOLE    | MCCRORY     | 3/30 |
| CAROL     | STERKEL                           | 3/13 |  | LISA      | BRENES      | 3/31 |
| MICHAEL   | REED                              | 3/14 |  | SUSAN     | IMBODEN     | 3/31 |



## SAVE-the-Date—BYC OPENING DAY on the STRAIT– SATURDAY MAY 20

*After eliminating Saturdays with conflicting events and unfavorable tides, we have selected Saturday May 20 as the Opening Day for 2023. Mark your calendars for a rollicking good time and decorate your boats for the Blessing of the Fleet. There will be a band in the afternoon (outdoors) and one in the evening (Norton Lounge). As is customary, the Club will be open for non-Members, so spread the word. More details will be posted on the Club internet site as we get closer to the date, so keep informed—you don't want to miss out on any of the fun!*

*Also, we will be looking for volunteers to help decorate, supervise kids activities, serve beer, bar-b-que, clean up and more. A sign up sheet will be posted in the Norton Lounge about 3 weeks prior to the event*

*—Vice Commodore Brian West*

## 2023 Cruise-Ins

|            |                 |          |  |                 |               |          |
|------------|-----------------|----------|--|-----------------|---------------|----------|
| May 5-7    | San Francisco   | 12 boats |  | August 4-6      | Diablo        | 10 boats |
| May 19-21  | Dos Rios        | 4 boats  |  | August 10-13    | Delta Marine  | 8 boats  |
| May 26-28  | Point San Pablo | 5 boats  |  | August 18-20    | Napa          | 10 boats |
| July 7-9   | Oakland         | 10 boats |  | August 25-27    | Sequoia       | 10 boats |
| July 28-30 | Emeryville      | 6 boats  |  | September 15-17 | Discovery Bay | 8 boats  |



## BYC 2023 Cruise-Outs



| MONTH                       | DATES | DESTINATION(S)   | CRUISE DIRECTOR(S)          | EMAIL(S)  |
|-----------------------------|-------|--|-----------------------------|---|
| March                       | 17-19 | Petaluma Yacht Club<br>(RV camping at Elks & KOA)                  | Martina Wolter              | martinawolter1@gmail.com  |
| April                       | 21-23 | Pittsburg Yacht Club   | Paul Brighton               | pbrighton73@yahoo.com   |
| May<br>(Memorial Day)       | 26-29 | Marin Yacht Club<br>(RV camping at Marin Park)                     | Sean Conner<br>Ken Oxman    | seanconner@yahoo.com<br>koxman@comcast.net  |
| June                        | 23-25 | St Francis Yacht Club  | Armand & Cynthia<br>Sequin  | stokalo2u@gmail.com   |
| August<br>(Summer Cruise)   | TBD   | Delta Marina, Pittsburg Yacht Club<br>(RV camping at Delta Marina) | Doug Vaughan<br>Steve Penny | dugvon@sbcglobal.net<br>sjpenny5@gmail.com  |
| September                   | 22-24 | Angel Island   | Brian West                  | brian@westengineers.com   |
| October<br>(Harvest Cruise) | 20-29 | Richmond Yacht Club, Schoon-<br>maker, Oakland Yacht Club          | Volunteer Needed            |  |
| November                    | 8     | Planning Meeting   | All Interested              |   |
| December                    | 16    | Benicia Lighted Boat Parade  | Benicia Marina              |   |

## Ahoy from the New Port Captain!

For those of you who don't know me, my name is Theron Jones. I am a life-long boater and avid fisherman. As a child I spent every weekend during the summer months exploring the delta—fishing, water skiing, and lounging in the sun. By age 16 I was piloting power boats to 46' feet and sailing my laser every chance I got.

After marrying my lovely wife Kathleen (BYC's Membership Chair), we bought a small ski boat and introduced our own children to boating. It wasn't long before we moved up to a 27-foot Sea Ray, then a 32-foot Bayliner, and now have a 58-foot Hatteras Yacht Fisher (Reel Estate) here in the Benicia Marina. In fact, we love boating so much that we eventually sold our ranch and moved aboard. We have been live-aboards in the Benicia Marina for 15 years now and members of BYC for almost two years (previously we were with another YC). A wise man once said "live a life that you don't need to take a vacation from"—well, that's exactly what we try to do.

It is an honor to serve as your new Port Captain. I will represent our Club to the best of my ability by welcoming other yacht clubs, developing relationships and making boaters feel at home here in Benicia.

If I haven't had the opportunity to meet you and you see me at the Club, please stop and say hello. It will be my pleasure to meet you.

Cheers!

Theron Jones, Port Captain



## ***SUPER BOWL PARTY & POTLUCK—YUMMMM!!***





**Sat.  
March  
11**



# **MARDI GRAS**

## **IN MARCH**

**\$35**

**AUTHENTIC NEW ORLEAN'S STYLE FOOD**

**DINNER FEATURING RED BEANS & RICE, CHICKEN & SAUSAGE JUMBALAYA, SHRIMP  
ETOUFEE, SOUTHERN GREENS, BREAD & BUTTER, SALAD, BREAD PUDDING W/BOURBON  
SAUCE AND A KING CAKE WITH HIDDEN BABY**

**DINNER AT 5:30PM REGATTA ROOM**

**7:30PM DANCE TO ZYDECO & BLUES**

**BY ALVON JOHNSON IN THE NORTON LOUNGE**

*Hosted by Goldie Pierce*

**AT THE BENICIA YACHT CLUB**

**HAPPY  
ST. PATRICK'S  
DAY**



**MARCH 17**

**TRADITIONAL**

**CORNED BEEF**

**& CABBAGE**

**plus DANCING TO  
SHUFFLE BAND**



## BYC Safety Information



### Carbon Monoxide

It is a Cal. State Law that Carbon Monoxide decal is placed facing out on the exterior of the stern or transom of vessel. There is also a decal that is to be placed by the wheel or where the driver is sitting. These stickers are free and are available at the Benicia Yacht Club by the Cruisers sign-up board. Carbon Monoxide will be around the back of the boat when engines or generators are running. It is always a good idea to have monoxide sensors on your vessel, especially in the sleeping quarters.

The Cal. Operational Law can be found on page 16 in The Cal. Guide to Boating and Safety book.

### Pot

It is against Federal Law to be smoking recreational cannabis on your vessel at any time, even at a dock since you are in federal waters. The Coast Guard enforces federal laws.

### Age Restrictions

No person under 16 years of age may operate a boat with a motor of more than 15 horsepower, except for a sailboat that does not exceed 30 feet in length, or a dinghy used directly between a moored boat and the shore (or between two moored boats). The law allows children 12-15 years of age to operate boats with a motor of more than 15 horsepower or sailboats over 30 feet if supervised on board by an adult at least 18 years of age. Violating these provisions constitutes an infraction.

The Cal. Age Restrictions can be found on page 16 in The Cal. Guide to Boating Law and Safety book.

### Mandatory Boater Education Requirements

Beginning on January 1, 2018, recreational power boat operators who are age 20 and younger shall be required to carry a boater education card. Once issued by the Division of Boating and Waterways (DBW), the California Boating Card remains valid for boat operator's lifetime. DBW will issue the cards to persons who provide proof that an approved vessel operator examination has been passed since January 1, 2015. Approved courses may be found online at [www.CaliforniaBoaterCard.com](http://www.CaliforniaBoaterCard.com).

**The California Boater Card requirement will be phased in over the next several years based on operations.**

**January 1, 2023**

**persons 50 years of age or younger**

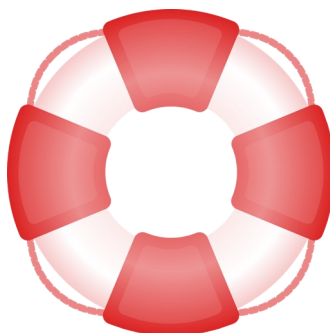
**January 1, 2024**

**persons 60 years of age or younger**

**January 1, 2025**

**all persons regardless of age**

The Mandatory Boater Education Requirements can be found on page 1 in The Cal. Guide to Boating Law and Safety book.



—Paul Brighton-BYC Safety Officer/  
BYC Staff Commodore/  
Coast Guard Auxiliary



## 2023 Boaters Safety Recommendations and Check Up

1. Check to be sure you have your new registration on the boat and have put your new decals (2023) on the front of your boat. If you are a documented boat you should have up-to-date Coast Guard documentation paper on board and know where it is.
2. Check all shore power cords and ends to see that there is not any corrosion on the connections; put Noalox dielectric grease on the ends after cleaning them. Corrosion on the ends can start a fire.
3. Check batteries to see there is not any corrosion on the terminals, and the batteries have the proper level of water.
4. Check oil and oil filters and fuel filters; they should be changed once a year or at 100 hours engine running time.
5. Check engine valve covers and oil pans to be sure you do not have any oil leaks. Be sure the area around the engine is clean without any oil or grease in the bilge.
6. Inspect and check oil level on transmissions.
7. Check to see if stuffing boxes on shafts are dripping at proper rate.
8. Be sure the bilge is clean without any oil or dirty water sitting there.
9. Keep track of when Zincs were changed on the engine and running gear. This can be very important to the life of the equipment.
10. Check to see that all systems are working—horn, navigation lights, and all fire extinguishers to be sure they are in the green.
11. Check the batteries on all smoke and carbon monoxide units to see they are working.
12. Check dates on visual distress signals for day and night use. They now have a strobe light that takes 3 C batteries so you would not have to buy flares every 3 years.
13. Check on Personal Flotation Devices (PFD) or life jackets. Be sure they are readily available and in good shape. That means clean without holes or mildew from the winter rains. If you want to count the inflatable jackets they must be worn at all times. They should be checked to see they are in the green. They are not legal if the person wearing the jacket is under 16 years of age. There must be one PFD for each person on the boat and they must be the right size for the person wearing the jacket. It is always a good idea to buy a small strobe light to have on every PFD.
14. This is the time to check your VHS radio out. Call the Benicia Marina on channel 16 and they will tell you what channel to go to, and ask them how they are hearing you. **Do not ask for a radio check on channel 16. Channel 16 is only used for hailing other vessels or calling the Coast Guard for Emergencies.**
15. Check all motors and anchor windless, radar and GPS Systems. Many times things just happen over the winter rains.
16. Check your fresh water system out. If you can change all the water do it. It would be a good idea to put a couple of capfuls of bleach in the tank. Keep tank full so you will have water for any emergencies.
17. You should have a copy of your insurance papers on board, many marinas make you show them.
18. If you are one of the old timers you should know the government has done away with The Loran System. This system was used for navigation before GPS.
19. If your boat uses gasoline you should put in a small bottle of dry gas. You can get it at any automotive store. Because they are putting Ethanol in the gas it will attract water and condensation in the tank of your boat.
20. If you put white vinegar in the sinks and heads it will clean them and help keep them in working order.
21. It is a good idea to keep your holding tank empty and your water tanks full due to where we live (e.g., earthquakes and other emergencies).
22. It is recommended you get a Vessel Safety Check done by The Coast Guard Auxiliary or The U.S. Power Squadrons. You can call Paul Brighton's cell 707-373-1077 or James Minkel cell 707-208-5191 to set a time and date for the Vessel Safety Check . It is FREE.
23. It is a good time to check your anchor line and/or chain. Check all docking lines that have been exposed to weather.
24. If by any chance you have mice or other varmints, buy some liquid peppermint—they won't stay around long.
25. One of the new things The Coast Guard safety checks is all fire extinguishers cannot be more than 12 years old.

Julie Thomas,  
former Benicia  
resident and  
community  
volunteer,  
passed grace-  
fully at 101+  
years young  
earlier this  
January 2023.



Julie was a long-  
time member of the Benicia Yacht Club,  
and an important member of our Race  
Committee for many years; as well, she  
stewarded the garden around the Club  
for many years. Rest in peace, Julie.

**Karaoke**



**Karaoke**

**Hosted by Stephen Wheet—third Fridays**

## **FREE DOCKWALKER TRAINING**

This workshop trains you to conduct face-to-face boater education.

**Saturdays, 10am-12:45pm**

### **Virtual Training**

March 4, April 1, June 17

### **In-Person Training**

April 29—Oakland Yacht Club

May 6—Sacramento Marina

### **Refresher Training** (virtual)

Saturday, April 22,

10am –11:30am

Thursday, May 11,

5:30pm—7pm

(open to those who have been  
trained in the last 3 years)

**You Must Register to Attend**

visit [www.boatingcleanandgreen.com](http://www.boatingcleanandgreen.com) (dockwalker tab)

For more info, contact [vmatuk@coastal.ca.gov](mailto:vmatuk@coastal.ca.gov) or (916) 764-0989

### **Advertise in the Wind Word**

| Ad Size  | Month | Year  |
|--|-------|-------|
| 2" x 2"  | \$20  | \$220 |
| Business Card  | \$25  | \$275 |
| 1/4 pg   | \$45  | \$495 |
| 1/2 pg   | \$85  | \$935 |
| <a href="mailto:info@beniciayachtclub.org">info@beniciayachtclub.org</a> |       |       |

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noblegriswold@gmail.com  
BRE #01378471  
ngriswold.com  
*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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Best of 2009, 2010, 2011 & 2012





# MARCH 2023

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

| Sun  | Mon                        | Tue  | Wed   | Thu | Fri   | Sat   |
|--|----------------------------|--|---|-----|---|---|
|  |                            |  | 1<br>Trivia 6pm   | 2   | 3   | 4 <b>BYC Members Work Day!</b><br>           |
| 5<br><b><u>SUNDAYS</u></b><br>NORTON LOUNGE OPEN<br><b><u>DRINKS ONLY</u></b><br>1-5 pm  | 6<br><b><u>CLOSED</u></b>  | 7<br><b><u>CLOSED</u></b>  | 8<br>Trivia 6pm   | 9   | 10  | 11 <b>MARDI GRAS Dinner &amp; Party</b><br> |
| 12<br> | 13<br><b><u>CLOSED</u></b> | 14<br><b><u>CLOSED</u></b><br>6pm <br><b><u>BYC BOD Meeting</u></b> | 15<br>Trivia 6pm<br>BYC Member Meeting <br><b><u>7pm</u></b> | 16  | 17<br>St. Patrick's Day!<br> | 18  |
| 19<br><b><u>SUNDAYS</u></b><br>NORTON LOUNGE OPEN<br><b><u>DRINKS ONLY</u></b><br>1-5 pm | 20<br><b><u>CLOSED</u></b> | 21<br><b><u>CLOSED</u></b>   | 22<br>Trivia 6pm  | 23  | 24  | 25  |
| 26<br><b><u>SUNDAYS</u></b><br>NORTON LOUNGE OPEN<br><b><u>DRINKS ONLY</u></b><br>1-5 pm | 27<br><b><u>CLOSED</u></b> | 28<br><b><u>CLOSED</u></b>   | 29  | 30  | 31<br>                       |   |