

JANUARY 2022

# *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

<b>Main Number</b>	<b>707-746-0739</b>
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<b><u>Reservations</u></b>	<b><u>Opt. 2 Call 12-4pm Wed-Sat ONLY</u></b>
<b>Membership</b>	<b>Option 3</b>
<b>Accounting</b>	<b>Option 4</b>
<b>OFFICE HOURS</b>	
<b>Wed – Fri</b>	<b>1pm—4pm</b>
<b>CLUB/FOOD HOURS</b>	<b>Last Order from Kitchen 8pm</b>
<b>Mon</b>	<b>Norton Lounge - Mon. Nite Football</b>
<b>Tues</b>	<b>Closed (Except for Special Events)</b>
<b>Wed &amp; Thurs</b>	<b>Regatta Room/Lower Deck: 12pm—8pm Norton Lounge: 4pm-9pm</b>
<b>Fri &amp; Sat</b>	<b>Regatta Room/Lower Deck: 12pm—9pm Norton Lounge: 4pm—9pm</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Norton Lounge 1pm-5pm (Bar &amp; Potluck)</b>

We wish our entire BYC family a  
*Happy New Year!*

As the new year begins, BYC is moving forward with its new Board of Directors and its implementation of badly needed repairs.

We all look forward to the many needed improvements. Hopefully you will be able to volunteer this year to help one of the many committees we have and/or show up on the 1st Saturday-Work Day at BYC. We all need to do our part and contribute to the running and maintenance of BYC and your support is appreciated.

As the new year holds many unknowns, we hope yours is full of much happiness, good health, time with family and friends and that all your dreams come true.



Editors: John & Vicki Garcia

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

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# **FROM THE HELM**



## **I'll bet that it was a super New Year's Eve Party!**

This article had to be in before mid-December to make it to publication, but my claim about the party is based on how much fun we had as a Club in the second half of November and the first half of December, as well as the planning that was underway for the party at the time.

Seeing more and more new members joining and participating has been fantastic. One example was the deck project that I wrote about for this issue. New members Kathleen and Theron Jones of *Strait Stitch* stepped up to show us how, order the right materials and supervised and even did parts of the manufacture and installation. Ken and Kirsten Schultz, also new members, participated in the whole project including the sewing, the assembly and the installation.

As I looked around at Monday Night Football and Wednesday Trivia this week, I saw that new members were well represented there too. BYC is for everyone. Our list of people on active memberships is now up to 380 individuals and climbing. We are seeing more and more of them out and about as COVID restrictions ease. To keep the ball rolling will require expanding our services and building back our staff.

There has been a lot of discussion about upstairs and downstairs, but the reality is that to serve as many as possible will require that both be utilized more fully. In August we were limited by available staffing which is now slowly working out. Carlos has more help in the kitchen and Jenn is actively recruiting new servers. We will be starting up a food-service committee in December to evaluate and modify menus and service. We have a way to go and appreciate the patience of the membership as we endeavor to improve.

Another opportunity for improvement is general communications to the public. The social media side is good, but there are improvements that are needed on our website and on how we use it as well as how our IT systems integrate with each other. We have an IT committee forming that should move us further into the current century.

On the water, the Frostbite Series is not the only thing going on. Fleet Captain Steve Penny has posted the Cruise-Outs for the season including the first one to Vallejo in January. The Cruise Schedule can be found in the *Wind Word* and also on the Norton Lounge bulletin board. Go to the Norton Lounge to sign up whether cruising on the water or over land. Speaking of alternate cruising, we are actively looking for someone to head up alternative water sports activities. Look for events coming up in the Spring and Summer.

The birthday cards with free drinks that go out to everyone come from Ross Oxman. She has been BYC Sunshine for 10 years. Ross has been the main point of contact when someone is celebrating or needs a message of comfort from the Club. Ross will be travelling more and spending time with the grandkids in Austin. Please let us know if you are interested in taking over.

**Commodore  
Andy Zinkevich**



**CONGRATULATIONS NEW BYC BOARD of DIRECTORS**

**COMMODORE - Andy Zinkevich**

**VICE COMMODORE - Dena Stults**

**REAR COMMODORE - Dan Carnahan**

**SECRETARY - Marcia Wisgirda**

**TREASURER - Bob Bohnet**

**DIRECTOR - Brian West**

**DIRECTOR - Greg Spencer**

**DIRECTOR - Jason Crouch**

**DIRECTOR - Randy Norman**

**Jr. Staff Commodore - Pat Bowers**

**CHANGE of WATCH**



*Benicia Yacht Club  
Change of Watch Dinner  
November 20  
Cocktails: 5:00, Dinner 5:30  
Appetizers: Crab Cakes  
Salad: Beets, Feta with Romaine  
Entree: Prime Rib or Lobster Risotto  
Dessert: Chocolate Lava Cake  
Tickets available at the bar until November 17  
Tickets: \$50.00  
Dress: Formal  
Dancing upstairs to  
Crosstown Five 7:50 - 10:50*

**CONGRATULATIONS!**



# Happy Birthday!

SYLVIA	BARATA	1/3		RICH	GRIGAS	1/13
GERALD	GITCHELL	1/3		GAY	WILLIAMS	1/13
BRIAN	WEST	1/4		SIERRA	VAN DER KAMP	1/14
ROBERT	WHITEHEAD	1/4		MAHA	HURDLE	1/15
VICKI	GARCIA	1/5		NILS	KNUTSTAD	1/16
DEBI	FREELAND	1/6		JANET	BOOTH	1/19
LISA	REEP	1/8		ROBERT	BOWERS	1/20
JAMES	MCPHERSON	1/9		DOUGLAS	VAUGHAN	1/20
MELODY	SEYMOUR	1/10		GINGER	PENNY	1/21
MARC	TRAPANI	1/10		BYRON	ALTON	1/26
SEAN	CONNER	1/12		SCOTT	REEP	1/27
GALEN	JAEGER	1/12		SHAULA	PATCHETT	1/29
JOE	PUCCI, JR	1/12		VERONICA	JONES	1/31



Lorie & Wayne Lowry

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

BYC CONTINUES TO GROW!! It has been wonderful to watch the 61 new members who joined the Club in August and September enjoy our programming and facility. The relationships they have made and their willingness to volunteer bring new levels of excitement, camaraderie and support to BYC. In addition we have several new members (*photos not yet available*—see next issue of WW) whose applications were received in October

and November. Welcome to: **Becca Holt, Ray & Dori McEneaney, Don & Michelle Kerr, Craig Butler, Lori & Wayne Lowrey, Nancy Mathews, Kim & Dennis Leaman and Theresa Doran.** We already have 12 new applicants whom we will be inducting at the January 22 General Membership meeting. Come to the meeting to meet them or greet them when you see them at the Club (they are currently wearing paper name tags and their applications are posted).

—Kathy Monroe Membership Chair

**November  
Frostbite**



**Series Race**

Three boats started  
no boats finished

**Quila  
Warwhoop  
Sail la Vie**



# BYC Facility Update

## Covering the BYC Lower Deck

How many BYC members does it take to cover a deck? By the time it was done almost 50 members either worked on the deck or contributed to it. It took a lot of hours and weekends and trial and error over the last two years to get where we are today, but it is a story of how folks working together can make things happen.

We started out with the COVID mandate to only serve food outdoors. To enable us to stay open, we had an emergency meeting and the following week put up our own tents. That didn't help much during the rain but at least kept us open for a few weeks. One of our members bought a larger tent which we used pieces of up until a few weeks ago. Next a scheme was developed to construct a wooden structure from the top deck to cover the lower deck. Initially it was a bit of a challenge to drain the upper deck since it sloped to the middle but one of the members figured out that one too. Then the fire marshal came and offered some "advice" on what it would take to comply with regulations. We got some new fire-resistant tarps and made it through the winter.

This Fall we took what worked last year and expanded on it. C-clamps were replaced with permanent attachments. The wood structure was replaced with a galvanized frame. We got some new members and



one couple, expert at making canvas boat enclosures, showed us how we could put clear vinyl windows on the outside. The materials were expensive and not in our budget, but a single appeal to the membership raised enough money overnight. We even got a very generous donation of twist studs for the fasteners from a former member of the Club. On the First Saturday Workday in December, three sewing machines and a dozen or so people got together, made custom vinyl windows and hung

them in place. The deck now has a cover that should last through the winter. The windows can be taken down and stored in the summer while the deck cover can become shade. The cover looks a bit like a boat but that is OK because the navigation lights are on the upper deck anyway.

I would like to thank my co-workers who were generous with their time and/or funds: Susan Alton, Rich Boehm, Bob Bohnet, Rachele Bohnet, Richard Boltz, Robyn Boltz, Janet Booth, Pat Bowers, Paul Brighton, Pat Brighton, Candy Burroughs, Ken Buske, Jason Crouch, Mark Connors, Fred Gibson, Sue Gibson, John Garcia, Vicki Garcia, Kathleen Jones, Theron Jones, Meryl Kleinschmidt, Cheryl Kleinschmidt, Susan Linn, Wayne Lowrey, Lori Lowrey, Kathy Monroe, Scott Newell, Randy Norman, Eve Norman, Ken Oxman, Ross Oxman, Shaula Patchett, Steve Penny, Ginger Penny, Bill Ritter, Bob Ritter, Ken Schultz Jr, Kirsten Schultz, Maria Saulsbury, Greg Spencer, Steve Stults, Curt Sutter, Penny Trexler, and Brian West. Hopefully the list is complete, but heartfelt apologies if anyone was missed.



—Andy Zinkevich



LPC took the checkered flag in Super Stock. With a 3rd place finish on a prior race.



BYC member and new LPC team driver **Sean Conner** shared the cockpit of the Super Stock-class LPC race boat with owner/throttleman Loren Peters in Key West at the Race World Offshore Key West Championships



Team LPC wanted to let everyone know, that Loren and Sean are ok, and sustained no injuries after rolling over in Sunday's Super Stock race.

Even with not finishing Sunday's race, **LPC ended up in 4th place overall** due to previous first and third place finishes in the

**2021 Key West World Championships**  
**Congratulations Sean!**

## *A MATTER OF BALANCE*

In the next couple of months the 2022 BYC Racing Season will begin. This is also the time of year that a boat owner needs to have a serious discussion with his vessel, and both the vessel and the boat owner need to come to an understanding about what is expected this season. I am committing that I will keep all of her systems in good order, and keep her bottom clean because the *Playpen2* doesn't like it when she is sporting growth. She also does not like being ignored and is prone to act up if she doesn't get frequent attention. In return she promises me asylum and if I am willing to engage with her, moments of complete balance with the world.

I remember one magic afternoon when Terri and I were tacking through Raccoon Strait heading to Richardson's Bay to spend an evening on the hook. We had been sailing around the Richmond Yacht Club and when coming into Raccoon Strait if you enter in the right spot you can catch the wind as it funnels through the Strait and have one long tack until you clear Angel Island. That afternoon we hit it just perfect, and as we snapped into our tack all the telltales were streaming aft. To add to the experience, there were about a dozen other boats on the same tack, and for about 10 minutes it felt like the boats were stationary and the world was moving around us. The fresh Pacific winds were warm, currents were steady, and the surrounding views could not have been more beautiful. For that period, everything was perfect and there was nothing else in the universe, only the glide of the *Playpen2*.

When you hit that perfect tack, there is a balance as sharp as a knife's edge. A degree one way or the other can make a big difference. The helmsman becomes one with the vessel, and she tells you exactly what she needs if you are willing to listen. She is constantly speaking to you—just a little bit further dear, head up just a degree my darling, just one more boat length my love. She beckons you for just a little bit more, until you are forced to break into reality because you have either passed the lay line or are facing imminent collision. You tack quickly and seek that special balance again, and continue this process seeking that perfect balance with the wind, water and vessel until you reach your destination. It is one of the few times that I feel that all is as it should be, which is why I find it so intoxicating.

I am anticipating much will change as the pandemic comes to a close, and I, like so many others, am seeking the perfect balance in my quest in other parts of my life. My Thursday evenings with my team provide me a weekly experience to seek a moment of perfect balance. Many Thursday afternoons when the winds are howling, or the weather is less than perfect, I ask myself—do I really want to do this? The fact is, just the experience with the team makes it worthwhile and I never regret the experience.

So for yet another season I will promise uncompromising devotion to the *Playpen2*, and in return—if she truly loves me—she will grant me those perfect moments that I crave now more than ever.

—Stephen W. Dale, Skipper of the *Playpen2*

# 2022 CRUISE-OUT SCHEDULE



A sign up sheet will be posted for each Cruise-out on the bulletin board in the Norton Lounge four (4) weeks before the cruise. Cruise-out berths are first-come, first-served. Will try to accommodate every-one. Land cruisers are welcome.

If anyone would like to volunteer to assist as a cruise director, please contact Fleet Captain Steve Penny, [sjpenny5@gmail.com](mailto:sjpenny5@gmail.com) or 707-741-8491. Suggestions welcome.

Please submit photos of your boat, with name of boat, owners and size to Steve Penny.

Month	Dates	Destination	Cruise Director(s)	Email(s)
January	14-16	Vallejo Yacht Club	Richard Boehm	<a href="mailto:rlboehm@yahoo.com">rlboehm@yahoo.com</a>
February	18-20	Napa Valley Yacht Club	Rusty Mayes	<a href="mailto:rusty@avispec.com">rusty@avispec.com</a>
March	18-20	Petaluma Yacht Club	Steve Penny	<a href="mailto:sjpenny5@gmail.com">sjpenny5@gmail.com</a>
April	15-17	Pittsburg Yacht Club	Paul Brighton	<a href="mailto:pbrighton73@yahoo.com">pbrighton73@yahoo.com</a>
May (Memorial Day)	27-30	Marin Yacht Club	Bob Bohnet Sean Conner	<a href="mailto:robertbohnet@yahoo.com">robertbohnet@yahoo.com</a> <a href="mailto:seaneconner@yahoo.com">seaneconner@yahoo.com</a>
June	17-19	St Francis Yacht Club	Ken Hanley Assunsao Hanley	<a href="mailto:phireone@aol.com">phireone@aol.com</a> <a href="mailto:aportela@sbcglobal.net">aportela@sbcglobal.net</a>
July	15-17	Solano Yacht Club	Nancy Forrest	<a href="mailto:ndforrest1@gmail.com">ndforrest1@gmail.com</a>
August (Summer Cruise)	6-16	Pittsburg Yacht Club, Delta Marina @ Rio Vista Grindstone Joe's	Fred Gibson, Stephen Dale & Theron Jones	<a href="mailto:fredw@gibson-design.com">fredw@gibson-design.com</a> <a href="mailto:steve@dalelawfirm.com">steve@dalelawfirm.com</a> <a href="mailto:brucewaynehd@yahoo.com">brucewaynehd@yahoo.com</a>
September (Labor Day)	2-5	Encinal Yacht Club	Steve Penny	<a href="mailto:sjpenny5@gmail.com">sjpenny5@gmail.com</a>
October (Harvest Cruise)	15-25	Schoonmaker St Francis Yacht Club Ballena Bay Oakland Yacht Club	Commodore Andre Zinkevich & Brian West	<a href="mailto:azinkevi@hotmail.com">azinkevi@hotmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:brian@westengineers.com">brian@westengineers.com</a>
November	11-13	Napa Valley Yacht Club	Rhonda Shea	<a href="mailto:rhonda@frgwaste.com">rhonda@frgwaste.com</a>
November or December		Cruisers' Planning Meeting		

## 2022 CRUISE-IN SCHEDULE

February 11-13 Vallejo (8 boats)  
 April 8-10 Dos Rios (8 boats)  
 August 11-14 Delta Marina (12 boats )  
 September 20-22 Caliente (10 boats)





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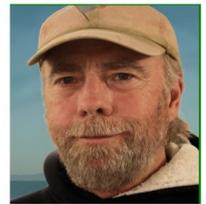
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# 2022 Boaters Safety Recommendations and Check-Up

1. Make sure you have your new registration on the boat and have put your new decals on the front of your boat; it should say 2022. 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, then 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 that 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 make sure they are working.
12. Check dates on visual distress signals for day and night use. They now have a Strobe light that takes three C batteries so you would not have to buy flares every three years.
13. Check on Personal Flotation Devices (PFD) or life jackets. Be sure they are readily available and are 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 (ie, in case of earthquakes and other emergencies).
22. It is recommended you get a Vessel Safety Check done by The Coast Guard Auxiliary or The US Power Squadrons. You can call Paul Brighton (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.



